



## Winsham Parish Council

### Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 5th April 2023

**Present:** Cllrs J. Everard, S. Love, K. Fowler, H. Beentje, J. Harding, C. Adams

In attendance: Clerk to the Council R. Richards, District Councillor Sue Osborne and four residents

**0170 To Receive Apologies for Absence and to Approve the Reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1))**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Miller and Weller and the reasons given approved

**0171 To receive any Declarations of Interest** – Declarations received from all councillors for Item 0178

**0172 Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 1st March 2023 (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))**

**Resolved:** Members approved the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 1st March 2023

**Proposed:** Cllr Fowler **Seconded:** Cllr Adams **Vote:** 5-0-1

**0173 Members to co-opt a replacement councillor following the resignation of E. Pike**

No applications have been received. Further efforts will be made to find someone willing to stand.

**0174 Outstanding Items Update**

- a) Update on the Enforcement Notice at the Old Farmhouse, Purtington – Not further update received from the Planning Inspectorate
- b) Update on plans for the Kings Coronation – Posters ready, Fish & Chip evening on Friday in Bell, Saturday the Community Club are showing the Coronation live on a big screen, Sunday 7th there will be a picnic in the park on the Lower Rec and Monday a litter pick has been organised. Help is needed help on Sunday putting up the marquee on the lower rec.
- c) Update on the convex mirrors opposite the entrance to the Bell Inn – Highways Authority have stated that 'Mirrors of any kind placed on the Highway are regarded as "unauthorised signs" for which special permission must be given by the DfT. Highways would not seek this special permission from the DfT as mirrors can give a misleading impression of vehicle movements, particularly motorcyclists who will be inconspicuous in a mirror. As a result, Members decided not to take this any further.
- d) Update on the storage of the Book of Condolence – **Action:** Chairman to contact the Church.
- e) Update on the cutting back of the Yew Tree – This has been cut back above the Lych-gate but not the branches that overhang the footpath and the pavement. **Action:** Councillors to rectify
- f) Letter to Cricket St Thomas Estates re War Memorial Funding – No response received. **Action:** Clerk to follow up, if possible, by email and copy in St Thomas Church.

**0175 Planning Matters**

- a) Members to resolve Applications received
  - Application Reference: 23/00263/FUL  
Applicant: Mr & Mrs John Swetman  
Location: Fourways Winsham Chard Somerset TA20 4JS  
Proposal: Demolition of existing bungalow and garage and erection of a replacement dwelling and garage. Extend residential curtilage  
Observations Required by: 24th March 2023 Extend to 7th April 2023

**Resolved:** Members resolved to support the application which seems a good use of the land. Members noted that it is registered as a self-build. **Proposed:** Cllr Everard **Seconded:** Cllr Beentje **Vote:** 6-0-0

- Application Reference: 23/00529/S73A  
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Peter and Mary Pye  
Location: Land west of Limekiln Lane Winsham

Proposal: S73A application to vary conditions 1 and 3 of 820078 (for Reserved Matters; Erection of a house and garage following outline approval 790283) to allow the amendment of the approved plans, including site plan, floor plans, elevation and materials. to construct a 3-bed dormer bungalow on the site with an attached double garage, varying the design from the original extant planning permission  
Observations Required by: 29th March 2023 Extend to 7th April 2023

**Resolved:** Members resolved to support the application

**Proposed:** Cllr Everard **Seconded:** Cllr Harding **Vote:** 6-0-0

b) Application Decisions received

23/00272/COL Midnell Farm Crewkerne Hill Winsham Chard – Permitted with conditions

#### **0176 Finance**

Proposals:

- a) To note the schedule of cheques as contained in the April List of Payments
- b) To approve the bank reconciliations for 2nd March 2023
- c) Members to discuss increasing the Earmarked Reserves for the Playground Fund
- d) Members to approve the 2022/23 Annual Accounting Statement figures ready for the AGAR

**Resolved:** Members noted the scheduled of cheques for March and approved the bank reconciliations

**Proposed:** Cllr Beentje **Seconded:** Cllr Love **Vote:** 6-0-0

Members discussed the EMR for the Playground and felt that £30,000 would be an appropriate amount

**Resolved:** Members approved the 2022/23 Annual Accounting figures

**Proposed:** Cllr Everard **Seconded:** Cllr Harding **Vote:** 6-0-0

#### **0177 Document Review**

Proposal: Members to review and adopt the following policies:

- a) Bees Policy – Additional paragraph provided by the Chairman to be added by Clerk
- b) Policy for Seeking Legal and Technical Advice
- c) Privacy Policy Notice - Updated
- d) Website Privacy Notice Statement – No change

All documents have been checked for website accessibility

**Resolved:** Members reviewed and adopted all four policies

**Proposed** Cllr Harding **Seconded** Cllr Love **Vote:** 6-0-0

#### **0178 To discuss and endorse WRT proposals for infrastructure improvements and extension to the Upper Recreation Grounds Clubhouse & Changing Rooms**

Patio doors from the Skittle Alley area, an extension on changing room side to include further toilets and a larger kitchen. The issue of liability was also discussed.

