

WIVELISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on MONDAY 13TH AUGUST 2007 at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre.

1. PRESENT

D Luxton (Chairman), B Collingridge (Vice-Chairman), P Parker, A Somerfield, R Matcham, B Whitman, H Farrington, C Cridland, B Wilson, R Adams, P Langdon, J Ollerenshaw, R Kingsley-Hall, Mesdames M Whitmarsh, B Boyland, and R N V Hewitt (Clerk), District Councillor J Bone, Press Officer Tim Parker and members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from P Berman.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th July 2007 having been circulated were approved as a correct record.

4. PLANNING

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

49/2007/035 51 Northgate, Wiveliscombe: Erection of first floor and two storey extension.

4/49/07/031/JF Renewal of planning permission 4/49/97/010 for temporary classroom E.601 (TB) at Wiveliscombe Primary School, North Street, Wiveliscombe.

4/49/07/029/RC Erection of building to accommodate a children's centre, plus provision of access off Croft Way and 6 car parking spaces at land off Croft Way, Wiveliscombe.

49/2007/038 The Farm House, Challick Farm, Wiveliscombe (Revised design): Erection of two storey extension and conversion of barn to living accommodation.

49/2007/030 The Old Quarry, Abbotsfield, Wiveliscombe: Erection of holiday chalet (as amended by letter dated 16th June 2007).

49/2007/036 16 Style Road, Wiveliscombe: Erection of single storey extension to rear (amended scheme to 49/2006/038)

The Clerk reported that the following applications had been received:-

49/2007/032 Wiveliscombe Community Swimming Pool, Culverhay Lane, Wiveliscombe: Erection of support building and decked area, alterations to access and installation of solar panels – *The Parish Council agreed to support the application.*

49/2007/037 Tanglewood, Langley Cross, Wiveliscombe: Works – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

49/2007/040 White Hart Hotel, Wiveliscombe: Configuration of vehicle entrance and parking, provision of beer garden and smoking shelter, alterations to store building forming an external servery – *The Parish Council did not object to the application.*

43/2007/045 Lower Grants Farm, Ford, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of barns to form 2 no. dwellings – *The Parish Council had no comments to make regarding the application.*

49/2007/046 7 & 9 Silver Street, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of existing coach house into residential unit and additional map storage and study area – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

49/2007/047LB 7 & 9 Silver Street, Wiveliscombe: Alterations to convert existing coach house into residential unit and additional map storage and study area – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

49/2007/048LB 7 & 9 Silver Street, Wiveliscombe: Alterations to change two semi detached dwellings into one dwelling, erection of porch and erection of store – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

49/2007/049 Land adjacent to Style Cottage, 3 Style Road, Wiveliscombe: Erection of dwelling – *The Parish Council supported the application.*

49/2007/050 54 Nordens Meadow, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of integral garage to living accommodation – *The Parish Council discussed the application and agreed that the site should be assessed for road safety.*

49/2007/042 The Three Horsehoes, Langley Marsh, Wiveliscombe: Installation of upvc double glazed windows to replace timber framed windows – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

The Clerk reported the following items had been received for information:-

49/2007/030 Erection of holiday chalet at The Old Quarry, Abbotsfield, Wiveliscombe, as amended by letter dated 16th June 2007 with updated wildlife survey and letter dated 21st June 2007 with additional financial appraisal information – discussed at Planning Committee meeting on 25th July 2007.

WAS/R58/PD25/1436 Appeal by Mr R N Cocking, Site at Whitefield Kennels, Higher Whitefield, Wiveliscombe.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Unitary Authority – The Clerk read a letter from Somerset County Council confirming that the proposals were now dropped and that the bid for a Unitary Authority had not been successful.

Code of Conduct Training – The Clerk read an email from David Greig suggesting that he could attend a future Parish Council meeting and provide 15 to 20 minutes training on the Code of Conduct. It was agreed this would be a good idea and the Clerk would respond accordingly.

Conservation Area Review – Brian Collingridge confirmed that he and John Bone had both spoken to officers at Taunton Deane Borough Council and it had been agreed that they would note the Parish Council's comments provided they were received following the meeting. Brian Collingridge highlighted the principle recommendations within the review and after much discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would make representations seeking the retention of the Community Centre, Abbotsfield and Culverhead within the Conservation Area.

Civic Improvements – John Ollerenshaw presented a brief paper with photographs outlining areas that could be planted with bulbs within the town and suggesting further planting including hanging baskets which was actively discussed by the Parish Council. Councillor's comments included concern about health and safety issues, the need for risk assessments, and consents from the various statutory owners of the areas involved. Bryn Wilson proposed that the Parish Council should allow up to £200 to cover the cost of spring bulbs to be planted by volunteers organised by John Ollerenshaw. The proposal was seconded by Bill Whitman and agreed by a clear majority. The Clerk agreed to forward Dennis Quick's contact details to John Ollerenshaw so he could look further into the issues involved before reporting back to the Parish Council.

Police Attendance – The Clerk reported he had received an email from PCSO Sharon Cridland confirming that Beat Officer Mark Jones was on leave and that she would be unable to attend the meeting due to current shift rotas.

