

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 6th June 2007
At the The Jubilee Hall, Winsham.

Draft Issue 1

1494 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present: -	Mr Roger Beer	Chairman
	Mrs Hazel Duke	Vice Chairman
	Mr Peter Harper	
	Miss Trish Baxter	
	Mr Bert Froud	
	Mrs Maxine Douglass	
	Mrs Mary Haggard	
	Mr Andrew Partridge	
District Councillor	Mr Robin Munday.	
County Councillor	Mr Tony Shire	
Parish Clerk:	Mr.Frank Vaughan.	
Public	None	
Apologies:	Mrs Stella Abbey	

1495 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None

1496 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

District Councillor Mr Robin Munday reported: I am now fully up and running as your District Councillor. I have two main responsibilities within the Council, Vice Chairman of Area West and portfolio holder for eGovernment. One item you will need to be aware of is SSDC's "Advertising Protocol", you will now need a licence to advertise, placing a notice on a lamp post can in theory lead to a prosecution, but it is the intention to apply the protocol with a light touch. For events like the Street Fair which is advertised outside the immediate village a licence will certainly be needed.

County Councillor Mr Tony Shire reported: The County Council's proposal for a Unitary Authority is progressing, with the plan to form Area Boards, 19 at this stage. Members of Area Boards will be drawn from a number of organisations, including the Police, & NHS Trusts. However in order to vote on the Area Board you must be a Member of the Unitary Authority or bring money to the table. Existing budgets will be devolved down to Area Boards.

The voice of the Parish Council on Area Boards is still being developed. One proposal is that parishes form clusters of common interest, for example the Lengthmans Scheme could be run where a number of parishes join together.

1497 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

1498 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th May 2007

The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

1499 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN/TO BE TAKEN

a) Somerset County Council's "Somerset Area Working Panel"; asked the Parish Council to nominate 3 realistic projects for 2007/8 & 3 aspirational projects. County Councillors have £15,000 each to spend, with an overall flexible budget of £270,000 for South Somerset. It was decided to nominate:-

1. Get professional advice on junction improvements near the cross.
2. Improve the road between Whatley Cross & Whatley Mill.
3. Traffic speed management through the village.

No aspirational projects were proposed

b) KDJ Slade has accepted the contract to improve the access to the Lower Recreation Ground. County Councillor Tony Shire recommended that Highways be informed of the proposed work.

c) Sending a representative to the South Somerset Working Panel will be looked at again in July.

d) It was decided not to reply to SALC on Unitary Council Consultation.

e) The revised Code of Conduct was accepted. Members were each given an explanatory booklet.

f) Councillor's training would be reviewed at a later date.

g) SSDC was unable to take on the PC's proposal that all elected Members become 'Parish Environment Wardens'.

1500 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Application 07/01738/FUL Lubborn Cheese vertical milk silo. Permitted, by SSDC, with conditions.

b) Planning Application 07/01894/FUL change of use, garage 1st Floor to become an annexe to Bridge Cottage. The Parish Council recommends refusal of this application, for reasons of overdevelopment.

c) Application 07/01999/FUL Development @ Post Office House 2 Church St.

At a Parish Council Planning Meeting held on 15th May it was decided to recommend refusal of this application on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site. In support of this decision the following observations and comments were made:-

1. In the Parish Council's view the north westerly elevation of Post Office House, marked no2 on the plans, assumed to be the kitchen, and the bungalow marked no1 are very close for privacy to be maintained.
2. It is doubtful whether the existing roof level of the Coach House can be retained while still complying with building regulations. Increasing the roof height would adversely impact on the conservation area.
3. The wording on the plans is unclear but the Parish Council believe that the material specified for the bungalow i.e. [square] course rubble stone work is considered unsuitable for a conservation area.
4. Concern was expressed over traffic movements in and out of the site and within the site. Increased traffic activity on Western Way presents a hazard at the junction with the B3162. Although in theory there is parking for 8 cars, negotiating these spaces within the site could prove problematic causing residents to park elsewhere off the site. Parking of vehicles on and around

- Western Way is already a major issue in the village. Increased traffic movements would add to the congestion around a very busy and active shop.
5. With regard to the felling of the walnut tree, it is believed that the District Council's tree specialist recommends that this tree should not be allowed to grow to its full maturity because of the impact on the adjacent property. The Parish Council believe that this is not a sufficiently good reason for it to be felled. Felling the tree would have an adverse impact on the street scene within the conservation area. If the District Council's tree specialist recommends felling the tree then the Parish Council would not contest this.
 6. The Parish Council has no further comments or suggestions at this time.

1501 AMENITIES

Councillor Mr Peter Harper reported:-

- a) The swing & slide need painting.
- b) There is a nut missing from the Spring Cockerel.
- c) The wooden slats on the two seats are rotting & need replacing. I will enquire into costs.

1502 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Cheques were signed for Clerk's salary.
- b) The Audit was agreed & signed by the Chairman.
- c) The new Bank Mandate has been signed off.

1503 CEMETERY

Councillor Andrew Partridge reported: - One headstone requires attention; the family concerned has been informed.

1504 RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE/ SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

Councillor Mary Haggard reported: - Building work is progressing well.

1505 JUBILEE HALL

The Chairman reported: - The Computer Lab has been suspended because the equipment provided through The Community Council is not what is needed. There is now some question as to whether the wireless broadband will continue to be supported beyond the trial period. Questions being asked are, should the Parish Council fund the broadband @ £25/month or can another funding stream be identified? One suggestion for another source of funding is to offer a site to a mobile phone provider for the erection of a mast.

1506 HIGHWAYS

Councillor Bert Froud has been on holiday, No report

The Chairman asked Councillor Tony Shire if the GPS mapping system could be provided to the Parish on a CD. This was not possible but a paper copy could be made available.

HGV's are still going through Purtington. Councillor Peter Harper asked the Clerk to correspond again with Clive Sutton.

1507 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) SSCD Consultation on Choice Based Lettings
- b) SSDC Car Parking Strategy
- c) Change of Recycling & Food Waste Collection.
- d) Voluntary & Community Action News Letter

This list of correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting & made available to all members who attended the meeting.

1508 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME & ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Review of Members Roles & Responsibilities. Councillor Bert Froud will remain as Highway Officer & also join the Planning Committee.
- b) Over the past few weeks there has been persistent vandalism in the cemetery with flowers and flower pots moved and thrown around. Despite the vigilance of individual Councillors the problem persists. The Chairman has personally asked PC Louise Wright & PCSO Charlotte Rogers to patrol the area regularly.
- c) Cutting of Hedge by Cemetery. Councillor Andrew Partridge will look at the feasibility of cutting the hedge in question.
- d) Standards committee Election of 3 'Parish Members', Councillors Armstrong, Hartley & Mullins were nominated.
- e) Invitation to attend South Somerset Together 7th June Yeovil for 6pm, declined.
- f) Congratulations to Members from Insp. Neil Pitman & Somerset Sector Team, noted.

1509 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of The Parish Council will held on Wednesday 4th July for 7-30 pm in The Jubilee Hall.

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