

# RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2008

Present: Cllr. House (Chair), Anderdon, Bulgin, Faulkner, Harper, Marshall and Ryan.

In Attendance: County Cllr. Clark, District Cllrs. D & K Durdan, 8 Parishioners, Colin Dawson (re p/a 31/2008/025), 2 Avon and Somerset Support Officers and Mary Growthage (clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Hancock, Lowe, Rexworthy and Small.

### 11/08.01 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2008, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

### 11/08.02 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. House declared an interest in regard to Harman's Cottage and the bus stop opposite Thorn' Old School.

### 11/08.03 PLANNING MATTERS

31/2208/025 – ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION TO THE SIDE OF PROPERTY TO FORM ANNEXE AT SOUTHVIEW, 10b NEWLANDS CRESCENT, RUISHTON. (PC)

The meeting approved this application subject to there being no adverse comments from neighbours or the Planning Officer.

40/2008/003LB – REPLACEMENT THATCHED ROOF AT HARMANS COTTAGE, THORNFALCON (TD)

The meeting agreed that it would be acceptable for the thatch to be replaced with Water Reed instead of Wheat Reed to be acceptable. It was noted that a nearby property is already thatched with Water Reed.

#### OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

Taunton Deane has granted conditional approval for the erection of a dwelling in the grounds of Thornhams, Henlade – 31/2008/007. Cllr. Bulgin has written to the Planning Officer to clarify the depth of the visibility splay, as this is causing concern to some residents.

Consent has been granted for a new wall at Thornfalcon House, Thornfalcon – 40/2008/001LB

Boundary wall, Barrow Corner, Lower Henlade – 31/2008/020 – This application was refused by Taunton Deane. The clerk has received a letter from Jeremy Browne MP

asking for the Parish Council to assist Mr Graves in putting his case forward to Taunton Deane.

It was agreed that the clerk should write to the Planning Officer and also Ms Ann Dunsford (Enforcement Officer) supporting Mr Groves. The meeting also felt that the Enforcement Officer should have spoken to Mr Groves personally and not the contractor when visiting the site during the process of the wall being built, informing him that planning permission was required.

Cllr. Kelly Durdan will endeavour to support Mr Groves at the planning meeting.

WOODLANDS ENFORCEMENT ORDER – It is noted that the two marquees have been removed.

It is understood that a planning application is being submitted for 'Change of Use'

11/08.04

#### PARTNER AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER (PACT)

PACT meetings will be held in conjunction with the parish council,

The meetings are intended to be a mechanism whereby the local community can decide the priority issue, which needs addressing in the area. The relevant agency is then obliged to deal with the issue and report back to the local area on what they have done to help solve the problem.

PCSO Lynsey Gamblin explained in more detail what is involved

It was unanimously agreed that one of the main concerns within Ruishton at the present time is the inconsiderate parking of vehicles when taking children to/from school in the Newlands area. Making it impossible for emergency vehicles to get through and for residents being unable to enter/exit their properties.

Parking on the pavement is also of concern, as is the speed of traffic at Lower Henlade.

11/08.05

#### CLERK'S REPORT

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE AT RUISHTON LANE – This has been postponed.

DIARY DATES have been circulated to members. Cllr. Anderdon will endeavour to attend the SALC meeting in December.

4 GRAVELANDS LANE – An enforcement notice has been issued for the above address, for a breach of planning control due to the selling of vehicles from the property, which is considered detrimental to adjoining residential properties.

MIDAS HOME SIGN AT ROSEDALE, HENLADE – Midas Homes and the owner of Rosedale have been informed by the Enforcement Officer that the sign requires a Advertisement Consent and Midas Homes will be submitting an application to either retain the existing or replace it with a smaller sign.

The Enforcement Officer will be monitoring the situation and will report the matter to the Committee for authorisation to commence prosecution action if it is not removed.

BT PAYPHONES – Following objections the phone box will remain at Henlade crossroads.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - Has been issued in respect of trees at Thornfalcon Garage, Thornfalcon. It is considered that the trees may be under threat due to a change of leaseholder.

HOMEFINDER SOMERSET – An update on the progress of the scheme has been circulated.

COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL – Coun. Hancock will review and take any action he feels necessary.

11/08.06 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Somerset County Council is carrying out a survey of footpaths in the parish and have notified the Chairman of improvements that they consider necessary on footpaths T22/3, T22/6 and T22/7.

The Chairman will inform the SCC of any other footpaths which the Parish Council consider need attention.

11/08.07 FINANCE

The following accounts were presented and authorised for payment:

	£	
Parsons Landscapes	524.56	Ground Maintenance – 2mths
Ruishton Village Hall	25.35	Hire of hall – 3mths
Stooks Memorials	197.00	Granite tablet for Memorial stone

The balance at Nat West is £1805 with £19k at Scottish Widows.

£1117 has been received from Cllr Clark's Community Fund towards the seat at the end of Coronation Close and the dropped kerb at Ruishton Church.

The clerk has reclaimed a VAT repayment of £306 to the end of October 2008.

We have received a request for financial assistance from Taunton and District Citizens Advice Bureau. Over 90 people from the ward were helped in the year to March 2008. This will be addressed when considering the precept for 2009/10.

11/08.08 PARKING – NEWLANDS AREA

A copy of a letter received from Somerset Highways regarding inconsiderate parking in the Newlands area. This states that they are unable to consider a 20mph speed limit. Research having shown that the introduction of a 20pmh speed limit alone is only likely to reduce actual vehicle speeds by 2mph. The DfT will, therefore, only recommend that 20mph limits be introduced where speeds are already low (below 24mph) or where additional traffic calming measures are planned.

11/08.09 BUS SHELTERS/STOPS

The Chairman has obtained a quote (£820 + VAT) to refelt the roof and repair fascia boards where necessary of bus shelters in Ruishton and on the A358 opposite Bushy Cross Lane and is awaiting a second quote.

It was agreed that this work needs to be undertaken as soon as possible and it was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr. Marshall make the final decision.

There appears to be confusion regarding the bus stop on the A358 on both sides of the dual carriage way in Thorn' Old School area. The clerk will write to First and Stage Coach in order to clarify the position and will also ask Somerset Highways to clearly paint the bus stop markings on the road.

The cost will be reclaimed in the next precept if required.

11/08.10 REPORT ON TARMAC LIAISON MEETING

Several members attended this meeting.

It was reported that Tarmac are manufacturing the stands for the 2012 Olympic Games, as well as prison cells.

Tarmac will not be reapplying for planning permission for the development of the front section of the site.

It appears that Tarmac own a large percentage of Gravelands Lane and will look into their boundary for the next meeting.

The clerk will ask Somerset Highways to fill in the potholes at the junction of Gravelands Lane with the layby at Tarmac.

Somerset Highways do not consider 'Flashing lights' to be necessary on the A358 near the Tarmac entrance, the clerk will query this decision.

11/08.11 RECREATION FIELD

Cllr. Bulgin received a Merit Award on behalf of the Parish Council from the Playing Field Association at their AGM.

GB & S Leisure will this year inspect the recreation field and play equipment.

The fencing around the toddlers play area and any other improvements thought necessary will be discussed at the December meeting.

The Parish Council has a grant in 2008/09 for the fencing, requests for grants for 2009/10 need to be made before the end of December 2008.

11/08.12 HIGHWAY MATTERS

The clerk will inform Somerset Highways that the pavement between Thornwater Farm and Tarmac is obstructed. Also that tyres need removing from beside the ditch near the entrance to the Mount Somerset at Lower Henlade and that the drain is blocked at the bottom of Stoke Hill.

11/08.13 REPORT ON ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The Chairman had received the minutes of the Henlade and Stoke Road Residents Association that he had attended.

The Association were awarded £450 towards the cost of a marquee but this had not been required, so, they hope to provide a notice board for the area.

Many social events are planned for the coming months.

11/08.14

COUNTY /DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Dave Durdan spoke of the bid by Somerset Waterways in the Big Lottery People's Millions Competition. The River Tone Community Trip Boat being one of two projects in the ITV region and will be featured on the 6pm ITN Local News programme on 25 November. The project that gets the most votes will receive up to £50,000.

The boat would run trips on the River Tone and on the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal. It would be run by volunteers, designed to carry 12 passengers, accessible by wheelchairs and buggies and be sustainably powered and silent running.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.15pm

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 3 DECEMBER 2008

**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.**