

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 2nd February 2011
At the Jubilee Hall, Winsham.**

2141 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Those present: -	Mr Roger Beer	Chairman
	Mr John Gapper	Vice Chairman
	Miss Trish Baxter	
	Mrs Mary Haggard	
	Mrs Stella Abbey	
	Mr Andrew Partridge	
	Mr Peter Saunders	
	Mr Peter Harper	
Parish clerk:	Mrs Elaine Willis	
District Councillor:	Mr Robin Munday	
County Councillor:	Mrs Kim Turner	
Public:	Mr C Earl	
Apologies:	Mrs Janet Hendon	

2142 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Carl Earl attended concerning a request for a salt bin at the top junction of Fore Street and High Street. Mr Earl also voiced concerns about the bus service and future cuts and suggested some alternatives to cuts. Councillor Trish Baxter offered to pass on his suggestions to Highways. Councillor Kim Turner reported that Winsham bus service was not currently on the list for further cuts. Councillor Kim Turner also suggested not ordering any more salt bins at present because highways were reviewing the provision of salt to parishes. This year there had been a 100% increase in demand for the filling of salt bins and in the future provision maybe restricted. The Parish could purchase their own salt if they wished but would have to find suitable storage. This would then also cover any periods that highways could not refill bins in time due to high demand.

2143 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor Robin Munday reported that the main emphasis of his work remains the budget. The goal posts for the budget have again been moved. At the moment they have a balanced budget but in the year 2012/13 they need to find another 3 million. The current cuts have been managed by trimmings in each department but this cannot continue and they will have to look at levels of service. They are already looking at discretionary expenditure.

Councillor Kim Turner reported that there have been demonstrations outside of County Hall due to advertised cuts. They have now decided to keep 23 out of the 34 libraries (they had originally planned to keep 14) there will only be 2 library buses, still unsure about which ones will be affected. Libraries will have a reduced number of hours and back room staff; they will also be increasing charges. The youth service has a 75% cut leaving only 2 senior youth workers and 8 part time workers. Youth club nights are cut to one in Crewkerne and Ilminster and 2 in Chard.

The recycling centre at Crewkerne is still on the hit list a decision is due to be made next week.

2144 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Peter Harper declared an interest in item 6b.

2145 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH MEETING held on 1st December 2010. Councillor John Gapper requested clarity on item 2126. Councillor Kim Turner confirmed that the County funding for PSCOS was being reduced from 10 to one (although now to none). Councillor John Gapper reported that these were not the only PSCOs in the area and that a significant amount of PCSOs were funded by the police.

2146 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED

ELSEWHERE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN

- a) Salt bins, the bins had now been filled, problems had occurred because one of the salt bins had been placed on private land (due to safety and convenience of users).
- b) Councillor John Gapper reported that he had received some advice about the war memorial and reported some interesting facts:
 - In memory of the men of Winsham and Cricket St Thomas who fell in the Great War 1914 – 1918
 - SSDC listing no 17666. English Heritage (Grade II) no 487625.
 - There are 24 names listed alphabetically from WWI and 4 from WW2
 - Several names are still represented in the village. The WWI names include a father and son. Youngest is a boy seaman age 17. The Fry family (Cricket) and Davies (WW2, Leigh House) are represented.
 - True love by life, True love by death is tried
Live thou for England. We for England died.
 - Hamstone, erected in 1923. Public subscription raised £150. The stone is now pitted and splattered with lichen. Mortar is loose and some of the incised lettering is hard to read.
 - We were sent War Memorial Trust's Bulletin for Nov. 2010. Recommended in it was the War Memorials Handbook, which WPC purchased for £5. This was really about the national inventory of war memorials. It had little practical advice on conservation, but a useful list of addresses for organisations in this field.
 - Four large photos were emailed to the W. M T. The advice (ref WM1266) of their Conservation Officer was to be very wary of any intervention that could harm the memorial. Gentle water cleaning, lime mortar repointing and possibly a little hand cutting should do no harm.
 - I think it unlikely the Trust would offer grant aid. Further action will involve spending money. Any work on the listed memorial could require permission. A steer from the council would be appreciated.

