

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7 MAY 2008

Present: Cllr House (Chairman), Bulgin, Faulkner, Hancock, Harper, Marshall, Rexworthy and Small.

In Attendance: 5 Parishioners and Mary Growtage (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Anderdon, Lowe and Mullins, County Cllr. Clark, District Cllr. Durdan and Leighton

05/08.01 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

	<u>NOMINATION</u>	<u>PROPOSER</u>	<u>SECONDER</u>
Chairman	R. House	R. Bulgin	M. Marshall
Vice Chair'	M. Marshall	R. Bulgin	I. Small

Cllr House signed his acceptance of Office as Chairman.

05/08.02 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd and 30th April 2008, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

05/08.03 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

<u>AREA</u>	<u>COUNCILLORS</u>
FOOTPATHS	HOUSE AND HARPER
HIGHWAYS	BULGIN, LOWE AND CLERK
RECREATION FIELD	BULGIN, FAULKNER AND REXWORTHY
SAFETY ISSUES	MULLINS
TARMAC LIAISON COMMITTEE	BULGIN, MARSHALL, MULLINS AND CLERK
POLICE CONTACT	HOUSE AND CLERK
PRESS	HOUSE AND CLERK
LOWER HENLADE	ANDERDON, LOWE AND CLERK
THORNFALCON	HOUSE AND SMALL
RIVERBANK	HOUSE AND HARPER
LOCAL/STRUCTURE PLAN	BULGIN AND MARSHALL
VILLAGE HALL REP	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. Rexworthy will check the bank reconciliation quarterly.

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

05/08.04 PLANNING MATTERS

31/2008/009T – TO CARRY OUT MANAGEMENT WORK TO ONE BEECH TREE INCLUDED IN TDB (RUISHTON NO.1) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2006 AT WOODLANDS, RUISHTON (TD1002)

Cllr. Bulgin declared an interest.

Mrs Marshall has no problem with the work being carried out on this tree. This was agreed by the meeting who asked that the tree, along with those that had been blown down should be replaced with suitable 'parkland' trees.

05/08.05 CLERK'S REPORT

AFFORDABLE HOUSING – The clerk has been approached by Clive Miller & Associates Ltd., of Langport requesting details of any sites suitable for affordable housing in the parish. The council on behalf of Somerset Community Council has already carried this out and the clerk will inform them accordingly.

LOCAL AUTHORITY EVENT – HM Customs and Excise is considering holding a Business Advice Open Day for unregistered VAT bodies. It was agreed that there was no need for the clerk to attend this event.

SALC AREA MEETING – This will be held at Bicknoller Village Hall on 5th June commencing at 7.30pm.

The Annual meetings will be held on 28 September at 11am in Woolavington Village Hall.

FLOODING OF NEW ROAD/MOOR LANE, NORTH CURRY – A questionnaire has been received from North Curry Flood Group asking how the flooding of these roads affects our parish. It was considered that it did not affect our parishioners.

ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE – Verge cutting will take place as follows:

- 6 – 27 May
A and B routes (including visibility splays and junctions)
- 28 May – 2 June
Special sites (Glastonbury Festival site etc.)
- 3 June 0 28 July
C and unclassified roads
- 29 July – 18 August
A and B routes – second cut (provisional depending on growing conditions)

Environmentally protected sites will usually be cut at the end of the growing season required.

TARMAC LIAISON MEETING – To be held on 15 May 2008 at 18.30.

The clerk has already sent her apologies. With regard to the A358 junction with Thornfalcon works, the clerk has written to Somerset Highways and they were waiting to hear from Tarmac in regard to this matter.

05/08.06 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

WEBSITE – Dave Duke would like to improve the content of the Parish Council web page, by adding a portrait of council members along with a 20 – 50 word paragraph on where they fit into the community, likes, dislikes and main interest on the council.

Some items on the web page also need to be updated.

LOWLAND AND MOORS BID MEETING – The Chairman had attended a meeting which aims to market and upgrade the area.

CASUAL VACANCY – There is still a casual vacancy to be filled on the council.

05/08.07 APPROVE AGENDA FOR PARISH MEETING

A similar agenda to last year was approved.

Members felt that parishioners should be made aware that this is a meeting for parishioners and the only councillor with an active part in the meeting is the Chairman. The clerk takes the minutes but does not legally have to do so.

It was felt that in future parishioners should be encouraged to take a more active part and that this should be considered earlier in the year.

05/08.08 RECREATION FIELD

INSURANCE – Cllr. Bulgin went into great detail as to where the cost of insurance could be reduced and had spoken in depth to our insurers on the matter.

It was agreed that all mandatory insurance cover must remain as at present.

Agreement was reached that the huddle, see saw and swings will not be insured. Only the toddler's den/slide, picnic table and multi-play equipment be covered by All Risks and that all other play equipment and all street furniture be covered for Impact only. The only notice boards being insured being the main ones at Ruishton and Henlade Post Office.

It is understood that we would also be entitled to 5% discount if we enter a long undertaking with the company (Cornhill Insurance)

BALL STOP FENCING – A reply is still awaited from Taunton Deane Solicitor.

Residents of Overlands who back onto the recreation field should be asked whether or not they want the fencing removed from its present position.

The clerk will enquire the cost involved when the outcome of this is known.

GRANT/FENCING AROUND TODDLERS PLAY AREA – It was agreed to submit the lowest quote received for this grant.

05/08.09 FINANCE

Copies of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008, having been audited by the Internal Auditor, were given to those present and were duly approved.

The notes from the Internal Auditor were read to the meeting

The 2008 Annual Return was completed and signed by the chairman and clerk.

The risk assessment will have to be reviewed in July this year.

We have received our 2008/09 Precept of £11250 and a VAT repayment of £172.61

Scottish Widows have paid the interest of £160.10 twice in error and as they have been credited to our Nat West A/C they are unable to reverse the payment and will therefore be debiting our Scottish Widows account with this amount.

It was agreed that a cheque for £10160.10 paid into our Scottish Widows account making a balance held there of £21500

Finally, we have been informed by Nat West that in from 2 June 2008 we will not be entitled to free banking and that our accounts will be chargeable at their standard tariff rates. This could amount to about £100 per annum.

The following accounts were submitted and agreed for payment:

	£
Vale Labels	15.00 Newsletter
Parsons Landscapes Ltd	262.26 Grounds Maintenance
N Carter	120.00 Internal Auditor
Community Council	25.00 Subscription
D Duke	105.73 Domain Name (Website)
SALC	324.73 2008/09 Affiliation fee

A letter from Henlade and Stoke Road Residents Association was read to the meeting, requesting financial support to purchase a gazebo/marquee for their first social event. The meeting felt that they did not have funds available for this expense and that there were places where they can be hired at a reasonable cost. The clerk will inform them who to contact in this matter.

05/08.10 UPDATE ON 'PARK AND RIDE'

A response has been received from David Corry, County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, Somerset County Council, who states that he needs to discuss this internally and deal with all aspects before he can reply. This will take a further two weeks.

Richard Needs writes that discussions with both the Highways Agency and Somerset County Council's Traffic modelling team concerning the analysis of the traffic impact of this project are still ongoing. A further meeting is being arranged for early June with a view to concluding these discussions
Once these discussions are concluded a summary of the outcome of the assessment will be issued to the Parish Council for information.

Cllr. Mullins arrived at 9.10pm

05/08.11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Three letters of complaint were received from residents expressing their concern regarding the firework display from Woodlands Castle on the evening of 2 May.

These letters will be acknowledged and forwarded to Taunton Deane Licensing Authority and Environmental Health department.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 4 JUNE 2008

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.**