

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 9 MAY 2007

Present: Cllr Marshall (Chairman), Bulgin, Faulkner, Hancock, House, Jurgensen, Lowe, Mullins and Small.

In Attendance: District Cllr Leighton, County Cllr. Clark, Chairman and Clerk from Creech St Michael PC, 1 Parishioner and Mary Growtage (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Anderdon, Rexworthy and Walker, District Cllr Durdan.

All members had signed their Acceptance of Office and Register of Members' Interests prior to the meeting.

05/07.01 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

	NOMINATION	PROPOSER	SECONDER
Chairman	R. House	M. Mullins	R. Bulgin
Vice Chair'	M. Marshall	D. Lowe	M. Mullins

Cllr House duly signed his acceptance of Office as Chairman and took over the chair for the remainder of the meeting

Cllr. House thanked Cllr. Marshall for all the work he had undertaken as Chairman over the past eight years.

05/07.02 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2007, having been circulated were taken as read. Amendments were made to 04/07.06 – RECREATION FIELD (Climbing frame) to read 'Three written quotes have been received' ----- and the addition of 'One verbal quote was also given to the meeting by Cllr Hill in the sum of £820 + VAT for the removal and re-siting of the equipment only' After these amendments are made the minutes will be signed by the Chairman.

The minutes for the planning meeting held on 18th April, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

05/07.03 NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

John Thorn Trust – Trustees Roy Bulgin, Pat Ward and Mary Growtage.

Nicholas Marks Trust – Trustees George Anderdon and Roy Bulgin

AREA

COUNCILLORS

FOOTPATHS

HOUSE AND JURGENSEN

HIGHWAYS

BULGIN, LOWE AND CLERK

RECREATION FIELD

BULGIN, FAULKNER AND REXWORTHY

SAFETY ISSUES

MULLINS

TARMAC LIAISON COMMITTEE

BULGIN, MULLINS AND CLERK

POLICE CONTACT	HOUSE AND CLERK
PRESS	HOUSE AND CLERK
LOWER HENLADE	ANDERDON AND CLERK
THORNFALCON	HOUSE AND SMALL
RIVERBANK	HOUSE AND JURGENSEN
LOCAL/STRUCTURE PLAN	BULGIN AND MARSHALL
VILLAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVE	REXWORTHY
KEY HOLDER	CLERK
SALC REPRESENTATIVE	ANDERDON AND HANCOCK
FLOOD WARDENS	BULGIN AND ANDERDON
	MRS CALLEN
TREE WARDENS	MRS F BANDEY
	MRS L MARSHALL

Cllr. Faulkner will take the minutes in the absence of the clerk.

Cllr. Walker has agreed to check the bank reconciliation every three months.

Cllr. Hancock will attend outside meetings were possible and scrutinise reports received from outside bodies if required to do so.

05/06.04 PLANNING MATTERS

31/2007/012- CONVERSION OF DOUBLE GARAGE TO PROVIDE BEDROOMS AND WC/SHOWER ROOM AT 13 GRAVELANDS LANE, HENLADE. The proposal constitutes development permitted under Article 3 of the above Order and the permission of the Local Planning Authority is therefore not necessary.

A parishioner has written to the Planning Office regarding developments taking place at 'Woodlands Castle', it is understood that the Enforcement Officer has the matter in hand. It was agreed that the clerk ask the Enforcement Officer for an update before the next meeting.

05/0705 CLERK'S REPORT

2007 CODE OF CONDUCT – This will be discussed and adopted at the June meeting. Members were given a brief summary from SALC
Cllr Hancock will review the new Code of Conduct and see if any amendments are required to our standing orders. Reporting to the clerk before the next meeting, which he is unable to attend.

UNITARY AUTHORITY – Letters have been received from both Taunton Deane and Somerset County Council; this will also go on the June agenda.

RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK MANAGEMENT – A 'thank you' letter has been received from the Rights of Way Officer for taking part in the consultation.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – REGULATION 25 CONSULTATION – JOINT ISSUES AND OPTIONS DOCUMENT – The consultation period ends on 21 June 2007. The Taunton Deane Weblink will provide full consultation arrangements including a 'workshop' at Deane House on 24 May 2007 to discuss 'Issues and Options'. It is important that we are involved at an early stage.

VILLAGE DAY – Permission was granted for the Village Day on 21 July 2007 to be held in the Recreation Field and for the Dog Show to be held in conjunction. The ban on dogs to be lifted for one day only. The field to be cleared of all glass, litter and dog mess after the event.

SURFACE DRESSING – Stoke Hill, Lower Henlade will be surface-dressed in mid August. Surface dressing is a low cost method of maintenance and is used to waterproof road surfaces that are showing deterioration.

