

WIVELISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on MONDAY 11th AUGUST 2008 at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre.

1. **PRESENT**

D Luxton (Chairman), R Adams, B Collingridge, C Cridland, P Langdon, R Matcham, J Ollerenshaw, P Parker, A Somerfield, B Wilson, Mesdames B Boyland, S Fairfax and M Whitmarsh, and David Leggett (Clerk), The meeting was also attended by two members of the public.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from P Berman, Sir H Farrington, L Bedding, B Whitman, T Parker (Press Officer) and County Councillor C Smeaton.

3. **PRESENTATION TO FORMER CLERK**

The Chairman thanked Raoul Hewitt for his five years' service as clerk to the Parish Council and presented him with a gift as a token of the Council's appreciation for his help and guidance during this time. Brian Collingridge also spoke of Raoul's wisdom and knowledge which he shared with the Council during his period in office.

4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th July 2008, having been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with one minor amendment viz: Footpath WG 16/8 – John Ollerenshaw reported that he had cleared a 150 (not 750) yard section of this footpath.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

Gadds Lane (Boundary Wall) – The Clerk reported that he had been informed by Taunton Deane Borough Council's Building Control Manager, Brian Yates, that he agrees that the wall is potentially unsafe. He believes that Wessex Water's works under the wall were not the cause of the problem and that normal procedure would be to for him to require the owner of the wall to undertake the necessary repairs. He has to date been unsuccessful in tracing the whereabouts of the owner. The matter is being referred to TDBC's legal department enquiries and advice. If necessary, his council could undertake the works in default of the owner.

Peter Parker stated that he disagrees with the assessment that Wessex Water were not responsible. The Parish Council instructed the Clerk to reiterate to Taunton Deane their concern for the safety of passers-by and to urge them to urgently pursue remedial works.

The Clerk was also instructed to write to Gadds Builders, who have rebuilt the section of the wall adjacent to 16 North Street, to request they complete the works by addition of capping to prevent the ingress of water.

Suggestion for Town Council Status – The Clerk read a reply from David Greig to the question asked of him as to what would be the benefits of the Parish Council adopting Town Council status. It seems that there would be no real benefit as the powers and duties of a Town Council are exactly the same as those of a Parish Council. The Parish Council decided not to pursue the suggestion further and instructed the Clerk to inform Mark Formosa, who raised the issue, of its decision.

Highways Matters – The Clerk reported on replies received from Dennis Quick regarding issues raised by councillors following the last meeting:

Road Sign at junction of North Street and Northgate- Area technician will inspect

Street light at corner of Newgate Lane – Unit needs complete replacement and light is left on all day rather than have no light at all.

Parking of HGVs – Brian Collingridge reported that he and Mary Whitmarsh had visited a manager at Grampian Foods to enquire whether the company could assist in the search for a suitable place for heavy vehicles to park, in order to alleviate the congestion in Croft Way car park. The request had been well received and the manager promised to contact them again after seeking advice from his head office.

Wiveliscombe Walkers Book – Brenda Boyland reported that the action proposed at the last meeting was not necessary as all that was being asked for at present was approval to go ahead with a reprint. The Parish Council agreed that the reprint should go ahead.

Land to North of Style Road, Wiveliscombe – Brian Collingridge reported that, from his discussions with a Director of Gadd's Builders, he understands that the developer is working to meet Taunton Deane Borough Council's requirements with regard to the social housing element of this development. He reiterated that when the Clerk is informed that revised plans are available, a special meeting of the Parish Council will be called to consider them.

Recreation Ground Management – Bryn Wilson reported that following a meeting held as outlined at the last Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council representatives have decided to continue until the next management meeting. A meeting with the Trustees is being planned to take place during September.

6. PLANNING

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

49/2008/029LB Hartswell House, Wiveliscombe. Demolition of existing outbuilding.

Conditional Approval

49/2008/030 Hartswell House, Wiveliscombe. Erection of garage. Conditional Approval

49/2008/042LB Wiveliscombe Primary School Retention of Works of Alteration

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

49/2008/036 The Three Horseshoes, Langley Marsh. Removal of condition No 4, holiday occupation condition, to planning permission 49/2001/006 to enable residential use.
-After much discussion, the parish Council voted 7-3 to object to the application on the grounds that this would be an inappropriate development of a property in the curtilage of a public house.

The Clerk reported that the following application had been received and decided:-

49/2008/035 Wiveliscombe Primary School Erection of 3 Bay Elliott temporary Classrooms
- *Taunton Deane Borough Council raised no objection*
- *The Parish Council supported the application.*
- *Somerset County decision- conditional no objection*

The Clerk reported that the following Enforcement Notices had been received

NC/R59/PD/11/A/814 24 Silver Street, Wiveliscombe. Removal of roller shutters or relocation to the interior

NC/R59/PD/11/A/830 Co-op Store, 9 The Square, Wiveliscombe. Removal ofworks ..(of) construction and servicing of the covered walkway and effect associated repairs...including the reinstatement of the features and historic fabric of the building.....

For Information:-

49/2008/021 8 West Street, Wiveliscombe–Installation of satellite dish – Application withdrawn

The following application was received after the agenda had been circulated:-

49/2008/038 10 The Square, Wiveliscombe Change of part house to dining room/restaurant (revised proposal of 49/2008/025) – *The Parish Council supported the application.*

The Clerk reported that the following application had been refused:-

49/2008/027 16 North Street - 2 Dwellings and garaging.....an inefficient use of land.

