

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 8 JANUARY 2003

COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

Present: Coun. Marshall (Chairman), Anderdon, Bulgin*, House, Jeiks, Lowe, Mullins, Small and Walker. *District Councillors

Coun. Walker was welcomed by the Chairman, she has already signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Member's Interests

Apologies: Coun. Rexworthy, Shattock and Cooper*

01/03.01

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2002, having been circulated, were taken as read and following an amendment to 12/02.14 were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

01/03.02

CLERK'S REPORT

POLICE SURGERY - It is hoped to recommence the monthly Police Surgery and it had been suggested by PC 2156 Marilyn Simmons that this would be on the last Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm. However the committee room is not available, as there is a regular booking at that time. The only available time on that day being from 5.30 - 6.30 pm. The clerk will contact PC Simmons.

The Clerk arrived at 7.35 pm

SOMERSET LOCAL ACCESS FORUM - This is being set up by the SCC to provide an opportunity for local people to provide views and ideas on the recreational potential of the countryside. Applications forms to be considered for the forum are available from the Rights of Way Group at County Hall. This notice will be placed on the Notice Board.

FLOOD WARDEN SCHEMES - The Flood Warning Officer has written to the volunteers to suggest a possible meeting with the Parish Council to explain how the scheme operates and how the Environment Agency can support such a scheme. The EA will be invited to the next PC meeting.

PETSAFE SCHEME - The RSPCA at West Hatch manage a scheme called PetSafe which offers temporary shelter to pets belonging to women and families fleeing domestic violence. The RSPCA are now urgently in need of more fosterers to help with the project, particularly people with the space and time to offer a temporary home to a dog. Anyone interested should

contact Jonathan Silk on 01392 255114 . This scheme is backed by Taunton Deane.

This notice will be placed on the notice board.

CLERKS TRAINING COURSES - These will be held in Ruishton in January and February, for new clerks.

RACIAL EQUALITY STATEMENT - This will be posted on our notice boards.

01/03.03

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT - TDBC Environment Officer has agreed to discuss the matter with the Parish Council at a later date. The Clerk will write suggesting that this should be in 3-4 months time.

RURAL YOUTH PROJECT - A questionnaire was received with very little information as to whom was conducting the survey. Coun. Bulgin* in make enquiries and if necessary complete the form.

WINTER MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN THE COUNTY - SCC state that only the 'A' roads will be gritted as a priority in the winter months, when there is a frost warning.

JUBILEE PHOTOGRAPHS - These will now be ordered by the Chairman who will negotiate the cost with the photographer.

RISK ASSESSMENTS - The Clerk will enquire how this should be undertaken and by whom, as none of the Councillors present felt able to carry this out.

FLOOD BARRIER - It was agreed that the Chairman will contact John Rawlings with a view to a meeting with him to discuss this suggestion.

TAUNTON LOCAL PLAN HE1 (12/02.02) - A reply has been received from Richard Bryant and the Chairman's reply is attached. Basically every point in our last reply had been refuted in the letter.

01/03.04

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

THE VARIATION OF SECTION 52 AGREEMENT - DAIRY HOUSE FARM.

This is not in our Parish but we have an opportunity to comment on the variation. The meeting agreed with the recommendation.

EXTENSION TO GLASSHOUSE AT BROOKFIELD FARM, RUISHTON

There were no objections to this application.

40/2002/006LB - NEW WINDOW AND INTERNAL ALTERATIONS AT MANOR FARM, THORNFALCON.

The meeting had no objection subject to it being in keeping to the Conservation Officer's requirements.

40/2002/007LB - DEMOLITION OF PIGSTY'S, KEEPING SOUTH FACING BRICK WALL INTACT, MANOR FARM, THORNFALCON.
There were no objections to this application.

40/2002/008LB - REBUILDING OF OUTHOUSE AND SITTING ROOM

CHIMNEYS, MANOR FARM, THORNFALCON

There were no objections to this application.

31/2002/020 BUNGALOW TO REAR OF HIGHCROFT - Granted by TD

01/03.05

PROVISION OF LITTER BIN SITUATE HENLADE CROSSROADS

Coun. Mullins declared a Code of Conduct interest.

Coun. Bulgin* will contact the parishioner who wrote asking for this to be replaced with regard to the siting of the new bin. It was suggested that perhaps it should be between the telephone kiosk and the bus shelter.

01/03.06

RUISHTON SURFACE WATER PUMPING STATION REFURBISHMENT

Coun. Mullins declared a Code of Conduct interest.

The start date for the refurbish of the above is scheduled for 10/02/03 and will take about 1-2 weeks to complete, with about 2 days of this taken up with crossing the road. During this latter operation there will be one-way traffic flows controlled by lights.

In order to improve the dissemination of information regarding the operation of the pump, it is intended to provide the following lights on the cabinets.

Constant green light all OK

Flashing orange light pump working

Constant red light pump failure

01/03.07

PARISH JOINT WARDEN SCHEME WITH CREECH ST MICHAEL AND OTHERS

A letter with regard to the above had been received from Creech St Michael Parish Council, Coun. Bulgin who had attended Creech PC meeting reported that they had dismissed the idea at their last meeting.

It was agreed to reply to the letter stating that we are interested in discussing the matter with them. In the mean time the Clerk will enquire as to the cost involved from Richard Bryant (TD) and Peter Lacey (SALO)

01/03.08 **PARKING - BUSHY LANE/CHEATS ROAD**

It was agreed that the Clerk write to first three houses of the Virginia Orchard development in Bushy Cross Lane with regard to the parking of their cars

The Police have spoken to the Car Sales and there appears to have been some improvement, although cars are still being valeted in the road and some cars are occasionally on the road without tax discs.

Coun. Bulgin* will contact Mr J Harding (Enforcement Officer TD) with regard to the problem.

01/03.09 **ACCOUNTS**

Vale Labels £15.00 Newsletter

01/03.10 **2003/04 PRECEPT**

The draft precept given to members at the last meeting has discussed at length and after amendments was agreed at £10,565. There was an increase in Insurance by £600 due to rising costs and a small increase in the Chairman's allowance and SALC subscription. With an additional £200 for incidental expenses (manuals/cleaning bus shelters etc) and £1,000 towards replacing the slide at a later date. No figure was included for repair/renewals this year.

A request had been made to clean the Nags Head bus shelter by TD on behalf of First National. Coun. Anderdon requested that a small notice board be placed at Lower Henlade, the Clerk will make enquiries as to where this can be erected.

A request had also been received for an additional street light near Boons Orchard, this will be put on the agenda for the Parish Meeting.

01/03.12 **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Coun. Bulgin* stated that a grant may be available for the Notice Board at Lower Henlade if the request is made early enough.

The meeting was assured that the negotiations with regard to the Taunton Local Plan will end on 30 March 2003.

Forward Planning Officers (TD) will consult with local residents of Monkton Heathfield with regard to additional houses in the area. This will also involve Creech St Michael.

It is reported that the government will upgrade the A358. Coun. Bulgin* was asked to obtain numbers of those using the Park and Ride from Deane Gate to the town centre over the Christmas period.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35 PM

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2003
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**