

**RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON
PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 7 APRIL 2004
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Coun. Marshall, Bulgin, Hill, House, Lowe, Mullins, Rexworthy, Shattock, Small and Walker. CC. Watson, Mr John Capstick, 8 Parishioners and Mary Growthage (Clerk)

Apologies: Coun. Anderdon and Jelks.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2004, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

04/04.01

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

31/2004/007 - ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AT 1 PARK WAY, RUISHTON (PC)

This planning application was granted.

31/2004/008 - ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AT 2 ORCHARD RISE, RUISHTON (PC)

Coun. Rexworthy declared an interest and left the meeting for this agenda item.

This planning application was granted.

31/2004/009 - CONVERSION OF BARN TO HOLIDAY LET AT ARUNDELS FARM, LOWER HENLADE (TD)

The Parish Council had no adverse comments, only than concern over access.

40/2004/02 CHANGE OF USE AND CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AND USE OF ADJOINING BUILDING FOR GARAGING AT BARN ADJACENT TO LOWER FARM, THORNFALCON (TD)

Coun. House declared an interest and left the meeting for this agenda item.

The Parish Council had no objection to this application being granted.

CONSTRUCTION OF TWO STOREY EXTENSION TO PROVIDE A BEDROOM, LIVING ACCOMMODATION, RELOCATION OF EXISTING SHED AND OTHER EXTERNAL LANDSCAPING AT "NEWHOLME", RUISHTON (SCC) - AMENDED PLANS

The meeting welcomed the change to the plans in lowering the height of the extension.

DETAILS OF A PROPOSED PLANNING APPLICATION FOR WOODLANDS, HENLADE.

The Chairman made it clear from the outset that any discussion that took place would not bind the Council to any particular course of action should a planning application be put in the future. The presentation did not form part of the formal process of debate or determination. The Council was able to listen to what was said but would not express an intention of any firm view of the proposal.

Mr John Capstick gave details of a proposed planning application that he will be submitting on behalf of his client. The proposal includes a nursing home, along with forty accommodation units. Plans also

show a bowling green which could be used by parishioners, a new entrance and footpath in Ruishton Lane. The scout hut would remain or may even be rebuilt.

There is currently planning permission for the change of use to office premises.

However the proposal is contrary to the Local Plans which restrict large development in this parish.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS- The planning officer has agreed to minor changes to the planning application granted for the erection and extension to garage at Orchard Cottage, Moss Lane (31/2002/010)

The following planning applications have been granted by Taunton Deane - 31/2004/001,003,004, and 006, also, 31/2003/026.

04/04.02

CLERK'S REPORT

POLICE MATTERS - A letter was read from Sergeant Tim Newman in reply to our letter of concern over lack of contact with our local Beat Officer and other matters. He has tried to contact both the Chairman and Clerk without success, the clerk will endeavour to contact him this week.

PLAY EQUIPMENT - Coun. Bulgin offered to send a site plan, risk assessment (using last year's inspection of play equipment report) and need for the provision of a new slide to Mrs Arscott (TD) to support our request for a grant towards same.

AFFORDABLE, RURAL SELF BUILD HOUSING - Notice of a seminar on this subject, at South Petherton on 8 May will be posted on the notice board.

ANNUAL MEETING OF TAUNTON DEANE COUNCIL, CIVIC RECEPTION AND SERVICE - Details were given to the meeting but no one wished to attend.

04/04.03

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Since the last meeting the Chairman has attended a **BRIEFING ON THE LOCAL PLAN** in response to the Inspector's report. This does not directly affect our parish. The response calling for less houses at Wellington and Norton Fitzwarren, with four hundred more at Monkton Heathfield.

He had also attended a meeting called by John Williams on the **VISION FOR TAUNTON** but most of those present were more interested in the future of the A358.

The Chairman reminded those present that they should have read the information being circulated on Local Investigations of Misconduct under the Local Authorities (Code of Conduct) and that a reply was due by 18 May 2004.

04/04.04

DUALLING OF THE A358/A303

To date there have been sixty one replies to the questionnaire which had been circulated in the parish. With more handed to the Chairman just prior to the meeting.

The results to date show 42.62% in favour of dualling the A303/A30, with 26.23% in favour of the A358.

36.07% in favour of a bypass for both M5 and Taunton traffic, with equal 26.23% in favour of a Henlade bypass and A358 Dualled/not dualled.

60.66% thought there should be a new M5 junction between Taunton and Bridgwater and 50.82 % thought junction 25 should be improved.

73.77% thought there should be an outer relief road for Taunton, while 36.07% said improvements should be made on the A358 between junction 25 and Creech Castle.

The Chairman then presented his comments for the SW Regional Assembly for consideration. Coun. Mullins proposed that we adopt these comments and that the Chairman, in conjunction with Coun. Bulgin, write accordingly to the SW Regional Assembly.

Devon CC have asked to be informed which route/s our parish is supporting.

County Councillor Rod Watson will be calling a meeting either at Ruishton or Stoke St Mary on 26 or 27 April to address this issue. This will be advertised in the Somerset County Gazette, the Clerk will also be notified.

04/04.05

FOOTPATHS ALONGSIDE A358

Coun. Lowe reported on his site meeting with Mr Warnecke (SCC) regarding various highway matters including the cutting back of shrubs/trees. The SCC will undertake to reinstate the ditch alongside Alexevia Caravan Park.

The Clerk read letters from Mr Neil Pincombe stating that an additional dropped kerb crossing point at Dinhams Bungalows will be added to the priority list and that planting alongside the new footway at Cheats Road has been replaced and will be monitored throughout the coming year.

The litter along the A358 has been reported by NP and will, hopefully, be removed in the near future. Mr Ian Titcombe has visited the Layby site and has witnessed vehicles parked on this verge, which causes damage to the verge, obstructs visibility for vehicles exiting Ruishton Court Nursing Home and can obstruct cyclists and pedestrians using the footpath/lay-by. Also, vehicles parked close to the junction of the A358 inside the lay-by near the snack bar, cause obstruction and congestion at this point.

The police are aware of this problem and are giving the matter their attention.

04/04.06

CLEANING BUS SHELTERS (A358)

A quote for this work will be requested before a decision is made.

04/04.07

USE OF PLAYING FIELD FOR VILLAGE DAY

Permission was given for the Village Fun Day to be held on 17 July 2004.

04/04.08

UPDATE ON FLOODING AT LOWER HENLADE Coun. Hill reported that this road still floods.

Coun. Hill reported that this road still floods.

Mr John Hetheron (TDBC) suggests that ditches are cleared out properly by the landowners concerned but regrets that funding is not available.

It was agreed to ask Mr Neil Titcombe to arrange for the calverts to be cleared.

04/04.09

ACCOUNTS

The following accounts have been passed for payment:

	£	
SALC	276.23	2004/05 Subscription
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
Community Council	20.00	2004/05 Subscription
Mary Growthage	96.20	Postage etc. to 31/03/04

We have been informed by our insurers that no money was paid to the claimant regarding the incident in the recreation field in July 2001 and the file is now closed.

The final decision for funding from the Community Chest for our traffic calming has had to be deferred by the E and T Panel until next month. The Clerk has to confirm that 40% funding for the scheme will be carried forward to the next financial year.

04/04.10

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Coun. Watson reported that there are no funds available for the compulsory purchase of land for the provision of the cycleway from Ruishton to Hankridge, although it is still supported by the County Council and will be included in the 2005 Local Transport Plan.

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.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30 PM

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING