

WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Winsford Parish Council Held on Monday 20th May 2019 at 7.30pm in Winsford Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors: Colin Wilkins (CW) - Chair, Kevin Connell (KC) - Vice Chair, John Bray (JB), Sarah Little (SL), Mel Mileham (MM), Patrick Watts-Mabbott (PWM), and Parish Clerk Nic Kemp (NK)

23.1 Public Question Time - None

23.2 Apologies for Absence - County Councillor Frances Nicholson (FN), SWT Councillor Steven Pugsley (SP)

23.3 Declaration of Interests - The Clerk explained that the Register of Declaration of Interests was each Councillor's individual responsibility to register and to update with any change of circumstances. The Clerk issued a copy of the Code of Conduct to all Councillors (except SL who received one at the previous meeting). The Clerk also reminded all that it was each Councillor's individual responsibility to declare an interest in any agenda item necessary for themselves.

KC declared an interest in item 23.7.a as owner of neighbouring property

23.4 Minutes of the Meetings held 26 April 2019 and 8 May 2019 and any Outstanding Actions - CW signed the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meetings held on 26 April 2019 and 8 May 2019. Matters Arising - 22.8 - Confirmation of the Councillor training at Williton. Attendees confirmed as KC, MM, SL and one more to be confirmed - possibly CW.

23.5 Highway Matters:

23.5.a Vehicle Length Signs - Clerk confirmed receipt of an email from a parishioner concerned about the siting and wording on the Vehicle Length signs on Halse Lane. The parishioner was already in contact with Highways and the Clerk had forwarded a copy to FN for info.

23.5.b Hedge Trimming - MM confirmed there are orange marks on the road, which should indicate where the trimming will take place.

23.5.c 30mph Signs - MM to contact parishioner who made suggestions regarding the 30mph and invite to the next council meeting, to ask if they would be able to assist in gathering the information required. Questions raised to be passed to FN for clarification. CW and SL to meet and progress petition.

23.5.d Other Highway Matters - White lines have been re-painted. Clerk to thank Highways. Clerk had received confirmation from Highways that the repairs to the ford were booked in.

23.6 Finance

23.6.a - The Insurance offer from Zurich of £493.58 was approved.

23.6.b - The Clerk gave the financial report, and it was agreed

- to reimburse Cllr M Mileham £20 for the Exmoor Society Conference (the Clerk requested that in future payments be made direct to the payee rather than paid by Councillors and reimbursed)
- to pay the Clerk - £291.27 salary (2 months plus 5 additional hours worked), and to reimburse the Clerk - £63.18 expenses (Total £354.45) (The Clerk also made Councillors aware that this salary included the increment from 1 April 2019 in line with NALC guidelines. Councillors approved this increment.)
- to pay HMRC £11.60 tax due

23.6.c - The Certificate of Exemption 2018/19 was approved

23.6.d - The Internal Auditor's Report was noted and approved. It was also noted that the auditor requested that a donation be made to the West Somerset Advice Bureau in lieu of payment, and the amount of £20 was agreed

23.6.e - The Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 was approved

23.6.f - The Accounting Statements 2018/19 were approved

23.6.g - Update on CoFund account. CW gave a summary of the meeting held earlier, where the signatories had been updated to CW, MM and PWM. Once paperwork was finalised, the agent would complete a risk grading for the new Council to confirm the investment requirements, which may indicate an alternative platform. The Trust capital cannot be spent, but the interest can be used under the current Trust terms. Clerk to investigate alternate banks for interest to be paid into, and confirm with the Charity Commission requirements regarding annual returns.

23.7 Planning Applications

23.7.a - 6/40/19/101 Halse Farm - Proposed installation of 15m telecommunication lattice mast and associated equipment together with twin wheel access track. Council recorded disappointment that the agent has not responded to request for meeting. It was unanimously agreed that Council supports in principle the provision of a mobile mast in the Winsford locality. The Council would prefer if the mast could be made to look less conspicuous, and would prefer for the mast to be available for public use as well as emergency use.

23.7.b - It was agreed that the committee formed to review the telecommunications mast proposal with the agent was no longer needed.

23.8 Exmoor National Park Authority Nominations - It was agreed that KC would stand for election to the National Park. KC to complete paperwork and forward to Clerk to returned to SALC before 28 May. It was agreed to hold a meeting at 7pm on Monday 10 June to consider and register the Council's votes.

23.9 Review of Asset List - Clerk to liaise with former members to clarify values of assets. Clerk to liaise with Charity Commission regarding ownership of Trust assets and whether they can be transferred. Clerk to investigate any suitable training available for RFOs on asset lists, depreciation, and current vs replacement values.

23.10 Co-option of member to Council - CW has advertised the vacancy. No-one has yet come forward. MM to approach a parishioner who has shown interest in a Council project.

23.11 Updates

23.11.a - Defibrillator - SL is completing monthly updates. Training will be advertised in June edition of Across Exmoor.

23.11.b - Dog Waste Bin - Clerk confirmed that the cheque had been lost. The original cheque had now been cancelled by the bank and a new one posted to the company.

23.11.c - Yellowcombe Leat - MM has meeting with ENPA rep on Wednesday. Has also found documents in archive relating to ENPA repairing in the past (1986?) and the visual and environmental role the leat plays directing water above Halse Lane away from the village and to the River Exe.

23.12 Electric Vehicle Charging Points expression of interest form - Clerk to forward form to Winsford Garage as owner has expressed an interest.

23.13 Skittle Alley - It was agreed to retain the skittle alley as is.

23.14 West Somerset Flood Group - It was agreed to contribute £5 towards the cost of the West Somerset Flood Group website. A location is needed to store equipment - to be raised at next meeting.

23.15 Dates of Ordinary Meetings for 2019-20 - It was agreed that meetings are to be held the last Monday of alternate months except where there is a bank holiday when the meeting will be a week early. Meeting dates for 2019-20 will be 29 July, 30 September, 25 November, 27 January, 30 March.

23.16 Rural Worker and Succession Far Dwelling consultation - It was agreed to review at the next meeting. Clerk has requested an extension until the end of July to respond.

23.17 Correspondence and Emails - MM has received a letter regarding DEFRA's new restrictions on the shooting of pigeons and rooks.

23.18 Reports from Committees - MM to produce report from Exmoor Society Conference - Inspiration Exmoor - once laptop repaired.

23.19 Items for Next Agenda - Purchase of shed and storage of items, Empty property update

Date of Next Meeting - the next meeting of Winsford Parish Council will be at 7pm on Monday 10 June, and then at 7.30pm on Monday 29 July 2019.

There being no further business, the CW closed the meeting at 9.50pm

Date.....

Signed.....