

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2017

CLLRS PRESENT: Marshall, (Vice Chairman) Anderdon, Bulgin, Dickinson, Hancock, Harper, Powell, Mullins, & Murphy

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor Ross Henley and the Clerk, Heather Bryant

NOT PRESENT: Borough Councillor Kelly Durdan, Borough Councillor Dave Durdan. No apologies received.

As the Chairman was not present, the Vice Chairman took the Chair.

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

There were no parishioners present

17/1/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs Lowe and Bowey. Cllr McEvans not present

17/1/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

17/1/03 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th DECEMBER 2016

RESOLVED: the approval of the minutes as a true record.

17/1/04 PLANNING

14/16/0049 Erection of two story and single story extension at Kerrow House, Ham Road, Creech St Michael

The Council had no comments to make

31/16/0026 Erection of single storey extension to the side of 8 Overlands. Ruishton

The Council had no comments to make

40/16/0008/LB Conversion of garden store to provide additional accommodation to the Coach House annex and associated internal & external alterations to doors and windows at Thornfalcon House, Church Lane, Thornfalcon

The Council supported providing that there are no objections from neighbours and the Conservation Planner has any objections

Outstanding items:

Stoke Road Affordable Housing – attenuation tank

The Clerk has not received any more updates since the last meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Enforcement Officer before the next meeting if there is no further progress

17/1/05 BUDGET FOR YEAR 17/18:

RESOLVED: to set a precept of £21,210 for the above year under the power of Local Government Finance Act 1992 Section 41.

17/1/06 HENLADE STRATEGIC EMPLOYMENT SITE AND ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Cllr Marshall reported that we are still waiting for maps, and an explanation of the highway figures before the Council can submit an informed response to the Consultation. However, Sunita Mills has informed that she will have to close the consultation responses at some point. The Clerk will chase up the maps.

Local Development Order – Cllr Marshall reported that the consultation period that should have been in December 2016 is now scheduled for March 2017. Tim Burton of Taunton Deane Borough Council has stated that he will consult with the Parish Council before the consultation period.

Local Plan Review – the update is scheduled to be completed in two years' time.

17/1/07 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

C.C. Ross Henley reported on the following:

- Taunton gaining Garden Town status
- He was disappointed that Ruishton has lost the mobile library and he was not satisfied how the process was carried out.

- There may be a Small Improvement Schemes in 2017. If there is, he will put in a bid for creating a pavement along Ruishton Lane.
- He will chase up the resurfacing of the pavements at Newlands and Lawn Meadow, speed monitors at Newlands and Bushy Cross Lane
- New arrangements for waste collection – starting at Autumn this year, there will three-weekly waste collections of the big grey bin instead of fortnightly. The weekly plastic collection will now include pots, tubs and trays. Food and garden waste collections will stay the same. A discussion took place on the last item. The Council was concerned that larger families will find this difficult with only having three weekly collections of the big grey bin and that when recycling was first introduced, the big grey bin was designed to take the capacity of two week's waste but now it will be expected to take three week's waste albeit less plastic pots, tubs and trays. County Councillor Ross Henley agreed to take the Councils' concerns to the Waste Management Board.

Borough Councillors

The Council expressed their disappointment that the Borough Councillors were again not present tonight especially after the Chairman spoke about this matter at a TDBC Full Council meeting on 12th December in the Public Session. It was agreed that the Clerk should abbreviate the Chairman's speech in the February newsletter

17/1/08 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Cllr Marshall reported that work had been started on the draft questionnaire and it is hoped that the draft will be delivered to every household by the end of February

17/1/09 RECREATIONAL GROUND

RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from Taunton Deane Borough Council for 17/18 of £2197.73 as an extension to last year's Maintenance Contract

17/1/10 FLOODING

Flood Committee and their insurance status

The Chairman of the Flood Committee asked the Council if the volunteers were covered under the Council's insurance. This was discussed at the December Council meeting, where the Council stated that it was understood that the volunteers under Operation Gannax were trained by Avon and Somerset Constabulary and therefore they were insured under their liability insurance. It was reported at the December meeting that the original trained volunteers are insured under Operation Gannax but the new volunteers have not been trained under Operation Gannax.

The Clerk contacted the Council's insurance company and was informed that volunteers are insured as long as they are under the Council's leadership with an appropriate risk assessment in place. They would not be insured if they were a separate entity under their own control. The Clerk continued that recent advice from SALC in regard to the Council holding money on behalf of the Flood Committee would be considered as the funds would belong to the Council and the Council should have control.

RESOLVED:

After a full discussion it was agreed that the Council's remit was just to hold the funds for the Flood Committee and not to have any form of control on their operation as it would be considered as very high risk. It was further agreed that the Clerk should write to the Flood Committee Chairman to inform the Flood Committee that their volunteers are not insured by the Council's insurance and the Council could no longer hold their funds as the Flood Committee is not under the control of, or responsible to the Parish Council and is separate entity

17/1/11 DEFIBRILLATOR FOR THE VILLAGE

The Clerk reported that Taunton Deane Borough Council has issued a questionnaire about parishes without defibrillators in regard to an interest in training, sourcing grants and other related issues with defibrillators. It was agreed to reply that this parish has an interest and six Councillors would attend an event.

17/1/12 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Outstanding items:

Pavements around Newlands - C.C. Ross Henley has this in hand.

20mph Newlands - C.C. Ross Henley has this in hand.

Traffic count including the speed for vehicles on the road near the School and Bushy Lane - C.C.

Ross Henley has this in hand.

Humps along Ruishton Lane – no update

Cllr Marshall reported that the Chairman is looking into a Speed Indicator Device (SID) on the A358 after he had complaints about speeding

Cllr Powell asked if there could be a SID along the road in front of Mount Somerset. The Clerk will contact the Traffic Engineer.

17/1/13 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from Taunton Deane Borough Council in regard to a consultation on the creation of a new District Council by merging TDBC and West Somerset. For this area there is an information meeting on the evening of 20th January at TDBC. Cllrs Bulgin and Mullins agreed to attend. Cllr Marshall reported that he could not make this date and asked the Clerk to enquire for the dates of meetings for the two other areas and if he could attend one of those.

17/1/14 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Outstanding items:

First Aid Courses – deferred until the outcome of the defibrillator training

Park & Ride -security & facilities, vegetation overgrowth on site – Cllr Marshall reported that he had not had a reply to an email to Cllr Fothergill sent on 8.12.16. The Clerk and C.C. Ross Henley will chase up

Cllr Marshall reported that there is a flooding meeting on 19th January with all the Agencies. Cllr Lowe, the Flood Committee Chairman and himself will attend.

17/1/15 FINANCIAL MATTERS

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CHEQUES FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: that this Council approves the schedule of cheques and the Financial Report subject to the requirements of our Risk Assessment Document.

17/1/16 MATTERS TO REPORT (for information only) OR FOR THE AGENDA AT THE NEXT MEETING

Cllr Dickinson reported that the light has been out for some time at Dinhams car-park. The Clerk will contact the Housing Department at TDBC

The Acting Chairman reported on the sad death of Judith Jelks who during her long life had served as a Councillor to Ruishton & Thornfalcon for 48years.

The Acting Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

DATE OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING 1ST FEBRUARY 7.30pm IN RUISHTON VILLAGE HALL. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.
7.30pm