

WIVELISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

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

1. PRESENT

D Luxton (Chairman), R Adams, P Berman, B Collingridge, C Cridland, P Langdon, R Matcham, J Ollerenshaw, P Parker, T Parker, A Somerfield, B Wilson, W Whitman, Mary Whitmarsh and David Leggett (Clerk).

The meeting was also attended by County Councillor C Smeaton and two members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Sir H Farrington, Mesdames B Boyland and S Fairfax.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th October 2008, having been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Co-option of Councillor Mr Tim Parker, having been co-opted to serve as a member of the Parish Council until the next elections in May 2011, signed his declaration of acceptance of office and submitted details of his interests as required by the Council's Code of Conduct.

Housing Needs Survey Brian Collingridge informed the Parish Council that the survey forms being prepared by the Community Council for Somerset are expected to be received on 25th November. Felix Marsh will attend the Parish Council's February meeting to report and discuss the survey results.

Gadds Lane (Boundary Wall) Ralph Matcham reported that he had visited the site in mid-October and, being greatly concerned at the previously reported unsafe condition of the wall, had made further verbal representations to the Building Control Department of Taunton Deane Borough Council. The Clerk reported that he wrote again on 14th October, urging the Building Control Manager to take urgent action to make the wall safe. It is understood that estimates for the cost of default works are being sought.

Recreation Ground Management – Bryn Wilson reported that, following a fruitful meeting with the Trustees on 23rd October, a document had been agreed which provides for the delegation of certain of the Trustees' powers and discretions to a new Committee of Management. This new Management Committee will consist of eight Parish Council members, three Trustees, one member from each of the user groups and two members of the general public. The Chairman of the Parish Council signed the document to signify the approval of the Parish Council. The Parish Council appointed the following members to serve on the Committee of Management: Bryn Wilson, Bill Whitman, Colin Cridland, Richard Adams, Peter Parker, Brenda Boyland and Peter Langdon. An eighth member is to be appointed at a future meeting.

Bulb Planting John Ollerenshaw reported that the bulb planting approved at the last meeting had been completed.

A & S Constabulary Community Policing Awards The clerk informed the Parish Council of an email received from Inspector Roger Tolley asking for support for his nomination of the team of officers at Wellington police station and of PCSO Sharon Cridlin in the Team of the Year and PCSO of the Year categories respectively. The Parish Council agreed to support the nominations and the clerk was asked to circulate the email to all Parish Councillors.

Removal of BT Call Boxes The clerk reported that Taunton Deane Borough Council's objection made on our behalf against BT's proposals to remove the public payphone kiosk at Plain Pond has been accepted by BT. This payphone will now be taken out of the current removals programme.

Wiveliscombe Nameplate The clerk reported that a reply had been received to the Parish Council's further representations for return of the monies paid for the replacement sign, in view of the fact that the Parish Council believed that the old sign would be returned to them for refurbishment.

The Head of Somerset's Highways, Ioan Rees, stated that there was no written agreement that the sign would be returned. They had received a verbal request for the sign to be returned, but unfortunately, this was not conveyed to the Contractors and the old nameplate was scrapped.

The old nameplate was the property of the Highway Authority as it would have been provided when this road was an 'A' class road. He also stated that even if it had been refurbished, it would not have been suitable to be used elsewhere in Wiveliscombe as it would not have met the class 1 reflectivity standards for erection on the highway.

Re-Siting of Dog Waste Bins The clerk reported that a reply had been received from the Environmental Protection Operations Manager at Taunton Deane Borough Council to the Parish Council's request to relocate the two dog waste bins in Jews Lane and North Street. As regards Jews Lane, he could not agree that there was another suitable location for the bin. The Parish Council asked for further representations to be made regarding this. The North Street bin could be moved as requested, but the cost would fall to the Parish Council. The clerk is to ask for a quotation for the cost of the work, before a decision is made as to whether and by whom the bin should be moved.

Council Question Time The clerk reported that an email giving notice of cancellation of the Taunton Deane Question Time event planned for 5th November had been sent on 4th November, but was not read until 6th November.

