

WINSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Winshill Parish Council held at Bend Oak Junior School, Winshill on Thursday, 21 July 2005.

Present:

Councillors D F Fletcher (Chairman), D Bartram, M Fletcher, M Gale, J Muir, J Scotland and A White.

Also present:

Borough Councillor P A Hancox and Mr S Taylor (Clerk).

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor F Bartram due to a family bereavement, Councillor M Costelloe due to illness, Councillor R Patel due to illness and Councillor P Rose who had to attend another meeting.

195/05 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Muir declared an interest with regard to agenda item 8: Planning Applications.

196/05 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

197/05 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd June 2005 were approved and signed as a correct record with the addition that Councillor A White declared an interest on planning application OU/13124/009 under minute no.186/05.

198/05 **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Muir referred to an e-mail he had received regarding the introduction of a standing order to allow the Chairman to stand for a maximum 3year term to avoid the Chairmanship becoming stale. This was in response to an inquiry made by him on behalf of the Parish Council and it was agreed that the issue should be put on the agenda of the September meeting.

199/05 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Councillor Muir reported on recent corporate policy recommendations regarding climate change and a requirement to introduce 19 wind turbines across the county to meet the 5% renewable energy target.

Mention was made of the Health Scrutiny and the achievements of some of the District Councils, particularly Tamworth and Lichfield.

Finally he informed members of a letter he had received from the Director of Development Services on proposals to undertake highway improvements at the Swan Junction, Bargates, and Guild street/ Horninglow Street. Members were concerned that neither the Borough Councillors nor the Parish Council was to be consulted. Councillor Muir suggested that he circulate the letter to enable members of the Parish Council to respond through him.

200/05 REPORTS OF BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Councillors Hancox and White referred to the Borough Council proposals for improving Wheatley Lane Recreation Ground including the play equipment. They agreed to report on the progress.

201/05 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman reported details of the following correspondence:

- a) SCC – Sustainable Staffordshire Awards 2005;
- b) SCC – Staffordshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework;
- c) ESBC – Agenda and notes for special planning applications committee held at Burton Town Hall at 1530 on Monday 4th July 2005;
- d) ESBC – Parish Council’s Forum Minutes;
- e) ESBC – Agenda and notes for planning applications committee held at Burton Town Hall at 1400 on Monday 18th July 2005;
- f) DCC–Derbyshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework;
- g) ESBC–Notice of Meeting of Watervoice Central for Severn Trent Region;
- h) ESBC – Council Link PR for insertion in Parish Newsletter;
- i) ESBC – Copy of the seventh Forward Plan giving information on Key Executive Decisions likely to be made over the next four month period;
- j) SPCA–Information on Larger Local Councils.

With regard to the request of the Assistant Chief Executive (Community Affairs) at the Parish Council’s Forum for a copy of Parish Council Plans, it was agreed that Winhill was still in it’s infancy and the development of a Parish Plan be made an agenda item for the next meeting.

202/05 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Chairman reported on the following:

- a) Applications that have been decided under delegated powers;
- b) Applications for which time to respond has now passed;
- c) Applications to which we can respond.

Concerns of highway safety close to a busy junction and shops on roads that were already traffic calmed were raised with regard to OU/16144/002- Outline application to develop land for residential purposes-Former Winhill Infants School. The Chairman and Councillor Scotland declared an interest and took no further part in the discussions.

Resolved:

To write to the planning authority regarding OU/16144/002 raising concerns with regard to the future accesses and highway safety - being situated close to a busy junction and shops on roads that were already traffic calmed - in accordance with planning policy T3.

203/05 **GRANT AID APPLICATIONS**

Councillors Gale, and Scotland reported back on the appraisal done by the Grant Aid Working Group on the application made by the 22nd Burton St. Marks Scout Group for improvements to their premises.

The Working Group had met the leaders and was impressed with the work the group did and the involvement of some 60 children from the area of the Parish. Remedial works to the premises were urgently required and it was suggested that the first priority was for a new entrance door to make the building secure.

Resolved:

To make an initial grant of £1000 to the 22nd Burton St. Marks Scout Group for improvements to the entrance doorway to their premises.

204/05 **CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF OPEN SPACES AND PLAY AREAS TO THE PARISH**

The Clerk read out an e-mail he had received from the Borough Council Parks and Countryside Manager with regard to the further information he promised to send in due course.

205/05 **PROPOSAL FOR RESIDENTS HOME SUPPORT SCHEME - PROGRESS REPORT**

The response to the discussion paper from the Staffordshire Parish Councils Association was discussed. This gave advice on the legal position of implementing such a scheme. It was agreed that the Parish Council continue to proceed with the proposals and approach both Orbit and Age Concern about their possible involvement in such a scheme. Meanwhile it was suggested that further advice be sought from the National Association of Local Councils.

206/05 **NEWSLETTER**

The Newsletter was almost ready and would be distributed by the end of July at shops, pubs, churches, the local area office and the health centre.

207/05 **FINANCE**

Members were presented with the financial position at 21st July 2005 together with the revised budget for 2005/2006.

Members also looked at the Statement of Assurance that had to be completed and returned to the Audit Commission for the year ended 31 March 2005.

The Chairman mentioned the need to purchase a container to store the Lengthman's equipment in to be sited on the allotments. The estimated cost was £1200.

Resolved:

- ❑ That the revised budget for 2005/2006 be approved.
- ❑ That the Statement of Assurance for year ended 31st March 2005 be approved and include any issues raised by the Internal Auditor.
- ❑ That a container to securely store the Lengthman's equipment be purchased.

208/05 **REPORT ON ACCOUNTS PAID**

| | | | Cheque No. |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Mr S Taylor | 1 st Quarter Expenses | £141.44 | 35 |
| Mr S Stone | Mileage/ Ins. Claim | £57.93 | 36 |
| Bend Oak School | Hire of Meeting Room | £210.00 | 37 |
| West Mercia Supplies | Lengthsman's Equip. | £18.00 | 38 |
| ESBC | Salaries/Admin - June | £1094.94 | 39 |

Resolved:

That payment of the above accounts are confirmed.

209/05 **CLERK AND MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The Chairman reported on the progress made with regards the Parish Notice Board and the locating of a container on the allotments for storing the Lengthsman's equipment.

The Borough Council will erect the Notice Board in the near future, whilst the allotment association had agreed to the siting of a storage container in return for their entrance being kept tidy.

The Chairman and the Clerk had made a visit around the Parish with the Lengthsman and had identified many unkempt areas that could be improved once the necessary tools have been purchased.

210/05 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:

That the next Meeting be held on Thursday 22nd September 2005 at 7.30 pm.

Chairman