

ODCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2009 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ODCOMBE (7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.)

PRESENT:

Mr B Savill-Daw (Chairman)
Mr C Francis
Mr A Hiscock
Mr B Spearing

Mrs B Langdon (Vice-Chairman)
Mr N Griffiths
Mrs D Rennie

136 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE REASONS

Apologies for absence by reason of ill-health were received from Mr West and Mrs West, which were accepted and approved.

137. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARISH COUNCILS (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007

Mr Francis declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda 10(b), being Treasurer of Odcombe Football Club.

138. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16TH NOVEMBER 2009

It was RESOLVED to approval the minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2009.

140. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

141. REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR - None

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Mrs Boucher gave an update on the work of the District Council.

PARISH COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE ATTENDED MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS SINCE THE LAST MEETING – Mr Savill-Daw and Mr Griffiths gave a verbal report on the SSDC Cluster Workshops and also the SSDC Community Forum.

142. CLERK'S REPORT [MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES)

(a) SSDC Ethical Standards Self Assessment Survey – members were reminded that the survey forms given to each Councillor last month should be returned by 31st January 2010.

(b) It was NOTED that a letter of thanks had been received from the South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau.

(c) It was NOTED that the Clerk would be on leave from 23rd December and that the office re-opens on 4th January 2010.

(d) It was NOTED that the Clerk had now received some documentation from the previous Clerk but the minutes prior to the appointment of Mr Dobbs were not included.

143. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) SSDC –Parish Environmental Warden - it was agreed that the Clerk would act as the Parish Environmental Warden.

(b) Yarlinton Housing Group Neighbourhood Plan.

(c) SALC - items of interest, circulated electronically prior to the meeting - NOTED.

(d) SCC - Letter regarding budget setting, circulated electronically prior to the meeting – NOTED.

(e) Brympton Parish Council – members noted that a performance of “Great Expectations” will be given on Sunday, 11th July 2010 in the gardens of Brympton House.

(f) EDF Energy – change to price structure. It was NOTED that EDF Energy had advised that they have implemented a new pricing structure and within the next week will advise the Parish Council whether a cheaper price can be offered.

(g) SRYP - Somerset Rural Youth Project's Youth work Report - NOTED.

(h) SSDC – It was NOTED that from 1st April 2010 SCC will resume responsibility for all Rights of Way maintenance.

(i) SSDC – Flooding workshop to be held on Thursday 20th January at the Council offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil – NOTED.

(j) SSDC – it was NOTED that SSDC had agreed to explore joint working arrangements with East Devon District Council.

144. PLANNING

(a) DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

09/03724/FUL – the erection of a retaining wall, excavation to form a vehicle lay-by and other associated works (revised application) GR 350865/115931

50 Boundhay, Lower Odcombe

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

(b) PLANNING UPDATES

(i) Local Development Framework – information from Mr Seib, SSDC Portfolio Holder for Planning Economic Development and Transport regarding eco-towns, was NOTED.

(ii) SSDC, Reduction in the threshold for affordable housing provision - NOTED.

145. PRECEPT 2010-2011

Following discussion at the last meeting, footpath maintenance provision had been removed from the proposed budget for 2010-2011. The sum of £500, held in the budget for 2009-2010 footpath maintenance, had been moved to the general reserve. Mr Francis proposed and it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve a precept of £15,458 for the year 2010-2011. It was agreed that provision of a street light on Lower Odcombe, close to Carlton House, would be considered for the year 2011-2012.

146. RECREATION GROUND

(a) PLAYGROUND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr Griffiths advised that the working party should be formed after the Christmas holidays and that a report would be made to the next meeting.

Mr Francis left the meeting.

(b) ODCOMBE FOOTBALL CLUB

It was NOTED that, following consultation with the Chairman, the Clerk ordered a cut of the football pitch at the request of Odcombe Football Club. It was NOTED that the invoice would be sent direct to the Football Club.

Mr Francis returned to the meeting.

