

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2017

CLLRS PRESENT: Lowe, Anderdon, Bulgin, Dickinson, Hancock, Marshall, McEvans, Mullins, Powell and Fudge (after he was co-opted)

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor John Thorne, two members of the public and the Clerk, Heather Bryant

NOT PRESENT: Borough Councillors Kelly Durdan and Dave Durdan. (No apologies received.)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A parishioner was concerned that a concrete block is situated along the verge adjacent to Toad Hall. His concern is that it could be hit especially by a motorcycle or cyclist. He has arranged a meeting with County Highways on 8.11.17. Cllr Powell agreed to attend.

17/11/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies received.

17/11/2 CO-OPTION OF A COUNCILLOR

RESOLVED: the co-option of Justin Fudge as a Councillor for Ruishton and Thornfalcon P.C. Mr Fudge signed a Declaration of Office form
Cllr Fudge left the meeting at 7.40pm

17/11/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

17/11/4 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2017

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

17/11/5 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER NEXUS 25 STRATEGIC EMPLOYMENT SITE (TDBC)

There is a Taunton Deane Borough Council Scrutiny Committee Meeting on 14.11.17 It is expected that the Scrutiny Committee will endorse the LDO for the adoption by the full Council.
Cllrs Lowe and Bulgin agreed to attend

PLANNING APPLICATION – 4/38/17/0205 CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ROAD SCHEME (SCC)

It was noted that the above LDO is dependent on this application being approved. Highway England has submitted a six month's Holding Objection for various issues with this application

HIGHWAY ENGLAND - A358 TAUNTON TO SOUTHFIELD SCHEME

The Clerk reported that the public exhibition and the special PC meeting due to be held on 15.11.17 has been postponed by Highway England.

17/11/6 PARK AND RIDE

Cllr Marshall reported that Somerset County Council stated that the maintenance issue has been addressed and are in the process of procuring a contractor.

17/11/7 PLANNING

4/40/17/0004 Erection of a Motor Control Centre (MCC) Kiosk within existing sewage treatment works to support proposed phosphorous removal plan. Ham Sewage Treatment Works. Ham Lane, Creech St Michael.

RESOLVED: that this Council has no comments to this application

31/17/0009/LB Installation of boiler and flue at Riverside Ruishton.

RESOLVED; that this Council has no comments to this application

31/17/0013 Change of use from agricultural to domestic with replacement of double garage and erection of a single story extension to the rear of Green Acres, Stoke Hill

RESOLVED: that this Council has no comments to this application

31/17/0011 Erection of 1 No dwelling and associated works on land adjacent to Lowcroft, Ilminster Road, Henlade

RESOLVED: that this Council objects for the following reasons:

- This is a retrospective application as the dwelling has already been built. Query if Building Control has been involved
- Over development of the site
- Extra movements on the very busy and congested A358
-

Other Planning matters

Listed Pill Boxes on Lipe Lane – There has been reports that there is further works on this site. The Clerk reported that she has contacted the Enforcement Officer and left a message on the answer phone.

17/11/8 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

County Councillor John Thorne reported on the following:

- Small Improvement Scheme – He has submitted a scheme for all of Ruishton Lane in regard to pedestrian's safety
- Winter maintenance for the roads
- Stepping Stones -Foster parents are urgently needed to offer supported lodgings to young people aged 16-18 who are leaving care. He asked if this could be included in the newsletter.

C. C. Thorne was asked to chase up the traffic counts on Bushy Cross Lane and Ruishton Lane.

17/11/9 FLOODING

Village Pump -Cllr Marshall reported that the engineer from Taunton Deane Borough Council who looks after the maintenance of the village pump is concerned that the pump keeps tripping out and he cannot seem to get anyone from Somerset County Council to correct it. The Chairman reported that he had contacted the Flood Risk Engineer at SCC and he stated that the Non-Return Valves installed by TDBC might be affecting the operation of the pump. He has contacted TDBC. The Clerk was asked to contact the engineer at TDBC to ask if the pump is now working properly.

Ditch behind Newlands – Cllr McEvans reported that the Flood Risk Engineer at SCC is in the process to gain access to the properties adjoining the watercourse to investigate the issues.

Flood Group – The Chairman reported that the Flood Group will receive training on 24.11.17. Cllr Marshall reported that the Somerset Rivers Authority annual report mentions further jetting of drains and extra gully emptying in Ruishton. He has sent a copy to the Chairman of the Flood Committee.

17/11/10 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Cllr Marshall reported on the following

- There will be a Project Group meeting at the end of the month
- A Business and Employment survey has been sent to the businesses in the parish
- The NP Group had an interesting meeting with a representative from Persimmon Homes. Persimmon Homes has secured first option to buy on a number of parcels of land in the parish. If the A358 is downgraded, this will more than likely mean further development for Henlade.

17/11/11 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Ruishton Lane

See County Councillors report

School Keep Clear – Ruishton

The Transport and Development Officer has asked if this Council agrees to extend the School Keep Clears (SKC's) to the full extent of the turning head/cul-de-sac after consultation with residents that would be affected by the large signs that would need to be placed outside private properties

RESOLVED: not to extend and keep to Somerset County Council's original recommendation

17/11/12 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Defibrillator

The Clerk reported that the Council had been successful in obtaining a £1000 grant from TDBC. Cllr Bulgin reported that the Village Day Committee had agreed to donate £500 towards the project

The Clerk will write to the parishioner who stated at the meeting that he would be willing to give a donation towards the project.

The Clerk reported that she had a phone call from the Village Hall Chairman in regard to the siting of the defibrillator on the end wall facing the Recreational Ground of the Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee felt that there were more suitable locations in the centre of the village. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk write to TDBC Housing Department to see if there was any possibility of erecting the defibrillator on the end wall of bungalow facing Dinham Bungalows car-park.

Winter Maintenance

The Clerk reported that there would be opportunity to pick up 10 x 20kgs of salt from the depot at Priorswood, on 25.11.17, 9.00 – 13.00. Also, to inform County Highways if the salt bins in the village need replenishing.

It was agreed that Cllr Bulgin would check the bin at the old people's bungalows and Cllr Powell will check the salt bin at Henlade

Overhanging vegetation

The Clerk reported that she would need the address of any property that has overhanging vegetation on the road or footpath. She can then send the occupier a polite letter asking for the offending vegetation to be cut back

Relocation of the bench at Newlands to Dinham Bungalows

The Clerk reported that she had written to TDBC Housing Department but had received no reply. After phoning the Housing Department, the Clerk was told that it would be in the remit of the Parks Department. The Clerk has emailed the Parks Department and is waiting for a reply

Replacing the tree at Lawn Meadows

The Clerk reported that she had emailed Somerset County Council several months ago to ask about a licence. No reply has been received. The Clerk has now sent a further email.

Other matters

It was reported that TDBC missed a week of emptying the litter bins in the village and the Recreational Ground

The Clerk was asked to contact TDBC to remind them that they are supposed to clear the arisings in the children's play area after cutting the grass

17/11/13 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Marshall gave a report on the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) meeting that he attended

17/11/14 RECREATION GROUND PLAY INSPECTION REPORT

All risks assessed were reported as Low or Very Low.

Cllr Bulgin reported that there are several small jobs that require attention. Cllr Bulgin asked if he could have a budget to purchase the required materials

RESOLVED: that Cllr Bulgin could have a budget of up to £50

It was reported that bigger signs are needed for the 'No dogs allowed'.

17/11/15 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

17/11/16 MATTERS TO REPORT (for information only) OR FOR THE AGENDA AT THE NEXT MEETING

Next agenda – initial look at the budgets

There were no further matters to report.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm

DATE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6th DECEMBER 2017 START IN RUISHTON VILLAGE HALL.
PUBLIC QUESTION TIME. 7.30pm