

**RUISHTON  
AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 5 MARCH 2003  
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Coun. Marshall (Chairman), Bulgin\*, House, Jeiks, Lowe, Mullins, Rexworthy, Shattock, Small and Walker.  
Coun. Cooper\* and Watson (County Councillor). \*District Councillors Mr A Groves (TD Planning Officer) 9 Parishioners and Mary Growtage (Clerk)

Apologies: Coun. Anderdon

03/03.01

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2002, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

03/03.02

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Parishioners present were given the opportunity to speak on each application as it arose, which were then taken into account when discussed by the meeting.

31/2003/002 ERECTION OF DWELLING AND DETACHED GARAGE (TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EXISTING PROPERTY) ON LAND AT 108 NEWLANDS CRESCENT, RUISHTON (TD)

Coun. Walker declared an interest and left the meeting for this planning application.

Four letters of objection to this proposal have been received.

The meeting felt that this would be overdevelopment of the site, have an impact on neighbours and that there would be a lack of amenity land/parking space.

21/2003/001 ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY EXTENSIONS AT 4 NEWLANDS GROVE, RUISHTON (PC)

Coun. Bulgin\* declared a code of conduct interest.

A letter of objection had been received.

The Parish Council felt that the extensions would make the property too large for the site/street scene, making it adjacent to the boundary.

It was considered that it would have a negative impact on the neighbours.

It was unanimously agreed to refuse this application.

31/2003/003 ERECTION OF DWELLING WITHIN THE GROUNDS OF THORNHAMS, HENLADE (TD)

The meeting felt that this site was large enough to take another property, but that mention should be made of the council's concern over traffic accessing the property.

Coun. Dickinson arrived at 8.15 pm

40/2003/04 ERECTION OF BUNGALOW AT BARN CLOSE, HENLADE.

This appears to be back land filling and there was concern that if permission is given it could lead to further applications. The Parish Council would oppose any further development on this land due to access.

40/2003/001 LB DEMOLITION OF COACH HOUSE AT MANOR FARM, THORNFALCON (TD)

The meeting had no comments to make on this application as the Conservation Officer considered the property would be best demolished.

4812003/005 CHANGE OF USE OF LINEAR ROUTE TO PROVIDE SHARED SURFACE FOR PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS AND DISABLED PERSONS CARRIAGES ON ROUTE BETWEEN HERON GATE AND CHURCH LANE, RUISHTON (TD)

Although the Parish Council support this application, the following concerns were expressed:

1. Church Lane is a private lane and concern was expressed over the cost of its upkeep if there is more access to this path.

2. Motor cycles using the path.

3. Security of properties.

4. Attention should be given to the construction of the bridge, so that there is no misuse by motor cycles.

5. The river is very close to the path.

6. The area is designated to be a flood pond for 'Hankridge'

It should be requested that a note be made on the planning consent against any further development.

## **CLERKS REPORT**

**LOWER HENLADE NOTICE BOARD** - The Clerk and Coun. Anderdon will liaise with Mrs Jane Harris re the size and cost of the notice board.

It appears that a small grant maybe available from Taunton Deane towards the cost.

**RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLANS** - The Clerk has been asked to submit a list of landowners and tenants within the parish who have an interest in land over five acres. Coun. House has helped to compile these figures.

**COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICER** - The Clerk has written to PC 2156 Marilyn Simmons asking if she has arranged for the Police Surgery to resume and inviting her to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 24 April. The name of the Beat Officer covering Lower Henlade was also requested.

**SUNDRY WORKS BY TAUNTON DLO** - The bus shelters should be pressure washed this coming weekend.

The repairs to the recreation field fence is scheduled for next week. Henlade crossroads litter bin should be in place before the end of March'03

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000** - Our model scheme has been approved for a period from 28.02.03 to 28.02.07., during which time we are obliged, under Section 19 (1) (b), to publish information in accordance with our model scheme.

**ALEXE VIA CARAVAN PARK** - It was requested that the clerk write to the owner with regard to the Council's concern over the state of the boundary wall adjacent to the road as it is a Health and Safety issue.

03/03.04

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**STANDARDS BOARD** - The Chairman and Clerk attended the Standards Board for England Regional Roadshow on 18 February. Reported back on Standards Board investigative procedure and the need for councillors to be mindful of personal and prejudicial interests.

