

# WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2004  
At the Jubilee Hall, Winsham, at 8.00pm.

## Draft Issue 1

### **1059 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

Those present: -	Mr. Colin Slade	Chairman
	Mr John Sullivan	Vice Chairman
	Mr Simon Fewkes	
	Mr. Peter Pye	
	Mr Peter Harper	
	Mrs Hazel Duke	
	Mr Roger Beer	
Parish Clerk:	Mr. Frank Vaughan.	
District Councillor	Mrs. Stella Abbey.	
County Councillor	Mr David Gordon	
Apologies:	Mrs Nicola Slade	
Public	Mr Mike Bishop & Mrs Jean Wright	

### **1060 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mrs Wright attended as an observer. Mr Bishop was representing a client reference, planning applications 04/03312/LBC & 04/03311/FUL (No1 Thatched Cottages Western Way). Mr Bishop spoke on this application, see item 1066c.

### **1061 NOMINATIONS FOR CASUAL VACANCY**

There has been no nomination to date.

### **1062 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

District Councillor *Mrs Stella Abbey reported:* - The bin for disposing of dog excrement has been ordered. Thank you for helping with the payment. As you know the 'Sports Consultation Group' met in Chard on 11<sup>th</sup> November. It was a lively evening. The outcome may not help Winsham, but it is proposed to improve facilities in Chard. On a personal note I think Winsham Women's Football is doing well. I believe there is a picture from 1969 of Hazel as a member of the team. Can John put the photo on the web?

County Councillor *Mr David Gordon reported:* - Healthy eating is being promoted in county schools by making sure that food is sourced locally. Somerset food for Somerset schools. The Community Access Fund has been doubly over subscribed with over 40 schemes submitted. Certain rights of way issues in Winsham are on my pile of work. The Parish Council is still seeking Councillor Gordon's help to resolve the issue of Broadenham Lane. Because the part that needs repair is classed as a highway and not a footpath, how can we get this road on the repair list for the County Council to carry out? Councillor Gordon indicated that his pot of flexible funding was insufficient to support the repairs needed. How to achieve improvements to Broadenham Lane has still not been resolved & the Parish council are in limbo!

### **1063 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- a) The Chairman declared an interest in agenda item 8e. It was decided to discuss this item at the end of the meeting after the Chairman had left. For completeness the item is minuted in its usual place.

### **1064 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2004**

Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

### **1065 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN/TO BE TAKEN**

- a) Quality Parish Councils a Discussion. All Members were handed a 'Guide to becoming Quality Parish Councils' at the last meeting and asked for comments. Councillor John Sullivan thought the guide was a depressing document, "what's in it for us, except some vague promise of some money transfer if we comply with lots of red tape. We would in fact have little problem in complying. The document is written by Civil Servants who have nothing else to do. The Chairman agreed with these comments. He suggested that 'we shelve the proposals to become a QPC for the time being'. This was proposed by Councillor Mr Peter Pye & seconded by Councillor Mr John Sullivan.
- b) It was decided to invite Angie Singleton & Andrew Gillespie to the January meeting
- c) Rights of Way Improvement Plans ROWIP (papers now with Peter Pye). **The Clerk** is to write to Elizabeth Butleigh inviting her proposals for footpath & bridleway improvements. Also making her aware of Mr & Mrs Lycett Green, Laurel Cottage Ammerham.

### **1066 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- a) Proposed Modifications to Local Plan. These modifications do not affect Winsham parish.
- b) The Charter for Planning Control Services was presented to Members.
- c) Planning Applications 04/03312/LBC & 04/03311/FUL (No1 Thatched Cottages Western Way). After considering the plans & Mr Bishop's comments the Parish Council decided to support this application in its present form. It recognises that there was a similar timber conservatory on this site before. It approves of the materials used in the end elevation to the east, seeing this as having a much better visual impact than the existing wooden fence. Surrounding properties have large rear extensions. This proposal would therefore not be out of scale. From a practical point of view the width of the extension at 3.104m offers the applicant a reasonable improvement in amenity. To reduce this width would perhaps make the project unviable. The Parish Council approve this application in its present form.
- d) Planning Application 04/03285/COU Purtington Barn. The Parish Council approves this application considering it as part of the general improvement to the site.
- e) Planning Application 04/03383/FUL (Spring Bank Broadenham Lane). The Parish Council is neutral on this application i.e. they are neither for or against it.

