

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 5th December 2002
At the Jubilee Hall, Winsham, at 8.00pm

720 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present:- Mr.C.Slade Chairman
 Mr J Sullivan Vice Chairman
 Mr.T.Fuller.
 Mr.Keith Marsh
 Mr.P.Pye.
Parish Clerk: Mr.F.Vaughan.
Apologies: Mrs.A.Rose, Mr.E.Partridge, Mrs H Duke and
 District Councillor Mrs.S.Abbey.
Absent:

721 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

722 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests to declare.

723 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman has received a letter of resignation from Mr Paul Love. Mr Love is no longer able to attend regularly at meetings, due to increased workload for himself and his wife. The Chairman expressed his regret. “ Paul has worked hard for the Parish Council particularly where he has taken responsibility for safety checks on the Lower Recreation Ground”. **The Clerk A.P. 193** to write & thank Mr Love.

There followed a discussion as to whether a ‘Casual Vacancy’ should be declared, especially as elections were due in May. It was decided that a ‘Casual Vacancy’ should be advertised. Even if the position is filled for a short time, then the person in post will get a feel for the job ahead of the local elections. **The Clerk A.P. 194**

724 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON 6th November

The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

725 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT
COVERED ELSEWHERE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION
TAKEN/TO BE TAKEN

1. **Police Matters.**

The Clerk wrote to County Councillor Mr Sam Crab 'Deputy Chair - Avon & Somerset Police Authority', expressing concern over the new 'Police Consultation Process'. The reply was: -

"I have received a number of comments similar to yours and I will do my best to get the Mobile Police Station to call at your community early in the new year - so that you can all visit the vehicle, have your say and fill in the consultation forms. **(Date for Community Vehicle in Winsham 10th January 13:30 – 16:00 hrs)**

We are experimenting with the format and I have a meeting next Friday week with Chief Supt Jim Shearer and will mention your concerns. We do have a duty to consult and we are keen to consult with as wide an audience as possible. This present format is designed to find out the priorities that our public would like to see in the policing plan - but I do realise that the former format allowed a great deal of information to flow both ways."

The Clerk A.P. 195 is to write to Chief Supt Jim Shearer, expressing dissatisfaction with the questionnaire process. Members were given a copy of the questionnaire to complete and return at their convenience.

2. **Affordable Housing (Where next?)**

The Clerk has made contact with S.S.D.C.'s new 'Rural Housing Development Officer' (Mark Dillon). It was decided to invite him to the next meeting. **(Mr Mark Dillon has agreed to attend)**. It was decided to remain in contact with the Rural Housing Trust and, at the appropriate time, seek their advice on the way forward. Mark Dillon & Andrew Bennett (RHT) may be prepared to work together and progress the project.

Suggesting land for possible development for 'Affordable Housing' and remaining both independent and objective is seen as difficult for Members. It was therefore decided not to favour any of the sites already suggested but to get outside help, perhaps from S.S.D.C. Planning Department, to select sites before approaching landowners. The Chairman remarked that selecting the right site is important and may effect future development in the village. A way of accessing the Upper Recreation Ground directly from the B3162 and incorporation this in the 'Affordable Housing' project should be thought through. This could allow for the development of a new village hall, with sports facilities, at some time in the future.

3. **Rural Transport Interchange**

The ground rules for submitting planning applications for the bus shelter and changes to access from the 'Lower Recreation Ground have changed. Plans have been re-submitted for the bus shelter at 'Sight A', now that South Somerset Homes have agreed to lease the land to the P.C. Listed building consent has also been applied for with regards alterations to the War Memorial steps.

726 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Planning Application 02/02482/AGN Steel Framed Building Higher Purtington Farm (Further details requested by S.S.D.C. from the applicant). Correspondence has been received from Bryn Kitching at S.S.D.C. regarding the procedure for dealing with 'Agricultural Notifications'. This correspondence has been circulated to Members.
- b) Notice No: 02/02971/TCA (Trees) Lullingstone Fore St.. The P.C. had no difficulty with this application and decided to abide by the advice of S.S.D.C's 'Tree Officer'. TPO's have not been placed on any of the trees therefore the applicant can proceed with his plan.
- c) Planning Application No 02/030886/FUL Access Widening Plumb Tree Cottage Fore St. The P.C. approve this application as visibility is improved.
- d) Planning application 02/02620/FUL Briar Orchard Ammerham. The P.C.'s decision is unchanged, refuse.
- e) Certificate of Lawful Use Granted @ Mill Brook as 10 years have elapsed without challenge to the unlawful use.
- f) Planning Application 2/02803/FUL Laurel Cottage. Granted with conditions that a business is not run from the premises.

