

Winsham Parish Council

Draft minutes of The Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Jubilee Hall on Wednesday 2nd April 2014 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs S Abbey, T Baxter, J Chance, N Eastick, B Goodman, M Haggard, R Miller, N Mode, and J Sullivan

In attendance: Mrs Teresa Pinder Clerk to The Council, District Councillor Sue Osborne, County Councillor Linda Vijeh, 0 residents

PUBLIC FORUM

(a) Questions from Residents

None

(b) District Councillor's Report

District Councillor Sue Osborne gave her report on events in the area over the last month, which included:

The Local plan was agreed at full council with the 22nd May being the deadline for objections. A consultation will be coming out on non-domestic rates shortly and everyone should be encouraged to feed back concerns.

(c) County Councillor's Report

County Cllr Linda Vijeh's written report for March is attached to the minutes.

2664 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2665 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest received:

Item 5 The Band Hut and Allotment Site – Cllr M Haggard as an allotment holder.

2666 THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 5TH MARCH 2014

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

2667 PLANNING MATTERS

a) Applications

b) **Application No: 14/01077/FUL**

Applicant: D Everest

Proposal: Change of use of land to residential and erection of shed (GR 335322/106095)

Location: Queen Hill, Nr Forton, Chard, TA20 4HW

Resolved: No objections.

c) Planning determinations received from SSDC

Planning Application 14/00606/FUL – Permission Granted. The Clerk will write a letter to SSDC (South Somerset District Council) to ascertain why no planning consultation has been received and report back to the Council.

d) Plans and determinations received after the posting of the agenda – None

2668 THE BAND HUT AND ALLOTMENT SITE

Cllr J Chance updated the Council, advising that no response had been received to our last letter, which was sent to SSDC's solicitor two months ago. Members held a discussion and agreed that it was clear that SSDC were not now acting as a willing seller, and it was unanimously agreed that we had no alternative but to withdraw our interest. Cllr Osborne offered to make one last effort to chase the matter up. The Clerk stated that an invoice had been sent to SSDC for the abortive legal fees WPC incurred due to the 'ransom strip' clause, and which they had agreed to pay.

2669 PARISH PLAN

Cllr N Mode updated the council on the current position.

The 11th April is the confirmed date for the Focus Group commencing at 6.00 pm in the Jubilee Hall and all help would be gratefully received.

The Council expressed the view that the Parish Plan needs to give more consideration to the needs of people in employment, and it was agreed to arrange a focus group to seek their views.

Another issue raised was the use and availability of bus services; it was agreed that Cllr T Baxter will put an article in the Parish magazine to highlight the issue.

Members were promised an update at the next meeting, following completion of the research.

2670 STANDING ORDERS, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND COUNCIL POLICIES

The new Model Financial Regulations will be reviewed and recommendations given prior to the next meeting, where they will be proposed for adoption.

Resolved: The new Publication Scheme for Winsham Parish Council was approved and adopted.

Proposed: Cllr N Mode Seconded: Cllr R Miller.

2671 FINANCE

- a. Resolved: Council approved payment of cheques 322086 to 322090 and one direct debit totalling £1585.14.
- b. The Council acknowledged receipt of the quarterly report.
- c. The proposed increase in cemetery fees should be considered by all members prior to the next meeting, where it will be discussed further.

2672 SALT BINS

Cllr B Goodman confirmed that, assisted by Cllr N Eastick, he will be filling and positioning the salt bins on the 3rd April.

2673 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Cllr J Sullivan updated the Council on the current position and outlined the programme for the evening, which is to be held on the 14th May. It was confirmed that a budget of £80 had been allocated for this event, and it was agreed that a DVD of the presentations would be produced following the event and could be given to newcomers to the village.

An invitation was extended to both the District & County Councillors to attend.

Proposed: Cllr S Abbey, Seconded: Cllr N Mode

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Cllr J Sullivan for his efforts.

2674 FIRST AID INSTRUCTION

Cllr R Miller updated the Council on the current position.

The Red Cross continue to provide First Aid Courses free of charge, although a donation is requested. The minimum age for children to attend is 10 years old, but since WPC is also keen to make such a course available to all age groups, it was agreed to also enquire what the St John Ambulance Brigade had to offer.

It was further agreed that the Red Cross course organiser would be asked for his suggestions on the content of the course.

2675 CONSULTATION ON TRANSPARENCY CODE FOR PARISH COUNCILS

The Council discussed the document and agreed on responses to the six questions highlighted. The Clerk will respond to this effect on the Council's behalf.

2676 FLOOD MITIGATION FUND

Following a discussion, the Council agreed not to put forward an application.

2677 ITEMS FOR REPORT

(a) Amenities, Rights of Way and Highways reports

Rights of Way

The Chairman has spoken to Forde Abbey about damage to the footpath by the Axe, they had offered to make repairs, and make arrangements to allow the cows to get to water without damaging the footpath. The Council expressed their thanks for this promised assistance.

The Clerk will speak to John Gapper to enquire if Les Braunton had been in touch about Spookey Lane (Broadenham Lane) and the state of it after the winter.

County Cllr L Vjeh suggested using young offenders for such maintenance works within the Parish, and the Council agreed to consider this for the future.

Highways

Roads with potholes that need attention were discussed. Cllr B Goodman will co-ordinate the inspection visit of Mike Fear from Highways when he visits the area to view the problems. It was agreed that Cllr S Abbey would assist.

Amenities

Reports from member representatives on outside bodies

Nothing to report

Clerk's report and correspondence

No further correspondence received.

2678 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None

"Under Standing Orders 3d and 10xi the Council resolves that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (legal, personal or commercial), the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw".

2679 SUE LOARING LEGACY

Resolution: The quote from Prevu was approved for the purchase of gates for the Recreation Ground.

Proposed: Cllr N Eastick Seconded: Cllr S Abbey

2680 GRASS/HEDGE AND VEGETATION CUTTING TENDERS

Resolution: The cheapest tender was approved for the grass, hedge and vegetation cutting for the Parish, subject to receipt of three satisfactory references/testimonials from current parish council customers of the contractor.

2681 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 2014

Meeting closed at 10.00 pm