



Winsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on the 16th April 2025

0612 Attendance, Apologies for Absence, and to Approve the Reasons given

Present: Cllrs Everard, Mode, Fowler, Harding, Earl, Rich and Beer; Mrs Larsson (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Beentje, Cllr Love. RESOLVED to accept the reasons given.

0613 To receive any Declarations of Interest

It was highlighted that some members of the council are also committee members of the Winsham Recreational Trust which item 0620 will affect, although as there were no pecuniary interests there was no requirement for those councillors to withdraw from the discussions or vote on the matter.

0614 Minutes of the previous council meeting

RESOLVED by majority to approve the minutes as a true record of the previous meeting, which were signed by the Chair of the meeting. Noted 3 abstentions due to absence from the last meeting.

0615 Planning Matters

a) New applications:

- i) 25/01124/LBC: Whatley Farm Whatley Winsham TA20 4JS - Replacement of fibre-cement sheeting with fibre-cement slate tiles due to leaks which are affecting the historic fabric of the building
Councillors commented that disturbance of the roof requires bat and breeding bird surveys and that they would want to see up to date surveys carried out and that the Somerset Council ecologist was satisfied with the content of the report and that any identified actions formed part of conditions for any approval. There were otherwise no objections to the application.
- ii) 25/01299/FUL: 1 & 2 Hey Farm Bungalows Winsham - To carry out renovation & extension works to transform the existing two bungalows into a single family property and erection of a single storey extension to west elevation.
Councillors had no objections to the application.
- iii) 25/01263/PAMB: Lynch Field Part OS 6700 Puthill Farm Limekiln Lane Winsham - Prior Approval
Notification for the proposed conversion of an existing agricultural building into a single residential dwelling
The council raised concern regarding the use of Prior Approval for conversion of agricultural buildings, commenting that it was uncertain that the criteria for these types of permissions were being met and that this particular building did not appear to be a structure which met the required criteria for conversion. It was agreed for Cllr Mode to review the application against the criteria and formulate a response accordingly.
- iv) 25/01248/HOU: Ivy Cottage Back Street Winsham TA20 4ED - Conversion and extension of existing outbuilding to form accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling (annex)
The council had no objection, on the basis of the development being only for ancillary use to the to main dwelling.
The council had no objections to the application on the basis that the development is ancillary to the main house and not used as a separate dwelling.
- v) 24/02143/FUL: Land At Whatley Hazelwood Hill Winsham TA20 4JS – The erection of an agricultural barn (Amended plans/additional information)
The council had no objections to the application.

b) Planning updates, notifications and enforcement issues

- i) Chard Equestrian – It was agreed for Cllrs Mode and Hardy to gather information with regards to the ongoing development to Cllr Rodrigues who had contacted parishes to collate information on issues faced with the continued development and planning process in general.

- ii) 25/00937/HOU: Hen House Forton Chard Somerset TA20 4HW – Single storey rear extension – Application permitted with conditions

0616 Financial & Audit

- a) Internal Auditors report
Councillors received the report and noted that no concerns were raised.
- b) Annual Governance Statement
Councillors reviewed the statements and RESOLVED unanimously to agree that the council has complied with all requirements.
- c) Annual Accounting Statements
RESOLVED unanimously to approve the Annual Accounting Statements.
- d) Period of notice for the Exercise of Public Rights
RESOLVED unanimously to set the period of inspection for 30 working days commencing on 23rd June and ending on 1st August 2025. Notices will be displayed on the parish noticeboards and website.
- e) To receive the latest financial report
The latest report with reconciliation to 2/6/25 was circulated in advance of the meeting and the council were happy with the content.
- f) To approve the schedule of cheques as contained in the List of Payments
RESOLVED unanimously to approve the schedule of cheques as contained in the list of payments.

0617 To review and agree the asset register

The asset register was circulated to councillors for review in advance of the meeting. The following changes were noted:

Acquisitions: Grit Bin: £60

Disposals: Printer £40; Railings £9000.

Amendment of asset name "Band Hut" to "Resource Centre"

The clerk noted that while the railings had been entered with a value of £9000 on the asset register, this was not the actual cost which would be the correct figure for the asset register. The clerk clarified that the asset register value should be the original cost and not the insurance value, although the insurance values will continue to be recorded on the asset register separately where this is assessed to be different.

RESOLVED unanimously to accept the above amendments to the asset register.

