

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON

PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2008

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

In Attendance: County Cllr. Clark, District Cllr. Durdan, 4 Parishioners,
2 Prospective District Councillors, Mr David Greig (TD Parish Liaison Officer) and Mary
Growthage (clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs. Hancock, Harper, Rexworthy and Small.

09/08.01 CASUAL VACANCY

Mrs Karen Ryan was welcomed to the meeting as our new councillor, having signed the
'Declaration of Office' and joined other councillors (08/08.05)

09/08.02 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2008, having been circulated, were taken as
read and following one minor amendment, were duly agreed and signed by the chairman as
a correct record.

09/08.03 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

09/08.04 PLANNING MATTERS

31/2008/010 – ERECTION OF GARAGE AND STORAGE AND INSERTION OF DORMERS
AT BALLY GREEN, HENLADE (PC)

The meeting agreed with the Planning Officer's recommendation and refused this application
considering the dormer windows by reason of their scale and size to be in appropriate on this
ancillary storage building by giving the appearance of a domestic dwelling and are out of
character with the main building contrary to Taunton Deane Local Plan Policies S1 (D) and
S2 (A)

31/2008/020 – RETENTION OF BOUNDARY WALL AND FENCE TO FRONT OF
PROPERTY AT BARROW CORNER, LOWER HENLADE (TD)

There were no objections to this application.

31/2008/021 – ERECTION OF SIDE AND REAR EXTENSIONS, ALTERATIONS TO ROOF AND ERECTION OF PORCH AT ORCHARD END, LOWER HENLADE

(PC)

The meeting approved this application, subject to neighbours and the Planning Officer having no adverse comments.

31/2008/022 – DEMOLITION OF DOUBLE GARAGE, REBUILDING OF GARAGE AND PROVISION OF REAR EXTENSION TO PROVIDE GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR ANNEXE WITH DORMER WINDOW TO FRONT ELEVATION AT STONELEIGH, LOWER HENLADE (PC)

This application was approved on condition that the extension is used as an annexe and not as a separate unit for residential accommodation.

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS – 31/2008/007 dwelling in grounds of Thornhams has not been resolved and the application for affordable housing at Henlade has not yet gone before the Planning Committee.

09/08.05

CLERK'S REPORT

COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET – AGM at Stoke St Gregory Village Hall on Wednesday, 10 September commencing at 7pm

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU – AGM at The Priory, Canon Street on Tuesday, 16 September at 12 noon.

SALC – AGM at Woolavington Village Hall on Saturday 27 September commencing at 10.30am. A Ploughman's lunch will be available at a cost of £8.50 per head, to be booked in advance.

SPFA – AGM and FIELD OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION at the Isle of Wedmore Golf Club, Lasacot Hill, Wedmore on Thursday 2 October at 7.30pm – Cllr. Bulgin will attend this meeting.

SALC TRAINING COURSES – New Councillors Training Event at Long Sutton Village Hall on Wednesday, 15 October at 7pm.

SOMERSET COMMUNITY FOUNDATION – Small grants are now available for Community Groups. For more information call Jocelyn or Karen on 01458833133

BT CALL BOXES – The clerk has been informed by SALC that BT intend to remove the Ruishton telephone kiosk but are pleased to announce a new Adopt a Kiosk programme whereby giving the Parish Council the opportunity to take ownership of the red telephone box free of charge, ensuring the kiosk, minus the payphone equipment, is retained in situ for future generations to come

It was felt that in its present position the kiosk would become a target for vandalism but that the school might like to have it within its grounds. Cllr. Bulgin will contact the school and also BT along these lines.

DOG LITTER BIN – Taunton Deane has provided a dog litterbin, near the recreation field. Thanks to Cllr. Mullins for arranging this on our behalf.

FOOTPATHS - The clerk reported that Cllr. Hancock would be calling an informal meeting of those wishing to walk the parish footpaths.

