

WIVELISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on MONDAY 10th MARCH 2008 at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre.

1. PRESENT

D Luxton (Chairman), B Collingridge, B Wilson, P Langdon, R Kingsley-Hall, A Somerfield, R Matcham, P Parker, R Adams, B Whitman, Mesdames M Whitmarsh, L Bedding, B Boyland, S Fairfax, R N V Hewitt (Clerk), and T Parker (Press Officer) The meeting was also attended by two members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Sir H Farrington, J Ollerenshaw, C Cridland, P Berman and County Councillor C Smeaton.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th February 2008 having been circulated were agreed as a correct record.

4. COMMUNITY JUSTICE PANEL

Rowena Stratford gave a presentation to the Parish Council about her work as co-ordinator of the newly formed Community Justice Panel which has recently been established by a steering group following a rise in complaints about anti-social behaviour and has been funded for twelve months by Somerset County Council, Taunton Deane Borough Council, the Constabulary and others. The purpose of the panel is to resolve conflict and repair harm and the panel's work will complement the Magistrates Court. A panel will be active locally from June 2008 and will deal mainly with the over seventeens as a similar project is already running for young people and is administered by the youth offending team. Once in place the local Justice Panel will be able to take referrals from police and Parish Councils.

5. GADD HOMES

Mr Andrew Gadd and Mr Mike Newman from Gadd Homes gave a presentation regarding their pre-planning consultation for development of land at Style Road. A formal statement of their community involvement has been completed and is to be deposited at the Community Office and the key points were:- Traffic and parking, drainage, and community resources and infra structure. A traffic impact assessment report had been commissioned and the planning application would now include an improved visibility splay and between one and two car parking spaces per unit with additional parking on the new estate road. Surface water in Style Road will now be directed through the development to an attenuation pond. The County Council had confirmed that the Primary School will not be affected by the development but the Secondary School is over subscribed and provision will be made in the Section 106 Agreement for a contribution from the developers towards secondary education in the locality. Consideration was still being given to accommodating a new doctor's surgery however Wessex Water have objected to premises being situated in the open areas as this is too close to the sewerage works. Peter Parker expressed his concern about the inadequacy of parking allocations and the impact this will have on Style Road and concern was also expressed about access to the site whilst development is in progress. It was agreed that the Parish Council will

make a written management proposal for the open land at the rear of the development which is to be sent to Gadd Homes within six weeks so that they can include it with their planning application, and a sub-committee was appointed to compile a first draft comprising the Chairman, Clerk, Vice-chairman, Mary Whitmarsh, Brenda Boyland, Lisa Bedding, and Bryn Wilson.

6. MATTERS ARISING

HGV Pinch Point Consultation – The Clerk read a letter from Somerset County Council confirming that the various hotspots which Parish Councillors had reported as being unsuitable for HGV's had now been incorporated into a database for satellite navigation companies' reference and would hopefully ease the situation where large HGV's are travelling along inadequate or unsuitable roads.

North Street Notice Board – The Clerk reported that the notice board was now in a very poor condition and should either be refurbished or removed. Discussion followed and it was agreed that a quotation would be obtained from Tony Hoyle to refurbish the notice board and the matter would be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

Drain Gullies – The Clerk read an email from Dennis Quick confirming that various drain gullies reported by the Parish Council would be cleaned out when a jetter is available.

Allenslade Close – The Clerk read an email from Dennis Quick confirming that the roadside verge would be turfed by the developers in the near future.

Wiveliscombe Area Partnership – The Clerk read an email from John Harris enclosing a draft Service Level Agreement. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward this to SALC for comment and place a copy in the planning box at Wiveliscombe House so that Parish Councillors could familiarise themselves with the content for further discussion at the next meeting.

Parking Designations – Ralph Matcham reported that the yellow line restrictions were now in place at the Primary School.

Parking Designations – Mary Whitmarsh mentioned that she thought a meeting had been set up with Ian Titcombe for 19th March and the Clerk agreed to check whether this was the case and to confirm to Parish Councillors in due course.

Community Centre Tarmac Re-surfacing – Adrian Somerfield suggested that perhaps London House should contribute to the re-surfacing and the Clerk agreed to refer this to Taunton Deane District Council for their comments.

Wiveliscombe Surgery – Brian Collingridge reported that he had liaised with the Chairman and sent a letter on behalf of the Parish Council to the Primary Care Trust in support of the surgery's application for funding.

Town Crossing – Sara Fairfax mentioned that the crossing adjacent to the town traffic lights did not seem to be allowing enough time for pedestrians to cross and the Clerk agreed to refer this to Ian Titcombe at SCC Highways.

7. PLANNING

The Clerk reported that TDBC had approved the following applications:-

49/2007/045 Lower Grants Farm, Ford, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of the byre to form 1 no. dwelling.

49/2007/077 Candletrees, Jews Farm, Maundown, Wiveliscombe: Construction of agricultural access (retrospective).

