

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2004
At the Jubilee Hall, Winsham, at 8.00pm.

DRAFT Issue 1

1013 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present: - Mr.Colin Slade Chairman
Mr John Sullivan Vice Chairman
Mr Simon Fewkes
Mr.Peter Pye
Mr Peter Harper
Mrs Nicola Slade
Mr Roger Beer
Parish Clerk: Mr.Frank Vaughan.
District Councillor Mrs.Stella Abbey.
Countryside Service Rebecca Stevens
Apologies: Mrs Hazel Duke & Mr David Gordon
Public Attending Mr Nick George

1014 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None

1015 COMMUNITY ACCESS FUND

Rebecca Stevens of South Somerset District Council's Countryside Service outlined the organisational structure and the roles & responsibilities of the Countryside Service before going on to outline how they, SSDC, can help the Parish Council with its application for footpath repairs, using the 'Community Access Fund'. The Parish Council wants to see improvements made to the footpath from Broadenham Lane to Broadenham Farm CH30/3. There is a very boggy section along this path, which could be improved by drainage & stoning. Applications for Community Access Grants must be submitted to County Hall by 8th October. It was therefore decided that The Chairman & Mr Peter Pye should meet with Rebecca for a site visit on 2nd September at about 5 PM.

The Chairman thanked Rebecca for her presentation.

Rebecca was asked by Mr Peter Pye to check on a number of points: -

- a) Footpath CH 30/7 which is in Winsham Parish and footpaths CH 8/1 & CH 26/1, not in Winsham Parish, are all marked on maps but do not appear on the ground.
- b) The signs @ CH 30/9 are missing.

1016 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

District Councillor *Mrs Stella Abbey reported:* -

- a) You will be aware of the decision made by South Somerset District Council's District Executive to remove the 'Recreational Maintenance Grant' with effect from April 2005, which is worse than before. I opposed the withdrawal of RMG.
- b) Pam Buller will now plant out the trough by the phone box.
- c) Perhaps it would be a good idea if Members publicised themselves; perhaps by having photos of themselves displayed on the notice board or in the shop

alongside a brief description of their roles & responsibilities. Mrs Abbey was reminded that this information is posted on the PC website.

- d) Jeff Hollis the Dog Warden has moved on to other duties. Barking dogs & similar problems should now be reported to the 'Environmental Protection Service' based in Langport.

1017 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- a) There were no interests declared for the agenda of this meeting.

1018 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th JULY 2004

The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

1019 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN/TO BE TAKEN

- a) The Chairman is concerned about the disappearance of long distance views around the village; trees now obscure the view of the church tower, from many parts of the village. Perhaps the new government legislation 'Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003' can be used to enforce trimming. Trees on the roadside particularly near Axe Water overhang dangerously. The Clerk has now reported this to Highways Call Centre Ref 49898 and will check on Government legislation.
- b) As mentioned earlier RMG will be removed from April 2005. This will impact on the precept for 2005-2006. The PC will have to find an additional £450-00p for grass cutting on the lower recreation ground & probably a further as yet undefined amount to support the 'Recreation Ground Committee' for maintenance of the upper recreation ground. **The Treasurer of the 'Recreation Ground Committee'** has been asked to provide a financial statement showing what sort of support they will be looking for the PC to provide. This to be available at the PC's October meeting.
- c) The Chairman & Councillor Peter Pye attended a presentation on the Lengthsman Scheme at Tatworth. Tatworth & Forton have decided to become a lead parish & employ a Lengthsman. The cost to Winsham if we join the scheme would be about £1250-00p per year for two days work per month. The parish would be able to specify the work to be done. There is a question of how the work would be monitored. There is a further question if the scheme is legal. Would it offer value for money, or is it double taxation i.e. should the District Council be doing the work anyway? It was decided that Winsham should not join the scheme at this time. However **The Clerk A.P.** was asked to write to Mr James Parry SSDC's Street Scene Manager inviting him to a future meeting, just to talk about the service they offer and how the parish perceive the service received. The Chairman would like a breakdown of money spent in Winsham Parish against services received. In preparation for the Street Fair volunteers removed over 1 ton of waste material from the high street and adjoining streets. How frequently does the District Council mechanically & manually sweep the streets? I have just received confirmation that Andrew Gillespie (Area Development Manager West) & Angie

Singleton (Chair Area West Committee) have confirmed that they will be attending the October meeting. So the invitation to Mr James Parry will be on hold pending the outcome of the October meeting.

