

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2010

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

In Attendance: County Cllr. Fothergill and Mary Growtage (clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs. Anderdon Faulkner and Harper.

01/10.01 MINUTES OF THE LAST TWO MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on 2 December 2009, having been circulated, were taken as read and were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

01/10.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

01/10.03 PLANNING MATTERS

31/09/0027 – ERECTION OF EXTENSIONS AND ALTERATIONS AT VIDANTA, STOKE ROAD, HENLADE

31/09/0028 – INSTALLATION OF 4 NO UNDERGROUND CALOR GAS TANKS AND ASSOCIATED WORKS AT THE MOUNT SOMERSET, HENLADE

The Parish Council supported both the above applications.

Taunton Deane has granted planning permission on the following applications:

40/09/0007 – Erection of a double carport and machinery shed at Harmans Cottage, Thornfalcon.

40/09/0008 – Variation of condition 6 of planning permission 40/09/003, to allow for the parking and valeting of motorhomes on land approved for specific parking at Thornfalcon Garage, Langport Road, Thornfalcon.

31/09/0019 – Use of land for the siting of four residential mobile homes and formation of new vehicular access at Ivy House Park, Henlade.

4/31/09/0022 – Continued development and use of land as Park and Ride facility without compliance with condition 2 of permission no 4/31/0026 dated 12/02/080 (Variation of design of control building) at Cambria Farm Park and Ride, Ilminster Road, Taunton.

4/31/09/0023 – Renewal of temporary permission for classroom unit E649 at Ruishton C of E Primary School, Ruishton

31/09/0024 – Conversion of annexe known as Henlade House into spa facilities and installation of fire escape at the Mount Somerset Hotel, Henlade has been withdrawn.

31/09/0026 – Erection of single storey extension to side, first floor extension and two storey extension to rear and installation of balcony to rear at Laurel Cottage, Bushy Cross Lane, Ruishton.

GUIDANCE OF DISPENSATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS.

The latest update will be circulated to members.

APPROVAL OF LICENCE FOR A NEW NOTICE BOARD AT LOWER HENLADE.

Details of the agreement were approved by the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

01/10/04

CLERK'S REPORT

SLIP ROAD, GRAVELANDS LANE – A further letter has been received from Richard Needs stating again that he does not consider the surface defects on this road to have been caused by delivery vehicles to the Park and Ride construction site.

The Area Highway Manager has been advised that arrangements were being made for a safety inspection of the area in question, to be undertaken.

PARK AND RIDE – Concern was expressed that vehicles leaving Ruishton Lane have a restricted view of traffic coming from the left, the clerk will ask if the signs could be 'pulled back' in order to give improved visibility.

The clerk will also ask Richard Needs for a copy of the Project Plan, as the Parish Council was concerned about the timescale for completion..

TAUNTON DEANE CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2010 – These awards are to recognise outstanding voluntary service by citizens of Taunton Deane. Nominations to be In by 19 February 2010.

HIGHWAY LIGHTING – A resident of Newlands Road has written to Highways Lighting asking for additional lighting in Cheats Road and Lipe Lane.

The County Council have replied stating that they have no capital funds available and that funding would have to be provided from another authority or a consortium of authorities

No request has been made to the Parish Council.

A358 – The clerk will report the faulty lights at Henlade.

ROAD GRITTING - David Peake (Highway Service Manager) has written regarding reduced stocks of road salt and states that salt is now being distributed on a national level to the areas with the greatest need. Gritting will now have to concentrate solely on the Precautionary Salting Network and that they will be unable to provide salt from their depots for self-help purposes on the highway.

Existing grit bins and salt bags normally placed on the highway network will be refilled, depending on current on-going snow/ice and consequent flooding and potholes as the snow melts.

SALC – There is a clerk's workshop on Standing Orders at Edington Village Hall on Tuesday 16 February 2010. The cost is £15 per head and councillors are also invited to attend.

01/10.05 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

FOOTPATH 22/15 – The Chairman reported that the owner has cut back the overgrowth and that the footpath is now in its original position.

01/10.06 RECREATION FIELD

The clerk will arrange for the inspection of the recreation field to be carried out by GB Leisure.

01/10.07 SUSTRANS ROUTE FROM TAUNTON TO ILMINSTER

Kim Goonesekera (Project Manager for Sustrans) gave a report on the possibility of creating a traffic free section of 'The Stop Line Way' route between Taunton and Ruishton.

She is looking at the option of going along the footpath next to the River Tone and then into Ruishton via Church Lane, having already spoken to the land owner of the field, most of the residents of Church Lane and The Environment Agency.

Various grants should become available and Kim asked the Parish Council to support the project and to consider some funding towards the cost.

01/10.08 FINANCE

QUOTATION FOR UPKEEP OF RECREATION FIELD AND OTHER AREAS

The quotation from Parsons Landscapes Ltd in the sum of £2248.03 ex VAT was accepted, this being much lower than last years quote from the DLO.

A request has been received for part funding towards a 'Pictorial Guide to the Bridgwater and Taunton canal' and also one for a donation to St Margaret's Hospice.

The following accounts were presented and agreed for payment:

GB Sports and Leisure*	724.00	Repair of safety surfacing
Parsons Landscapes Ltd	36.80	Ground maintenance
Ruishton Village Hall	30.30	Hire of Village Hall
“ “ “	92.00	Newsletter (5 Mths)

* The insurance claim has been received and after the VAT has been reclaimed the cost to the parish is £125, which will be set off against vandalism in the accounts.

The clerk told the meeting that the money currently held at Scottish and Widows £22K is currently earning no interest. It was agreed that this money be transferred to Nat West Reserve A/C for the time being, until a better rate of interest is found.

As at 31 December 2009 balances held at the Nat West Bank were £1159.72

Interest of .19p was received on the Reserve A/C at the end of December.

01/10.09 PRECEPT 2010/11

A quote has been received from Aviva for similar insurance cover from 1 June 2010 in the sum of ££1309.42 or £1243.95 with a 3 year LTA (binding agreement). It was agreed to move to this company in June when renewal is due.

The Precept of £13k was agreed by the meeting and was duly signed by the Chairman. A detailed copy is attached.

01/10.10 CORE STRATEGY & SMALL BUSINESS CONSULTATION

A copy of the consultation is being circulated to members and will be discussed fully at the next meeting.

01/10.11 REPORT ON ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED None received

01/10.12 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The County Councillor had nothing to report to the meeting.

No District Councillors were present.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 3 FEBRUARY 2010

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON 20 MAY 2010

**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.**