The following Agricultural Notification was received after the agenda had been circulated:-

49/2008/037AGN – Erection of roof covering to hardstandings at top and bottom of farmyard at North Down Farm, Pyncombe Lane, Wiveliscombe - *The Parish Council had no comment to make.*

7. CORRESPONDENCE

John Alder, Town Mill – The clerk read a copy of a letter which Mr Alder had sent to the Environmental Health Dept of TDBC complaining of smell and animal noises from the Grampion factory.

Somerset County Council Minerals and Waste Project - Brian Collingridge reported that he had been in touch with the project officer in response to his request for an article in the next issue of the Wiveliscombe Messenger.

Overgrown Footpath Ford Road towards Castle Hill – The clerk reported that Dennis Quick had forwarded Mr Bird’s complaint to the Rights of Way team at County Hall.

The clerk reported the following correspondence received since the agenda was prepared:-

Street Fair – an enquiry regarding a stall in the street fair referred to the event organiser.

Somerset Arts Week 13-28 September – brochure

TDBC Heart of Somerset Events August 2008 – leaflet

TDBC Local Strategy Partnership – information re next round of Community Partnership meetings

Isle of Wight Council – Power to the Parishes conference 4th September

P Hending – request for flyer advertising QED Vegucation courses to be placed on notice board- permission

granted

David Greig, Parish Liaison Officer – Request for nominations for additional parish member on standards committee at

TDBC

8. PCSO's REPORT

The clerk read the following report sent in by PCSO Sharon Cridlin, who was unable to attend the meeting:

Parish Council report for 11 August 2008 (between 11/07 & 11/08)

Out of 44 calls logged and reported for beat area GT027 (Wiveliscombe and West Deane)

I have separated them for your info:

Highway Disruption/Road traffic Accident	3
Rowdy/Nuisance	2
Suspicious Incidents	7
Concern for Safety	2
Domestic Incidents	2
Burglary/Attempted Burglary	7
Fraudulent Use of	2
Violence Against the Person	2
Missing Person	3
Pursuit	1
Firearms	1

Rural outbuilding thefts are still occurring, on a regular basis. Please re-iterate the need to be very wary of who is on your land. DON'T give out any personal information, DO get vehicle registration details, colour and make and model and any description of persons. Please continue to secure your premises as well as you can. Use "beware of dogs" signage on any front gates and entrances, whether you have dogs or not! Use dummy alarm boxes on your outbuildings, they are a very cheap and easy to purchase security measure. Security lighting and heavy duty locking systems are essential.

Get in touch with your Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator and share information wherever possible. Many pairs of ears and eyes are more effective than one or two!

On a lighter note however, Wiveliscombe and West Deane is still and will continue to be a very pleasant and safe place to live and work.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 07717700660 to discuss any matter.

9. ACCOUNTS

The most recent book-keeping was signed and the bank statement was endorsed as an original.

Payments approved:-

Taunton Deane BC	£1,000.00
(pathway contribution West St/Community Centre)	
C Heard (Jubilee Gardens)	£112.00

The Parish Council agreed to reinstate the 2006/2007 precept grant of £1,660 which had been allocated for the Wiveliscombe Town Hall Trust, but not claimed during that year and to make the payment immediately from the Parish Council's reserves. The funds are required by the Trust for legal work necessary in negotiating a lease and preparing further funding applications for the Town Hall Project now that the new estates management of the owners of the Town Hall are co-operating.

10. WIVELISCOMBE AREA PARTNERSHIP REPORT

Brian Collingridge reported that the notice board in the Square is now being successfully managed by Linda Featherstone.

A report is being prepared on progress to date on 89 actions contained in the Community Plan for the 10 Parishes which followed from the Market Towns Initiative.

11. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Mary Whitmarsh reported that she has arranged with Dennis Quick and the pig factory for the hedging around the town markers to be trimmed back. It is also hoped to get the markers washed down and repainted.

The Parish Council agreed with Mrs Whitmarsh that the road between Wiveliscombe and Waterow at Yeo Corner is a potential hazard as the road narrows at the tight bend. Visibility needs to be improved, but the landowner will not allow the hedge to be trimmed. This has been the subject of previous discussions with TDBC. The clerk was instructed to write to Dennis Quick about the Parish Council's concerns for road safety, and suggesting that a wider central white line might help separate the traffic.

Mrs Whitmarsh said that the street lights on West Street/Church Street, being of "A" Road size are too big now that the road has been redesignated. The Parish Council instructed the clerk to write to the heritage department at TDBC suggesting that the lights be replaced with more attractive street furniture such as those in the Square.

12. MATTERS OF REPORT

Adrian Somerfield reported complaints from residents at Plain Pond Wiveliscombe. On Friday 25th July at around 3.00pm a road Tanker which had visited the sewage works at Plain Pond spilled waste outside Nos. 36 & 37 Plain Pond. The mess left behind was most unpleasant. The resident contacted both TDBC and Wessex Water. TDBC responded very quickly, sending out a man who cleaned up as best he could with a shovel and a brush. Wessex Water came to inspect the mess, but took no further action.

The Parish Council agree that the response from Wessex Water was inadequate. The clerk is to write to the Environmental Health department to express the Parish Council's concern as this is the second time this has happened.

John Ollerenshaw pointed out that complaints of overgrown, etc. footpaths should in the first instance be directed to him for investigation as he is the Parish Footpaths Liaison Officer. Brenda Boyland added that as the Parish council's Footpath Officer, she is an alternative contact when problems arise.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.