

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: HEATHER BRYANT, NORTHAY HOUSE, NORTHAY, CHARD, SOMERSET. TA20 3DN

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The minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2018

CLLRS PRESENT: Lowe, (Chairman) Anderdon, Bulgin, Dickinson, Harper, Hancock, McEvans Marshall and Mullins

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor John Thorne and the Clerk, Heather Bryant

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

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

There were no public present

18/6/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs Fudge, Laws and Hancock

18/6/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Bulgin and Marshall declared an interest in agenda item Recreational Ground (B) Village Day as they are on the Village Day Committee and Flower Show Committee respectively

Cllr Bulgin declared an interest in agenda item Pay Award as the Neighbourhood Plan Administrator is a close relation

18/6/3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2ND MAY 2018

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

18/6/4 PLANNING

37/18/0005/CQ Prior approval for Proposed Change of Use from Agricultural Building to Dwelling House (Use Class C3) and associated building operations at Barn at New Farm, Stoke St Mary. The Council had no further comments

Alleged unauthorised development on land at Lipe Lane

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the Planning Enforcement Officer who has stated that investigations have been carried out on site with the owner and it was found that no recent works have been taken place. It would appear that no breach of planning control has taken place so therefore the enforcement case is now closed.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Enforcement Officer to ask which planning laws had been considered.

18/6/5 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

C.C. John Thorne reported on the following: (A written report was sent to Cllrs after the meeting)

- Small Improvement Scheme – no further update as yet
- Ultrafast Broadband
- Bus subsidies
- Potholes – it is an average of £203 per pothole according to figures and C.C. Thorne is asking questions on how to bring this cost down
- Grass Cutting -a new webpage www.travelsomerset.co.uk/grasscutting tells you what roads will be cut and gives the running order for the work per parish

Cllr Marshall reported it was announced via a press release from the two leaders of two Somerset Councils that a new single council for Taunton Deane and West Somerset has received official approval. The new council will come into being in April 2019.

There will be a SALC Area West meeting on Monday 25.6.18 where it is scheduled for a presentation from the Boundary Commission on the future warding arrangements for the new district council that will replace West Somerset and Taunton Deane. Officers from both councils will also be present to discuss how the new council will operate in the future.

The Chairman agreed to attend

18/6/6 DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk reported the Council has had a quote of £110 to dig out and lay slab to bolt R.C.D. to smaller slab and lay wire ducting between pole and R.C.D housing.

After discussion, the Council expressed their concern that the defibrillator is taking too long to get in place and ready to use as it has been over a year since the Council had agreed to procure the emergency device for the village.

The Clerk reminded the Council that that it took a while to explore the best site for the defibrillator and the site chosen in the centre of the village required electric to the device and a contract for the supply of the electric.

18/6/7 PROPOSED BENCH OUTSIDE DINHAMS

The Clerk reported that she had a quote for £87 to remove the bench from Coronation Close to outside Dinhams Bungalows. A Councillor mentioned last month that when the contractor and himself went to look at the bench, it was being used by a lady. The lady said she would be disappointed if the bench was removed. The Councillor questioned if the Council should be looking at a new bench for Dinhams Bungalows. After discussion it was agreed to carry on and remove the bench as the bench was originally used for people waiting for an Asda bus but now this service is finished.

18/6/8 DOG BIN IN THE VICINITY OF THE BUS SHELTER

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting to hear from Taunton Deane Borough Council on the arrangements they have in place for emptying dog bins and the cost.

18/6/9 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Small Improvements Scheme (SIS)

C.C. John Thorne had no further updates from the 2.5.18 meeting

18/6/10 GERNERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

The Clerk, Neighbourhood Plan Administrator attended a very informative meeting on the 22.5.18 organised by SALC. The slides of the meeting have been sent to councillors.

The Clerk reported that there is a list of what Councils have to do to comply together with templates to follow produced by NALC. The work will be ongoing for the next few months.