**REGIONAL ASSEMBLES** - The Chairman attended a Government "Sounding Exercise" on Elected Regional Assemblies on 19 February. This proposal would mean the replacing of existing District and County Councils with Unitary Authorities. The participants voted by a small majority in favour of holding a referendum to establish whether people wanted a regional assembly or not.

**PARISH COUNCILS MEETING** - The Chairman and Clerk met with their opposite numbers from four parish councils to strengthen informal ties. Common issues were found in relation to the A358, community policing and village traffic.

**LOCAL PLAN** - Response received from TDBC reference our latest response to the 'Park and Ride' at Cambria Farm. TDBC now consider that the matter should now be

left to the inspector.

A358 LOCAL SAFETY PLAN - SCC will implement the new 30 mph limit through Henlade immanently

FOOTPATH - the Chairman received a copy of a letter sent to one of our parishioners by Creech St. Michael Parish Council who had replied suggesting that he should pursue the matter of providing safety fencing along a footpath in their parish. This was considered unacceptable and the Clerk will write accordingly.

PARISH WARDEN SCHEME - A response has been received from Creech St. Michael Parish Council who are still interested.

FLOOD PLAN - The Chairman has read the 'Best Practise Guide' and suggested that a working party is required to take this forward.

EMERGENCY PLAN - Although this is not mandatory for parish councils, the Chairman thought it would be worthwhile and volunteers for a working party need to be sought.

RISK ASSESSMENTS - the Chairman has prepared a basic financial risk assessment which will be given to the Clerk to complete and present to the May meeting.

03/03.05

### **RUISHTON LANE**

A letter of complaint has been received from residents of Braemar and Clear Skies in Ruishton Lane regarding the state of the lane. The Clerk has already written to WS Atkins on the matter enclosing a copy of the letter. Coun. Bulgin\* stated that he would be prepared to meet Liam Gill on site to discuss the problem.

03/03.06

### **APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL GOVERNOR**

Our Parish Council is the authority responsible for the appointment of the MLA Governor of Ruishton Church of England Primary School. The period of office for Mrs Julia Cann ends on 16 May 2003 and Mrs Cann has stated that she does not wish to stand for a further term of office.

This will be advertised in the next newsletter and will be discussed at the April meeting.

03/03.07

### **REAPPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2002/03 ACCOUNTS**

Mr A J Bullen is willing to stand as our internal auditor for the 2002/03 accounts, his hourly rate will be £26.50 per hour (an increase of .50p ph on last year) This was duly

agreed.

#### 03/03.08 ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£	
R. Bulgin	21.15	Notice for Rec' field
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
M. Marshall - Chairman	200.00	Allowance - 2002/03 precept
M. Growthage	3678.00	Salary - 2002/03 (SCP 19/40hrs pm)
J. Growthage (Focus DIY)	4.75	Danish Oil for notice board

Before the above, balances stood at £16,000

#### 03/03.09 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT - R WATSON

Coun. Watson spoke on the proposed Cambria Farm Park and Ride and stated that there would be more pressure when the one is up and running at Silk Mills.

Informed the meeting that WS Atkins have been re appointed as agents for the Highway Maintenance.

Was asked by councillors if he had enquired further into the provision of small bollards in the centre of the road alongside the layby to stop traffic turning right into the layby. Coun. Watson will make further enquiries.

#### 03/03.10 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT - R BULGIN

Told the meeting that High Street, Taunton is to be upgraded.

District Councillors have discussed the proposed Regional Assembly and have voted against any referendum at the present, due to lack of information available for members of the public.

Feasibility studies are being undertaken to re site the Cattle Market near junction 26 of the MS at Chelston

Taunton Deane have increased the Council tax by 2% (Band D £109.51) NB The County Council tax has to be added to these figures.

#### 03/03/12 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

As the Clerk is unable to attend the meeting on the usual date, it was agreed to the hold the next meeting on the 9 April 2003. This will have to take place in the Committee Room of Ruishton Village Hall.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.40 PM**

#### DATE OF 2003 PARISH MEETINGS

**THORNEALCON 23 APRIL COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**