**Resolved:** Members agreed in principle to the proposals

**Proposed** Cllr Everard **Seconded** Cllr Harding **Vote:** 6-0-0

#### **0179 Members to consider a suggestion from a resident for wind turbines on the upper rec to provide subsidised electricity to Winsham and the sale of the excess as a fund generator**

Current specifications would suggest that to be able to provide enough power for 100 homes the turbine would need to be more than 1500 metres away from any homes which would rule out the recreation ground. The councillors also took into account that the ground was gifted to a village for the purposes of recreation.

**Action:** Clerk to respond to resident that this would not be possible for these reasons.

#### **0180 Members to decide on a new area within the Cemetery to allocate for Ashes Plots**

Area between the two trees in the North West corner along the side of the railings

#### **0181 Members to review the Clerks Homeworking Risk Assessment**

After taking into account the findings of the risk assessment the Councillors agreed that the Clerk should purchase a Wireless Key board, a laptop riser and a chair with back and arm support. An evacuation process is also required to give details of safe exit from the home.

**0182 Update on preparation for the Annual Parish Meeting** – Organisations to provide one quiz questions for the event Cllr Miller is organising nibbles and Cllr Weller is organising the wine

**0183 Members to decide who will replace Emma Pike on the List of Responsibilities** – Postponed

#### **0184 Members to discuss the letter received from a resident in regards to the War Memorial repairs**

This was looked at previously but the process was very onerous with very minimal chance of getting funds. What we are doing is maintenance and minor repairs on a like for like bases. Repairs are well underway to meet the 100th Anniversary.

#### **0185 Lower Recreation Ground**

Working Party to report back on their progress – Nothing to report at present

#### **0186 Items for Report**

##### a) Parish Assets:

- ♦ Cemetery and Churchyard – Including the memorial risk assessment

The recent topple test showed several memorials that need attention. Where the risk of accident was high immediate action was taken to minimise or eliminate the risk. **Action:** Cllr Fowler to do some research on who owns those graves with unsafe memorials. Cllr Everard to approach the church about the damaged stone at the back of the church yard

- ♦ Bus Shelter – Earmarked Reserves to be increased at the May meeting
- ♦ War Memorial – Stonemason is due to start work soon. **Action:** Cllr Everard to chase him up and apply for Section 171. Funds short by around £5,000. Poppy Wreaths need to be removed prior to the renovations.
- ♦ Seating, Signage and Bins – New bins have been fitted but they have no lids
- ♦ Telephone Box – Nothing to report
- ♦ Allotments – Nothing to report

##### b) Defibrillator – The case seems to be changed to an old defibrillator case. No one knows how or when this happened.

##### c) Web Sites – No further action

##### d) Public Rights of Way – No report

##### e) Grass Cutting Report – First cut is due before Easter weather permitting

##### f) Gardening Group – No report

##### g) Environmental Issues – Concerns over the pavement at Balsom Close were raised. Highways have been contacted but they are still waiting for amended plans from the developer. No progress has been made on developing the Nature Area. Suggestions included doing nothing until next year, seeing if the complainant will withdraw their complaint, or continue and run the risk. **Action:** The Chairman will complete a Risk Assessment on the liability to the council if we go ahead without permission.

##### h) Highways and Bus Services – Road closure expected 24th to 28th April **Action:** Clerk to get hold of Highways to check why we hadn't been made aware of the closure.

##### i) Reports from member representatives on outside bodies:

- ♦ Jubilee Hall – No report
- ♦ Winsham Recreational Trust – Not much to report, costs are going up and so prices going up. Easter Sunday event, which is a fund-raising event and the big event in August. It was also reported that hire is up.
- ♦ Winsham Community Resource Centre – Including storage of fencing, where the fencing can be used was discussed. It was thought 10 could be used in the cemetery or they could be used along the

footpath at Nature Area. The catering unit is being dismantled and will be removed as will the stanchions for the railings.

j) Clerk's report and correspondence – see Agenda Notes

k) Training – It was agreed the Clerk could attend Cemetery Management training

#### **Confidential Items**

Proposal: Under Standing Orders 3d and 10xi the Parish Council resolves that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (legal, personal or commercial), the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

**0187 Members to discuss quotes for the Lower Rec Fencing and Equipment – Postponed**

**0188 Date of the Next Meeting – Wednesday 26th April 2023**

**Annual Council Meeting 7.00pm**

**Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm**

**Wednesday 3rd May - Ordinary Council Meeting**

**Meeting Closed at 9.47pm**

Minutes approved by Winsham Parish Council on: 3rd May 2023 – Minute No. 0197

Signed: ..... Chairman