09/08.06

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A358 BUS SHELTER - While clearing the vegetation from the Henlade bus shelter, the Chairman found the roof to be leaking in several places.

SOMERSET LEVELS AND MOORS – Local Action for Rural Communities – SWRDA have been successful in securing £1.8m of funding over the period to December 2013 aimed at improving the local economy.

It was agreed that we should take an active part and send a representative to the launch meeting to be held in October. It is then the intention to start considering project applications by the end of the calendar year.

This matter will be discussed fully at the next meeting.

09/08.07

HIGHWAY MATTERS

The clerk has heard from Ian Titcombe (Traffic Engineer – Somerset Highways) regarding the following matters:

Dropped kerb by Ruishton Church - It is regretted there are no funds available at this time. However, the request will be kept on file for consideration as a future scheme.

The Parish Council will investigate other sources of funding, when the cost is known.

He considered the flood sign in Lipe Lane to be in the correct position. Stating that it is better for vehicles to enter Lipe Lane, see the sign, and than turn around in the junction rather than there be indecision on the A358.

Nothing can be done regarding the volume of traffic using Stoke Road and Lower Henlade. A 30mph speed limit can only be enforced by the Police and the Neighbourhood Beat Manager should be contacted on this issue.

He will place an electronic speed sign in this area when one comes available in several months time.

Somerset Road Safety Partnership have offered to provide a Driver Awareness course free of charge in parish and it was agreed to take up this offer. The course usually starts at 19.00 and finishes at 21.00, with a coffee break at 20.00; participants are invited to come at 18.30 to try the driver simulator. Details will be posted on the notice boards when a date is known.

09/08.08 RECREATION FIELD

Cllr. Bulgin has repaired the fencing around the toddlers’ play area.

The parish has been awarded a grant from TD replace this fencing.

Cllr. Bulgin will arrange for the Annual Inspection of the recreation field to take place.

09/08.09 RUISHTON BUS SHELTER

Cllr. Bulgin declared a personal interest.

Cllr. Mullins reported back to the meeting that it was felt that the bus shelter should be replaced. To date he has received one quote for removing the existing shelter and at his request the clerk has written to Somerset Highways asking if a new shelter could be placed 6 –7 foot to the east of the present one.

Cllr. Mullins also pointed out that the wall behind the shelter was in need of repair and that it was considered appropriate that the Parish Council should pay a contribution towards the work. Quotations are required for this work.

It is hoped to have all the necessary information to hand, in order that the matter can be discussed fully at the next meeting.

09/08.10 REQUEST FOR SEAT - JUNCTION BUSHY CROSS LANE AND CORONATION CLOSE

We have now received the necessary Licence for the installation of this seat. Councillors were assured that the occupants of no.2 Coronation Close are in agreement to the seat being situated outside their property.

09/08.11 MEMORIAL STONE/GARDEN

The cost of the plaque for the stone will be £197.

The plaque will be 12" x 9" in green/grey granite with white lettering to read:

This garden was planted to commemorate the
50th Anniversary of World War II
1939 – 1945

It was agreed to spend up to £20 for the purchase of bulbs, which Cllr. Faulkner will kindly plant them around the bed.

09/08.12 FINANCE

The following accounts were presented and authorised for payment:

| | £ | |
|------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| Parsons Landscapes Ltd | 262.28 | Maintenance – August 2008 |
| R Bulgin | 59.48 | Repair to fencing |
| The Tree Council | 14.00 | Tree Warden course |

The clerk informed the meeting that the current rates of interest received was 2.5% on Nat West Reserve a/c and 4.5% on the Scottish Widows a/c

9/08/13 REPORT ON ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None received.

09/08.14 COUNTY /DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Clark reported that the Shuttle bus would no longer run from the Park and Ride west of Taunton to Musgrove Park Hospital.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.50pm

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2008

Apology from Cllr. Faulkner

**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.**