Report from the War Memorial Trust

- I have now had the opportunity to review the information you provided. With regards to your concerns over the inscriptions I would not recommend any intervention at this time. This is because the lettering is still largely eligible and any intervention can only be carried out a finite number of times as it involves the loss of fabric. I would recommend at this time making a record of the names and monitoring the situation as clearly some letters have faded to a greater degree than others and may require some limited hand sharpening in the future. The deposits on the memorial appear to all be lichen with the black deposits being dead lichen. War Memorials Trust only recommends cleaning where deposits are harmful or obscure the inscriptions as over-cleaning can damage the memorial. I think that washing with a natural soft bristle brush and limited de-ionised water would be sufficient in this instance

2147 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Application 10/04149/LBC alterations to covered play area, Winsham Primary School. Granted SSDC
- b) Application 10/04665/R3C alterations to covered play area, Winsham Primary School. Granted SCC
- c) Application 10/04981/FUL single storey extension – 2 Church street, Winsham – recommend approval
- d) Application 10/04590/FUL erection of extension for games room, Colham House, Colham Lane – granted SSDC

2148 AMENITIES

- a) Councillor Andrew Partridge reported that there was nothing new to report
- b) The same faults are reported.
- c) The clerk reported that they had applied to the lottery fund and were also putting the final touches to the grant form from Area west. Councillor Kim Turner reported that the application needs to be in very soon as money needs to be allocated in March. *Action: clerk to complete forms.*

2149 RIGHTS OF WAY

Councillor John Gapper reported that the sign post at Hollowells looks like it's been sawn off again. This is a recurrent problem. A parishioner has written to the CC about the barbed wire on Liberty Trail facing the wrong way. Councillor John Gapper has had a try with a grass hook in Chapel Lane but it really needs a strimmer, hopefully the County Council will be organising a strimmer loan scheme.

2150 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Cheques signed for Clerks salary & expense,
- b) The quarterly accounts were presented. The clerk reported that Councillor John Gapper, Mary Pye and the clerk had a meeting to reorganise the accounts to make them less time consuming and more transparent. These changes would not take effect until the next financial year. The clerk wanted to thank Mary Pye for her help in this matter.

2151 CEMETRY

Councillor Andrew Partridge reported that Mr Ernie Partridge had decided to step down from his voluntary role as grave marker. Councillor Roger Beer thanked Ernie for all his hard work over the years.

Councillor Peter Saunders and the clerk will take on this role. *Action: PS and clerk to arrange a meeting with Andrew Partridge to learn marking and the layout of the cemetery.*

The clerk reported that a problem with the recording of graves had been identified. There does not appear to have been any deeds issued since 2000. The clerk has looked back through the records and felt it would be very difficult to rectify this error now and that a line should be drawn through this time and the issuing of deeds should start now. There also appears to be errors in the records with regards to the burial of cremated remains not being recorded in the burial book. This again would be very difficult to rectify.

2152 UPPER RECREATION GROUND

Councillor Mary Haggard reported that there was nothing new to report.

2153 JUBILEE HALL

Councillor Trish Baxter – reported that there was nothing new to report.

2154 HIGHWAYS

Councillor Peter Harper reported that the only problems were a lot of pot holes but he was only reporting the large ones.

Highways have agreed to Purtington putting a concrete bunker for salt in place of the plastic one that was stolen. The clerk reported that the cheques for the Purtington bin had not been paid in yet as the bin was stolen when she had received them. The insurance excess would not cover the expense. The Parish Council agreed to return the cheques and pay the bill from Parish Council funds.

2155 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Community Council
- b) YDH
- c) Letter to D laws
- d) Clerks council Direct
- e) SALC
- f) Transport and highways survey (email)
- g) Flooding survey (email)
- h) Quarry meeting

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

2156 MEMBERS QUESTION TIME & ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The clerk reminded the Parish Council that elections were due this year and asked advice about forms etc. Councillor Robin Munday advised that forms would be sent through the post.
- b) The fee for the website is due but John Sullivan has advised that the market place revenue has covered this cost. Thanks were voiced to John Sullivan for all his hard work with the WebPages.

2157 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary meeting of The Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 2nd march 2011 for 7-30 pm meet in the Jubilee Hall.

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