49/2008/001 Langley Farm, Langley Cross, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of building to dwelling.

49/2008/002 Langley Farm, Langley Cross, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of stables to dwelling.

49/2008/004 8 Langley Cross, Wiveliscombe: Erection of two storey and single storey extensions to rear.

The following application was approved after the agenda had been circulated:-
49/2007/080 1 Southfields, Wiveliscombe: Erection of two storey and single storey extension and detached garage (amended application)

The Clerk reported that the following applications had been received:-
49/2008/009T Ford House, Ford, Wiveliscombe: Application to carry out management work to one silver maple tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (Wiveliscombe No. 2) Tree Preservation Order 1998 – *The Parish Council supported the proposal.*
49/2008/011T Ford Lodge, Ford, Wiveliscombe: Application to carry out management work to three lime trees and one beech tree within Ford Conservation Area – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

The following applications were received after the agenda had been circulated:-
Children’s Centre zebra crossing – Somerset County Council application – The siting of a zebra crossing in Croft Way – *The Parish Council agreed to support the application.*
49/2008/007 Flead Farm Cottage, Flead Farm, Wiveliscombe: Erection of single storey extension with porch – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

The Clerk reported that TDBC had refused the following application:-
49/2008/003LB Woodvale, Croford Hill, Wiveliscombe: Retention of windows on front elevation.

For Information:-
49/2007/077 Planning Officer’s recommendations:- Construction of agricultural access (retrospective), Candletrees, Jews Farm, Maundown, Wiveliscombe.
49/2007/074 Change of use from office to restaurant and take away at 3 Silver Street, Wiveliscombe.
49/2008/006T Application to carry out management work to one beech tree within Ford Conservation Area at Ford House.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

University of Exeter – Research into Aspects of the Market Towns Initiative – The Clerk reported that this had been copied to Brian Collingridge which was noted by the Parish Council.

Somerset Highways – Temporary road closure of Silver Street, Wiveliscombe – The Clerk reported that at the time of the meeting this was already in place and this was noted by the Parish Council.

9. PCSO’S REPORT

Regrettably Police representatives were unable to attend the meeting.

10. ACCOUNTS

The most recent bank statement was endorsed as an original.

C Heard (Jubilee Gardens)	£40.00
Clerk’s salary & expenses	£936.02

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council should be registered for data protection purposes and that failure to do so was a criminal offence. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should make the necessary arrangements and endorsed a cheque in the amount of £35.00 made out to the Information Commissioner.

Precept Grants 2007/08:-

The Clerk reported that he had received telephone calls from both 10 Radio and Wiveliscombe swimming pool who were owed grants in the amount of £550.00 and £3038.00 respectively and subject to the necessary supportive material being forthcoming it was agreed the Clerk could release the cheques in the above amounts prior to the financial year end.

Jubilee Gardens – Mary Whitmarsh reported that Colin Heard could, in her view, charge for more hours and was making a good effort to keep the gardens tidy and well looked after.

11. WIVELISCOMBE AREA PARTNERSHIP REPORT

Brian Collingridge reported that the Childrens' Centre was a week ahead of its construction schedule with most of the external works complete, the road surface ready for tarmac and internally the first fix installed. It is hoped that the Children's Centre will be completed during April for occupation in May. Brian Collingridge also reported that the owner of Wiveliscombe Business Park was now on the verge of being ready for a planning application to be submitted with all the access arrangements now agreed with the necessary authorities.

12. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Mary Whitmarsh reported that there had been a bit of an administration crisis at the Planning Department and staff recruitment has been difficult leading to the Planning Officers being reorganised into two areas, and it is hoped that this will lead to an improved response to planning applications. Taunton Deane Borough Council's rate of increase was modest compared to other authorities and the daily emptying of recycle bins at the Croft Way Car Park was ongoing but seemed unnecessary given that on occasions the bins were not completely full.

13. LOCAL STRATEGIC PANEL

Bill Whitman reported that he had attended a Local Strategic Panel meeting comprising mainly of District and County Councillors with a budget for expenditure in the locality. One initiative which was discussed was a new service of late night buses which had been so successful a private company was interested in running it! Much time was spent discussing policing and it seems there is a general understanding at the constabulary that PCSO's or Beat Officers will attend all Parish Council meetings. The new initiative for Community Justice Panels was also discussed.

14. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Parking on the town square was discussed. A member of the public expressed gratitude for the meeting being held in the downstairs hall of the Community Centre, this made it fully accessible for her. In the light of the Disability Discrimination Act it was agreed by the Parish Council that where possible all Parish Council meetings should be held in the ground floor hall and that the Clerk would write to the Community Centre secretary accordingly.

15. MATTERS OF REPORT

Councillors expressed concern about the level of the road outside the chemist shop which has subsided causing a large puddle and vehicles are causing pedestrians to be splashed. It was agreed the Clerk would refer the matter once again to Highways and ask them if they could deal with it.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.