

# RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 NOVEMBER 2007

Present: Cllr. House (Chair), Bulgin, Faulkner, Hancock, Hill, Lowe, Marshall, Mullins, Rexworthy and Small.

In Attendance: County Cllr. Clark, District Councillor Durdan and 6 parishioners.  
J. Cairns, E. Harper and S. Ruxton (applicants for casual vacancy)  
David Greig (TD Parish Liaison Officer) and Mary Grootage (clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Anderdon and Walker, District Cllr. Leighton

### 11/07.01 MINUTES OF THE LAST TWO MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on 3 and 17 October 2007, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

### 11/07.02 CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Parishioners were asked to leave the meeting while this agenda item took place.

The three candidates for the Casual Vacancy were Jacqueline Cairns, Elizabeth Harper and Sally Ruxton.

The Chairman questioned each of the three candidates individually, with other members asking questions if they wished to do so.

A vote was then taken, David Greig counted the votes and declared that Elizabeth Harper had been duly elected having an overall majority of the votes.

Parishioners were invited to return to the meeting and the result was given to them.

Elizabeth was then invited to join the other council members, after signing her declaration of office.

### 11/07.03 PLANNING MATTERS

The clerk reported that TD had granted planning permission for the erection of a conservatory at 30 Lawn Meadow (31/2007/023) but had refused the felling of one beech tree at the Range, Henlade (31/2007/21T)

49/2997/013T – Application to fell one poplar tree and to carry out management work to one poplar, one elm, one holm oak and two yews within Thornfalcon conservation area at Thornfalcon House, has been received since the agenda was agreed. It was agreed that the tree warden be asked to reply to this planning application.

Redrow Homes (West Country) and Persimmon Homes (SW) Ltd have lodged appeals against the non-determination by the Local Planning Authority in regard to development at Monkton Heathfield.

11/07.04 REPORT ON TARMAC LIAISON MEETING

Cllr. Bulgin reported on the recent meeting with Tarmac. The main issue raised was their concern at making the entrance safer and it was agreed that the Parish Council should write to the Somerset County Council supporting the Company's request for safety measures to be undertaken outside the site.

11/07.05 CLERK'S REPORT

A38 ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOP – This will now be held on 19 November 2007 at Bridgwater Canalside Centre, Huntworth 7 – 9 pm. Places to be booked.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING – Felix Marsh will attend the December meeting.

ROAD CLOSURE – There will be a temporary road closure on the B3168 at Puckington and Stocklinch for ten days commencing 8 November 2007.

PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE IN TAUNTON TOWN CENTRE is being circulated. Responses to be in by 6 December 2007.

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE WASTE IN SOMERSET is also being circulated. There will be a presentation at Creech St Michael Village Hall on Friday 9 November 2007 at 7.30pm.

The consultation period ends on 15 December 2007.

CIVIC REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES IN TAUNTON will take place on Sunday, 11 November 2007 commencing at 9.30pm. Full details from the clerk.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY POLICING AWARDS – Nominations are sought for the following awards:

- Neighbourhood Beat Manager of the Year
- Neighbourhood team of the year
- PSCO of the year
- Special Constable of the year
- The Outstanding Customer Service Award

It was agreed not to make any nominations.

PITCH REQUIREMENTS FOR GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS – Our reply has been acknowledged. An Examination in Public will be held starting 3 March 2008. A meeting to explain the procedures that will form the EiP will be held at The Thistle Hotel, Exeter on Monday 26 November 2007 starting at 2pm

TAUNTON DEANE WORKING PANEL – The November meeting has been postponed, due to recent discussions concerning the nature of the Panels and their Terms of Reference.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS – Cllr. Lowe will be meeting Kali Martin (Somerset Highways) and needs to know of anything that requires attention. e.g. pavements.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR – Taunton Deane offices will be closed throughout the Christmas and New Year period, from midday on Friday 21 December to Wednesday, 2 January 2008. Our first meeting in 2008 will be on 2 January 2008

11/07.06 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on the poor state of the notice board alongside Dinhams and agreed to treat it as required.

11/07.07 REPORT ON LOWER HENLADE AND STOKE ROAD RESIDENTS' MEETING

A letter was read from Gill Ellis (Lower Henlade and Stoke Road Residents' Association and Neighbourhood Watch) making the following requests:

- That the Parish Council requests SCC to carry out a Safety Audit for Stoke Road and Lower Henlade.
- That the Parish Council gives careful consideration to the appointing someone from Lower Henlade to the vacant position on the Council. As residents feel somewhat 'out on a limb' and, with the majority of Councillors currently living in Ruishton, feel under-represented.
- That the Parish Council grants a 'start-up' donation to help in getting the Residents' Association underway.

It was agreed that the clerk should write asking for the breakdown of the latest traffic speed checks, types of vehicles and the times when undertaken, before deciding whether a Safety Audit is necessary.

It was also agreed that the clerk should write asking what a 'start-up' donation would be spent on and requesting the date and agenda of the next meeting.

Cllr. Mullins was concerned that 26 households had been represented at their last meeting and felt that the Parish Council should work in conjunction with the residents from this area.

11/07.08 BUS SHELTER AT NAGS HEAD, THORNFALCON

The clerk reported that the bus company had complained to Taunton Deane regarding the state of this bus shelter. The Chairman has inspected the shelter and said that all that was required was for it to be cleaned.

The clerk will arrange for this to be undertaken.

11/07.09 UPDATE ON MEMORIAL SHRUB BED

Cllr. Bulgin reported that we now await delivery of the stone.

He also stated that Tarmac might be prepared to pay for the plaque.

11/07.10 UPDATE ON PROPOSED PARK AND RIDE AT CAMBRIA FARM

Cllr. Marshall informed the meeting that Somerset County Council would be depositing the planning application at the end of November 2007 and that he has been promised the consultation reports within the next week.

The application should be heard late February/early March 2008.

A special meeting will be called as soon as possible, once we have all the information, as Cllr. Marshall will be away for our December meeting.

Cllr. Marshall also spoke on the A358 to M5 Taunton Road Improvement Consultation (10/07.06), confirming that the Highway Authority were awaiting a response from both the Somerset County Council and Taunton Deane Borough Council on any alternative layout.

11/07.11 UPDATE ON ALLOTMENTS FOR THE PARISH

Cllr. Bulgin has this matter in hand.

11/07.12. PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

Cllr. Mullins agreed to laminate another three copies of the definitive map.

There is a need to replace missing footpath signs in the parish.

Cllr. Harper and Cllr. Hancock's wife who are 'keen walkers' will report on any footpaths that require attention.

11/07.13 FINANCE

The following accounts were authorised for payment:

	£	
Vale Labels	15.00	Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes	231.73	Ground Maintenance - Sept'07
Mary Growthage	72.55	Expenses to end October 2007

A small account is expected from Wickstead Leisure for bolts for the swings and it was agreed that this be paid when received.

It was decided not to support Somerset Art week on this occasion but to consider supporting the Citizens Advice Bureau when the precept is discussed.

The bank balances as at 31 October 2007 are as follows:

Nat West Current A/C - £100.00  
Nat West Reserve A/C - £3622.36  
Scottish Widows - £14k

Cllr. Walker agreed the balances at 30 September 2007.

The Precept for 2008/09 has to be agreed at the January meeting, a draft will be given to members at the December meeting.

11/07.14 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr. Durdan told the meeting that Tone Leisure was launching a MEND programme. This is a community, family-based programme for overweight and obese children aged between 7 – 13 and their families, placing equal emphasis on **M**ind, **E**xercise and **N**utrition.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35 pm

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON 5 DECEMBER 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.**

