

WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of Winsford Parish Council Held on Monday 13 February 2023, at 19.00pm in Winsford Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors: Colin Wilkins (CW) – Chair, Kevin Connell (KC), Mel Mileham (MM), Mike Hillier (MH), Ian Brooks (IB), Sarah Little (SL), Bryany Neal (BN) and Clerk Jennifer Yates (JY).

Also in attendance: One member of the public

CW opened the meeting at 19.01pm.

AGENDA

60.1 Apologies for non-attendance - None

60.2 Declaration of Interests - None

60.3 To consider planning matters: Application No: 6/40/23/001

Location: Nethercote Cottage, Exford Road, Winsford, Somerset, TA24 7HZ

Proposal: Proposed two storey side extension

Councillors reviewed the plans. CW had conducted a site visit and fed back his views. It was felt that the proposed design did not fit with the current property, adding a wooden/tin extension to a stone building. There were concerns raised also that the proposed rooflines would not align. It was noted that no pre-planning appeared to have taken place, eg wildlife surveys which could influence the plans moving forward. It was also noted that the property is visible from nearby public rights of way and the surrounding countryside.

Following discussion the councillors agreed that they have no objection to there being an extension built onto the property, however they feel that the proposed construction materials are not in keeping with the existing structure, the rooflines do not align and that as the property is visible from public areas the extensions should be more in keeping with the original construction.

60.4. To discuss arrangements for the Coronation of King Charles – Details of the coronation have been released and activities take place on Saturday 6th – Monday 8th May. The best day for the village to meet and celebrate the occasion is Monday 8th. Following discussion it was proposed that a street party style of celebration would be the best option, with the aim to avoid using gazebos or tents unless the weather was poor. As there are no grants so far to help with costs it was proposed that items such as balloons and table cloths could be provided, but attendees should bring their own food and drink. Background music could be provided, KC mentioned that the BBC are producing a playlist for the occasion. There is no TV licence for the village hall so showing the coronation itself on Saturday 6th would not be possible without it.

It was agreed that CW would contact Sue Hayes about the proposals, and arrange a meeting for interested parishioners to discuss the proposals and firm up arrangements.

60.5 To discuss a grant application to the Environment Agency – MM has met with the local representative, and is also liaising between the environment agency and the flood group in order to move forward with emergency plans for the village. The Environment Agency is very short-staffed currently which is why they have been

unable to meet their statutory responsibilities. There is an opportunity to apply for a resilience grant for the village. This could be used to buy Hi-visibility clothing, rakes, shovels, storm lanterns etc. It could also be used for storage if that was needed, ideally that could be at the back of the toilet block and CW going to contact the land agent to see if that would be possible. MM, MH and IB will discuss what equipment is needed and MM will submit the application – 20% of the cost needs to be met by the village. In the event of an emergency volunteers would be needed, and while the Councillors are keen to take part they would expect homeowners to also play their part in protecting their own properties. It was noted that not all homeowners might realise their riparian ownership and responsibilities. Ideally the local villages would work in cooperation re this work and have a joint approach. KC noted the hard work and time spent on this subject by Mrs Mileham and thanked her for this, and all councillors agreed that her commitment has been recognised and valued.

60.6 Any Other Business;

- CW mentioned that SCC have now agreed to carry out the necessary repairs at Stone Cross. He also reported that the Halse Lane sign is being replaced in April.
- BN reported that the Winsford Recreation Association propose to turn the new parcel of land into a wildflower meadow. This idea was received warmly and supported by all. MM mentioned that Exmoor National Park may be able to provide the seed.
- JY has been in touch with Risdon Hosegood and is acting as liaison between them and Hunters for the Ann Le Bas bequest. It was agreed that the signatories would be BN and CW.
- JY reported that the Exmoor Society renewal notice has been received and the price is now £25 (up from £20). Payment was agreed by all, as continued membership was agreed at the last meeting.
- IB reported that the new Highways Steward is Tim Williams.

60.7 Date of Next meeting – Monday 27th March 2023 at 7.30 in Winsford Village Hall

There being no further business CW closed the meeting at 20.20pm.