

**RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON
PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 7 JANUARY 2004
COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**

Present: Coun. Marshall (Chairman), Bulgin, House, Rexworthy, Shattock and Walker. C.C. Watson, D.C. Bryant and Durdan.
Mr Tony Stephens (Avon and Somerset Police) 3 parishioners and Mary Growtage (Clerk)

Apologies: Coun. Anderdon, Jelks, Lowe, Mullins and Small.

01/04.01

MINUTES OF DECEMBER MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on 3 and 10 December 2003, having been circulated, were taken as read and duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

01/04.02

LOCAL ACTION PLANS

Mr Tony Stephens (Local Action Team Co-ordinator, Somerset and Avon Police) was introduced to the meeting by the Chairman.

Mr Stephens spoke on the best way to combat Crime and Disorder and the proposal to set up Local Action Teams within parishes. These would mean that local problems could possibly be solved at a local level.

It was agreed that the Council would discuss this fully and possibly call a public meeting in order to generate interest in the proposed scheme.

01/04.03

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

31/2003/029-CONSTRUCTION OF DORMER WINDOW EXTENSION TO FRONT 5, MARTINS, RUISHTON (PC)

The Council granted this planning application.

31/2003/031 -ERECTION OF DWELLING AND GARAGE ON LAND TO THE NORTH OF 'CHICO', LIPE LANE, HENLADE (TD)

Coun. Bulgin expressed a personal interest.

In the 1990's planning permission was turned down for the adjacent plot due to access difficulties.

The Parish Council are against this application for the same reason as the visibility splay cannot be widened and the road floods regularly.
Except for 'Elmleigh' there are bungalows around the site and a house would be considered out of keeping.

It was considered that to give planning permission would set a precedent for the rest of the old nursery site.

31/2003/032 - ERECTION OF 2 DWELLINGS WITH GARAGES ON LAND ADJOINING THORNHAMS, HENLADE.

Outline planning permission has been given for this site.

It is considered that the dwelling is too large and should be reduced in size.

RUISHTON SCHOOL - The Clerk has received a letter from the Education Authority in reply to our comments on the recent planning application. 1. It is proposed to provide new gates to the site.

2. It is possible that the school may look to increase its parking provision in the future should funding allow.

3. Our comments regarding the hedge have been noted.

4. The applicant is including toilets in the new extension only to replace those that will be lost to the school following the removal of the temporary units.

Furthermore they are providing a new foul drain to serve the new extension.

01/04.04

A358 (TS)

At the request of Coun. Shattock it was agreed to ask the Highway Authority for 30 mph repeater signs along the A358 through Henlade.

01/04.05

VISION TAUNTON

The Chairman expressed his concern over Terence O'Rourke's proposals for the urban extension of Taunton into the parish of Henlade and Ruishton. He read his personal reply to the Leader of Taunton Deane Borough Council (Coun. John Williams) to the meeting.

After discussion it was agreed, that together with Coun. Bulgin, they draft a statement to Taunton Deane along the same lines. This to be approved at the next meeting.

01/04.06

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that Mr Hugh Walker (SCC) had spoken to her to confirm that the Parish Council still wanted to go ahead with the Traffic Calming scheme and had their share of the funding still available.

A complaint has been received regarding the parking of cars on the pavement outside the Day Nursery in Bushy Cross Lane. It was agreed that this is a problem, along with similar cases in other parts of the village. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask our Community Beat Officer to look into the problem on our behalf.

The Clerk read out a list of Listed Buildings in the parish and asked if the Council were content with the condition of them. Many of them have had extensive work carried out on them in recent years and none seem to be in need of urgent attention.

01/04.07

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that the Environment Agency were prepared to consider including traffic

calming when they when they undertake to place a road ramp near Overlands on Cheats Road as part of the flood defence scheme.

Coun. Bulgin will meet Mr Melvyn Wood on site tomorrow to discuss the matter.

01/04.08

2004/05 PRECEPT AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

It was proposed by Coun. Bulgin and unanimously agreed that £4761 be taken from the Legal Fund (leaving a balance of £2000) to the general fund. This is to cover expenditure on the Golden Jubilee, increased insurance, litter bin at Henlade cross-roads and other items not accounted for in recent precepts.

In the absence of Coun. Jelks, Coun. Hill had checked the books and records as at 31 October 2003 when the bank balances stood at £20,426

The draft precept for 2004/05 had been given to members at the December meeting and this was considered in detail. It was agreed to increase the maintenance of the recreation field and other public areas by £500 and to include £100 for training. Thus bringing the Precept to £9850 for 2004/05, this figure was proposed by Coun. Bulgin and unanimously agreed by those present.

The above figure being £715 less than for 2003/04

01/04.09

ACCOUNTS

The following accounts have been passed for payment:

	£	
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes	92.22	Maintenance
Som. Playing Field Assoc.	10.00	Subscription

01/04.10

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cycle path Ruishton to Hankridge - Coun. Watson said that Sustrans had agreed with the Chief Executive of SCC to pursue a case for the compulsory purchase of the necessary land and are currently looking at any legal implications.

The Chief Executive of SCC will be touring the parish with Coun. Watson in the near future and will be shown what land is involved.

01/04.11

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT(S)

Coun. Bryant gave the Chairman details of a Broadband roadshow that is taking place at SCAT on 14 January and other places in the new year.

In answer to the Chairman's question raised last month, regarding as to where the 40 acres of brown field land would become available for development due to the dualling of the A358.

Coun. Bryant identified the area as 'Firepool'.

The Parish Council is aware of their implications of Sec 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 2000 and have considered the act in their decision making process.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 PM
THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2003
DATES FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS ARE
THORNFALCON - 21 APRIL 2004