(c) YOUTH SHELTER

It was NOTED that Councillor Bakewell had confirmed that she has authorized expenditure of £2000 towards a youth shelter for the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek grants from SSDC and the Avon & Somerset Police Trust.

147. PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

It was agreed to proceed with a photographic competition and members agreed the proposed rules as circulated with the agenda. It was agreed to ask Mr Brian Tilzey to act as a judge, together with Mr Savill-Daw and Mr Young. It was agreed that the results should be announced at the Odcombe summer fete. Prizes would be purchased by the Chairman using the Chairman's Fund.

148. GRANT APPLICATION

A request received from West Coker Brownies, for a donation towards the cost of sending one Brownie to a National Adventure Holiday Weekend in March 2010, was discussed. It was AGREED that a donation could not be given.

149. REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT AND FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members reviewed the current risk and financial risk assessments and agreed no amendments were necessary.

150. CRIME, DISORDER AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

(a) The initial Speed Watch meeting was held on Thursday 26 November and attended by 9 people. It was NOTED that Mr Hiscock will act as the Communicator for the group and Mrs Rennie will act as Co-ordinator. Training will take place at Yeovil Police Station on 23rd January 2010.

151. HIGHWAY MATTERS

(a) East Chinnock Traffic Action Group – a letter received from the Group was discussed. Members agreed that they would support the Group provided that any traffic calming should be from Chinnock Hollow to the Houndstone Roundabout. It was further agreed that the Action Group would be asked to invite Councillors to their next meeting..

(b) Parking at Donne Lane – A site meeting was held on 9th December, attended by PC Pitman, Mr C Fletcher (County Highways) and Councillors. It had been agreed that County Highways would arrange for debris to be cleared from the road, the junction white lines repainted, a central carriageway white line to separate the two sides of the carriageway on the bend at the junction, and a "not suitable for motor vehicles" sign put at the head of the junction of Cherry Lane with Dray Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would request an update from Mr Fletcher before the next meeting.

(c) Concerns were raised regarding inconsiderate parking at Cherry Lane and the Police would be asked to monitor this. (d) County Highways had confirmed that the £100 contribution towards the speed indicator device (SID) will enable a further three installations at the east bound location at Odcombe over the coming year (weeks beginning 8 February 2010; 7 June 2010; and the 4 October 2010). Further information was given on the expansion of the number of SIDs and vehicle counter classifiers within the county.

(e) Members were reminded that faulty street lights may be reported direct on 08456010939 and highway defects on 08453459155. These faults may also be reported on-line on the County Council web site.

152. SUBSCRIPTION

Using its powers under the Local Government Act 1972 s 143(1)(b), Mrs Rennie proposed and it was RESOLVED to approve expenditure of one third of the cost of the Clerk's subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks and the Institute of Local Council Management (ILCM), at a cost of £67. It was NOTED that membership of the Institute ensures that the Clerk must carry out continuous professional development, which must be reported to and accepted by the Institute.

153. FINANCE

(a) The bank reconciliation statement as at 30th November 2009 was NOTED and APPROVED.

(b) Members NOTED that the sum of £32.70 was paid by direct debit on 16th November to EDF Energy for the unmetered electricity supply.

(c) It was RESOLVED to approve the following schedule of payments:

Mr B Savill-Daw, Chairman's Fund	25.00	Cheque no. 058
SLCC, Clerk's subscriptions	67.00	" " 059
Odcombe Village Hall, meeting expenses	48.00	" " 060
Mrs E M James – salary £218.55		
- expenses 10.60	229.15	" " 061
HMRC – Clerk's PAYE	163.20	" " 062

154. COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME – SUCH MATTERS ARE FOR NOTING OR DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING

None

155. TO BRING FORWARD ANY MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Recreation Ground Working Party

156. ITEMS FOR DISTRIBUTION

Items were distributed as listed on the agenda.

157. NEXT MEETING

It was NOTED that the next meeting will be held on 18th January 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall.