

WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Winsford Parish Council Held on Monday 25 November 2019 at 7.30pm in Winsford Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors: Colin Wilkins (CW) – Chair, Sarah Little (SL), Patrick Watts-Mabbott (PWM), Mel Mileham (MM), Kevin Connell (KC), John Bray (JB), David Luscott (DL), Co Cllr Frances Nicholson (FN) (part of meeting), SWaT Cllr Steven Pugsley (SP) (part of meeting), PCSO Brian Stevens (BS), PCSO Jo Dawson (JD), Parish Clerk Nic Kemp (NK), and 3 members of the public

CW opened the meeting at 7.35pm

28.1 Public Question Time – None

28.2 Apologies for Absence – CW noted that Co Cllr Nicholson and SWaT Cllr Pugsley were not present

28.3 Declaration of Interests – PWM – item 10 – employee of Exmoor National Park

28.4 Agree to co-opt a member to the Council – Clerk had previously circulated applications from 2 residents and had received interest from third. KC prop (MM sec) David Luscott as member of Council. Unanimously agreed. DL signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office and CW welcomed him to the Council.

28.5 Minutes of the Meetings held 30 September 2019 and 21 October 2019, and any outstanding actions

CW signed the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meetings held on 30 September 2019, and 21 October 2019.

No outstanding actions not covered on the agenda

28.6 Reports from County and District Councillors – CW invited PCSOs to give report. BS reported in future they plan to attend Council meetings if available and on duty, and will send report to Clerk. Council to consider if wish attendance or prefer not. BS read report previously circulated by Clerk.

BS, JD and 3 members of the public left the meeting at 8.05pm

28.9 Financial Matters: Item taken out of order as SP and FN not present to comment on items 6, 7 and 8

28.9.a Financial Report – Clerk presented financial report and highlighted concern over funds.

Council to consider the need to draw on reserves, and to note the costs incurred by the Council on behalf of Winsford Charitable Trust. MM prop (SL sec) recovering the cost of Clerk's hours from Trust funds – unanimously agreed. It was agreed

- To pay the Clerk £306.01 salary (2 months salary (increment applied to second month) plus additional hours for Trust) and to reimburse the Clerk £38.13 expenses and £39.98 equipment
- To pay HMRC £6.60 tax due
- To re-imburse Jon Richardson – £71.86 for Yearly Renewal for website

SP and FN joined the meeting at 8.10pm

28.9.b Budget for 2020-21 – It was agreed that CW, KC and DL would draft budget with Clerk to present at next meeting.

28.9.c Exmoor Society Membership – MM prop (KC sec) joining for one year. Agreed 5 for, 0 against, 2 abstained.

28.6 Reports from County and District Councillors – CW returned to item 6 and welcomed FN and SP. SP reported Consultative meeting from 14 November is re-scheduled to 17 December due to snow. SP is in contact with residents over Halse Lane signs. FN reported Exford to Simonsbath road is now open, and a lessons learned session will take place regarding access to land within the closure, damage to nearby lanes, improvements required to signage and communications with Parish Councils. More communication from Highways is needed. Salt bags have been placed next to salt bins rather than bins being filled in some areas. CW confirmed salt bins in Winsford had been filled. More foster carers are required in Somerset. FN continues to follow up on Yellowcombe Leat and Furzehill Lane drains. **MM to contact former Clerk of Dulverton for information on drains in Halse**

Lane, and raise at Flood Group meeting. Clerk to continue to email Highways on issues and copy FN.

28.7 Highways matters – covered under item 6

28.8 Course of Action for Yellowcombe Leat – Covered under item 6

CW thanked FN and SP who left the meeting at 8.50pm

28.10 Planning Applications:

28.10.a GDO Torre Farm, Oldrey Lane, Winsford – Prior notification for the proposed erection of a 12m high telegraph pole together with associated equipment – It was agreed (6 for, 1 abstained) to submit no objection subject to Exmoor National Park Authority's approval of the application.

28.10.b HRN 19/05 – East Nurcott Farm, Winsford – Hedgerow Removal Notice for removal of two sections of hedgerow four metres each – It was agreed (6 for, 1 abstained) to submit no objection, which should not be taken as approval for any further development.

28.10.c Response for final draft of Rural Worker and Succession Farm Dwelling consultation – Clerk to submit response in consultation with KC.

28.10.d Other planning matters – MM noted that the appeal for Upcott track was currently undecided.

28.11 Managing and Funding Village Website – It was agreed that Council would take over cost of website, and will need volunteer to manage content of non-Council pages as current manager will step down on 31 March 2020. **CW to ask current manager for job description and advert to go in Across Exmoor.**

28.12 Disseminating advice from Exmoor National Park to village residents on dealing with Ash Dieback – MM to ask officer for article for noticeboard and website.

28.13 Support for village resident in complaint with water service provider – Resident has foul water draining onto land. **Clerk to write to South West Water requesting how they intend to address the issue.**

28.14 Requirements for Archive – Clerk and MM to produce a protocol for review at January meeting.

28.15 Provision of Storage unit – to be added to budget. Neds to be fireproof if storing paint

28.16 Update on Winsford Charitable Trust – Clerk reported awaiting response from legal advisor on lease, and solicitor is investigating land registry which will supersede conveyances.

28.17 Correspondence and Emails received – All emails circulated as received. CW read a letter from a resident regarding Furzehill Lane – to be discussed at January meeting.

28.18 Reports from committees and councillors, including:

28.18.a EA and WSFG Consultation – Report circulated.

28.18.b Exmoor Panel – Report circulated

28.18.c Exmoor Consultative Forum – meeting postponed to 17 December

28.18.d Empty Property – Clerk to confirm with Empty Homes Officer if any further action possible, and raise concern over caravan

28.19 Items for next agenda – Police attendance at future meetings, Archive, Ash Dieback, Furzehill Lane.

28.20 Date of Next meeting – Monday 27 January 2020 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the CW closed the meeting at 10.05pm

Date.....

Signed.....