

# WIVELISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

## *MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2006 at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre.*

### 1. PRESENT

D Luxton (Chairman), B Collingridge (Vice-Chairman), R Matcham, C Cridland, C Bramall, B Wilson, P Langdon, T Hill, P Parker, Sir H Farrington, and Mesdames S Fairfax, L Bedding, Miss B Boyland, and R N V Hewitt (Clerk). The meeting was also attended by three members of the public including Mr J Blackwell.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mesdames M Whitmarsh, M Prior and Peter Berman.

### 3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2006 having been circulated were agreed as a correct record.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING

**Allotments** – The Clerk and Bryn Wilson summarised the discussions which had taken place at the site meeting with the various owner/occupiers adjoining the allotments as detailed in the previous minutes. After much discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would plant and establish the thorn hedge but would write to the owner/occupiers advising them that this in no way changed the legal status or position of the boundary and that the Parish Council could not be responsible for the encroachment of weeds onto neighbouring land. It was further agreed that the Clerk would remind the owner/occupiers that if they were spraying weeds they must be careful not to cause a spray drift which would damage the new hedging. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mike Hendy asking him to undertake this work as soon as possible.

**Precept Grant Policy** – The Chairman reminded Parish Councillors that comments had been invited in connection with reviewing the grant procedure but so far no comments had been received. Discussion followed and Bryn Wilson felt that Councillors should be able to view the applications and Brian Collingridge considered that more time was needed for discussion about the appropriateness of any particular application. Other suggestions followed and after some debate it was agreed that the applications should be brought to the November meeting (when the precept is set) so that they could be viewed by Councillors before discussion took place on the grant awards at the December meeting.

**Economic Statement** – The draft statement detailed in the last set of minutes was duly ratified by the Parish Council. Brian Collingridge said he felt the statement was useful given the ongoing debate about housing in Ford Road and he understood that Taunton Deane Borough Council supported the statement.

**Footpaths** – The Clerk and Brenda Boyland gave a summary of the activities of the Footpath Sub-committee and confirmed that the most competitive price for printing the 'walker's booklet' was from Character Graphics in the amount of £1900.00 and would be covered by the recent grant award of £2000.00. It was hoped that the launch would take place on or around 29<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

**Old Brewery Road** – The Clerk read a letter from Geoff Dight, Highway Manager at Somerset County Council, confirming that a meeting would take place to discuss road safety

issues, and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Ian Titcombe to obtain some provisional dates. It was agreed that any further correspondence would be copied to County Councillor Caroline Smeaton.

**Refuse** – The Clerk read an email from Waste Services at Taunton Deane confirming that they were investigating the source of the rubbish being deposited outside the Community Centre and it was generally felt that the matter had improved in recent weeks. Councillors pointed out that the cardboard recycling skip was now full again and it was agreed that the Clerk would report this.

**Croft Way Car Park** – Peter Parker felt it would be useful if double yellow lines were placed immediately adjacent the entrance to the car park to prevent vehicles parking on the main road and obscuring the vision of those coming and going from the car park. It was agreed that the Clerk would refer this to Ian Titcombe for comment and suggest that a site meeting takes place at the same time as Old Brewery Road.

**Boundary Committee** – The Clerk confirmed that the Boundary Committee had acknowledged receipt of the representations made by the Parish Council in respect of the electoral review.

**CCTV Systems** – The Clerk read a letter from Scott Vetch at Taunton Deane Borough Council confirming that as crime had dropped in the Croft Way Car Park it was not appropriate to use CCTV at this time but the matter would be kept under review.

**Culverhay Barns** – The Clerk read an email from John Hardy at Taunton Deane Borough Council Planning Enforcement confirming that they were pursuing the development of Culverhay Barns and awaiting a planning application which would be forwarded in due course to the Parish Council for comment. Some Councillors were concerned that the unauthorised development would become too entrenched and advanced to be fully reversed should it be decided that planning permission should not be granted, and it was agreed that the Clerk would raise this with John Hardy.

**CPSO Julian Morant** – The Clerk read, with regret, an email from Julian Morant advising that he had resigned from his position as Community Support Officer.

**Jim Laker Memorial Fund** – The Clerk read a letter from Simon Turnbull confirming that the Parish Council Footpath Sub-committee could use the slogan 'Where in the World is Wiveliscombe?' within the new footpath booklet.

**Website** – The Clerk and Brian Collingridge gave an overview of the last sub-committee website meeting and confirmed that a full report would be made at the next meeting but in the meantime it was hoped that the website would be featured in the Messenger.

