

# WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2003  
At the Jubilee Hall, Winsham, at 8.00pm.

## DRAFT ISSUE 1

### 879 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present:-	Mr. Colin Slade	Chairman
	Mr Peter Harper	
	Mr. Keith Marsh	
	Mr. P. Pye	
	Mrs H Duke	
	Mr Roger Beer	
	Mr Simon Fewkes	
Parish Clerk:	Mr. F. Vaughan.	
District Councillor	Mrs. S. Abbey.	
Apologies:	Mr John Sullivan, Mr David Gordon	
Present:	Mr Roy Smart, Mr & Mrs Robert Shearer, Mr & Mrs Paul Love, Patricia Baxter.	
Absent:	Mrs Nicola Slade	

### 880 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

*Mr Roy Smart* made the following representation on behalf of Winsham Recreation Ground management Committee.

I would like to make sure that the Parish Council is aware that the Management Committee considers it unreasonable that it should be responsible for the entire cost of cutting the grass on the Recreation Ground, which amounts to around £1,000 per year. It is possible that the Cricket Club will be active again next year, but, even if it is, the use by the two sports clubs is a fraction of that enjoyed free by the public, 365 days a year.

As circumstances change over the years, it seems highly unlikely that the Sports & Social Club will be able to generate sufficient profit to finance most of the cost of running the Recreation Ground and the Club, as it did some years ago. Therefore, the fees payable by users will have to be substantially increased, possibly beyond the level of viability.

With regards to the proposed removal of the Recreational Maintenance Grant by the District Council; I can safely say that if the Parish Council does not agree to replace this grant, we would find it very hard to maintain the standards required.

I think plans for the future have to be drawn up very soon and I should be pleased to have the Council's views on this matter.

This will be an item for the agenda of the next PC meeting. It will also have budget implications when setting the precept for 2004-05.

*Mr & Mrs Robert Shearer* attended the meeting in support of their letter suggesting the establishment of a cyber café. 'The letter is a serious suggestion although another possible site has been suggested to me recently'. The Clerk explained that the letter was 'out of time' and although the letter could be discussed, no decisions could be taken until the next PC meeting. This will be an item for the agenda of the next PC meeting.

*Mr & Mrs Paul Love* attended the meeting to seek the PC's support in their proposed appeal against SSDC's decision to refuse permission for Planning Application 03/00942/FUL Fence 17 Church St. The item will be discussed at 6i.

*District Councillor Mrs Stella Abbey* thanked the Chairman for completing the pointing at the War Memorial in time for the Remembrance Service. She pointed out that there is some graffiti on the seat at the bus shelter. This will be an item for the agenda of the next PC meeting.

Caroline Matthews is progressing with the alleged unsocial behaviour in Western Way but there is intolerance on both sides.

It would be a preferred option if someone from the village were prepared to help the Speed Watch Team.

'I personally would like to see Parish Councillors attending more District Council meetings, I am sure this would help in cases of misunderstandings'.

### **881 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman declared an interest in agenda items 6a, 6c, 6h & 11j. It was decided to move these items to the end of the agenda. The Chairman left the meeting before these items were discussed. For completeness of the minutes the items will be reported as Planning Matters & Correspondence in the usual way.

### **882 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> October 2003**

The Chairman signed the minutes as true records.

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

- a) Election of Vice Chairman to cover planned absence. It was proposed by Councillor Keith Marsh & seconded by Councillor Hazel Duke that Councillor Peter Pye is elected as Vice Chairman during the period of planned absence of Councillor John Sullivan. This was agreed.
- b) Rural Housing (A definition of 'Local' in this context). The correspondence on this matter has been circulated to all Members before the meeting. Councillor Roger Beer expressed some concern about the proposed ratio of rented to shared ownership for the proposed development, seven rented to one shared ownership. Perhaps there could be more shared ownership. 'My view is that there are young families in the village who would prefer to own rather than rent'. The question will be put to Mark Dillon.

With regards to the definition of local, the Clerk summarised the definition as follows: -

The Parish Council are in general agreement with Policy Document HG8 Par6, but have a concern, which may be resolved by applying a time condition to the qualification i.e. households must have met

conditions as described for at least x number of years. Also must not be involved in any publicly known anti social behaviour or in breach of any existing tenancy agreement.

- c) The derelict cars on private land near the cemetery have now been removed.

## **884 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- (a) Agree Minutes of Planning Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> September (Minutes Agreed 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept)
- (b) Planning Application 03/00592/FUL Mill Brook Hazelwood Hill. This application has gone to appeal. The PC feels the existing comments are sufficient.
- (c) Planning Application 03/02355/OUT Demolition of Telephone Exchange & Erection of Dwelling Fore St (Amended Plans).

