



Winsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on the 19th March 2025

0561 Attendance and apologies

Present: Cllrs Love, Mode, Beentje, Fowler, Harding, Earl, Rich and Beer;

Apologies: Cllr Everard, RESOLVED unanimously to approve the reasons given; Mrs Larsson (Clerk).
Cllr Mode agreed to take minutes in the absence of the Clerk.

0562 Declarations of Interest

None

0563 Minutes of the previous council meeting

Attendance updated to show Cllr Love present and Cllr Beentje as absent. RESOLVED by majority to approve the amended minutes as a true record of the previous meeting, which were signed by the Chair. Noted 1 abstention due to absence at the last meeting.

0564 Planning matters

- a) New applications: None.
- b) Application Decisions/Notifications received:
 - i. 24/02993/COL - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for existing 2No. buildings containing 125No. stables and implement shed, 3No. sanded riding arenas and hardstanding used for access and parking areas used in connection with the equestrian use of the land - Application Permitted
 - ii. 25/00059/S73A - S73A Application to vary Condition 01 (approved plans) relating to planning consent 19/02710/REM; Application for approval of Reserved Matters with respect of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, following approval of 16/02521/OUT (Plot 1); The erection of 1 No. dwellinghouse and detached double garage (Outline) – Application permitted with conditions
 - iii. 25/00242/TCA - Notification of intent to fell No. 1 tree within a Conservation Area – Application permitted
- c) Planning updates and enforcement issues
Councillors have requested a complaint be raised by SC Cllr Osborne in relation to the granting of a certificate of lawfulness (24/02993/COL), at Chard Equestrian. The council will look to escalate this with the Local Government Ombudsman.
It was suggested and agreed to form a working group to collate information on cases to begin a formal investigation into failings of the planning approval and enforcement processes.

0565 Finance

- a) Finance Report: The latest report with reconciliation to 3/3/25 was circulated in advance of the meeting. Cllrs noted with the current balance and payments that a transfer from reserves may be required.
- b) Payments: RESOLVED unanimously to approve the schedule of cheques as contained in the list of payments.
- c) Internal Audit Fee: RESOLVED unanimously to the increased fee of £165 for Parish and Town Audit Service, which is an increase of £15 from last year.

0566 Document and policy reviews

- a) Financial Regulations: The policy is based on the latest National Association of Local Councils model document (2024). It was agreed to DEFER to the April meeting, with any comments to the Clerk by the 4th April.
- b) Risk Assessment: The risk assessment is to be reviewed in line with the draft financial regulations to ensure it meets the needs of that policy. Agreed to DEFER to the April meeting.

0567 Marking of VE Day 2025

RESOLVED unanimously to organise the following at the Upper Recreation Ground:

Lighting of the beacon at 9.30pm, with appropriate marshals to be arranged.

WRT to open club for those attending.

Promote the beacon lighting on social media.

0568 Replacement waste bin at Davies Close

Following discussion, and considering the remaining lack of clarity regarding emptying by Somerset Council, Councillors agreed unanimously that they were not certain of a clear need to replace the bin at this time.

0569 Updates and any actions on the following areas:

- a) Parish Assets:
 - i) Cemetery and Churchyard: Following delivery of the trees and shrubs as part of the biodiversity plan, a crab apple and roan tree have now been planted.
 - ii) Lower Recreation Ground: Remedial works have begun.
 - iii) Upper Recreation Ground: The hedge is being prepared ready for planting to start. A working party will be organised to undertake the planting.
 - iv) War Memorial: Contractor who undertook refurbishment to be contacted to re-attend and address quality of work carried out.
 - v) Seating, Signage and Bins: No updates.
 - vi) Telephone Box: Some replacement boxes are needed for the library.
 - vii) Allotments: No updates.
 - viii) Winsham Community Resource Centre: Quotes for door to be obtained by the Clerk.
- b) Defibrillator: The Clerk is awaiting feedback from Abri for installation of a defib at Davies Close.
- c) Web Sites: No updates.
- d) Public Rights of Way: No updates.
- e) Grass Cutting Report: Refer to minute 0572b.
- f) Gardening Group: No updates.
- g) Environmental Matters: No updates.
- h) Highways and Bus Services: No updates.
- i) Reports from member representatives on outside bodies:
 - i) Jubilee Hall: Looking at funding from the Big Lottery Fund for support towards maintenance, heating and lighting.
 - ii) Winsham Recreational Trust: No updates.
- j) Training: Training dates will be circulated when received. Requests to attend training should initially be sent to the clerk.
- k) Clerk's report and correspondence: There was no report in the absence of the Clerk.
- l) Outstanding items not covered by another agenda item: None raised.

0570 Items for the next meeting.

- a) Consider updated Financial Regulations
 - b) Review of Risk Assessment
- Motions for inclusion should be submitted by members to the Clerk in line with the councils adopted standing orders.

0571 Date of the Next Meeting – Wednesday 16th April 2025

Confidential Items

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 are instructed to withdraw.

Members of the public left the meeting.

0572 Winsham Parish Council being named as a beneficiary to a residual share of an individual's estate.

Details of the estate are not yet known and will be confirmed as more information is received from the solicitors acting as executors. The council will need to look into any liability for receiving the gift left in the will before it could be accepted.

0573 Members to consider quotes received

a) Resource Centre Door: Not yet available.

b) Grass cutting and grounds maintenance:

The council reviewed and approved the written scope of work, as agreed at the last meeting and quotations will now be sought from contractors. In order to keep areas manageable, it was RESOLVED to have a one-off first cut of all grass areas carried out by BE Powell, which can be completed before Easter.

The chair closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Minutes approved by Winsham Parish Council on: 16th April 2025 – Minute No. 0576.

Signed:*J. Everard, Chair*.....