

**RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON  
PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2005

**Present:** Cllr. Marshall, Anderdon, Faulkner, Hancock, Hill, House, Lowe, Rexworthy, Small, and Walker. County Cllr. Watson, District Cllr. Bryant, 6 Parishioners.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Bulgin and Mullins.

02/05.01

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2005, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the chairman.

Likewise the minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 19 January 2005 were also agreed and signed by the chairman, except that the meeting commenced at 7.30 not 7.70 pm !

02/05.02

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The planning meeting had discussed proposed plans for a Close Care Retirement development at Woodlands. TDBC Planning committee should be discussing this on 16 February 2005 and the chairman will attend if possible.

40/2005/001 - CHANGE OF USE AND CONVERSION OF BARN C TO RESIDENTIAL USE AT LOWER FARM, THORNFALCON.(TDBC)

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

A wildlife survey has been carried out, there is no evidence of dormice or nesting places for bats in the barn.

The clerk arrived at 7.40 pm

There were no objections to this application.

40/2005/02 - CHANGE OF USE AND CONVERSION OF STORE BARN (UNITS A & B) TO TWO HOLIDAY UNITS AT LOWER MANOR FARM, THORNFALCON. (TDBC)

There were no objections to this application.

40/2005/003LB - INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS, INCLUDING NEW BATHROOMS, REBUILDING OF PORCH, NEW PORCH, REMOVAL OF CHIMNEY AND REBUILDING OF CHIMNEY AT MANOR FARM, THORNFALCON. (TDBC)

The meeting had no objections to this application providing there is guidance from the Conservation Officer.

ERECTION OF REPLACEMENT DWELLING AT THE ORCHARD, HENLADE.

The Development Control Officer (TDBC) has no objection to an amendment which proposed a laurel hedge instead of a natural stone wall running parallel to the site entrance.

PLANNING MEETING - An additional planning meeting will have to be called later in the month.

It was agreed that the clerk should request that our parish is consulted on the plans to develop the former Presidents Health Club as the entrance is within our parish.

02/05.03

#### **CLERK'S REPORT**

**CELEBRATION OF CIVIC SERVICE** - There will be a service in Wells Cathedral to celebrate civic service in the County of Somerset on 10 April 2005 at 3.00 pm. It is hoped that the congregation will consist of representatives of local councils, together with the emergency services. A more formal invitation and details will be given in due course.

**ROAD CLOSURE** - There will be a temporary closure of Bow Street/North Street, Langport for one week commencing 11 February to allow resurfacing works to be carried out in this road.

**TAUNTON DEANE CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2005** - Nominations should be sent to Donna Durham, Member Services Officer, TDBC.

Mr Ian Titcombe (Traffic Engineer, SCC) has informed the clerk, that a tender has been accepted for the reinstatement of the central reservation at Henlade crossroads and that this work should be carried out later this month.

**SPEED COUNT** - Mr Ian Titcombe has also spoken to the clerk indicating that the parish can have speed checks, as requested.

02/05.04

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**A358** - Following the Minister of Transport's decision to upgrade the A358, a letter has been received from Mr Tim Carroll (Executive Member for Environment and Transport - SCC) stating that the County Council will do its utmost to ensure that all affected parishes and groups are involved in any consultation process undertaken by the Highways Agency.

The chairman of Stoke St Mary PC has been informed that PC Marilyn Simmons has been withdrawn as the Community Beat Officer which includes our parish, although we nor Creech St Michael have been informed. DC Bryant stated that the new officer was PC Ben Hicks. It was agreed that the clerk should write to Chief Inspector Snell on this matter.

02/05.05

#### **SAFETY CAMERA PARTNERSHIP MEETING held at Weston S Mare**

Cllr. Hancock attended the meeting on our behalf and spoke of the benefit of Speed Cameras, which definitely cuts the Death and casualty numbers on our roads. There are currently only six mobile cameras available to the police.

North Curry successfully operate a camera system, involving 15/16 people on a rota system and would be happy to explain the system fully to us.

02/05.06

#### **REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY**

The South West Regional Assembly is in the process of preparing this plan, to identify the best way for the southwest region to develop between now and 2026. The region extends from Swindon to Bournemouth in the east and extends west to the tip of Cornwall.

Somerset County Council has been commissioned by the SWRA to lead what's been called a Sub-Area Study to identify the preferred settlement pattern for Taunton. As part of their study they want views concerning the merits or otherwise of four broad settlement options to accommodate the future growth of Taunton.

The chairman explained that only options 2a and 2b would affect our parish, plan 2b showing high growth to the east of the motorway which would greatly affect ourselves and Stoke St Mary. He stressed that it is important that all parishioners know the facts. With this in mind he had requested leaflets to deliver to each and every parishioner but had been told that there were not enough available. However, he is obtaining a CD rom with copies of the maps showing the possible sites for urban extension and these will be printed off and delivered to parishioners together with a letter of explanation. It is hoped that parishioners will then comment on the proposals, this consultation period ends on 18 February, so there is a matter of urgency. The chairman and others will be attending the consultation meeting at Deane House tomorrow evening. It was agreed that the chairman and Cllr. Bulgin. would respond on behalf of the parish council.

DC Bryant said there would be an opportunity for members of the public to attend a similar meeting at St Andrews Hall on 3 March 2005 at 7.00 pm.

02/05.07

#### **LAY-BY TRADING - A358**

The problems of this site was discussed at length and it was proposed that the clerk write to the licensing authority requesting 'That the licence was not renewed unless the snack van was moved to a safer position'. This proposal was carried unanimously.

Cllr. Lowe also gave details of his recent meeting with Neil Pincombe (Highway Service Manager - SCC) regarding the clearing of gullies and repair work to be undertaken.

02/05.08

#### **A358 CYCLE/FOOTPATH**

Cllr. Lowe had been advised that it would be advantageous to canvas support from Tarmac for a cycle path to be incorporated with the footpath on the south side of the A358 in order that there would be a safer route from Ruishton Lane to Tarmac without the need for cyclists to cross at Henlade cross roads. The clerk to contact Stewart Bradley (Tarmac)

02/05.09

#### **ACCOUNTS**

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£	
Vale Labels Ltd	15.00	Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes	28.20	Maintenance
Alibrite Cleaning Services	50.00	Cleaning A358 bus shelters

#### **02/05.10 CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter has been received from Parsons Landscapes with regard to the litter bins in the recreation field being used for the disposal of dog waste, which is not part of their contract.

**02/05.11 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT/S**

County Cllr. Watson reported that the SCC will be providing a footpath along Cheats Road in conjunction with the flood precautions to be undertaken by the Environment Agency.

Detail design is being undertaken for the proposed Park and Ride at Cambria Farm.

Cycle Path from Church Lane to Hankridge - It was reported that the bank is in a dangerous state, Cllr. Watson explained that this was the responsibility of TDBC.

There is nothing to report on the progress of this path and Cllr. Watson again stated that if there has to be a compulsory purchase of the required land then it would prove very costly.

District Cllr. Bryant stated she would fully support us with regard to the Regional Spatial Strategy.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING - 2 MARCH 2005

**THE COUNCIL IS AWARE OF THEIR IMPLICATION UNDER  
SEC.17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 2000  
AND HAVE CONSIDERED THE ACT IN THEIR DECISION MAKING.**