5. **PLANNING**

The Clerk reported that the following planning permission had been granted by Somerset County Council:-

49/08/035 Wiveliscombe Primary School *Erection of temporary 3 Bay Elliott Classroom.*

The Clerk reported that the following planning consent/permissions had been granted by Taunton Deane Borough Council:-

49/2008/050LB 2 High Street, Wiveliscombe *Internal alterations - 2 flats into one ff flat.*

49/2008/047 Industrial Units on land at Hillsmoor *Variation of condition No 6 on planning permission 49/05/04 to allow for phase 1/ unit 2 to be occupied.....*

49/2008/048 HazelCottage, LangleyMarsh *Erection of single storey extension to rear.*

49/2008/053 17 Kingsmead Close *Conversion of garage to living accommodation.*

The Clerk reported that the following planning permission had been refused by Taunton Deane Borough Council:-

49/2008/049 Culverhay, Wiveliscombe *Conversion and change of use of agricultural barn to form a single dwelling.*

5. **PLANNING (continued)**

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

49/08/0056 The Farmhouse, Challick Lane, Chipstable Conversion and extension of barn to form ancillary accommodation (revised description).

The Parish Council supported the application

49/08/0057/AGN Land adjoining Blackwater Lane Erection of agricultural implement store.

The Parish Council had no objection to the application.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Internal Auditor Tony Bullen, who has acted as the Parish Council's internal auditor for a number of years has advised that, due to family circumstances, he will not be able to continue in this role. The clerk is to write to Mr Bullen, thanking him for his past services and is to seek a replacement internal auditor.

Festive Illuminations Phil Sharratt, Economic Development Manager at Taunton Deane Borough Council, has confirmed that they will secure funding for the full cost of this year's decorations as fitted at Christmas 2007. This confirmation came shortly after a request that the Parish Council meet £1,096.29 of the costs, because only £5,368.24 was available when the total cost would be £6,464.53. The Parish Council agreed to Mr Sharratt's suggestion of a meeting in the new year, to discuss strategies to purchase new festive illuminations and meet the ongoing funding liability. The clerk and Bryn Wilson would attend.

Land Registry – Voluntary First Registration of Title The Parish Council agreed that the clerk should respond to the Land Registry's request to talk to them about their offer of reduced registration fees for voluntary registration of the two plots of land owned by the Parish Council – Jubilee Gardens and the Plain Pond Allotments.

Footpath from WG16/35 to County Road at Fry's Farm The Parish Council supported the proposal of Somerset County Council to obtain a Creation Agreement from the landowner in order to correct an anomaly on the definitive map of rights of way in Somerset.

Somerset CC – Local Action for Rural Communities The Parish Council had received a formal invitation to be represented at a meeting on Thursday November 13th at Wiveliscombe Primary School to formally establish the Local Action Group. Brian Collingridge advised that this could be useful if the projects currently being considered as part of the 10 Parishes Community Plan could be integrated. The Parish Council expressed its support for the meeting and one or two councillors expressed an intention to attend. A poster advertising the meeting is to be displayed on the Notice Board.

Taunton Deane Local Strategic Partnership The Parish Council was informed of a Community Partnership meeting to be held at Silver Street Centre, Wiveliscombe on Tuesday 25th November at 6.30pm. **Twinning Request** Monsieur M Neuder, a councillor in Ploumilliau, Brittany, France had e-mailed to ask if Wiveliscombe would be interested in twinning with Ploumilliau. The Parish Council instructed the clerk to decline the invitation as Wiveliscombe is already twinned with le Lion d'Angers.

Request for Disabled Spaces in Car Parks The Parish Council considered an email request from Yvonne Loat for disabled parking spaces in Wiveliscombe car parks. The Parish Council agreed that they would welcome any additional car parking facility. The e-mail is to be forwarded to Taunton Deane Borough Council who are responsible for provision of car parks.

6. CORRESPONDENCE (continued)

Temporary Road Closures The Parish Council noted the following temporary road closures: A39 Williton to Bridgwater Road at East Quantoxhead on two nights 24th and 25th November, high vehicles being diverted through Wiveliscombe to avoid low bridges on A358 Taunton to Williton.

B3190 Robbery Gate to Sperry Cross, on two nights 11th and 12th December, diversions routing traffic through Wiveliscombe via Bampton and Elworthy.