- d) The date & venue of the Annual Meeting of Parishes was made available to Members.

1020 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) A Certificate of Lawfulness (Meadowcroft Colham Lane) has now been issued by SSDC
- (b) Appeal Decision 17 Church St (Dismissed by Inspector)
- (c) Planning Application 04/00564/COU Puthill Farm (Granted by SSDC)
- (d) Planning Application 04/01585/OUT Clay Plot Farm (Refused by SSDC)
- (e) Appeal Decision Plots 1&2 Court Farm Close (Allowed by Inspector)
- (f) Planning Applications 04/02415/COU & 16/FUL (Hen House Leigh). The PC recommends approval of these applications

1021 AMENITIES

- a) The monthly report was passed to The Clerk.
- b) Councillor Peter Pye presented the ROSPA report, which was similar to last year with no high risk & an overall medium risk assessment. Minor maintenance is required.

1022 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Cheques for the Clerk's Salary, ROSPA, Grass Cutting & External Audit were signed.
- (b) The External Audit was successful.
- (c) The Clerk's salary was reviewed; The Clerk left the room. A salary increase was agreed with one additional scale point in line with SALC recommendations.
- (d) A new bank mandate was agreed. The signatories are Councillors Mrs Nicola Slade, Mrs Hazel Duke, Mr John Sullivan & Mr Roger Beer.

1023 CEMETERY REPORT

Mr Ernie Partridge is building a retaining wall to hold excess soil & grass cuttings.

1024 JUBILEE HALL REPORT

The Jubilee Hall Committee will be undertaking a complete review of everything from the fabric of the building to booking charges. Rod Wells is to do an unofficial survey of the building.

1025 HIGHWAYS

- a) Councillor Mr Simon Fewkes asked what was the significance of the white markings on the road surface in Church St. The idea is to improve the drainage but Highways have not informed the PC of their plans or timescale for the work. Call Centre Ref 49939 Mike Fear will ring back.

- b) SCC is again reviewing their speed management. It is not known whether Winsham will get 20 mph restrictions or not. The Clerk as asked that a speed indicator is installed, whether this will happen is unclear at the moment.

1026 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Clerk read out a letter from Simon Marsh also the reply from the PC to Simon.
- b) The Dualling Committee A30/A303 voted 40 to 41 in favour of dualling the A30/A303.
- c) Police Community contact Vehicle will visit on (Tue 14th Sept 1300/1345 hrs)
- d) The Community Council AGM (7th Sept Burrowbridge)
- e) The Playing Fields Association AGM (20th Sept Taunton Deane)
- f) Review of Polling Stations. It was decided that the Jubilee Hall was ideal.
- g) Street Lighting (SCC New Contract) 0845 6010939
- h) The Tree Warden Charter needs to be discussed with Jeff Peacock before any action is taken.
- i) Victim Support (Donation). It was decided not to make a donation.
- j) River Axe Management Strategy (Environment Agency) was made available to Members.
- k) SCC Local Transport Plan was made available to Members.
- l) Housing Strategy Seminar 29th Sept (Westlands) information was made available to Members.
- m) Transport Strategy SCC was made available to Members.

1027 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME & ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) What County Council money, directly controlled by the County Councillor, is available to parishes, for example, it was rumoured that Councillor Mrs Jill Shortland has arranged funding in the region of £5000-00 for Forton Rangers football team.
- b) The Chairman asked that Road Safety be placed on the October agenda.
- c) Risk assessment will go on the October agenda.
- d) Mr Peter Lacy has advised the Clerk that it is no longer cost effective to chase compensation for damage to the War Memorial.
- e) It was agreed to advertise a Casual Vacancy, notices have been posted.

1028 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 6th October 2004 at 8.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall.

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