

# RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 OCTOBER 2007 COMMENCING AT 7.00PM

Present: Cllr. House (Chairman), Anderdon, Bulgin, Hancock, Lowe, Marshall, Mullins, Rexworthy, Small and Walker.

In Attendance: County Cllr. Clark, District Cllr. Durdan and Leighton - Mrs Jill Shortland (Leader), Mr Richard Needs (Project Manager), Mr Patrick Flaherty (Physical Resources) and Ms Naomi Gornall (Ass. Engineer) from Somerset County Council who were present for the first agenda item only - 15 parishioners, 4 members of Creech St Michael Parish Council and Mary Grootage (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Faulkner

### 10/07.01 PROPOSED 'PARK AND RIDE' AT CAMBRIA FARM

This item on the agenda was thrown open to all present.

Cllr. House declared an interest & Cllr. Marshall took the chair for this agenda item.

Cllr. Marshall gave a brief resume of past meetings and again expressed our concerns that that Parish Council were not consulted fully over the choice of site and that traffic assessments were not carried out before the site was identified.

There is concern over the amount of traffic queuing in Ruishton Lane and possibly back onto the motorway at peak times.

Residents of Lower Henlade state that this is definitely a 'rat run' into Taunton, with almost 1000 vehicles using this road from 8 – 9am. Mr Needs stated that a traffic count had now been carried out on this road. Concern was also expressed over the amount of flooding that occurs in this area, including some homes, and how the 'Park and Ride' would affect this problem.

A request was made for traffic calming in Lower Henlade and Cllr. Shortland said she would look into this possibility.

There was also concern over the use of Thornfalcon, Ham and Creech St Michael by vehicles wishing to avoid the queues of traffic at the motorway junction.

Cllr. Leighton asked where traffic would be diverted if there was a major traffic incident on the A358.

Cllr. House thanked those from SCC for attending the meeting.

Many left the meeting at this point, including the County and District Councillors .

The Parish Council meeting resumed at 8.40pm

10/07.02 MINUTES OF THE LAST TWO MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2007, 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 September 2007.

10/07.03 PLANNING MATTERS

31/2007/022 – ERECTION OF LINK FROM HOUSE TO GARAGE AND CONVERSION OF GARAGE TO FORM NEW ANNEX, ERECTION OF CONSERVATORY AND INSERTION OF NEW FLUE PIPE ON NORTHERN ELEVATION AT TOAD, HALL, LOWER HENLADE (TD)

Cllr. House declared an interest and Cllr. Bulgin a possible interest. Cllr. Marshall took the chair for this agenda item.

Four letters have been received from residents of Lower Henlade, none are against the application but all stressed that they did not want the premises used for holiday accommodation at a later date.

Residents from Lower Henlade were given the opportunity to speak on the application.

The meeting had no objection to this application and were responding to drawing no 10137/03 but were also against the premises being used as holiday accommodation at a later date.

31/2007/023 – ERECTION OF CONSERVATORY AT REAR OF 30 LAWN MEADOW, RUISHTON (TD)

There was no objection to this application.

31/2007/024 – ERECTION OF AMENITIES BLOCK AT THORNFALCON WORKS, HENLADE (TD)

There was no objection to this application.

4/2007/009 – OUTDOOR TENNIS COURT WITH 4M HIGH SURROUNDING FENCE WITHIN TREE AND HEDGE PLANTING AT THORNFALCON HOUSE, THORNFALCON (TD)

Again there was no objection to this application.

4/2007/010 - A planning meeting will be called to discuss a further application for a entrance porch at the above address.

WOODLANDS CASTLE – The clerk has heard from the Enforcement Officer (TD) that an enforcement order is being issued regarding the marquees that have been erected on this site and that the applicant is likely to appeal against both the planning refusal and the enforcement order.

We are informed that at present Woodlands castle does not have a premises licence but that the owner does submit temporary event notices to the licensing unit for some functions which allows them to carry out licensable activities such as the supply of alcohol, regulated entertainment etc.

There was permission for a function that took place on 11 August in the evening until 2am the following morning.

31/2006/015 – TD have granted permission for the 'Retention of change of use from agricultural to domestic cartilage and erection of garage/workshop and store at The Barn, Arundells Farm, Lower Henlade.

31/2006/028 -SITE AT 10b NEWLANDS CRESCENT, RUISHTON – An appeal has been lodged with The First Secretary of State against the decision of the LPA to refuse planning permission for the erection of a two storey dwelling with garage following demolition of one double garage.

10/07.04

#### CLERK'S REPORT

To save time a draft of the clerk's report was handed to all members.

NEWSLETTER – Apologies were given that the last newsletter was not published, due to it being lost at the printers.

