

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 7th December 2011
At the Jubilee Hall, Winsham.

2300 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present: -

	Mr John Gapper	Vice Chairman
	Miss Trish Baxter	
	Mrs Janet Hendon	
	Mrs Mary Haggard	
	Mr Andrew Partridge	
	Mr Peter Saunders	
	Mr Peter Harper	
Parish clerk:	Mrs Elaine Willis	
District Councillor:	Mrs Sue Osborne	
County Councillor:	Mrs Kim Turner	
Public:	Mr Robert Shearer	
Apologies:	Mr John Sullivan	
	Mr John Chance	Chairman

2301 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Robert Shearer attended to voice concerns about changing a stile into a gate and also about the amount of dogs mess on Liberty Trail. Councillor Trish Baxter reported that she had contacted the land owner who would allow the stile to be replaced by a gate as long as it was meshed and as high as the stile. Councillor Mary Haggard asked whether we had agreed the proposal. The clerk responded that the councillors had agreed in principle but were awaiting agreement from the land owner and probable costs before a final discussion could be made. Councillor John Gapper responded that the Council had noted Mr Shearer's comments.

The problem of dog fouling was discussed later in the meeting.

2302 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor Sue Osborne reported they were still waiting for the application from Purtington Show Ground and that they were looking at a deadline of the end of the year. Councillor Peter Harper responded that some damage had already been done and that it had been reported to him that Chard Show were not going to hold their event there in the future; this means that the local interest had been lost.

There has still not been any correspondence from the band committee concerning the band hut. Councillor Kim Turner suggested arranging a meeting in Winsham with the Parish council, the band and Diane from SSDC. *Action: clerk to contact Diane.*

Councillor Kim Turner reported consultations were underway for blue badge renewal fees; the proposal is that the fee increase from £2 to £10 every 3 years. It will be the first increase since 1983, www.somerset.gov.uk/bluebadge.

The library review had gone to court and the judge had ruled the County Council had acted illegally by not considering the impact on disabled users.

On the next Area West agenda is the Crewkerne key site.

The cuts in Children and Young people are happening quicker than expected leading to a cut in youth clubs.

County has decided to put information about gritting on twitter @somersetgritter.

There have been workshops on the proposed boundary changes, if Winsham was to go into Crewkerne or Chard it would take them over the limit therefore it is still planned that Winsham remains with Ilminster. Councillor Kim Turner also commented that there was a bus service to Ilminster you just had to change at Chard. Councillor Mary Haggard also commented that our police cover was from Ilminster.

2303 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

2304 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH MEETING held on 2nd November 2011. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

2305 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN

- a) The clerk reported that the company asked to clean the War Memorial had planned on doing the work before Remembrance Day but bad weather had prevented this. *Action: clerk to contact company again.*

The clerk also reported that the Memorial had been hit again by a large lorry trying to turn at the junction after finding it could not get under the bridge. Councillor Kim Turner suggested meeting again with Colin Fletcher about this issue. The clerk reported that she had contacted Mr Fletcher to tell him about the new damage as the post still had not been put in and this may have prevented the incident. *Action: Councillor Kim Turner to contact Colin Fletcher.*

2306 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Application 11/04472/FUL, Conversion of detached garage to a holiday let, Claypot, Whately – Recommend refusal

2307 AMENITIES

- a) Councillor Andrew Partridge asked whether any maintenance had been carried out as he couldn't find the loose bolts reported at the last inspection. The clerk responded that it may have been Councillor John Chance as he had put the new cradle swings up.
- b) The clerk reported that she had been in contact with both the District Council and the Insurance Company about the need for quarterly inspections. The District Council said there wasn't a legal requirement but recommended them to check for kite marked issues etc. The insurance company were happy with an annual inspection plus our fortnightly ones. These would have to be recorded along with any maintenance. The council were in full agreement not to pay for quarterly inspections.
- c) The council agreed to book an annual playground inspection with SSDC.

2308 RIGHTS OF WAY

Councillor John Gapper reported that the kissing gate past the cemetery had already been changed by County to improve access.

2309 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Cheques signed for Clerks salary & expenses,
- b) Precept. The council was in full agreement to accept the proposed precept; Council John Gapper signed the precept form.

2310 CEMETERY

Councillor John Gapper asked if anyone had inspected the cemetery gate. Councillor Mary Haggard commented that she liked the look of the current gate. Councillor Andrew Partridge replied that it would need changing in a few years as it was rotting. After a discussion the Council agreed not to change the gate immediately but to keep funds in reserve for when it was needed. Councillor Janet Hendon asked if we could therefore put up the no dogs sign. *Action: Council John Gapper to discuss with Councillor John Chance.*

2311 UPPER RECREATION GROUND

Councillor Mary Haggard reported that the refurbishments were all finished and that the Sports and Social Club was very busy with football and private functions.

2312 JUBILEE HALL

Councillor Janet Hendon reported that the committee had now agreed to put in a side gate; this will also celebrate the Jubilee year. There had been an increase in bookings. The January event was now a Chinese night so as not to compete with The Bell. Councillor Trish Baxter asked whether a side light

had been mentioned at the last meeting. Councillor Janet Hendon didn't think it had been discussed yet.

2313 HIGHWAYS

Councillor Peter Harper reported that Highways had been very efficient in repairing two large sections on Crewkerne Hill.

The poor signage at Street to restrict vehicle height was discussed following another accident with a the Memorial. (2305) *Action: to discuss with Colin Fletcher if a meeting can be arranged.*

2314 PARISH SURVEY

Councillor Janet Hendon reported that the plan was to discuss traffic calming – this could be discussed with Colin Fletcher as well. Councillor Janet Hendon asked whether dog fouling could be discussed because it was a common theme in the survey and a parishioner had written to the Parish Council about it and a child from the school had fallen in some during a cross country walk. The clerk responded that the environmental officers had offered to give us leaflets and posters for the village. They had also commented that they were at capacity for emptying dog mess bins. There was agreement that a leaflet drop could be organised. Councillor Mary Haggard suggested putting a personal bit in from the parish council. *Action: clerk to discuss with the environmental officer.*

2315 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) War Memorial
- b) Electoral review

Most of this correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting & the rest was made available to all members who attended the meeting.

2316 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME & ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The clerk reported that she had had an email from the environmental officers asking that posters be removed shortly after an event. The clerk had put this in the latest parish magazine.
- b) The clerk reported that councillor John Chance had noted that in the Standing Orders press releases shouldn't go out until agreed by the Council. This affects the Parish magazine article, which would then run a month later. Councillor John Gapper had also looked at the Standing Orders and felt that it applied to councillors and not the clerk. Councillor Trish Baxter suggested emailing the articles to the Councillors. Councillor John Gapper asked that everyone think about a solution before discussions at the next meeting. It was agreed to defer further discussions until the next meeting.
- c) Councillor Peter Saunders helped plant some daffodil bulbs in the village, there are still some left over. Councillor Janet Hendon offered some help on Sunday.

2317 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary meeting of The Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 1st February for 7-30 pm meet in the Jubilee Hall.

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