Grant to PC Mark Jones – As there was no police presence at the meeting it was agreed this matter would be put on the agenda for the September meeting.

Parish Emergency Plan – The Clerk reported he had received a CD and details of how to put together a parish plan and these were passed to Bryn Wilson for information. It was further agreed that an emergency sub-committee would be formed comprising the Chairman, Vice-chairman, Bryn Wilson and Colin Cridland who would look at the possibility of preparing an emergency plan for the town.

Cycle Racks – The Clerk read an email from John Herrington at Taunton Deane Borough Council confirming that cycle racks would be made available and installed by Taunton Deane and it was agreed the Clerk would suggest that these be installed at The Square, Croft Way and North Street Car Parks and the Recreation Ground.

Parking Restrictions – The Clerk read an email from Ian Titcombe at Somerset County Council Highways confirming he was now asking Taunton Deane to advertise various changes to parking restrictions in the town. In addition, Ian Titcombe commented that some parking restrictions were 7 days a week restriction and after some discussion it was agreed that where possible these should be reduced to 6 days a week so that parking was unrestricted on a Sunday. It was also agreed that the Clerk would ask Ian Titcombe if temporary bollards or cones could be erected near the Primary School until the new designations were in place.

Nordens Meadow Play Area – The Clerk read a letter from the DLO confirming that the play area at Nordens Meadow is still the responsibility of Persimmon Homes Limited and it was agreed that the Clerk would write direct to them.

Somerset Waste Action Programme – The Clerk read a letter of thanks from Hilary Wright, the Community Waste Officer, who had spoken to the Parish Council at the July meeting

Wiveliscombe House – A paper outlining the work which takes place at Wiveliscombe House for the community and a request from the Wiveliscombe Area Partnership for a Service Level Agreement with the Parish Council so that they would have some commitment of funding was circulated to Councillors with the agenda. The Chairman invited Councillor Mary Whitmarsh to speak on behalf of the Wiveliscombe Area Partnership and the Council were advised that the Community Office receives income from Taunton Deane in the amount of approximately £7,500 per annum subject to review, the Parish Council depending on the Precept Grant application each year, and approximately £13,000 per annum from Wivey Link (which is a separate company). Councillors raised various questions and discussion followed on various aspects of the work and funding of the Community Office. After much discussion Bryn Wilson proposed that the Parish Council agreed the principle of a Service Level Agreement subject to the Wiveliscombe Area Partnership providing accounts for the Parish Council to look at at the next meeting and the amount involved being decided at a subsequent meeting. The proposal was seconded by Peter Parker and was carried.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk read a letter from Heather Harvey of the Bear Inn outlining a series of incidents in the town where the police had been asked to attend but had not provided an adequate response. After much discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would copy the letter to the Beat Officer, Wellington Police Sergeant, and the Inspector responsible for beat arrangements and policing in the town. In addition it was agreed the Parish Council would reconsider the introduction of a no drinking area in the town and that the Clerk would request a police attendance at the next Parish Council meeting.

Community Centre – The Clerk read a letter from Heather de Barry Barnett outlining an accident she had had on land between London House and the Community Centre Car Park forming part of the access to the Community Centre and footway down to the Croft Way Car Park. The letter queried the ownership of this land as Taunton Deane and Somerset County Councils had apparently stated they were not the freeholders. Discussion followed and Mary Whitmarsh clearly recalled that the land concerned was owned by Taunton Deane District Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond accordingly to Heather de Barry Barnett and would copy her letter to John Lewis at Taunton Deane and the Legal Department.

TDBC Draft Play Strategy – The Clerk reported that the consultation period on the draft play strategy ended on 6th August but he was only notified by a letter dated 23rd July 2007.

TDBC Statement of Community Involvement – The Clerk reported he had received an email from Taunton Deane confirming that this planning consultation document had now been adopted.

7. PCSO'S REPORT

There was no police presence at the meeting.

8. ACCOUNTS

The most recent bank statement was endorsed as an original.

Mr C Heard (Jubilee Gardens)	£120.00
Reimbursement to D B Wilson	£5.67
Allotment Tenants Association (Insurance)	£33.00

9. WIVELISCOMBE AREA PARTNERSHIP

Brian Collingridge had nothing further to report but did mention that Dennis Buckingham who owns the house and holiday cottage adjacent the Recreation Ground had been cutting the hedge along the public footpath there for many years and he felt it would be a good idea if this was recognised by the Parish Council. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Mr Buckingham accordingly.

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Mary Whitmarsh had no further District Council matters to raise, however she did go on to report about the Jubilee Gardens where three additional shrub plants will be required shortly and Mary Whitmarsh reminded the Parish Council that there was apparently an obligation to re-plant the tree that was recently felled. Much discussion followed and Brian Collingridge proposed that this matter be left in abeyance for the time being and the proposal was seconded by Bryn Wilson and agreed by the Parish Council.

11. MATTERS OF REPORT

Peter Langdon reminded the Parish Council that the Wiveliscombe Horticultural Show would be taking place shortly and asked for volunteers for help with the setting up.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.