

## WINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

### **Draft minutes of the ordinary meeting of Winsford Parish Council held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 19.00 pm in Winsford Village Hall**

Present: Councillors Colin Wilkins (CW) - Chair, Kevin Connell (KC), Ian Brooks (IB), Mike Hillier (MH), Sarah Little (SL), Sam Winzer (SW) and Bryany Neal (BN).

JY opened the meeting at 19.00

- 93.1 Election of Chairman:** Colin Wilkins was elected Chair. Proposed KC, seconded SL, approved by all. He took the lead of the meeting ongoing from this point.
- 93.2 Election of Vice-Chair:** Kevin Connell was elected Vice Chair. Proposed SL, seconded BN, approved by all.
- 93.3 Public Question Time:** None
- 93.4 Apologies for non-attendance:** Somerset Cllrs Steven Pugsley and Frances Nicholson
- 93.5 Declaration of Interests:** None
- 93.6 To agree the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 27th April, and any outstanding actions:** The minutes were approved as a true record, proposed KC, seconded by BN. Mr Thurlow will be meeting with CW on 11<sup>th</sup> June and they will discuss, among other things, any updates re the car park.
- 93.7 To agree dates and times of meetings for the next year:** Meeting dates were agreed as follows;  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April  
Annual Assembly Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May  
Please note these dates are subject to change if circumstances demand it.
- 93.8 Report from Somerset Councillors:** Unable to attend on this occasion.
- 93.9 To consider Highways Matters:** CW will follow up re the drains and gulleys which were missed near Little Ham in the recent works. IB recommended undergrowth will need to be cleared before work can take place. CW will mention to Kali Martin that the work at Halse Lane/Yellowcombe Leat seems incomplete and it would be beneficial to seal in the pipe with concrete to reduce leakage. Furthermore, carrying out that work at this time of year while it is mainly dry would be ideal. Thanks were given to IB for his work in checking all of the salt bags and bins and submitting this information to the highways team so they can plan accordingly. CW will report the pothole which has developed

at the Ash Lane side of the ford, and the nearby manhole cover which has sunk again. JY will report the potholes along the side of the carpark encroaching into the highway along the Exford Road.

**93.10 Review the Annual Assembly held May 14th 2026:** CW felt that the meeting had gone well with 30 attendees. All agreed that the Food Bank presentation was very helpful and informative. With regard to the village communications it was agreed that the Parish Council website moving to a gov.uk domain makes it more clear it is a 'council business' site, while the other village website run by Mr Pickard is more of a social, village information publicity and events site. We will continue to advertise anything which is requested of us as a public service.

**93.11 Finance: To receive financial report and agree to pay amounts due:** This was agreed, proposed SW, seconded MH. Payments were agreed for JY pay £342.70, Netwise website upgrade costs £34.79, JY Tax £61.40, Village Hall internet expenses contribution £250, Car Park maintenance £75, Annual Assembly expenses £64.77. MH raised the fact the water dropwort and lily clearance will be due before long and he will liaise with Mr Edwards about the best time to carry out this work.

**93.12 Update re the website and email upgrades:** The upgrade to the gov.uk domain and the associated email addresses is underway. The company require payment of the two invoices presented in 93.11 before completing the work by setting up the new email accounts for parish councillors.

**93.13 Winsford Charitable Trust;**

a. **Financial Report:** This was approved, proposed MH, seconded SW

b. **AOB:** The inspection is due to take place in the next three months, date to be confirmed. The rusty fence was raised as a potential concern. SW and SL have a contact who would be willing to do some work on the skittle alley and put down a concrete surface. It was agreed that it seems a good offer and to discuss this further at the next meeting. JY will review old minutes re why it had previously been agreed not to move forward with skittle alley improvements.

**93.14 Correspondence and Emails received:** CW mentioned that further communications have been received with concerns about the untidiness at Edbrooke. He has visited and viewed the site, and while some vehicles have been removed others may be parked in the communal parking spaces. He will request Magna inspect the site. He has also been communicating with the Somerset Council team re school transport to Wiveliscombe again on behalf of a local family.

**93.15 Reports from Councillors on meetings attended:** MH attended the recent village hall meeting. A key for use in a parish emergency was agreed and provided which MH, Sue Hayes and CW can access should a village emergency take place. The village hall team are also moving forward with declaring the hall as a registered place of safety for the parish. MH also suggested that the council continues to hold a small amount from the Ann Le Bas fund and would be willing to use this to frame the pictures which were donated to the hall. Mrs Hayes will follow up on this with MH. A litter pick was suggested and MH will follow up on this. BN will be attending a Recreation

Association meeting soon, and CW and/or JY will be attending the upcoming LCN meeting.

**93.16 Any Other Business;** BN has been researching options for the replacement and upgrade of the defibrillator cabinet. Quotes range from £500-£600 plus the cost of an electrician to install it and this was budgeted for this year. Discussion took place about replacing the machine as well, but as it is outside the agreed budget it was agreed to defer that to next year. This will be finalised at the next meeting.

**93.17 Items for Next Agenda:** The skittle alley, defibrillator cabinet and annual financial return.

**93.18 Date of Next meeting:** Monday 29th June

There being no further business CW closed the meeting at 20.35.