PARISH PLAN – The Community Council have informed us that funding is still available. It may be possible to proceed with this after the 'Housing Need' survey has been carried out.

DIARY DATES –A list of 'Diary Dates' was given to those present, anyone wishing to attend any of the events should contact the clerk. Cllr House will attend the SALC Chairmanship Training Course at Ruishton Village Hall on 24 May 2007 and Cllr. Jurgensen will attend the SALC Councillor's Training Course at Burrowbridge Village Hall on 26 June 2007. The cost of both courses will be £40.00. Cllr. Jurgensen will also attend The Planning & Control Training Session on 14 May.

05/07.06 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Marshall had attended the SCC Scrutiny Committee meeting. When their response to the A358 was discussed. Cambria Farm (Park and Ride) was also discussed as a separate item and the SCC Executive had requested that the Highway Authority put an entry into the Park and Ride from the proposed Henlade bypass.

The new website advertising the Park and Ride will be include detail/plans and a questionnaire. Cllr. Lowe will ask Mr S Hill about the signs advertising the website, as he was seeing to this when in office.

05/07.07 RESPONSE TO HIGHWAYS AGENCY A358 CONSULTATION

Matters to be included to our response to the Highways Agency re the A303/A358 Improvements include:

- Concerns with the ability of the M5 roundabout to cope with the extra traffic being attracted by an upgraded A358 which will have the effect of increasing Heavy Goods vehicles and holiday traffic that would have previously used the A303/A30.
- Also concerned that proposed cutting through Henlade is shown as concrete lined, which will amplify traffic noise.
- Concerned that the blocking off of so many existing roads that access the A358 on the Ilminster to Taunton stretch will lead to normal Service vehicles having to use unsuitable country lanes to access the villages in the area.
- The Henlade bypass section should be aligned to give access to the proposed Park and Ride at Cambria Farm. According to existing traffic figures 80% of the traffic that uses the A358 use it to access Taunton, therefore this strategic route should be adapted to the needs of this majority.
- Concerned that the proposed roundabouts at the Thornfalcon cutting will give unacceptable levels of light pollution given their height in relation to the surrounding countryside.
- Concern over the number of footpaths that will be crossed by the new road.
- Concern on the impact on businesses that will be cut off by the new road.

- Impact on residents of Stoke Road, Henlade.

The clerk will send these responses to the Highway Agency

05/07.08 APPROVE AGENDA FOR PARISH MEETING

The meeting approved the agendas for the Annual Parish Meetings on 19 May 2006.

05/07.09 MEMORIAL STONE

Cllr Bulgin agreed to liase between Tarmac and Stooks Memorials with regard to the Memorial Stone at Dinhams.

Concern was expressed at the state of the Memorial Garden and it was agreed that the clerk should write to Henlade Nursery, who had agreed to upkeep the area, asking them if they could attend to the bed.

If they are unable to do so Cllr. Faulker kindly offered to clear the bed

05/07.10 ACCOUNTS

Those present were given copies of the draft accounts, which will be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting. The clerk does not expect there to be any alterations. The Internal Auditor will audit the accounts next week.

The following accounts were passed for payment:

Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
Staples (MG)	24.99	Glide Mat
M Mullins	18.00	Fire Extinguisher
Parsons Landscapes Ltd	231.73	Ground Maintenance
LaMIS	150.40	3yr Sub for Software (photography/maps)

The invoice for Sitemakers Ltd has been held back until the website is up and running. Cllr Bulgin to enquire when this is likely to happen.

The insurance premium will be due for payment on 1 June 2007; Cllr. Bulgin is looking into amending the cover in a hope to reduce the cost. The Internal Auditor approved the policy last year.

As at 30 April the balances in hand were: Nat West Current A/C £10555.08 and £12k in Scottish Widows Tracker A/C. The Clerk proposed transferring £6k from the Nat west A/C to the Scottish Widows A/C and this was duly agreed.

05/07.11 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Clark informed the meeting that SCC proposal to apply to become a Unitary Authority has to be further considered by the government.

He stated that five of the District Councils had asked the SCC to hold a referendum but this has been refused.

05/07.12 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Leighton thanked those who voted for Cllr Durdan and herself at the recent election.

Cllr. Durdan has informed us that TAUNTON Deane DLO cut the grass verges within the villages, on a contractual basis for Somerset County Council and that the only verges include are those adopted by the SCC (Highway Authority) as part of the developments.

SCC cuts all other rural verges on a lesser frequency, which is linked to visibility and road safety.

Cllr. Leighton expressed concern over the tenants who had only recently voted against a stock transfer of their homes to another party and how they would be affected if there were a Unitary Authority.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 6 JUNE 2007

Parishioners question time will continue to be at 7.20 pm
prior to the commencement of the Parish Council meeting at 7.30 pm

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.15PM

**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.**