0618 To consider arrangement and scope of a tree safety and condition survey

Following discussion and review of a previously submitted quotation, it was RESOLVED to acquire two additional quotes with a view to carrying out a survey in October/November. The scope will remain as set out in the original quote, plus the addition of a visual assessment of a tree on adjacent land which has potential to affect the recreation field. Quotations to be presented at future meeting for consideration.

0619 To discuss condition of the war memorial and retaining wall at the lower rec and agree next steps

After lengthy discussion, it was agreed the wall and war memorial should be dealt with as separate matters.

The Clerk will make a final attempt to get Citadel to re-attend and rectify the previous works. Should this be unsuccessful the council will look into means for recovery of costs and instructing a new contractor to remedy.

CLlr Beer will lead with contacting Stonemasons to assess and quote for required remedials to the retaining wall.

Items to be revisited at next meeting.

0620 Implementation of access restrictions at the upper recreation ground to prevent unauthorised access and encampment

A recap of discussions from the EO meeting were held, and councillors considered all concerns both regarding possible unauthorised encampment and the effect of implementing access restriction.

Cllr Mode will lead on detail for pursuing legal measures for prevention/removal of unauthorised camping should the situation arise. The PCSO will be invited to the next meeting to ask for their advice on the matter.

Having considered all factors, it was RESOLVED by majority to proceed with installation of a 2.1m height restriction barrier with the ability to be opened for larger vehicles as necessary. The resolution is conditional on any required planning permissions being confirmed and arranged first.

The council considered three comparable quotes and RESOLVED unanimously to proceed with obtaining the barrier from Stopem at a cost of £2647.46 + vat. The barrier will be installed locally, with a small additional cost for materials to do so which is to be confirmed.

0621 Grant application from the Jubilee Hall to support the cost of membership with The Community Council for Somerset

RESOLVED unanimously to award a grant of £110 for the cost of membership to The Community Council for Somerset for 1 year. The council have asked for an update on the benefit the hall experiences from the membership.

0622 Arrangements for an Annual Parish Meeting, to be held on Wednesday 16th July

It was agreed at the EO meeting on 9th June to call an Annual Parish Meeting, to be held immediately before the July council meeting. Availability of the main hall at the Jubilee Hall has been confirmed, thanks to the ballet groups flexibility, enabling the meeting to be held there. The meeting will run from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Invitations to attend and provide a verbal update are being sent to local groups. Notices will be arranged to place around the village & online.

0623 To receive updates and agree any actions on the following areas:

- a) Parish Assets:
 - iii) Cemetery and Churchyard: No updates.
 - iv) Lower Recreation Ground: No updates
 - v) Upper Recreation Ground: No updates.
 - vi) Bus Shelter: No updates
 - vii) War Memorial: As discussed previously.
 - viii) Seating, Signage and Bins: No updates. Awaiting details from contractor to be able to proceed with finger post refurbishments.
 - ix) Telephone Box: No updates
 - x) Allotments: An enquiry has been received for the vacant plot.
 - xi) Winsham Community Resource Centre: No updates
- b) Defibrillator: Abri have been in touch with some further information regarding the defib at Davies Close.
- c) Web Sites: No updates
- d) Public Rights of Way
It was reported that the path from cemetery to Ammerham is not passable and the Ham Hill to Lyme Regis run is coming up. To be reported to SC RoW.
- e) Grass Cutting Report : Regular cutting is in progress.
- f) Gardening Group: No updates.
- g) Environmental Matters
- h) Highways and Bus Services
Highways have confirmed there is warning signage of the low bridge on the B3162 to the south of Winsham, at the junction of the B3167 and B3162 as this is the most appropriate location to identify the restriction, allowing access to alternative routes and a place for vehicles to turn around.
- i) Reports from member representatives on outside bodies:
 - i) Jubilee Hall: The AGM was held on Monday. A working party is being called to tidy and maintain the hall. The committee is looking for grants to update lighting.
 - ii) Winsham Recreational Trust: It was reported that the cables on the Marquee panels have been tampered with and cut.
- j) Training: Cllr Harding expressed interest in an upcoming AI workshop.

- k) Clerk's report and correspondence: None in addition to items already discussed.
- l) Outstanding items not covered by another agenda item: None raised.

0624 Proposals for items for the next meeting.

Motions for inclusion on the next agenda should be submitted by members to the Clerk in line with the councils adopted standing orders.

0625 Date of next ordinary meeting: Wednesday 16th July 2025, 7.30pm.

Closed 21:37

DRAFT