

WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Winsford Parish Council

Held on Monday 27th March 2017 at 7.30pm in Winsford Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors David Godsal (Chairman), Cllr Kevin Connell, Steve Hunt, Beverley Flanagan, Mel Mileham, C Wilkins and Parish Clerk Sue Carless. WSC N Thwaites & SCC F Nicholson

17:17 Apologies for none attendance: WSC Bruce Heywood

17:18 Declarations of Interest: None

17:19 Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2017 were approved & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

17:20 Actions from the Previous Minutes:

a. Broadband & Wi Fi access in Village Hall

It was agreed that this item could now be removed from the agenda. Noted that the village of Exford now had Broadband.

b. Highways

Nothing more to report on Howetown Bridge, it will get done but it is not a SCC priority. The CC reprioritise work on a weekly basis. There was no further news on Vicarage Road Bridge, F Nicholson will make further enquiries. Reported by M Mileham that the Highways Flood Team had inspected undermining of the wall around Winn Brook by the Royal Oak Public House, and did not consider it a problem at the moment but will keep it under review.

A map of where salt is kept around the village needs to be provided, B Flanagan will follow up.

17:21 Financial Report:

a. Parish Precept 2017-18 - Although it had been noted that the Winsford Parish Precept had been kept at the same amount as the previous financial year there was a slight increase in Parishioner's bills. The Chairman explained the difference occurs when the number of people living at a property changes, for instance when a person dies the council tax is halved for the other person living at the property.

b. Clerks pay & Expenses 30/01/17 - 26/03/17 £258.28

c. Exmoor Society Spring Conference Delegate fee £20.00 - M Mileham to attend on behalf of Parish Council.

17:22 Village Green Maintenance:

The repair to the dry stone wall was discussed at the last meeting. A grant application is currently going through with the National Park. Noted that if work is to be carried out within 5 meters of a Scheduled Monument consent is required from the Secretary of State at DCMS (via Historic England).

The Play Inspection Company had inspected the Village Green, producing a 20 page document most of which was not relevant. The Chairman was able to announce he had secured a reduction in the annual fee of one third. The bill will now be £100.

17:23 General Village Maintenance/ Bins:

The Chairman wrote to the owner of the Old Village Hall regarding slates coming off the roof which posed a health & safety risk, particularly with children playing on the village green. The owner advised he had been in contact with the National Park, he plans to carry out repair works in the spring.

The village litter pick up took place on 5 March 2017. Last year's litter pick saw over 20 people help, however this time only the usual few came to assist.

It was agreed by the Parish Council that the Chairman would ask Mr Strickland to quote for a new gate.

Agreed that a village maintenance day would be held after Easter. Mike Hillier will start work once it becomes drier. C Wilkins advised Council that the area between the Village Hall and the Tea Rooms requires brambles cutting back. The stones by the bridge need moving, suggested they could be wheel barrowed down to the stream.

The bus shelter has been painted, although the floor has not yet been skimmed, the top of the noticeboard is rotten. Some discussion took place on the ownership of the land to where an emergency equipment store might be sited. J Bray indicated that the Village Hall believe it belongs to them.

B Flanagan advised Council that the Recreation Association would be fixing the fences which have come down.

17:24 Parish Flooding and Related Water issues

Rob Wilson-North, Conservation Manager for ENPA will be speaking at the Annual Assembly about "Flooding and Water Related Issues". It was discussed at the Exmoor meeting recently that the National Park will be removing some of the Large Woody Debris (LWD) out of the Exe between Larcombe Foot and Northern Gate. Sometimes river work is carried out of which the Parish Council is not made aware.

17:25 Resilience Planning

B Flanagan will give a summary of work undertaken at the Annual Assembly meeting.

17:26 Parish Archive

M Mileham will give a summary of the work undertaken at the Annual Assembly meeting including a demonstration of the information online, on the Winsford Family Tree. Eventually the intention is to create an archive website, accessible to all. Noted that Sue Hayes had raised £300 and this had been donated to the Parish Archive.

17:27 Annual Assembly 29 March 2017

The meeting will take place on Wednesday 29 March 2017.

17:28 Correspondence & Emails

- a. Rural Crime Community Intelligence Campaign - noted the email received.
- b. Notice of County Council Election has been put on Parish Notice Board. SCC F Nicholson was thanked for the support she has given Winsford Parish Council.

17:29 Reports from Committees

- a. Exmoor Consultative & Parish Forum meeting 23 March 2017 -

Charlotte Thomas has been appointed Project Officer. She will extend the survey to all Parishes. She is looking for volunteers to help with the survey work, the restoration work and with researching the history. There will be training events for both survey and restoration work. There will be a box of equipment, paints etc. for each Parish. More difficult restorations will be carried out professionally.

Woody Material in Rivers & Streams: Rob Wilson North from ENPA spoke. He will be arranging a workshop event to share experience and come up with some guidelines. Not clear who is to be invited or how it will be publicised. Teresa Bridgeman from the WS Flood Group pointed out that there are already guidelines in the "Living on the Edge" report; the problem is, nobody abides by them and there is no agreement whose job it is to enforce them.

Headwaters of the Exe Project: Bea Davies from ENPA presented a very interesting update report, summary to be put on the website. Copies were available at the meeting.

The next panel meeting will be held on 8 June 2017.

17:30 Planning Applications & Decisions (as at 27.03.2017)

There were no new planning applications, Hoe Farm is to be discussed at the next Planning meeting.

a. Watersmeet, Exford Road	6/40/16/101	NYD
b. Hoe Farm	6/40/16/114	NYD
c. Quarne Mounceaux Hse	6/40/16/115&116LB	Approved
d. Karlake Cottage, Halse Lane	6/40/17/102LB	Approved
e. The Old Rectory, Halse Lane	6/40/16/120	Approved
f. Chanters Cottage, Halse Lane	6/40/17/101	Approved
g. West Nethercote, Staddon Hill	6/40/17/103	Approved

17:31 Other Business Directed to the Clerk

WSC N Thwaites advised the Council the cost of residents parking permits in Dulverton have increased by 230%. Noted that the toilets in Dulverton will now be free of charge although donations will be encouraged.

17:32 Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held Monday 22 May 2017, 7.30 pm Winsford Village Hall.

Annual Assembly was held on Wednesday 29th March 2017 7pm for 7.30pm Winsford Village Hall.

The Parish Council meeting closed at 8.40pm

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