

**RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON
PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2004

Present: Cllr. Marshall, Anderdon, Bulgin, Faulkner, Hancock, Hill, House, Lowe, Mullins, Rexworthy. County Cllr. Watson and District Cllr. Bryant. 5 Parishioners and Mary Grootage (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Small and Walker

10/04.01

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2004, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the chairman.

10/04.02

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

31/2004/023 - ERECTION OF EXTENSIONS TO INCLUDE NEW LOUNGE, ENLARGED BEDROOM/LOBBY, ENLARGED KITCHEN AND UTILITY ROOM, ALTERATIONS TO THE ROOF AND GABLE WALL TO SOUTH ELEVATION, AND FORMATION OF DORMER WINDOW IN REAR ELEVATION AT PAVEYS, BUSHY CROSS LANE, RUISHTON.

This application was for comment only.

There appears to be no planning reasons for any objection. But, the meeting was very much against applications being made in retrospect. This is not the first time the applicant has done so and the Parish Council feel he should be warned against doing so again.

31/2004/1004 - This application has been passed.

10/04.03

CLERK'S REPORT

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION FOR LOCAL COUNCILS - There will be A Practical Workshop at North Curry Village Hall on Friday, 22 October 2004 at 10.30 am (close 1.00pm) No members are able to attend.

ROAD CLOSURE - There will be a temporary road closure of Stoke Road, Stoke St Mary from the junction with Haydon Lane to the junction with Church Close. The Order came into effect on 27 September 2004 and will remain in force for 18 months although the works are expected to last for two weeks. **PARKING** - The clerk has written to PC Simmons regarding the lorry which parks at Martins,

SOMERSET MINERALS LOCAL PLAN -ADOPTED VERSION - This can be viewed on the Somerset County Council website, www.somerset.gov.uk

LAND REGISTRY - The Clerk has been informed that the land known as Goosey Lane and land outside Thornfalcon Church has no registered estate.

BUNGALOW, LIMBREY (31/2004/019) - It has been noted that there is a mobile home in the garden of this bungalow for which planning permission was not granted. The clerk has spoken to Taunton Deane Enforcement Officer who is aware of the situation and has given permission for the mobile home to be used for the purposes of sleeping arrangements only. He will continue to monitor the situation.

SOMERSET CANCER CARE - An article publicising a new opportunity for those affected by cancer in the parish will be included in the monthly newsletter.

EMPLOYEES CODE OF CONDUCT - Advice will be sought from SALC and the Parish Liaison Officer.

CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS - The consultation document can be downloaded from:
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/clean-neighbourhood/index.htm>

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY - A questionnaire will be completed by the members responsible for footpaths in the parish.
The Rights of Way Agency Agreement was discussed in more depth in the District Councillor's report.

LICENCING POLICY - This will be reviewed by Cllr. Mullins.

REQUEST FOR TOURISM SIGN BY RUISHTON INN - The Highway Authority is unable to provide this sign.

TRAFFIC CALMING - This has now been completed.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2004 -An Order has been made on a tree at The Range, Henlade, dated 9 September 2004.

NEXT AGENDA - Councillor's areas of responsibility will be reviewed at the December meeting.

VE 60t ANNIVERSARY - Following the success of our Golden Jubilee celebrations, a meeting will be called on 10 November in the Committee Room of the Village Hall to discuss how this anniversary should be celebrated in the parish.

SCC ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH PARISH COUNCILS - The Chairman and Cllr. Bulgin will be attending this meeting.

PUBLIC REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTERESTS - The clerk reported that the chairman had changed his job and had duly completed and signed a new declaration which will be forwarded to the parish liaison officer at Taunton Deane.

10/04.04

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

PROPERTY, MOSS LANE - Complaints have been received regarding the state of a property in Moss Lane and the clerk has been instructed to write to the Environment Officer regarding the matter.

BUS SERVICE - The chairman has been in conversation with the chairman of North Curry Parish Council with regard to the poor bus service received by both parishes. There appears to be a problem, particularly with the 8.00am bus into Taunton. The Clerk will write to the bus company on this matter.

PROPOSED HENLADE BYPASS - At present no plans are available of the route. The chairman of Stoke St Mary Parish Council is proposing to call at meeting of chairmen of parish councils along the A358 to discuss the matter.

SW REGIONAL ASSEMBLY -

Consultation on the Regional Spatial Policy to 2026 will be studied by Cllrs. Marshall and Bulgin.

