

WINSTER ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held by Winster Parish Council at the Burton Institute, Winster on 17 May 2006

Present	Parish Councillor Brian Long in the chair and Parish Councillors Rob Greatorex, Geoff Lester, Kevin Markham, Frank Mason, Allan Stone and Judy Williams.
In attendance	Eight members of the public, PCs Dave Rowbotham and Sandra Wetton, District Councillor John Moseley and Veronica Kemble, Clerk.
Apologies	Parish Councillors Don Shimwell and Allan Stone and 3 residents.
PM1/06 Minutes	Resolved That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25 May 2005 be confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.
PM2/06 Matters arising	PM3/05 Noticeboard The new noticeboard is nearly complete and will be installed in same location as the existing board. The old board will need renovating before being installed in its new location.. DCC and the Village Shop are happy with it being located at the top of Woodhouse Lane. PM4/05 Wall on Wyntor Avenue This is still outstanding. The quotes received were prohibitive and a volunteer has come forward but has not yet done the work. Resolved To note the matters arising.
PM3/06 Chair's report	The Chair circulated a detailed report on the activities and projects undertaken by the Parish Council during the previous financial year. A resident commented that the equipment used by the contractors cleaning the gennels is not felt to be appropriate for the job. The Parish Council's response to consultations was questioned and explained. Peak Park Parishes' Forum also gives detailed responses to consultations. It is often not possible to make the public aware of consultations due to tight timescales. Resolved To note the above report and comment.
PM04/06 Financial report	The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer gave details of the Parish Council's receipts and payments for the financial year ending 31 March 2006. The accounts are unaudited. The Clerk believed that in her opinion the end of year balance was a sensible and healthy one, and allowed scope for unforeseen expenditure. The negative balance in the current account relates to internal account transfer delays over the year end. The DDDC grounds maintenance invoice has only recently been paid for the previous financial year. Two additional grass cuts have been funded for Leacroft Green and the 8 cuts will be more evenly spread out throughout the season. Resolved To note the report.
PM5/06 Neighbourhood Watch report	Jack Hession presented his report which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The last Neighbourhood Watch/village organisation meeting was not well attended• Articles are placed in the Village Magazine which is now delivered to all houses in the village• It is important for people to report incidents at the time as mentioning them in passing a week later means that the information cannot be actioned. Names should be given whenever possible to enable the Police to gather evidence

**PM5/06
Neighbourhood
Watch report
continued**

- The main incidents in the village continue to be the antisocial behaviour of some young people, mainly from five or six families living in the village
- The mobile police station is not well attended
- Winster has a higher than average percentage of people aged 65 or over and the age profile is going up and a number of elderly residents are being subjected to antisocial behaviour, especially intimidation, and there is a concern for the effects of this, particularly on their health

Resolved To note the report given.

**PM6/06 Traffic
issues**

Speeding continues to be a problem. The Police have enforcement levels which depend on things like the number of accidents. Local officers may use speed guns when available. Residents should write to the Safety Camera Partnership to voice concerns about speeding. It is believed that most offenders are residents of Winster or local villages who know the roads well and flashing lights are unlikely to deter them. Winster is used as a rat run and this is likely to get worse once the new houses are built in Matlock

The Parish Council succeeded in getting DCC's recommendations to change the weight limits on East Bank and West Bank to 7.5 tonnes withdrawn, and a site meeting took place recently with the Highways Department at DCC to discuss this further. Despite the notices in the press, the Post Office and on the Banks, no residents sent representations which is disappointing. Due to the short time limits this could not be advertised in the Village Magazine. The Parish Council feels that the special circumstances on the Banks make them suitable for a 3 tonne limit. The public were asked to write to DCC with representations on this.

Wensley Road continues to cause concern. The new white lining by the School does not appear to be slowing traffic and three wooden posts will be installed on the footway to stop vehicles mounting the pavement. The drainage problems are unlikely to be resolved in the short term due to the high costs involved.

Bad parking on West Bank and Main Street was also raised. This causes grid lock and also blind spots. The Parish Council and Police are not complacent about this problem, but it is difficult to overcome. The main offenders are residents of Winster.

Resolved To note the matters raised.

**PM7/06
Vandalism, fly
tipping and
antisocial
behaviour**

The public and Police made the following comments:

- There have been 10 reported crimes since 1 January 2006 including burglary, assault, minor damage and theft although several more incidents have not been reported
- There is only one ASBO in force in the Bakewell Division and no young people in Winster are close to receiving ASBOs
- The Police have contacted the parents of certain young people who have harassed people in Winster. Special Constables have been assigned to Winster to try to alleviate the current problems
- The recent Bank Holiday weekend was particularly bad for antisocial and criminal activity in the village
- There is no youth club or other facilities for the young people in Winster. It is felt that these people should be asked what they would like rather than adults providing facilities for them
- A small minority of young people have little respect for people and property and know they can get away with poor behaviour

**PM7/06
Vandalism, fly
tipping and
antisocial
behaviour
continued**

- Some sheep were chased so they ran into an electric fence. This was reported to the police and offenders named but the owner of the sheep has decided not to prosecute
- Stone walls in the village have been regularly damaged
- It is felt that if the few trouble makers can be dealt with, the rest of the young people will have a chance to grow up
- Dales Housing does not follow its own tenancy agreements. There are families with more than one dog, untidy gardens, parking on the grass verges which are all in breach of the tenancy agreements but Dales Housing will not act. It is felt that Dales Housing could use its own antisocial behaviour policy as a threat to these families. Dales Housing should be asked to talk to the Parish Council about this

Resolved To note the matters raised.

**PM8/06
Streetlights**

A resident complained about the number of streetlights in Winster and their impact on the environment and light pollution. All potential sites for new streetlights were advertised in the Parish Magazine for comments from residents and were checked for suitability by DCC. The light at Bank Top car park was installed by DCC as a safety measure to encourage people to use the car park and to facilitate the 30MPH speed limit signs being moved further out of the village. The Clerk receives complaints from residents whenever a street light is not working. It was generally felt that people, especially the elderly, feel safer walking in the village at night when there are street lights. Mention was made of having timers on lights and this will be investigated. The Parish Council puts aside an amount of money each year so it can consider one new streetlight every three or four years.

A proposal was put forward that the Parish Council should continue to carry out an audit/survey before any further streetlights are installed and this was carried by 7:3.

Resolved To note the matters raised.

**PM9/06
Bonfires**

Bonfires cause dangerous dioxins and are unpleasant to neighbours and one resident suggested that a policy should be issued to prevent people having bonfires other than on one day each month. This was considered to be draconian and an alternative would be for the Parish Council to issue a “code of conduct” on the use of bonfires.

Resolved To note the matters raised and prepare a code of conduct.

**PM10/06 Bus
service**

Concern was raised that the bus service is not well used but is an important service to the village. About half of the Parish Council regularly use buses. This needs to be monitored to ensure that Winster does not lose its bus service when DCC reviews its subsidies.

Resolved To note the matters raised.

**PM11/06
Matters raised**

A request was received for a litter pick.

A dog bin is still needed between the Bowling Green and the public toilets.

The Chair expressed disappointment at the small turnout for this meeting and thanked those who did attend.

Resolved To note the matters raised.