727 AMENITIES

- a) Mr Peter Pye has agreed to continue carrying out safety inspections on the lower recreation ground and to produce a safety report at each monthly P.C. meeting.

728 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk as asked to leave the meeting while his salary was reviewed.

- a) The Clerk's salary review was agreed. The Clerk has been given one salary spinal increment (to Scp 16) and the hourly rate has been increased in line with inflation. It was agreed to review the salary annually.
- b) A cheque was signed for the Clerks salary.
- c) In order to agree a precept the budget forecast was considered by Members. Increases in the precept from last year are reflected :-
 - i. An allowance of £500 for potential election expenses in May 2003.
 - ii. An increase in donations to outside organisations.
 - iii. An increase in insurance costs.

It was decided to set the precept at £7,786-00.

728 CEMETERY

- a) The post for the cemetery gate has been purchased thanks to Mrs Di Forward's gift. Thanks have been sent.

730 HIGHWAYS

The Chairman remains unhappy about progress on achieving the 20-mph speed restriction past the school. It was decided to right to the Chair of Environment & Transport Mr Tim Carroll expressing the P.C.'s concerns. **The Clerk A.P. 196**

Councillor Mr Keith Marsh gave a report, from the recent meeting on site with Roger Meecham & Tony Shire, regarding flooding, what can be done?

There is no enforcement process, which can be placed on landowners to prevent wash off. The best way forward is to seek advice and negotiate with the help of organisation like FWAG. Suggested ways forward to keep the topsoil on the land and reduce flooding in the village are: -

1. Have a 20-meter set aside in the fields at the bottom of the hill.
2. Plough more straw into the land.
3. Build soak aways.
4. More gullies on the lower side of Ebben Lane.
5. Clearing out gullies at Stuckey Farm.
6. Lowering the road surface along Church St, effectively making the kerb higher.

Mr Tony Fuller asked why we could not have agreed dates for street cleaning, allowing time for people to remove their cars ahead of the sweeper. **The Clerk A.P. 197** will write to Phil Jones South Somerset District Council.

Work to replace white lines and repair signs is still outstanding, County does not respond to requests or reply to letters. The Clerk should ask for a reply in all his correspondence and include a mailing history list at the beginning of all letters and emails sent.

Mr Keith Marsh asked about additional sources of funding for highway improvements. The Clerk suggested the following web sites :-

<http://www.dsc.org.uk/>

<http://www.nlcb.org.uk/>

<http://www.community-fund.org.uk/>

<http://www.cafonline.org/>

If member know of other sites please add them to the list.

731 CORRESPONDENCE Continued.

- a) Rights of Way Act 2000. All correspondence was made available to Members. Mr Peter Pye has taken the correspondence to study.
- b) The Recreation Ground Committee feel that it is highly unlikely that a suitable site for a skate board facility could be found as they have

already done a similar exercise for a BMX area. It was decided to note the response.

- c) The Information Commissioner has agreed to the P.C. adopting the model scheme of the Freedom of Information Act as applicable to parish councils.
- d) Refuse Collection (Christmas Arrangements) has been posted on the notice board.
- e) Relate (Donation). It was decided not to make a donation.
- f) Somerset Rural Youth Project. Mr John Sullivan agreed to reply to the questionnaire.
- g) A letter has been received from Mr Mike Douglass complaining about abusive language from players and spectators during football matches on the Upper Recreation Ground. Mr Keith Marsh supports this letter. Noise from the recreation ground travels. Swearing and abuse can be heard all around the village during a football match. It has been noticed that if the referee speaks to the players before a match and warns them of the consequences of swearing, then levels of verbal abuse are reduced. It was decided that **The Clerk A.P. 198** should write to the Football Secretary Victoria Anderson/Douglass.

732 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

- a) Mr John Sullivan raised the issue of publishing the P.C.'s minutes on the Web. He will make enquiries with Bob Osborne

733 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The Clerk has been asked to identify all the land and other assets of the P.C. for the purpose of conducting a risk assessment. **The Clerk A.P. 199**
- b) Data Protection Act (Registration). Reasons why should be made available. The matter was deferred to the next meeting.

734 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 8th January 2003 at 8.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall.

The meeting closed at 10-30pm.

Signed.....Date.....

ACTION POINT No	ACTIONED TO	PROGRESS	ACTION TAKEN
193	The Clerk	Completed	
194	The Clerk	Completed	
195	The Clerk		Community Consultation 10 th January
196	The Clerk	Completed	
197	The Clerk	Completed	
198	The Clerk	Completed	
199	The Clerk		Deeds Requested