

WINCANTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 31st OCTOBER 2016 IN THE TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Councillors Ellard (Chairman), Tudgay (Deputy Chairman), Hinks, Cook, Rodgers, Old, D Smith, Hearne and Vagg.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident stated he had lived in Wincanton for 1 year and thought his council tax is too high. He questioned Council on how his £121 a year is spent. He stated Wincanton is in the top 5 or 6 most expensive in South Somerset. He also questioned the amount in the precept for salaries. He lives in a private un-adopted estate so does not receive any benefits from the Town Council. He thought the Town looks scruffy with a derelict building and overflowing bins. The Chairman invited the resident to contact him to meet and discuss his concerns further.

5881 APOLOGIES

Councillors Wray, Newman and Hibberd

5882 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5883 POLICE REPORT

The Clerk read out the Police report which included 5 criminal damage, 1 dwelling burglary, 2 fraud and forgery, 3 sexual offences, 1 theft from motor vehicle and 13 violence against person. What appeared to be a petrol bomb was thrown outside a property in Munday's Mead causing minor damage to a fascia and guttering. Two people were arrested and are helping the Police with their enquiry. Two counterfeit £20 notes were handed in at the Post Office recently. They have been passed to the Fraud Unit for investigation.

5884 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 26th SEPTEMBER & 10th OCTOBER 2016

26th September 2016 (Minutes 5852-5864). On a proposal from Councillor Vagg, seconded by Councillor Hinks, the Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman. Councillor Old abstained from voting.
 10th October 2016 (Minutes 5865-5870). On a proposal from Councillor Rodgers, seconded by Councillor Hearne, the Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5885 REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Councillor Ellard presented and signed the Minutes of the Open Spaces committee meeting held 10th October 2016 (Minutes 5871-5880). On a proposal from Councillor Tudgay, seconded by Councillor Cook, the Minutes were adopted by Council.

5886 PLANNING:

Applications recommended for approval

16/04582/S73	S73 application to allow a change in materials of fence panels approved at 16/03308/FUL, Penn Hill House, 1a Penn View. Vote: Unanimous
16/04215/AG1	Notification of intent to erect an agricultural building for the storage of fodder and machinery, Horwood Land Os 2600, Moor Lane. Vote: Unanimous
16/04256/FUL	Erection of timber stables, tack room and open fronted hay store, Verrington Farm, Verrington Lane. Vote: Unanimous
16/04362/FUL	Proposed ground floor kitchen/utility porch extension, Grove Barn, Moor Lane. Vote: Unanimous

Applications approved by South Somerset District & County Council

16/03821/FUL	Erect 2 steel portal framed buildings for storage. Abpac House, Wessex Way
16/04067/ADV	The display of an internal illuminated free standing totem sign. Lidl Store, Southgate Road
16/02971/S73	S73 application to vary conditions 1 and 4 of approval 11/03159/FUL to allow for an increase in permitted retail sales area. Boots Pharmacy, Dykes Way

Application refused by South Somerset District Council

16/03458/OUT	The erection of a bungalow, Land adjoining Westbrook, The Batch
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5887 VERBAL REPORTS AND FEEDBACK

County Councillor Groskop

Councillor Groskop thanked Councillors who attended the recent Area East meeting at Churchfields to support the planning application for the school extension. SCC will now only re-fill grit bins by request. The main complaints Councillor Groskop has received are lack of investment in the Town and withdrawing funding for the car parks. Councillor Cook thanked Councillor Groskop for the County Council awards nomination for CATCH.

District Councillor Winder

Councillor Winder also thanked Councillors who attended the Area East meeting. He talked about the Neighbourhood Plan and the planned consultation. SSDC look at match funding from the Town Council before awarding grants. There is a consultation for the Historic Environment Strategy, Councillor Winder asked the Council to take a look. SSDC has revised the staffing arrangement and now have a Deputy Chief Executive.

Chairman

The Chairman has been out of the Country the past 2 weeks. However, he did attend a meeting about the Health & Wellbeing in the Town.

Council representatives to outside bodies

Councillor Hinks attended a Museum meeting. They are looking for bigger premises.

Councillor Rodgers received 1500 crocus bulbs from the Rotary club and asked Councillors to help him plant them around the Town.

5888 CHEQUE LIST

On a proposal by Councillor Ellard, seconded by Councillor Hearne, the cheques were approved and Councillors Ellard and Hinks were nominated to sign cheques on Tuesday 1st November 2016.

The Clerk read out the comments from the external auditors regarding the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2016. Council noted the comments and the Clerk will action.

Council noted the quarterly accounts. Councillor Old asked what the Mayor's fund had been used for. The Clerk advised her it had been used for the Freedom of the Town day.

5889 APPOINT AUDITOR

On a proposal by Councillor Ellard, seconded by Councillor Vagg, Council resolved to appoint Mrs Penny Ashton as the Internal Auditor for the financial year 2016/2017.

5890 MEETING DATES

With an amendment for March 2017, Council approved the meeting dates for 2017.

5891 PRECEPT MEETING

Council agreed to discuss the precept for 2017/18 at the next Full Council meeting.

5892 YOUTH PROVISION

Council agreed to appoint a working group to look at Youth Provision in the Town. Councillors Hearne, Vagg and D Smith volunteered.

5893 CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Email from Councillor Old regarding speed watch
- b. Somerset Community Justice Partnership request for funding
- c. Email from SSDC regarding match funding for grant requests

5894 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None.

The meeting ended at 8:10 pm

Signed

Dated: 28th November 2016