

**RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON
PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 JANUARY 2005

Present: Cllr. Marshall, Anderdon, Bulgin, Faulkner, Hancock, Hill, House, Lowe, Mullins, Rexworthy, Small and Walker. County Cllr. Watson, 3 Parishioners, the press and Mary Growthage (Clerk)
Apologies: District Cllr. Bryant and Durdan

01/05.01

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

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

01/05.02

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

31/2004/023 - CONVERSION OF DWELLING TO CLOSE CARE RETIREMENT HOME AND 2 STAFF FLATS AT WOODLANDS, RUISHTON.

This application was for comment only.

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

Members were unanimously against this application as they felt strongly that the application could not be viewed in isolation from the future proposal for three blocks of apartments, three storeys in height. (See letter from the applicant's architect)

The council are against making an entrance into Ruishton Lane, which is very narrow in parts. Concern was expressed that no figures were included with the application regarding anticipated vehicle numbers to the development, as it would be primarily car dependent.

Reference was made to the Inspector's report on the recent Local Plan Inquiry, parts of which should be addressed to the planning officer.

There will be a planning meeting on Wednesday, 19 January 2005 in the Committee Room of the Village Hall commencing at 7.30 pm as there are several applications pending. The new planning officer will be asked to attend.

01/05.03

CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk reported on a letter she had written to the chief planning officer regarding lack of communication and failure to receive assessments on recent applications. We now have a new planning officer covering our parish, Mr Gareth Clifford who took up his appointment this week.

Cllr. Hancock offered to attend the Elected Members Day meeting at Weston Super Mare later in the month, the topic being 'Speed Cameras'

The results of a Parish Survey undertaken by the SCC were given to the meeting, our own replies to the survey being the average.

01/05.04

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

SPEED IN RUISHTON LANE - An e-mail has been received regarding the speed of some traffic in Ruishton Lane. After discussion it was agreed to ask the SCC to do a traffic count incorporating a speed check in Ruishton Lane, Bushy Cross Lane and Cheats Road, as well as Stoke Road and Lower Henlade.

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT - Cllr. Mullins reported that the report by TD had been concluded and it was agreed that the clerk should request a copy of the report and request that the parish be included in future consultations.

01/05.05

ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£	
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes	221.49	Maintenance
Ruishton Village Hal	25.00	Deposit for key

01/05.06

ACCEPTANCE OF QUOTES

The quotation from Parsons Landscapes Ltd. for the upkeep of the recreation field and other areas for the sum of £1812.96 was accepted. The other quote being from Taunton DLO for £3722.19.

Cllr. Mullins commented that the Commemorative shrub bed was overgrown and suggested that as this year was the 60th anniversary of the end of WW II that perhaps we should consider having it replanted. It was agreed to investigate this and perhaps ask local firms to sponsor the project.

The quotation for the painting of the play equipment in the recreation field from R. Gudge was accepted in the sum of £544, again the DLO quote was considerably higher.

A rough estimate from the DLO for new fencing along the roadside boundary of the recreation field would be in the region of £4000.

01/05.07

PRECEPT 2005/06

Draft proposals for the precept were handed to those who did not have a copy from the last meeting. Alterations were to reduce expenditure for Recreation field/ commemorative garden to £2400 and put

in the balance on the new slide of £350 as a separate item.

Cost of cleaning the bus shelters on the A358 was reduced to £100, as it was considered that this was only required twice a year.

£1000 was included for election expenses, as our reserve had been spent on the recent by-election. spent on the recent by-election.

It was proposed by Cllr. Anderdon and unanimously agreed that the precept for 2005/06 be £10720, the necessary form was duly completed and signed by the chairman, Cllrs. Hill and Anderdon and the clerk.

A copy of the agreed precept is attached.

01/05.08

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CYCLE PATH - There is no further development, if there has to be a Compulsory Purchase Order for the purchase of the necessary land, then it will take longer and be more costly.

PROPOSED PARK AND RIDE - Mr Jeremy Callard (SCC) is convinced that Cambria Farm is the only viable site east of Taunton. £40, 000 is being spent on the detailed design and preparation of the plans with access from both the A358 and Henlade by pass. The council should be alert as to what kind of design is involved.

HIGHWAYS - County Cllr. Watson and Cllr. Lowe are to meet Mr Neil Pincombe (Assistant Highway Service Manager, SCC) to view the problem areas in the parish.

01/05.09

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Cllr. Bryant was unable to attend but had given figures to the clerk regarding the increased parking charges in Taunton Deane. The current income being £2,340,000 and the proposed increase would generate a further £395,000.

Cllr. Bulgin had also obtained these figures from TD., stating that it would mean an increase of 16.8% which he considered unacceptable.

**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 2 FEBRUARY 2004