They do recognise that the visual impact on others would be minimal but that there might be a slight increase in traffic in the future, but assuming the applicant will be living on site & working on the same site traffic movements may decrease.

- f) Surgery to Trees Stuckey's Cottage Agreed by SSDC 04/02800/TCA

### **1067 AMENITIES**

- a) The SSDC report for 26<sup>th</sup> October was discussed. It was decided to renew the 3 chains on the large swings in the spring of 2005. The problem with finding a method of fixing the chains is as yet unresolved.
- b) Councillor Mr Peter Pye reported on the visit by Jon Dalton from Playdale. If, sometime in the future, we need to replace the slide, then we will need play equipment suitable for younger children. Playdale have produced estimates for suitable equipment. It was decided to leave these estimates on file for a later review.

### **1068 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Cheques for the Clerk's salary & the dog bin for the Upper Recreation Ground have been signed.

### **1069 CEMETERY**

- a) Councillor Mr John Sullivan asked if any progress had been made over the design of a new gate for the cemetery. This will be an item for the January meeting.
- b) A discussion followed on increasing cemetery fees. As fees had not been increased for at least 6 years they are now substantially out of line with fees charged by other adjacent burial authorities. After a comparison it was decided to increase the purchase of a grave space from £95-00 to £150-00 and increase the other charges pro-rata. Charges to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005. It was decided to have one set of charges for all burials.

### **1070 HIGHWAYS**

In answer to a question asked at the last meeting. Dave Salter from SSDC informs the PC that "The District Council's only responsibility is to sweep kerb lined roads throughout, the District. The schedule is three monthly but in Area West we try and keep it down to two monthly, not always possible in the autumn. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> November

I did the blowing off the footpaths in front of the sweeper, car parking permitting. We did Church St., Bakersfield, Davies Close, Western Way. Fore St., part of Church St and could not do the rest as it is too narrow for the sweeper. We could not do Pooles Lane or Back St. for parked cars".

### **1071 CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) The Police Community Contact vehicle will be in Winsham on 17th December @ Noon and 10<sup>th</sup> January @ Noon.
- b) Letters from Chief Superintendent Andy Marsh & Inspector Peter Saban were made available to Members.
- c) NHS Trust Board Briefing was made available to Members

- d) Yeovil College Short Courses was made available to Members
- e) Standards Board Update was made available to Members
- f) NHS Trust Annual Report was made available to Members

**1072 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME & ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a) Affordable Housing, a letter from SSDC was read to Members abbreviated :- *(The Clerk has a copy of the original letter & plan, which is available for inspection on request).*

SSDC say: - “We have identified a preferred site adjoining the village at Western Way. An approximate outline is shown edged in red on the attached plan. The extent of the site shown is only intended to illustrate the location and more detailed drawings will be forwarded as soon as they are available to show the actual land needed and the proposed layout. The current owner is willing to negotiate terms for the sale of the land and early indications are that this site is likely to be the most acceptable from both the planning and highway perspectives.

South Somerset District Councils Executive Committee have agreed this week that your scheme can be taken forward on the basis of a substitute rural development. This does not mean that funding has been allocated, but that the scheme will advance to a state where it can be implemented very quickly to take advantage of slippage elsewhere in the programme. Even if slippage does not occur this action will put us into a prime position to bid for Housing Corporation funding at the next opportunity, which we expect to be summer 2005.

On that basis it is our intention to submit a planning application within the next few weeks. I will forward copies of detailed plans as soon as these are available. The Clerk has asked Mark for an early sighting of the plans.

**1073 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2005 at 8.00 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall.

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