

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 JULY 2010

Present: Cllrs. House (Chair), Anderdon, Bulgin, Faulkner, Hancock, , Lowe, , Rexworthy, Ryan and Small

In Attendance: County Cllr. Fothergill, District Cllr. K Durdan, 4 parishioners, PCSO 8784 Lynsey Gamblin and Mary Growtage (clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs. Harper, Marshall, Mullins and District Cllr. D Durdan

07/10.01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

07/10.02 MINUTES OF THE LAST TWO MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held 2 & 16 June 2010 having been circulated were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

07/10.03 PLANNING MATTERS

30/07/0033 – ERECTION OF 26 AFFORDABLE HOUSES AND ASSOCIATED PARKING ACCESS FROM STOKE ROAD ON LAND SOUTH WEST OF JUNCTION OF A358 AND STOKE ROAD, HENLADE AS AMENDED.

The amendments to this application were discussed fully and is was unanimously agreed to recommend refusal for the following reasons:

- Pedestrian safety at the A358/Stoke Road junction
- More traffic using this junction and also Lower Henlade/Haydon Lane
- Access road too near A358
- Lack of amenities
- Ruishton School is already over subscribed
- This is a green field site
- Sewers and surface water
- Density of the site is still high
- Inadequate number parking spaces
- Additional traffic and disruption in the area while the site is developed

The Parish Council would like to be kept informed as to when this application will go before the planning committee.

31/10/0009 – NON MATERIAL AGREEMENT FOR APPLICATION 31/10/0004 – ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION AT 6 THE GROVE, HENLADE

The clerk reported that Taunton Deane have granted permission for the following non material amendment: 'The proposed amendment is the omission of the higher level glazing, the replacement by brickwork and the insertion of an additional velux window all to the living room at No 6 The Grove'

ORCHARD VIEW (formerly known as Ballygreen) – District Cllr. K Durdan will enquire as to the outcome of the council's concern regarding the placement of gable windows in the garage of this application. Despite requests no response has been forthcoming.

HAM SEWERAGE WORKS – There will be a meeting to form a 'Steering Team' with regard to the enlargement of this site and the proposed road through the Tarmac site.

The Chairman and clerk will attend this meeting next Monday and Cllr. Bulgin will also endeavour to attend. The meeting is expected to commence at 7 or 7.30pm

07/10.04 CLERK'S REPORT

The Annual Report of the Standards Committee is being circulated to those who wish to read it, namely Cllrs. Bulgin and Marshall.

Following receipt of a letter from Ruishton Guides, it was agreed to invite them to attend a parish council meeting to discuss with members how they think life could be improved in the village.

07/10.05 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

HENLADE WOOD – 10TH ANNIVERSARY - The Chairman will look to arranging a Parish Walk to the woods in September, parishioners from Stoke St Mary and West Hatch will also be invited to attend.

07/10.06 RECREATION FIELD

Cllr. Bulgin gave a detailed report into the recent vandalism that has occurred in and around the recreation field since the last meeting, this includes the setting alight of the old barn in the field next to the village hall and all night partying in the field.

He has again carried out repairs to the fencing around the toddlers' play area on our behalf for which we are very grateful, as he has saved the council many pounds in labour costs alone.

PCSO Gamblin stated that she was aware of the problems and that police are doing all that they can to rectify the situation.

Anyone witnessing anti social behaviour around the recreation field or village hall should notify the **POLICE** on **084567000** and give them the postcode of the area, which is **TA3 5JD**

It was agreed to ask Mr Middleton to repair the fence between his paddock and the recreation field and the Village Hall Committee were asked to renew/repair their fence alongside the recreation field.

There have been requests to make a short football pitch by putting the goal posts half way down the field, this was unanimously agreed.

It was also agreed to look into the cost involved in putting a new fence around the toddlers' play area, for consideration in the 2011/12 precept.

A grant has been requested from TD towards the cost of new swings for the Recreation field.

The DLO have quoted £312 (£6pw) + VAT to carry out weekly inspections of the play equipment. Cllr. Faulkner asked exactly how this would be carried out/monitored and whether the clerk would be informed when faults were noted.

The clerk could not give a satisfactory reply and Cllr. Bulgin said he would speak to Chris Mulchay at Taunton Deane on the matter.

07/10.07 HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAY LIGHTING UNIT 36 A358 – Unfortunately the contractor has been unable to complete an effective repair and due to its age and condition will have to be replaced. This will take some time.

Cllr. Small reported that two lights on the dual carriageway were lit continuously and said he would inform the clerk of the unit numbers.

SPEED CAMERA SIGNS – Many are to be removed in the County, those at the beginning of speed limits will remain in place, while repeater signs will be removed.

The removal of these signs will not reduce the level of camera enforcement currently in place.

FOOTWAY/CYCLEWAY NEAR JUNCTION 25 M5 – Regarding the electricity feeder pillar (grey box) within this path, there are a number of other services in the verge behind the footway and therefore moving it is not possible. There is at least 2m between the feeder pillar and the pedestrian guard railing and therefore still falls within highway recommended minimum standards.

Therefore there are no plans to move the equipment.

Cllr. Lowe reported that he has spoken with Kali Martin (Somerset Highways) who informed him grass cutting will only be carried out on A & B roads next year.

While Cllr. Lowe reported that brambles along by the bus gate need cutting back and that weeds were growing through the recently laid tarmac at the motorway roundabout.

07 /10.08 FINANCE

The following accounts were presented and agreed for payment:

	£	
Parsons Landscapes	560.24	Maintenance May & June
R. Bulgin	34.14	Repair vandalism in recreation field
M Growtage (Staples)	10.99	Envelopes
Ruishton Village Hall	33.05	Hire of Village Hall – 3 months
Came and Company	25.00	Additional insurance for new notice board

Balances in hand as at 30.06.10 stand at £25722.92 at Nat West and £2K at Scottish Widows.

Cllr. Rexworthy has verified the balances.

07/10.09 REPORT ON ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - None

07/10.10 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Cllr. Fothergill reported that the A358 from the M5 to the A303 is to be resurfaced over the next 18 months, it is expected that most of the work will take place overnight.

With a four million pound deficit, the County Council are looking at ways to reduce spending.

The clerk asked whether the SCC had recovered their deposit from the Icelandic Bank, Cllr. Fothergill stated that the capital would be repaid but not any interest incurred.

One item under consideration is the Library Service, parishioners who rely on this service are urged to write or email TMayberry@somerset.gov.uk at The Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton TA2 6SF

Cllr. Faulkner commenting on the cost of the Park and Ride, said it was expensive for those just going into Taunton to shop for a couple of hours and suggested that fares be reduced at weekends when fewer cars park there all day.

Cllr. Lowe asked whether the Slinky bus was really necessary, Cllr. Fothergill responded that they were popular and more widely used in more remote areas

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.00pm

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 4 AUGUST 2010
(Apologies from Cllr. Hancock)

**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.**