

WIVELISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on MONDAY 9th JANUARY 2006 at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre.

1. PRESENT

D Luxton (Chairman), B Collingridge (Vice-Chairman), C Cridland, P Parker, R Matcham, B Whitman, T Parker, T Hill, Sir H Farrington, C Bramall, B Wilson and Mesdames M Whitmarsh, M Prior, S Fairfax, Miss B Boyland, District Councillor J Bone and R N V Hewitt (Clerk). The meeting was also attended by CPSO J Morant and two members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Lisa Bedding, Peter Berman and Peter Langdon

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th December having been circulated were agreed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Website – The Chairman advised the Parish Council that Bryn Wilson was to join the website sub-committee. The Clerk circulated a website sub-committee report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Matters raised in the sub-committee report were discussed and it was agreed following a proposal by Brian Collingridge, which was seconded by Chris Bramall, that the draft contract be signed on behalf of the Parish Council once the website sub-committee had undertaken some minor amendments. It was also agreed that the Community Office would undertake the updating of the website data, invoices would be dealt with by the Clerk, and the rates for adverts as detailed on the website and report were ratified subject to a future review. The website content and a need for a clear charging policy was discussed and it was agreed that the sub-committee have delegated authority to deal with the remaining matters detailed on the sub-committee report and formulate a draft charging policy for the Parish Council's consideration. The chairman confirmed that the sub-committee now comprises the Clerk, Tim Parker, Brian Collingridge, Bryn Wilson and Bill Whitman.

10 Parishes Centre – The Clerk referred the Parish Council to a letter from the Somerset Association of Local Councils which had been circulated with the agenda, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Given the content of the letter it was agreed that the Parish Council could not assist with reclaiming VAT in respect of the 10 Parishes Centre consultation project.

Allotments – The meeting with residents at Plain Pond to discuss the planting of a hedge following a boundary dispute in 2003 was re-scheduled for 28th January 2006 at 10.30 am. It was agreed that the Chairman, Clerk, and Councillors Colin Cridland, Peter Parker, Bill Whitman and Bryn Wilson would attend. The Clerk also reminded the Parish Council that rent invoices would be issued shortly for the allotments.

Precept Grant Review – Further to the minutes of the last meeting the Chairman called for volunteers to join the Precept Grant Review sub-committee and it was agreed this would comprise the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Clerk and Councillors Bryn Wilson, Mary Whitmarsh, and Ralph Matcham. The Chairman informed the Parish Council that the sub-committee would be initially submitting their thoughts to the Clerk in writing following which, if necessary, a meeting would take place.

Highway Matters – The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Dennis Quick confirming that the parapet repairs needed to the Washbottle Bridge have been reported to the relevant department, and that the sign and defective manhole cover in Style Road has been reported to the area technician.

Street Lighting – The Clerk read a letter from Jonathan Pallett, Taunton Deane Borough Council Parking Services, regarding lighting in the Croft Way Car Park and his comments were noted by the Parish Council.

Dr John Rees – The Clerk read a letter of thanks from Dr John Rees in connection with recent works undertaken by the Highways Department and Dennis Quick following flooding in the area.

Old Brewery Road – Bryn Wilson reminded the Parish Council that a response was awaited from the Highways Department regarding signage in Brewery Road. The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Ian Titcombe refusing to attend a site meeting and this was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Ian Morrison at the Highways Department requesting a meeting with someone in authority.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Jo Blackwell reported that the drains at Pyncombe Lane may have been cleared recently but were now full of silt again. Peter Parker felt that the Highways Department should be pressurised to deal with the various channels and blocked gullies, and Bryn Wilson felt that a site meeting might be helpful. The Chairman concluded matters by agreeing that Parish Councillors only should attend the site meeting to be held on Saturday 14th January at 10.00am. It was agreed that Colin Cridland, Bryn Wilson, Tony Hill, Peter Parker and Brenda Boyland would attend the meeting.

6. PLANNING

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

49/2005/069T The Vicarage, South Street, Wiveliscombe: Application to fell one Lawson Cypress included in Taunton Deane Borough (Wiveliscombe No.3) Tree Preservation Order 1976

49/2005/066LB Pitt Farm, Ford. Internal alterations.

