

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2008

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

In Attendance: County Cllr. Clark, Mrs F Wadsley (TD Planning Officer)
6 Parishioners and Mary Grootage (clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Rexworthy, District Cllr. Durdan and Leighton.

07/08.01 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2008, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed after the addition of 'Cllr Mullins under apologies' and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

07/08.02 PLANNING MATTERS

31/2008/011 – ERECTION OF REAR SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION,
21 NEWLANDS CRESCENT, RUISHTON (PC)

There were no further letters of objection or representation, other than those reported at the last meeting.

Mrs Wadsley stated that the Planning Officer felt that the extension is considered to harm the residential amenity and the character of the building and is therefore considered to be unacceptable.

After much decision between Mrs Wadsley and members as to whether or not the extension was too large, a vote was taken resulting in 7 for and 2 against the application, with 1 abstention.

31/2008/12A – DISPLAY OF ILLUMINATED AND NON-ILLUMINATED SIGNS TO EXTERIOR OF BUILDING AT BLACKBROOK TAVERN (TD)

The meeting raised no objections to this application.

31/2008/018 – ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION TO REAR OF
3 THE GROVE, HENLADE (PC)

The meeting passed this application subject to no objections being received.

31/2008/010 - An additional meeting will have to be called regarding the erection of a garage with storage etc at Bally Green, Henlade.

The application for the proposed replacement playgroup building at Ruishton C of E Primary School has been withdrawn.

Enforcement Order re 4 Gravelands Lane – An Enforcement Order has been issued regarding the change of use of this property.

Planning Obligations – Representations are invited on the Borough Council's draft SPD entitled 'Planning Obligations' up to 17 July. The draft is available on the interactive web document at <http://www.tauntondeane.gov.uk/talking-tomorrows/planobs.asp>. It can also be viewed at The Deane House.

Cllr. Bulgin reported that Summerfield are communicating with the Somerset Highways regarding their objection to the application for Henlade. It is noted that Gareth Clifford has taken over as the Planning Officer (TD) for this application.

07/08.03

CLERK'S REPORT

NOTICE BOARDS – There is a waiting list for the notice boards and we are unlikely to get one as offered by Taunton Deane.

PROPOSED SEAT OUTSIDE 2 CORONATION CLOSE – We are awaiting permission from Somerset Highways, as soon as the necessary License is granted this can be undertaken. Funding will come from our County Councillor's 'Somerset Local Initiative Budget' Fund.

RUISHTON BUS SHELTER – A quote has been received from Richard Gudge to redecorate and repair the bus shelter in the sum of £448.89 and from Michael Sparks in the sum of £560. As raised at parishioners question time, the roof appears to be leaking and may need refelting. The clerk will enquire the cost of replacing the shelter and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

POLICY FOR COMMUNITY HALLS IN TAUNTON DEANE – This will be given to Cllr. Rexworthy to respond to on our behalf.

REFRESHER COURSE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS – This is aimed at those Councillors operating the Parish Delegation system and will be held in the John Mickle Room, Deane House on Monday, 14 July at 6pm.

TRAINING EVENTS – SALC are holding an Event on 3 September 2008 in Ruishton Village Hall 2pm for 2.15pm to inform and explain the following:

- Quality Town and Parish Councils
- Power of Well-being
- Appointed Councillors

The event is intended for Councillors and Clerks and is likely to be important to those wishing to take on activity under the Power of Well-being (such as community enterprises, village shops and similar economic development; it may also be relevant to local affordable housing with some control resting with the local Council.

Booking before the end of July @ £15 per head.

LANDSCAPE SEMINAR – A representative is invited to a morning's seminar on the landscapes of Taunton Deane on Monday 7 July in the John Meikle Room, Deane House commencing at 10am and followed by a light lunch.

The agenda will follow sometime this week.

BT PUBLIC CALLBOX CLOSURE - Cllr. Bulgin has canvassed local residents and the general opinion is that it should be removed as it is not used much and tends to be a target for vandalism. At present the box will only accept 999 calls.

