

Winsham Parish Council-Regular meeting-1st July, 2020.

Inspired (or shamed) by our Thorncombe colleagues, we thought we'd better tell you about the Winsham Parish Council meeting of July 1st. As a council we are becoming well versed with zoom, which means (for the digitally challenged) by video computer rather than in real life; but our subjects were certainly real enough.

The large and dangerous sinkhole on the road near Chard Lane and Greencombe Farm has been repaired by the Highways Agency, thanks to our pushing and with a lot of support from our County Councillor Linda Vijeh.

The Winsham bus shelter has now been repaired.

The gate to the cemetery has been removed, temporarily, to be repaired but will be back in situ soon.

We discussed various planning applications, and approved them.

There was concern regarding the non-emptying of dog waste bins, and since the meeting this has been chased – and thankfully resolved.

The upper playing fields have now been passed across to the new Winsham Recreational Trust, which is an Incorporated Charitable Organisation. The Trust is now responsible for the playing fields and club house. The Trust held their first meeting on the 1st July where the officers of the Trust were elected and the first agenda item was the situation with the open/closing of the gate, after much discussion it was unanimously agreed that following the wishes of many residents the gate will be returned to an open policy, this will be monitored and reviewed.

Since the meeting the COVID-19 restriction on children's playgrounds has been relaxed and we have re-opened the playground – hurrah! Please ensure you continue to follow the Government Guidance regarding social distancing, parents are advised to use hand sanitiser after using the equipment and to wash hands with soap and water on returning home from the park.

The parish survey has not been forgotten, fellow councillors are currently working hard in collating all the information and as soon as it is possible to present to the Parish we will. We are hoping that we will be able to move the survey into a Neighbourhood Plan, look out for more information.

The spring litter pick was unfortunately cancelled by Covid -19 and the lockdown. We have decided that we will do it properly (!) in spring 2021.

Henk Beentje & Sarah Love