## 5. PLANNING

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

49/2005/071 Flat over Community Office, The Square, Wiveliscombe: Conversion of first and second floors from a flat to 1 no. 2 bedroom flat, 1 no. 1 bedroom flat and 1 no. 1 bedroom bedsit

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

49/2006/001 2B Ford Road, Wiveliscombe: Erection of single storey extension and car port – *Chris Bramall declared an interest in this application. The Parish Council supported the application without comment.*

49/2006/002LB The Music Room, Tanglewood, Langley Cross: Re-roofing, installation of rooflights and dormer window and replacement of wooden structure with stone outbuilding – *The Parish Council noted that a Tree Preservation Order was to be confirmed and that this may prejudice the proposed application, notwithstanding the Order the Parish Council supported the application subject to the Conservation Officer's own comments.*

49/2006/004 23 Lion D'Angers, Wiveliscombe: Erection of conservatory and conversion of garage to living accommodation – *The Parish Council had no comments to make.*

49/2006/005 Higher Grants, Ford, Wiveliscombe: Erection of garage – *The Parish Council decided to support the application.*

**For Information**

49/2006/003 Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 – Installation of two roof lights to front of 24 Golden Hill.

Tree Preservation Order

The Clerk read details of a planning enforcement training event at Taunton Deane on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm and it was agreed that Peter Parker, Bryn Wilson, Ralph Matcham, and Brian Collingridge would attend.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak and Mr J Blackwell said that he was interested to know what progress had been made regarding Pyncombe Lane (more of which below).

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Rambler's Association – The Clerk read a letter from the Rambler's Association confirming that they would be willing to provide labour to improve the Newtons Path. It was decided that the Clerk should forward this letter to Somerset County Council being the authority responsible for footpath maintenance.

Kingsmead Community School – The Clerk read a letter from the school detailing a project to build an electric car to be entered into an environmental competition, and asking the Parish Council for financial support. It was agreed that the Clerk would invite the school to attend a Parish meeting and provide more information.

Speed Limit Review – The Clerk read an email from Jeremy Brown's secretary confirming that this matter was being pursued and that he anticipated making a full response in the next week or so.

Fire Safety Talks –The Clerk read an email from Lucy Regan, Taunton Fire Station, detailing the availability of fire safety talks and it was agreed that the Clerk would forward this to the Civic Society.

Calor Village of the Year Competition – The Clerk pointed out that he had received application forms for this year's competition and these were passed to Brian Collingridge.

**8. PCSO'S REPORT**

There were no officers present at the meeting.

**9. ACCOUNTS**

The most recent bank statement was endorsed as a true copy.

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Cricket Club (Grant)	£50.00
Deane DLO	£276.13

**10. WIVELISCOMBE AREA PARTNERSHIP**

Brian Collingridge reported that the bungalows adjacent the Primary School would hopefully be ready for occupation in May and that Taunton Deane Borough Council has now nominated local people to MAGNA as potential tenants. Following the housing needs survey it is likely

that an application for twenty dwellings will be made in respect of land adjacent Allenslade Flats and that the development would include some shared equity housing.

The Children's Centre in its entirety was now proposed to be sited at Croft Way and that research was underway regarding what other facilities might also be located at The 10 Parishes Centre. The Civic Society meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March would focus on the Wiveliscombe Book Group and would be an opportunity for the community to express their congratulations on the recent launch of the book.

## **11. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

There were no District Councillors present at the meeting.

## **12. MATTERS OF REPORT**

Pyncombe Lane – Bryn Wilson reported that a sub-committee had inspected the drainage along Pyncombe Lane and presented a series of photographs which clearly showed that nearly all the drains are blocked, culverts obstructed, gullies needed cleaning out and one drain had even been used as a conduit for a water pipe causing a blockage. In connection with the watercourse at Kingsmead the outlet was three quarters silted up and it was felt that if these gullies and drains were all cleared and approximately 20' of silt removed from the watercourse then matters would be much improved. Councillors felt that the Highways Authority were clearly not maintaining the lane and that a site meeting should be held as soon as possible. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward the photographs to Dennis Quick requesting a meeting with the Area Technician and copy the correspondence to County Councillor Caroline Smeaton.

Councillor Tony Hill mentioned the following items:-

Croft Way Car Park – Apparently there used to be two bins in the car park and it would be useful if these could be replaced. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Taunton Deane.

Jews Lane – Leaves were building up in the lane again and would block drains and perhaps cause flooding if left unattended and it was agreed that the Clerk would refer this to Dennis Quick suggesting this is looked at, at the same time as Pyncombe Lane.

Paving outside the chemist – The pavement was still in a poor state and was being flooded with rain water on occasions and it was agreed that the Clerk would refer this matter to Dennis Quick reminding him of previous correspondence.

West Street – Apparently there is a dangerous ridge on one of the pavements and it was agreed that the Clerk would report this to Dennis Quick.

Allotments – Peter Parker mentioned that there was now a waiting list and the Chairman said that he also knew of people interested in allotments. Discussions followed as to how the allotments might be altered to accommodate more tenants but it was generally felt best to leave matters under review by Peter Parker.

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