The Parish Council noted receipt of a number of items of correspondence as listed in the agenda for the meeting

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

SALC West Area meeting agenda (corrected date 4th December), Crowcombe Village Hall
Taunton & Sth Somerset Housing Market Partnership Meeting 26th Nov 2-4pm Taunton
Communities & Local Government Consultation document re Code of Conduct
Somerset CC Draft Cultural Strategy for Somerset-consultation
Clerks & Councils Direct November Issue

7. PCSO REPORT/PACT

PCSO Sharon Cridlin sent her apologies for not attending the meeting, as she was engaged on police carnival duties elsewhere in the district. The current issues she has identified are:

Thefts from non dwellings

Criminal damage to and thefts from motor vehicles in Croft Way car park

Parking issues in Golden Hill and West Street.

The Parish Council agreed that its main concerns were to see a greater police presence in Wiveliscombe, including at Parish Council meetings, where no police officer or support officer has attended since June 2008.

8. FINANCE

Budget & Precept 2009/2010

The Parish Council received a statement showing receipts and payments to date compared with the budget for the current year, the actual figures for the previous year, the expected outturn figures for the current year and a draft budget for 2009/2010. The budget for 2009/2010 was adopted as presented and the precept for 2009/10 was set at £19,360. The clerk is to produce further budget monitoring reports on a quarterly basis.

Precept Grants 2009/2010

The Parish Council considered the four applications for grant received and approved the following grants:

10 Radio	£1,000
Wiveliscombe Community Centre	<u>352</u>
Total	<u>£1,352</u>

Accounts

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

The following payments were approved:-

Replicated Solutions (Website)	£205.63
C J Heard	60.00
J Ollerenshaw (Bulbs)	39.98
Clerk's salary & expenses	449.29
HMRC-PAYE	83.20
Clerk's expenses (computer/printer)	779.29
St Andrew's Church (Maint Grant)	925.00
Recreation Ground (Maint Grant)	2,301.00

The Parish Council agreed to transfer £7,000 from Reserve Account to Current Account.

9. WIVELISCOMBE AREA PARTNERSHIP REPORT

Brian Collingridge raised the issue of the future management of the proposed recreation area in the planned Style Road Lane development. It was agreed that Mr Collingridge should inform the developer that the Parish Council could be interested in managing the maintenance of the area on the the basis of the figures discussed with Taunton Deane Borough Council. Brian Collingridge is also to pursue with Grants for All the possibility of obtaining a grant for the provision of allotments

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Mary Whitmarsh reported that Taunton Deane Borough Council are reducing the size of the organisation by reducing the numbers of their own staff and setting up partnerships in areas such as customer services and waste collection.

It appears that the inner lining of the waste bin in The Square has disappeared. It was reported that it may have been removed by Taunton Deane Borough Council personnel. The clerk is to write to TDBC to seek its return.

11. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Caroline Smeaton reminded the Parish Council that her main purpose in attending Parish Council meetings is to be available to answer questions regarding County Council matters.

In reply to Parish Councillors' questions as to whether there was any prospect of the County Council recovering any of its Icelandic investments, Mrs Smeaton replied there was not much hope of this, but she would get the latest information for Parish Councillors. All County Council investments are published. In reply to a question from John Ollerenshaw about staffing in the Rights of Way department, Mrs Smeaton promised to investigate if Mr Ollerenshaw would send her details of his understanding of the situation.

12. MATTERS OF REPORT

Saturday Surgery Rota The Chairman urged Councillors to put their names down to be available on a Saturday morning at the Community Office. In reply to a question from John Ollerenshaw, it was confirmed that having one or two Parish Councillors at Wiveliscombe House between 10.30am and 11.30am is useful in a number of ways, the main aim being to give the public an opportunity to talk about issues which concern them in an informal manner which may not be possible at the regular Parish Council meetings.

Kingsmead School The Parish Council was delighted to hear of the success of the team of girls from Kingsmead School and Richard Huish College in the public speaking contest held recently at the House of Lords. Having previously been the winners in Somerset, and now in the country, the team will be representing Great Britain in the European competition in Brussels. The clerk is to write to the Headteacher to convey the Parish Council's hearty congratulations and their best wishes for the competition in Europe.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.