

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 4th April 2007
At the The Jubilee Hall, Winsham.

Draft Issue 2

1454 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present: -	Mr Colin Slade	Chairman
	Mr Peter Pye	Vice Chairman
	Mrs Hazel Duke	
	Mr Peter Harper	
	Mr Roger Beer	
	Miss Trish Baxter	
	Mr Bert Froud	
	Mrs Nicola Slade	
District Councillor	Mrs Stella Abbey.	
County Councillor	Mr Tony Shire	
Parish Clerk:	Mr.Frank Vaughan.	
Public	Mr Robin Munday	
Apologies:	None	

1455 NOTICE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Our Chairman Mr Colin Slade has decided not to stand for election on May 3rd. Colin has served on the Parish Council for 28 years. He feels that things are not quite the same as the used to be. It is very difficult fighting your corner against the District and County, who are supposed to be there to help get things done. Colin wished all the best to everyone & thanked the present Members and the Clerk for all their work over the years.

Councillor Mr Peter Pye thanked Colin for all his work over the years. Colin's will be big shoes to fill and he will be greatly missed.

1456 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None

1457 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

District Councillor Mrs Stella Abbey reported: - The realignment of the A356 & the A303 linking with the M5 is now in its first consultation period although construction will not start until at least 2014.

You may have read in the press that the County Council's bid for a Unitary Authority is the one preferred by the government and will progress to the consultation stage.

County Councillor Mr Tony Shire The realignment of the A356 & the A303 may not start for 10 years and the only is there is money in the budget. Consultation is focused on the M5 interchange where a sports field may be lost and at South Petherton. There is a plan to build a cycle bridge over the A303 to facilitate the Route 33 coast to coast cycle way.

The Government has accepted the County Council's bid for a Unitary Authority and consultation will begin in July.

1458 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No interests were declared.

1459 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th March 2007

The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

1460 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"; ask 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. Replies are by 30th of June. It was therefore decided to place this item on the agenda for the next council.
A number of suggestions were made, mostly highway related:-
 1. Get professional advice on junction improvements near the cross.
 2. Improve the road between Whatley Cross & Whatley Mill.
 3. 20 mph past the school.
 4. Upgrade to the pavement by the lower recreation ground.
- b) Footpath CH30/1 Comments & Feedback after Upgrade (Verbal Report). The paths finished surface, golden gravel is not performing in wet weather & there is a question about who is responsible for too fence against the path, If livestock are released into the field the path will need to be protected. A meeting took place on Tuesday 3rd April between Paul Atwell of SSDC, Councillors Mrs Duke & Mr Pye and the Clerk. The golden gravel surface needs 8 weeks to 'bed in, so it was decided to monitor the situation. Everyone was also of the opinion that it was the land owner's responsibility to fence against the path so protecting the path from damage. SSDC carried out the work to construct the path from a specification drawn up by Hastoe. The specification called for a kissing gate to be built at the end of the fence just before the field. Building this gate would prevent wheelchair access. It was agreed not to build the kissing gate. Money saves could be used on other paths in the village. Since the meeting contractors from Hastoe have built the kissing gate. At the PC meeting it was decided to write to Hastoe for clarification.
- c) Footpath CH 8/1. We have received acknowledgement of our correspondence from the County Council.

1461 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Application 06/04172/FUL Sun Room Old Granary Ammerham Granted by SSDC.
- b) Application 07/00813/FUL Stonefield House Granted by SSDC

1462 AMENITIES

There are no major safety problems on the Lower Recreation Ground. A nut on the Spring Chicken needs replacing.

1463 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Cheques were signed for Clerk's salary.

1464 CEMETERY

- a) A letter received from the Coroners Office was noted and placed on file.

1465 RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE/ SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

Stella Abbey reported: - The question has been asked, can Winsham Football Club progress their building project through the Parish Council in order to reclaim VAT on building materials? The Clerk is of the opinion that this is not possible, for VAT to be reclaimed by a public body they must, place the order, receive the supply, receive a tax invoice addresses to them, pay from their own funds, also remain owners of the goods and services purchased. Voluntary Organizations can apply in their own right to become VAT registered; perhaps this is the way forward. Councilor Nicola Slade agreed to make further enquiries.

1466 JUBILEE HALL

- a) Actual & final costing for the refurbishment will be presented at the Jubilee Hall Committee's AGM

1467 HIGHWAYS

- a) There is a pot hole developing on Western Way.
- b) HGV's are going down Purtington Down Hill heading for Greencombe Farm why? There is a sign at the top of Crewkerne Hill where it meets the A30 saying 'Unsuitable for HGV's' so they take the next left into Purtington. The PC asked for the sign at the top of Crewkerne Hill to stop HGV's going into Winsham village. Where do we go from here? Pass the problem to Highways!

1468 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Police Community Vehicle. It was agreed to ask that a PCSO attends regular 'Surgeries' instead of attending with the Police Community Vehicle.
- b) Local Working in South Somerset, see item 1459 a)
- c) SCC Unitary Proposals (Consultation on 18th April & 22nd May Shepton Mallet)
- d) Closure of Fosse way 12th April for 3 Days
- e) Invitation to a Tea Party by Hastoe 3pm 16th April. Mr Colin Slade will be pleased to attend.
- f) Illegal Advertising Protocol (Meeting in Yeovil 10th April @ 9-30pm
- g) Street Trading
- h) Statement of Community Involvement (Dorset).
- i) Composting & ITV Interests
- j) My Place (A Web Site)
- k) Land Management Services (Mapping)

- 1) Thatch

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

1469 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME & ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The 'Sale Document' for The Cricket St Thomas Estate was passed to the council by Peter Pye for safe keeping. The new council will have to decide how it should best be made available to the public. It is very fragile.

1470 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of The Parish Council will held on Wednesday 9th May for 7-30 pm in The Jubilee Hall. This will be the AGM followed immediately by the Ordinary Meeting.

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