

WINSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Winsham Parish Council held in the Jubilee Hall on 25th November, 1974 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Miss B.M. Harding (Chairman), R.J. Ashman, S.G. Barnham, Rev. B.L. Bateson, Maj. K.I. Cameron, F.W.D. Withers, Miss M. A. Wren. K.G. Wetherall (District Councillor), R.M. Smart (Parish Clerk).

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from C.W. Hawker and N.M. Hebditch.

128 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:

RESOLVED to delete that part of minute 121 referring to the Council's apparent objection to the proposed bungalow at Whatley (Mr. Grabham).

129 Matters Arising

Pool's Lane: With reference to Minute No. 125 it was reported that the obstructions had not been removed and were still causing a nuisance. RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to Mr. Hudd, advising that the matter would be reported to the Police if the obstruction were not removed.

Colham Lane: With reference to Minute No. 125, the Clerk reported that he had received an acknowledgement from the County Divisional Surveyor.

130 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that he had written to Mr. Phillips, requesting that any Parish records should be handed over.

131 Footpath Survey

Mr. Barnham agreed to undertake a survey and update the previous survey carried out by the Ramblers Association, with a view to long term Improvement. Urgent matters to be reported by the Clerk to the Highways Authority, the following items being raised: Western Way to the Cemetery (Balsam), Pool's Lane to the Cemetery, Court Street to Fore Street (Stile).

132 Footpath Maintenance Scheme

The Clerk reported on a scheme administered by the District Council by which the Council could receive a grant of £10 per annum towards the cost of employing local casual labour. RESOLVED not to participate in the scheme.

133 Somerset Playing Fields Ass.

The Clerk reported on questionnaire on playing field facilities. Agreed that these were adequate.

134 Septic Tank Emptying

Notice had been received from the District Council stating that a free service would be provided until 31st March 1975. Agreed that the notice should be displayed on notice board.

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135 Burial Fees

Deferred until the next meeting.

136 Planning Applications

Lue Farm: Permission has been granted for agricultural bungalow. Barn at Court Street: Application for change of use to builder's workshop and store. RESOLVED that Council should raise no objection to temporary permission, provided that no electrical interference is created by machinery. The Clerk reported on correspondence with the Chief Planning Officer concerning the handling of planning applications. Recommended that the Clerk should ask for full details on receipt of notification and refer to Council's Planning Committee (The Chairman, Mr. Withers and Miss Wren). The Planning Committee's observations should be sent to the District Council within 14 days, the Committee to report to the next Parish Council Meeting.

137 Churchyard and Cemetery Maintenance

Mr. Withers reported on a meeting of the 'maintenance' committee with Mr. Brown Amenities Officer of Y.D.C. The District Council would be carrying out a survey and submitting an estimate based on 23 cuts year, including weed killing etc.

The Chairman reported that Mr. Hawker had received an estimate of £30 for felling two trees in the cemetery.

As the removal of some tombstones in the churchyard would make maintenance cheaper, it was RESOLVED to ask the P.C.C. for their views on the matter. It was suggested that responsibility for the churchyard might be passed to the District Council. Rev. Bateson and the Clerk to investigate the matter further.

138 Recreation Ground Maintenance

The Chairman reported on further discussions with Mr. Brown. It was suggested that all equipment should be inspected regularly, that the 'shunter' was not recommended for safety reasons and that any new equipment, which might be needed, could be ordered through the District Council in January.

The Clerk reported on D.C. Maintenance Grants amounting to 50% of expenditure. Agreed to apply for current year, and for next year.

139 Tree opposite Davies Close

It was reported that a large tree on land owned by Mr. Hammett was giving concern to nearby residents. The District Council's expert would survey this - the Clerk to ask Mr. Hammett for permission.

140 Insurance

It was thought that the Council's Public Liability Insurance might not be adequate. The Clerk to investigate.

141 Precept

The Clerk reported that most of the monies on deposit had been transferred to current account to meet recent cheques, but there had been no precept yet this year. RESOLVED to precept to the D.C. for £250, due for 1974-75.

142 Bank Mandate

In order to bring the bank's records up to date, it was RESOLVED that any three Councillors should sign cheques.

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143 Clerks Emoluments

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should receive emoluments and expenses of £100 p. a., calculated as recommended in Circular No. 322 of the Nat. Ass. of Local Councils.

144 Estimates 1975-76

Expenses were estimated as follows (after allowing for grants):

General	£150
Recreation	£ 50
Burial Acts	£250

It was therefore RESOLVED to advise the D.C. that the total sums required under precept for 1975-76 would be £450.

145 Capital Grants for Recreational Facilities

The Clerk reported that the D.C. would consider requests for assistance towards the cost of providing or improving recreational facilities. Applications for 1975-76 had to be made by 31. 12.74. In view of Minute No. 138, it was felt that this could be useful, but that there was insufficient time to make application for 1975-76.

146 Closure of Winsham Bridge

The Dorset C.C. had advised that Winsham Bridge would be closed for repairs for approximately 5 weeks from December 2nd, the notice to be displayed on notice board.

147 Course for Parish Clerks

The Clerk had attended this course arranged by the Somerset Ass. of Local Councils and found it very useful. Follow-up courses were planned for next year.

148 Accounts

RESOLVED to authorise payment of the following accounts:

Somerset C.C.	Course for Parish Clerks	£21.60
Ray Ashman	Petrol for Mower	£2.15
Norwich Union	Employer's Liability Insurance	£2.50

149 Minutes

The Clerk reported that the Minute Book was now full. RESOLVED that in future the minutes should be typed and circulated to members of the Council and that a loose leaf binder be purchased for keeping a copy of the minutes, each sheet to be signed and initialled by the chairman after approval.

150 Next Meeting

It was agreed that meetings should normally be held once a month. The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday, 13th January 1975 at 7.45 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall.

*B. W. Harding*  
(Chairman)