CASUAL VACANCY – No ten electors have requested for an election to take place, therefore it is for the council to co-opt a replacement member. Anyone wishing to be considered for the vacancy should write to the clerk, by the end of October. Giving their details and reasons as to why they would like to be considered to become a parish councillor and should attend the next meeting, where they should be prepared to answer questions from current councillors.

SOMERSET HERITAGE ROADSHOW – This is a free day event that is being held at The Fleet Air Arm Museum on 13 October 2007 and will see 35 of the county's museums and heritage organisations putting on displays and activities for the public, covering the entirety of Somerset's history, with displays from the geological past right up to 20th century history from Somerset's towns and villages.

Tickets to the Fleet Air Arm Museum are half price for that day from 11am to 4pm.

RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES IN SOMERSET – The Rambler's Association are asking Parish Councils to prioritise all public rights of way within their jurisdiction as either priority 1, 2 or 3, depending on how regularly they are used. This will effect how paths are maintained in the future.

A38 ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOP – This was been postponed due to lack of interest.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN TAUNTON DEANE – The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) wish to develop this further by holding regular meetings. To achieve this they have established three sub-groups, the first meeting for our area is on 1 November at Creech St Michael School commencing at 6.30pm.

HGV PINCH POINT CONSULTATION – We have been asked to identify pinch points that make roads unsuitable for HGV traffic. All points identified will be reviewed to achieve a balance between providing sufficient information to hauliers and to develop electronic and map based guidance to help them to select more appropriate routes. It was agreed that mention should be made to include, Stoke Hill, Lower Henlade, Ruishton Lane, Bushy Cross Lane, Cheats Road and all roads in Thornfalcon.

WASTE MANAGEMENT – Members were given copies of a letter from The Somerset Waste Partnership. This states that there is a new organisation responsible for waste collection in Somerset. Initially, there should be very little change for residents, with the same current rounds and collection days. The contract being due to start on 15 October 2007.

There is a strong demand to add plastic bottle and cardboard recycling and trials for this will be launched in April next year in selected area in the county. If successful the service could be implemented countywide from April 2009.

The clerk asked if anyone would like to attend a presentation and discussion session on the future of Waste Management to be held in November. There will also be a public exhibition at The Pig Market, Taunton on Thursday 18 October 2007, from 9.30 am to 4pm. In addition a number of evening events will be staged at supermarkets in various towns.

0/07.05 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman mentioned that neither councillors nor the public have the right to enter private properties to order to take photographs, a complaint having been received that this had been done recently.

10/07.06 UPDATE ON A358 TO M5 TAUNTON IMPROVEMENT CONSULTATION

A copy of a letter received from Mr Stephen Coe (Highways Agency) was given to those present (see attached)

It was agreed that the clerk should write to the Highways Agency asking when details would be available regarding the last paragraph of their letter.

This stated that 'as a result of responses received during the public consultation, an alternative layout for the Henlade Bypass, passing to the south of Lower Henlade and joining the motorway south of Holway Road.' The results of this further work will be reported on in an addendum to the public consultation report.

10/07.07 REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL PITCH REQUIREMENTS FOR GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS

This will be put on the agenda of the next planning meeting.

10/07.08 AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS IN THE PARISH

Cllr. Mullins and Bulgin had looked into possible sites, but Cllr. Mullins thought that as there was not a major issue at this time that this should be left in abeyance until after the 'Park and Ride' is operational, when there may be some small areas of land available. This was agreed by the meeting who also felt that should there be any major development take place in the parish at a later date, that it should include some affordable housing.

10/07.09 NEED FOR ALLOTMENTS IN THE PARISH

Cllr. Bulgin will take this matter forward.

10/07.10 MEMORIAL SHRUB BED

Cllrs. Bulgin, Faulkner and their family have cleared this, but it still needs more work and the edge trimmed. It was agreed to get some bark chipping, costing about £40, in order to control the weeds.

It was agreed to advertise in the newsletter to enquire if anyone would be prepared to take over the maintenance and planting of this bed for a small consideration.

10/07.11 FINANCE

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Vale Labels Ltd	15.00 Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes Ltd	231.73 August ground maintenance

A VAT repayment has been received for £899.48; this includes the VAT paid on the work undertaken regarding the 'Igloo' and safety surfacing.

The following grants have been received from TDBC:

	£
Work on 'Igloo' and safety surfacing	1247.40
Maintenance of recreation field	840.00*
Upkeep of footpaths	100.00*

Grants were also been received for the upkeep of the Burial grounds and these have been passed to the Parochial Church Councils \*

\* These grants are the same as last year.

10/07.12 REPORT ON ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None received.

10/07.13 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

All had left the meeting earlier.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35pm

THE NEXT FULL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 7 NOVEMBER 2007

**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.**