49/2005070T The Vicarage, South Street. Leyland Cypress – tree surgery

49/2005/068LB The Old Reading Rooms, 10 Silver Street: Replacement of fireplace in first floor reception room

There were no planning applications pending comment by the Parish Council at the time of the meeting.

Culverhay – Ralph Matcham reported that significant works were being undertaken to a building at Culverhay and some discussion followed. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to John Hardy, Enforcement Officer at Taunton Deane Borough Council, requesting his observations as apparently the roofing work was fairly significant.

7. PCSO'S REPORT

PCSO Julian Morant reported that all had been quiet during the Christmas period apart from a window being broken on Boxing Day. Parish Councillors were asked to be on the lookout for a young driver of a red quad bike and if spotted to make a note of the registration number and pass it onto the police. Apparently the vehicle concerned is being used on the public highway and rights of way causing some concern by residents. Julian Morant went on to report that subject to official confirmation he would be transferring to the Highways Agency in the near future.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Taunton Deane Borough Council detailing further planning training for Parish Councillors and this was handed to Ralph Matcham and Peter Parker who expressed an interest in attending the course.

Public Rights of Way – The Clerk read an email from Richard Emmott, a resident of Ford, expressing concern over four wheel drive vehicles using RUPPS in the area. The Clerk mentioned that he had received advice from the Rights of Way Officer at Somerset County Council that this matter was subject to statutory review and it was agreed that the Clerk would respond to Mr Emmott on the basis that the Parish Council is awaiting the outcome of new statute in due course.

Citizens Advice Bureau – The Clerk read a letter from the Citizens Advice Bureau asking for a contribution to their funds and it was agreed that the Clerk would refer them to the precept grant procedure and remind them that the Parish Council do support their services by funding the Community Office.

9. ACCOUNTS

The two most recent bank statements were endorsed as true copies.

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Community Centre	45.00
R M Taylor (Jubilee Gardens)	246.75

10. WIVELISCOMBE AREA PARTNERSHIP

Brian Collingridge reported that the 10 Parishes Centre group would be meeting Somerset County Council's Surestart to discuss the project in the next few days. Obviously the group would be disappointed that the VAT arising from their consultation project could not be reclaimed by the Parish Council but will understand the position.

11. LOCAL ECONOMY

Brian Collingridge raised the Parish Council's last economic statement, and highlighted the need to update the statement and circulated a draft updated version of the economic statement for the Parish Council to consider (a copy of which is attached to these minutes). Some discussion followed and suggestions made for altering the statement slightly. It was then proposed for adoption by Chris Bramall, which was seconded by Bryn Wilson. The motion was carried and it was agreed that Brian Collingridge would make the necessary adjustments to the statement which would then be ratified at the next meeting, and circulated to various members of the business community for informal consultation.

12. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Mary Whitmarsh reported that the cardboard recycling in the Croft Way Car Park had not been emptied for some time and was now overflowing. Some Councillors thought that this had been emptied on Christmas Eve however urgent attention was now required and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the relevant authority highlighting the matter. Refuse was always being left outside the Community Centre by residents throughout the town and this was now becoming a hazard and very unsightly. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this problem to Taunton Deane Borough Council as the refuse was in fact being tipped on land belonging to that authority and request advice as to what can be done about the matter. It was

agreed that the Clerk would take a photograph to be included with the letter and to form part of a small article in the Messenger.

Mary Whitmarsh then went on to discuss the Boundary Committee Review proposals which were discussed at the last meeting and gave a concise overview as to the implications of the proposed reorganisation of the Parish boundaries. Some discussion followed and it was agreed by the Parish Council that the status quo should be maintained and that no changes were needed at this time. Mary Whitmarsh went on to read a letter which she had drafted and it was agreed that the letter form the basis of a letter to be sent by the Parish Council as a representation to the Boundary Committee.

13. MATTERS OF REPORT

Tony Hill mentioned that the puddle in the road outside the Pharmacy had not been dealt with and would be a hazard, and that Jews Lane required sweeping before leaves blocked gullies and flooding occurred.

Margaret Prior suggested that the Parish Council should write a letter of thanks to Sue Farrington and the book group following the successful publication of the History of Wiveliscombe and this was subsequently agreed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.