The Parish Council note the new drawing and that the pedestrian visibility splay has been increased to 2.0x2.0 m, but are still concerned about the issue of safety at this proposed access point. It may be difficult to get vehicles in and out whilst other vehicles are moving quite fast along this narrow lane.

The Parish Council is disappointed that the main building, shown on the drawing, is still set so deep and has not been moved further back on the site. These comments were made in the PC's response to the initial set of drawings. It is felt that it is still important to consider these suggestions.

- (d) Planning Application 03/02889/FUL 57 Davies Close (Covered Domestic Storage Area). PC recommends approval.
- (e) Planning Application 03/02547/FUL Joint Pitched Roof Higher Wynard Court St (Granted by SSDC)
- (f) Footpath Diversion (YSJ Seeds). No objection from PC.
- (g) Planning Application 03/02660/FUL Lower Farm Purtington (Granted by SSDC)
- (h) Planning Application 03/01602/FUL Plots 1&2 Court Farm (Refused by SSDC)
- (i) Planning Application 03/00942/FUL Fence 17 Church St (Refused by SSDC) & (Letter from Applicant)
- (j) Planning Application 03/02159/CPO Land Fill Higher Purtington (Granted with Conditions by County Council).

**Note.** The Clerk has checked, and traffic too and from the site must use the A30, and not Winsham village. This is covered by condition No2.

## **885 AMENITIES**

a) Councillor Mr Peter Pye has made his weekly check. The bolts on the multi-climbing frame have tightened themselves due to the wood swelling with recent rain. The situation will be monitored.

b) SSDC's reasons for withdrawing the RMG are stated in their letter, they have a budget deficit and believe that this sort of expenditure is better managed directly by Parish Councils, to give greater clarity and accountability for their own services.

The Parish Council strongly disagrees with this view. A letter has been written tonight to SSDC, through Councillor Mrs Stella Abbey, expressing concerns in two areas.

- i.) Winsham has an ageing population, which probably does not represent the demographic spread of South Somerset as a whole, younger people have to leave the village because of the lack of affordable housing. Therefore the older members of the community are supporting recreational facilities in Winsham, used predominantly by younger people, in a disproportionate way.
- ii.) The facilities in other adjoining towns and parishes particularly for football are in short supply. It could be said that young people join our local teams because there is a lack of facilities elsewhere. Winsham is therefore providing facilities for people from outside the village. The Parish Council wants to encourage everyone to enjoy our recreation facilities, but feels that the costs should be more widely spread.

## **886 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Cheques were signed for the Clerk's Salary,
- b) The Bank Reconciliation and an outline of the precept were handed to Member.

## **887 CEMETERY**

No report this month.

## **888 HIGHWAYS**

*Councillor Keith Marsh* reported that white lining has been carried out today but Ebben Lane has been missed.

Keith will visit the County Council Call Centre if he can meet Geoff Dight on site.

**The Clerk A.P. 27** to arrange.

The specification for road repairs is still not forthcoming, 'I will ask again'. Jetting of drains is reported as complete but wait and see if there is an improvement!

On Saturday morning 29<sup>th</sup> October the road at Whatley Mill was like a battlefield, dead deer and a badger, why? Perhaps game feeders are too near the road? Members and The Clerk will make enquiries with landowners.

## **889 CORRESPONDENCE.**

- a) Somerset Waste Action Plan was made available to Members
- b) Waste Management Strategy was made available to Members
- c) Royal British Legion (War Memorial Repairs) Thanks to The Chairman for completing the job.
- d) Bus Shelter Official Opening (Letter From Mr Stuttard). It was decided to hold the official opening on Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> between 11-45 am & 12-15 pm. Frank Suttard will perform the ceremony.
- e) Derelict Cars (Letter From Roger Wotton). The cars have been removed.

- f) Change to Recycling Collection Start Time (Now 7am), information was made available to Members
- g) Somerset CC Local Transport Plan was made available to Members.
- h) Invitation to SSDC Housing Strategy Seminar 25<sup>th</sup> Nov information was made available to Members
- i) SALC Meeting 7-30pm 8<sup>th</sup> December Yeovil, information was made available to Members
- j) Letter from Robert Shearer, see item on December agenda.
- k) Moving Parish Projects Forward Seminar 17<sup>th</sup> Nov , information was made available to Members

**890 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

- a) The wording of the reply to Police Inspector Seban was agreed.
- b) It was agreed to go ahead with the Parish guide & Annual Letter.

**891 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) The Xmas tree has already been sorted, Councillor Simon Fewkes is happy with the arrangements.
- b) County & District Councillors will have an agenda slot on a trial basis, after public question time.

**892 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2003 at 8.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall.

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

ACTION POINT No	ACTIONED TO	PROGRESS	ACTION TAKEN
27	<b>The Clerk</b>		