

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2003
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

- Present:** Coun. Marshall (Chairman), Anderdon, Buigin, Hill, Lowe, Rexworthy and Shattock, Bryant (DC) and Watson (CC) 2 Parishioners and Mary Growtage (Clerk)
- Apologies:** Coun. Durdan (DC) House, Jelks, Mullins, Small and Walker

08/03.01

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2003, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Coun. Bulgin queried why Parishioners' Question Time was not recorded. It was explained that this had always been the practice but that the Clerk would make enquiries from SALC.

08/03.02

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3 1/2003/019 - INSTALLATION OF FOUR DORMER WINDOWS AT REAR OF ARUNDEL FARM, LOWER HENLADE.(PC)

Coun. Anderdon declared a personal interest in this and the following two applications.

The application was passed.

31/2003/020 - ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AT GABRIEL, LOWER HENLADE. (PC)

Coun. Hill declared a pecuniary interest and left the meeting for this agenda item.

The application was passed.

31/2003/021 - EXTENSION OF FIRST FLOOR REAR EXTENSION AT HENLADE POST OFFICE, HEN LADE. (PC)

The application was passed.

31/2003/022 - ERECTION OF DETACHED BUNGALOW AND GARAGE ON LAND BETWEEN HIGHCROFT AND LOWCROFT, HENLADE.
RESUBMISSION APPLICATION 3 1/2003/008 - REFUSED MAY 2003 (TD)

The meeting are still against this application. Reasons as before. Full permission has been granted by TD on the following applications:

31/2003/012 - Batching plant at Tarmac Concrete Works
31/2003/016 - Agricultural Building, Lower Henlade.

08/03.03

CLERK'S REPORT

Coun. Marshall and Lowe will attend a meeting with Police on 14.08.03 at The Old Municipal Buildings at 6.30 pm.

There will be a Discussion Forum with Adrian Flook MP at West Monkton Village Hall on 11.08.03 at 7.30 pm which the Chairman will endeavour to attend following our own planning meeting which has been arranged for half an hour earlier.

There is a Willow weekend at Westonzoyland Community Centre On 13/14 September 2003.

The Principal Officer (Housing and Environmental Protection) will attend the our October Parish Council meeting to discuss the implications of the recently declared AQMA.

Dates etc. for the Mobile Library will be posted in the Notice Boards.

08/03.04

CHAIRMAN'S' REPORT

Parish Council representatives on the Standards Committee are Mr Ernie Warren - Wellington TC and Mrs Philippa Hawks of Burrowbridge PC

SALC Consultancy Paper on the Nature of the Power to be conformed to Relevant Authorities under Section 101 of LGA 2000 be completed by 06.10.03 - Coun. Marshall and Hill will study and complete the questionnaire.

Taunton Deane 2003/04 performance Plan is available should anyone want to read it.

NALC - Code of Conduct for Local Councils in handling complaints will go on the next agenda.

08/03.05 UPDATE ON RUISHTON FLOOD DEFENCE SCHEME

We have been informed by the Environment Agency that the capital project which was looking at the flood defences in the villages of Ham, Creech St Michael and Ruishton are now on hold. It has a low DEFRA priority score and does not compare favourably in comparison to other schemes around the country.

The scheme is still retained in the capital programme and will be looked at some time in the future. In the meantime the EA will be looking at a patch and mend approach to the defences through these villages over the next few years.

The letter states that the flood problems in Ruishton are mainly associated with the internal drainage system and low lying areas within the highways. Any works would therefore cost alot of money and is the responsibility of the Highway Department of SCO and TDBC. Should the Parish Council want to manage a scheme as a community-led scheme, then the EA can offer advice, supervision and assistance.

The flood wardens have been given a report from the EA, which highlights the Flood Defence assets of the Ruishton Flood Defence Scheme.

Coun. Bulgin will take this and other matters up with Melvin Wood (Flood Defence Improvements Manager, EA)

A second letter states that it is important that the PC use one point of contact for the flow of information between the EA and the PC.