07/08.04

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman had nothing additional to report.

07/08.05 RUISHTON SCOUT HUT Cllr Bulgin reported that the 1st Henlade Scout group have been given notice to remove their hut from the grounds of Woodlands, after 73 years.

07/08.06 TRAFFIC CALMING

The clerk reported that she had received the result of the traffic survey carried out in Stoke Road and Lower Henlade between 15 – 29, May 2008 which were as follows:

	Average mph	Vehicle nos.	April 2005
<u>STOKE ROAD</u>			
NORTHBOUND	37	983	908
SOUTHBOUND	33	707	777
<u>LOWER HENLADE</u>			
EASTBOUND	37	242	488
WESTBOUND	41	1286	1244

Somerset Highways state that they will consider a warning sign and road markings along Stoke Road.

It was agreed that the clerk contact Somerset Highways 'Road Safety Watch' for guidance and ask their representative to attend a future Parish Council meeting, to discuss the issues and give advice.

RUISHTON – Cllr. Marshall has heard from Atkins Ltd regarding preliminary proposals for traffic calming in Ruishton Lane and Cheats Road. This includes three sets of 'speed cushions' in Cheats Road and two sets in Ruishton Lane along with 2 'round-top road humps'. There is also provision for the A358/Ruishton Lane junction improvements. Cllr Marshall has responded that it is difficult to comment without traffic prediction figures/assessments and our main concerns are pedestrian safety and clear access.

07/08.07 UPDATE ON PROPOSED 'PARK AND RIDE'

The Secretary of State has called a Public Local Inquiry to be held on Tuesday, 22 July at the Holiday Inn, Junction 25 of the M5 Deane Gate Avenue to hear representations from statutory objectors relating to the proposed East of Taunton Park and Ride scheme. Cllr Marshall has written at length objecting to the Compulsory Orders and requested that the Parish Council be allowed to speak at the Public Inquiry. (copy of letter attached to the minutes)

It is also understood that the Somerset Highways are not looking at full signalisation at the motorway roundabout.

The clerk is to write to the Monitoring Officer requesting a reply to her last letter dated 18 June regarding the Somerset Council Regulation Committee's actions in deciding the outcome of the planning application (4/31/07/026)

07/08.08 RECREATION FIELD

The Chairman is awaiting a quote to move the high fence from Overlands end of the Recreation field to a new position, not yet decided.

We should know the result of our grant application for renewing the fencing around the toddlers' play equipment before the next meeting.

The owners of 4 Overlands have requested permission to enter the recreation field to fix new panels along the back of their garden. This was given providing no damage is made to the grass in any way.

Permission was given for Ruishton Village Day to be held in the recreation field on 19 July 2008 with the usual conditions applying as in previous years.

07/08.09 UPDATE RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Cllrs House and Marshall will review this. Copies will be sent to councillors with this month's minutes.

07/08.10 REGISTERS OF INTEREST, GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

Councillors were reminded that they are obliged to keep their 'Register of Interest' up to date.

07/08.11 FINANCE

The following accounts were presented and authorised for payment:

	£
Quality Service Printers	17.25 June newsletter (increase of 15%)
Parsons Landscapes Ltd	262.28 Maintenance – May 2008
K.G. Rabjohns	50.00 Clearing footpath

There is a query on invoices received from Allbrite SW Ltd, QSP and Ruishton Village Hall. Allbrite have charged us for cleaning two bus shelters but the Nags Head one has definitely not been cleaned. The clerk will speak with them on this omission. QSP have bought out Vale Labels and the July invoice is for £17.25 plus 50% of the stapling charged, making £27.75. The PC has not agreed nor been consulted on this arrangement. It was agreed that in future the Village Hall Committee would pay the total cost of the newsletter and charge the Parish Council for their contribution quarterly. Ruishton VH invoice has been returned as it included months already paid and a query over the hours for the Annual Parish Meeting.

07/08/11 REPORT ON ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None received.

07/08.12 COUNTY /DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nothing to further report.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2008

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10pm

**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.**