18/6/11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Update of the Neighbourhood Plan Project Plan

Cllr Marshall reported that work is being carried out on a traffic survey in the vicinity of the School of traffic numbers at ½ term and traffic numbers at the times of school runs

18/6/12 RECREATIONAL GROUND

a) Maintenance Contract.

The Clerk reported that this council received the 18/19 contract from Taunton Deane Open Spaces in February 2018 which was agreed. This was duly signed and sent back to TDBC. The Clerk continued that she had now received another contract for 18/19 showing slightly higher costs for each item of works on the contract. The Clerk has written to Taunton Deane Open Spaces questioning the second contract and enclosing a copy of the original contract. No reply has been received as yet.

b) Village Day

RESOLVED: that this Council gives the Village Day Committee permission to use the field on 21.7.15 for the Annual Village Day event.

RESOLVED: to withdraw the 'No Dogs allowed' byelaw for 21.7.15

18/6/13 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Handyman

The Clerk reported that she had only the one reply from the newspaper article. This person does not have public liability insurance. It was agreed not to proceed any further with a dedicated handy mans for the village as it is likely that there would be minimum work to be done.

Proposal on Building & Development Control (Barrowden Parish Council) and Taunton Transport Strategy Consultation Event on 22.6.18

The Chairman agreed to answer both consultations on line.

Joint Working with Creech St Michael

The Clerk reported that she had an email from the Clerk at Creech St Michael that they would agree to joint working using the Neighbourhood Plan Groups for both Councils

18/6/14 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Tree at Lawn Meadow

The Chairman reported that he will check where the tree is to be planted this week

Overlands, Ruishton – Light Pollution

Cllr Marshall reported that residents of Overlands were suffering with the floodlights on the Mill Lane Industrial Estate shining into their properties. Cllr Bulgin reported that the lady had mentioned the problem to him and he told her to make a log of the exact times and if possible a photo of the offending light(s) and come back to the Council

Cllr Marshall continued that he was concerned that the lady and her neighbour had separately contacted TDBC and were told to talk to the Parish Council. His concern is that TDBC are responsible for building control relating to nuisance and light pollution not the parish council. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Creech St Michael's Clerk to see if they are aware of the problem and if they had received any complaints. To write to the lady and ask her to keep a log of times and if possible to provide photos and to contact TDBC Planning Department to ask why they referred this problem to the Parish Council.

18/6/15 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(Documents attached)

A) ACCOUNTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2017/18

(1) **RESOLVED:** to approve the report from the Internal Auditor and note the report.

(2) **RESOLVED:** This Council certifies themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations

(3) **RESOLVED:** that as members of Ruishton & Thornfalocn Parish Council we acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the accounts and confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Council's accounts for the year ended on 31.3.18 that we agree YES to questions 1-8. (Trust funds not applicable) of the Annual Governance Statement

(4) **RESOLVED:** In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1999, this council approves the accounts for year ending 31.3.18

B) THE VILLAGE DAY EVENT

RESOLVED: to approve a £100 grant to the Village Day Committee (already budgeted)

C) SALC MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: to approve a fee of £404.73 for 18/19

D) 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
Final Budget 17/18 - Noted

18/6/16 MATTERS TO REPORT (for information only) OR FOR THE AGENDA AT THE NEXT MEETING

Cllr Mullins reported that he was not present at the 2nd May meeting as recorded in the minutes

18/6/17 NALC AND SLCC PAY AWARD AGREEMENT 2018-2019

Clerks pay award - contracted hours 40 hours a month at SPC 19 (3.7% rise)

Neighbourhood Plan Administrator – contracted hours 24 hours a month at SPC 14 (5.4% rise)

RESOLVED: to approve the Clerk's & Neighbourhood Plan Administrator's pay according to the National Agreement

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm

DATE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 4 JULY 2018, IN RUISHTON VILLAGE HALL. PQT 7.30pm