08/03.06 RECREATION FIELD - REPORT ON RECENT INSPECTION (RB)

A summary of the inspection report was handed to those present and is attached.

Coun. Bulgin went through the report, many items of which he had already dealt with on our behalf. He will look into the cost of replacing the seats on the swings and it was agreed that he buy timber for the palings around the toddlers play area and replace the hinges/springs on the gate.

The fence along the road will need replacing, while the ball stop netting at the Village Hall end of the recreation field needs attention where the ties are broken. Coun. Anderdon may be able to get special clips for this purpose and will contact Coun. Bulgin accordingly.

The Chairman stated that under our Risk Management we should be looking at the cost of replacements and recording visual checks on the play equipment. In the meantime the Clerk will contact RoSPA for their recommendations on carrying regular checks on the play equipment.

Lee Constable who carried out the inspection praised our facilities and the way in which the recreation field is maintained.

08/03.07 AGREE FOOTBALL CHARGES FOR 2003/2004

The charge for the 2003/04 season will be £7.50 per match. The Chairman and Clerk will meet Nick Blee of the Holway Football Club who are the main hirers. Sally Luxon will continue to collect the hire charge on our behalf when she does so for the hire of the shower/changing room.

08/03.08 HIGHWAYS REPORT ON RECENT MEETING WITH HIGHWAY AGENCY

Coun. Bulgin has had a meeting with Neil Pincombe (Highways, SCC) and CC Rob Watson and a report of their findings of works that need attention in the Parish was handed to those present and is attached. It remains to be seen if any of the work is undertaken in the near future.

08/03.09 RUISHTON CEMETERY

The Clerk read a letter from Mr Chris Mulchay, in which he states that the cemetery is scheduled to be cut 18 times a year with the cuttings being left.

Mrs Callen has been keeping a record of the cuts and it appears that so far this year the grass has only been cut on three occasions. At present the grass is so high that it needs strimming, in which case the grass should be removed. The Clerk will contact Mr Mulchay on this matter.

08/03.10 APPOINTMENT OF RUISHTON SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Coun. Bulgin agreed to become our MLA governor.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was read from Mrs Teena Carberry regarding the problems of walking her dog. This was passed to Coun. Lowe who will speak to her on the matter.

The Clerk asked Coun. Lowe to make sure all footpaths used by pupils attending Ruishton School were cut back before the start of the Autumn term.

A letter was read regarding the parking of cars in Coronation Close, this will be passed to TD Housing Division for their consideration.

ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 31 July 2003 were as follows: Nat West £14,305.44 and Scottish Widows £6,000.00 (£20,305.44) Receipts so far this year are £11,167.65 and payments £3,240.87. In the absence of Coun. Jelks, following her accident, these figures have been verified by Coun. Marshall (Chairman)

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£ .	
Lee Constable	85.00	Inspect play equipment
Parsons Landscapes	187.81	Maintenance
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter

ACCEPT QUOTE FOR UPKEEP OF VERGE IN FRONT OF VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

It was agreed to accept Parsons Landscapes quotation of £22.50+ VAT to carry out 6 No. cuts to the verge in front of the car parking area of the village hall.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Coun. Watson stated that there was 60% funding available for three traffic calming schemes in the TD area and he will meet with our Chairman with a view to taking this forward. Coun. Watson said we would need to appoint a Project Manager to oversee the scheme on our behalf.

The Park and Ride at Cambria Farm is still on the agenda but no detailed plans are available.

A successful trial of illuminated 30 mph speed signs had taken place in the parish and appeared to be successful. The Chairman is keen for this to be carried out throughout the parish and wondered if this could be included in the traffic calming funding. This will be looked into more fully at a later date.

Coun. Hill asked if Lower Henlade could also be included in a traffic calming programme. This will be put on the next agenda.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT/S

Coun. Bryant said that up to £5000 match funding was available for properties that have been flooded - Applications forms available from TD

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35 PM

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2003
COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM**

**THERE WILL BE A PLANNING MEETING NEXT MONDAY 1 AUGUST 2003
IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM
COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**