ROAD MARKINGS OUTSIDE DAY NURSERY - It was agreed that the clerk should ask for these road markings to be repainted as part of the traffic calming scheme.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT STRATEGY - Cllr. Lowe has studied this policy and gave his suggested reply for consideration. It was agreed that a survey be tamed out in the parish to ascertain the needs and feelings of parishioners on the need of public transport in the area.

LAMP MEETING - The recent meeting was attended by Cllr. House, who told the meeting that European funding would be available for the promotion of culture in the area.

10/04.05

RECREATION FIELD

The inspection of the play equipment took place at the beginning of September, no major faults were found. The following need immediate attention: Repair hole in chain link fencing at front of field

Remove Junior slide-this has been done.

Look to install safety surfacing under igloo.

Clean and repaint top bar of junior swings.

Re paint rockers

Lubricate toddler D shackles

Cllr. Bulgin continues to regularly inspect the recreation field.

A request has been received for the hire of the football pitch from Hotway Ladies football team to use the pitch for 718 matches in the current season. It was felt that this would not be possible Economically nor on Health and Safety grounds, due to the number of rabbit holes in the pitch.

It was felt that there should be a concerted effort by the parish council to improve the football pitch.

The clerk has applied to Wyvern Waste for a grant towards the cost of the new Wickstead slide which should be installed in November. The clerk and Cllr. Bulgin will complete the form, which has to be submitted by 12 October 2004.

10/04.06

HIGHWAYS

The clerk reported that Neil Pincombe (Assistant Highway Services Manager) has written stating that matters raised in August had been attended addressed. However, it appears that the potholes on the A358 between Sainsbury's roundabout and the motorway junction have not been attended to, County Cllr. Watson was asked to look into this on our behalf.

Other matters still requiring attention is the road subsidence near the bridge in Greenway Lane, the warning posts on the 'S' bend in Haydon Lane, the manhole near Foxhound cottage still needs clearing and the culverts have not yet been vacuumed out (as promised by Neil Pincombe)

10/04.07

STANDING ORDERS

Copies of the new standing orders, having been approved at the last meeting were handed to members. It was proposed by Cllr. Anderdon and seconded by Cllr. Faulkner that these be adopted. This was carried unanimously.

10/04.08

ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£	
Allbright Cleaning	50.00	Cleaning bus shelters
Lee Constable	85.00	Inspection of play equipment
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes	221.49	Maintenance
Taunton Deane	778.15	Election Expenses
Westward Playgrounds Ltd.	9.17	End caps (play equipment)
RB Print and Graphics	42.00	Producing Standing Order booklets

10/04.9

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

BUS SERVICE - Cllr Watson said that the MP (Adrian Flook) and County Hall were aware of the poor bus service for the area and were hoping to see some improvements. Cllr. Bulgin agreed to prepare a bus survey questionnaire for parishioners.

CYCLE PATH - The County Council have taken the proposed cycle path from Ruishton to Hankridge back on board from Sustrans. They hope to purchase the land for this path in their 2005/06 budget, although if there has to be a Compulsory Purchase Order, then it will take longer and be more costly.

GRANT TOWARDS SLIDE - This will be received in the near future.

HENLADE BYPASS - The route will definitely not be made public until the final decision is made with regard to the preferred route to be upgraded by the Minister of Transport.

10/04.10

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY - Cllr. Bryant explained why she supports the Taunton Deane recommendation that the Agency Agreement with Somerset County Council should cease. The present arrangement works well, and, parishes agree that we currently receive an excellent service. However, voters

do not wish to see Council Tax increases. The cost to TD is in the region of £100,000 for which they would only receive reimbursement of circa £45,000 to continue this service.

Members are doubtful whether such a good service would be given by the County Council.

At the Taunton Deane Borough Council meeting On 12 October the recommendation 'as to whether the Rights of Way Agency Agreement with Somerset County Council should be terminated on 31 March 2005'

The Parish Council and some District Councillors feel very strongly that this agreement should not be terminated and will be calling for a recorded vote at the Council. Cllr. Bryant stated that she was unable to support our Parish Council's views in this matter nor those of Creech St Michael Parish Council.

The Parish Council will make representation at this meeting.

Taunton Deane have requested a report on bus services within the Deane and parishes will be invited to take part in discussions.

At was pointed that the Parish Council would still get their grant towards footpath maintenance.

**THE COUNCIL IS AWARE OF THEIR IMPLICATIONS UNDER SEC. 17 OF
THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 2000 AND HAVE CONSIDERED THE ACT
IN THEIR DECISION MAKING.
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2004**

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50 PM