

WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Winsford Parish Council Held on Monday 29 March 2021, at 7.30pm virtually via Zoom

PRESENT: Councillors: Colin Wilkins (CW) - Chair, Kevin Connell (KC) (joined after start of meeting), Sarah Little (SL), David Luscott (DL), Mel Mileham (MM), Patrick Watts-Mabbott (PWM), Co Cllr Frances Nicholson (FN) (joined after start of meeting), SWaT Cllr Steven Pugsley (SP) (joined after start of meeting), Parish Clerk Nic Kemp, and four members of the public (on 3 devices).

CW opened the meeting at 7.35pm.

39.1 Queries submitted by members of the public - None.

39.2 Apologies for non-attendance - None - Clerk noted that KC was having technical difficulties and would join as soon as possible. Clerk noted SP and FN were in a separate meeting and would join as soon as possible.

39.3 Declaration of Interests - MM noted that Arboricare (working for SCC Highways) had used her and to store equipment while felling trees, and had left logs to recompense in place of making good the land. **PWM** declared an interest and abstained from voting on all planning matters as an employee of Exmoor National Park Authority.

KC joined the meeting at 7.39pm

39.4 Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting held 14 December 2020, minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 25 January 2021 and any outstanding actions - MM prop, SL sec, approving the minutes from 14 December 2020. DL prop, MM sec, approving the minutes from 25 January 2021. Unanimously agreed.

39.7 Planning Matters: - Taken out of order while awaiting arrival of FN and SP for items 5 and 6

39.7.a 6/9/21/107 - Varle Hill, Land by Cattle Grid off Winsford Hill - Application under Regulation 3 of the Town & Country Planning General Regulations 1992 for the proposed creation of banking to enclose two roadside pull in areas - MM prop, DL sec, support for the application, with the reason to protect the landscape. Unanimously agreed.

39.7.e Other Planning applications and matters - None.

39.8 Finance:

39.8.a To consider adoption of 2019 model financial regulations - Clerk had already circulated. KC prop, DL sec, adopting the 2019 NALC model financial regulations. Unanimously agreed.

FN joined the meeting at 7.57pm

39.8.b To receive financial report and agree to pay amounts due - Clerk had circulated report. CW prop and it was unanimously agreed, to pay:

- Exmoor Society - £20 for annual membership
- Mr S Hunt - £64 reimbursement for Christmas Tree lights and decorations
- Netwise - £14.25 for package upgrade
- Mrs N Kemp - £249.50 Clerks salary £164.69 expenses - total £414.19
- HMRC - £27.40 tax due

Clerk to confirm how to access funds in reserve account

SP joined the meeting at 8.09pm

39.5 Reports from County and District Councillors - FN reported SCC have set budget for 2021-22. Virtual meetings will cease from May, although a legal challenge is underway. £12m available in Somerset for community development. Government is considering both One Somerset and Stronger Somerset proposals.

39.6 Highways Matters

39.6.a Furzehill Lane flooding - FN reported FWAG have visited, are establishing how to proceed and allocate responsibility, and have noted it is not the responsibility of the residents downhill. MM will support if required and confirmed FWAG are in communication with Somerset Rivers Authority.

39.6.b Clarification of reasons for removal of ash trees - FN reported Ash trees on Exford Road identified as Ash Die Back 3 years ago, but assessed safe at time. Budget available and disease progressed so have now been removed, and confirmed as advanced disease on removal. Trees cut back to stumps but not painted. SL queried overhanging trees on Furzehill Lane. FN confirmed are landowner responsibility.

Clerk to write to thank Arboricare for sensitive working and ethics.

39.6.c Other Highway Matters - FN reported stones on verges should be set back from edge of Highway (1m). Personal items on verge can request to be moved, or could be raised as planning issue.

CW thanked FN for attending and input and returned to item 5 SP

39.5 Reports from County and District Councillors - SP reported SWT have set budget for 2021-22. Next Exmoor Panel meeting is 8/06/21, and will focus on Highways issues and principles. ENPA have issued REE survey and are encouraging responses. JB enquired on the mast at Halse Lane. SP advised there is an appeal on grounds of non-determination, and will advise any further updates. CW prop Clerk to circulate REE survey and collate responses to submit on behalf of Council.

CW thanked SP for attending and input. FN left at 8.57pm

39.9 To consider funding support for Winsford Charitable Trust towards cost of replacement swings and possible alternative locations - PWM and SL to form working group with other residents to investigate possible locations. PC can consider funding once location is found and any potential grants identified.

SP left at 9.10pm.

39.10 To consider options for Annual Assembly - Council agreed to be held by Zoom, Wednesday 28 April. Clerk to include telephone joining instructions. Format to be Chairman's Report and Questions from the public. Clerk to invite questions to be submitted in advance.

39.11 To consider supporting Somerset Flag Day - JB prop, MM sec, purchasing Somerset flag (£68.04) for Somerset Day - 11 May. Unanimously agreed. CW has confirmed with Church that flag can be flown.

39.12 To consider response to SWaT Survey - Clerk to circulate survey and collate responses to submit on behalf of Council.

KC left at 9.33pm.

39.13 To consider scheme of delegation in case of future need - MM prop, PWM sec, adopting a scheme of delegation against the need where the Council cannot meet, where the Clerk is delegated authority to continue to make regular, scheduled and approved payments, to progress projects, and incur expenditure in line with Council's agreed budget (in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, and where possible with all Councillors), and to respond to planning application, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, and where possible with all Councillors. Unanimously agreed.

39.14 To consider siting of SWT trees - JB prop, KC sec, approving MM to site trees as appropriate - including locations to replace trees removed from Ash Die Back. Unanimously agreed. KC thanked MM for looking after trees.

39.15 Update on website - DL had previously circulated update.

39.15.e Consideration of links to 3rd party websites - CW prop, MM sec, the PC website should only include official/service/government links. KC prop, PWM sec, amendment website should only include official/service/government links, with the exception of the village website. Vote on amendment - For 3; Against 3 (plus casting vote), Abstain 1. Vote on website should only include official/service/government links - For 3, Against 2, Abstain 2.

Due to time, all remaining agenda items deferred to next meeting, namely:

- 15. To receive update on website, including:**
 - 15.a Website promotion card content**
 - 15.b Clarification of GDPR and Parish Council approach to communication**
 - 15.c Councillor profiles**
 - 15.d Consideration of house names on map**
- 16. Correspondence and Emails received**
- 17. Reports from Councillors on meetings attended**
- 18. To consider options and actions required for Legacy from and Memorial for Ann le Bas**

39.19 Items for next agenda - as above.

39.20 Date of Next Meeting - Annual Council Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 5 May by Zoom.

There being no further business, CW closed the meeting at 10.10pm.

Date.....

Signed.....