

## **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 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 held by Zoom conferencing.

**CLLRS PRESENT:** John (Chairman) Bulgin, Dickinson, Fudge, Harper, Marshall, McEvans and Mullins

**ALSO, PRESENT:** County Councillor John Thorne, District Councillor Sue Buller, two members of the public and the Clerk, Heather Bryant.

### **PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME (ON GENERAL PARISH MATTERS)**

Two parishioners spoke on a previous application for 'Conversion of garage/studio' (Item number 4 under planning) District Councillor Sue Buller stated that she would look into their concerns.

A parishioner mentioned that the eastern side of Stoke Road is full of pot holes.

#### **21/4/1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN**

All present.

#### **21/4/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Dickinson, John and Fudge declared an interest in Agenda item 21/3/8 - Application 31/21/0002/LB

#### **21/4/3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH AND 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

**RESOLVED:** the approval of the minutes 3<sup>rd</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 as a true record.

#### **21/4/4 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL**

There were no candidates present

#### **21/4/5 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

C.C. John Thorne referred to his written report which was emailed to Cllrs.

C.C. John Thorne answered questions from the Cllrs on the J25 improvements.

D.C Sue Buller reported on the following.

- She hoped the Council found SWT weekly newsletter useful.
- At some point in the very near future, SWT will go back to face-to face meetings.
- Planning applications are delayed due to the 'phosphate issue'

D.C Phil Stone sent his apologies

#### **21/4/6 PLANNING**

40/21/0006/CQ Prior approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building to dwelling house (Class 3) and associated building operations at New House Farm, Thorn Lane, Thornfalcon. The Council had no comments.

*The Clerk removed Cllrs Dickinson, John and Fudge into the waiting room. Vice-Chairman, Cllr Marshall took over as Chairman*

31/21/0004/0005/LB Erection of a detached double garage at the Old Vicarage, Church Lane.

The application required the felling of a group of sycamores however, there are now TPO's on two of those sycamores.

*The Clerk returned Cllrs Dickinson, John and Fudge back to the meeting. Cllr John resumed as Chair.*

31/21/0003 Conversion of former agricultural barn to form an ancillary accommodation unit within the residential curtilage. Arundells Farm, Stoke Road, Lower Henlade.

The Council had no comments.

Conversion of garage/studio with erection of extension, into 1 no 1 bedroom annexe and erection of replacement garage/studio/gym and hobbies room at Gabrieli, Greenway Lane, Lower Henlade.

Three appeals have been lodged against the non-determination. References 31/20/0023LP, 31/20/0024LP and 31/20/0011

The Clerk reported that the Council's previous comments are automatically forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate. It was agreed that the Council had no further comments.

#### Any other planning issues – online meeting with EDF on 16.3.21

Attended by EDF: John Pingstone – Passenger Service Manager, Andrew Goodchild- Lead Planner and Andy Wagstaff - Senior Planner

PC: Cllrs John, Marshall Bulgin, Mullins, McEvans and the Clerk.

This meeting was in regard to EDF workers being transported to Hinkley Point during the major works using the Park & Ride to carry workers in the Taunton area to Hinkley Point

The following points were made:

- Operate Monday – Friday with reduced service at week-ends
- Proposing 400 car spaces for EDF workers and 40 bus parking spaces.
- 24 operation hours with 5.00-6.30am and 5.30 – 6.00pm peak.
- Welfare – fully serviced temporary modular building possibly until 2024. They will look at whether this building could be a permanent feature for the ordinary bus user after they had left the site but no promises.

#### **21/4/7 OPERATION GANNEX AND FLOOD GROUP**

Notes from an online meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 refers.

The Clerk reported that had been no further updates.

Cllr Marshall reported that he was disappointed that the only back up the Council has to report a road is flooded is through Somerset County Council or the generic Police Control Centre (101) when SCC was closed. There needs to be a meeting with our Flood Committee on the way forward. It was agreed to hold a meeting when we get back to face-face meeting.

#### **21/4/8 VILLAGE PUMP**

There was nothing to report

#### **21/4/9 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATHS**

##### A358 Community Liaison Meeting

Cllr Marshall reported on the following:

- There was no significant extra information from the last Community Liaison meeting before March 2020. (First Lockdown)
- The Attendees should be receiving 'slides' for the meeting to share with their Councils and Groups.
- The next meeting will be several meetings with smaller groups with parishes with a common interest in one particular group.
- Highway England are happy to meet with individual parishes. It was suggested to hold a Parish Meeting when we are able after all the Covid restrictions are lifted

##### Speed Indicator Device – 'Smiley SID'

The Clerk reported that Martock Parish Council had this type of Speed Indicator Device, the cost is around £3500. A smiley SID can be left in one position for a fortnight before being moved and it must be moved by a person who is trained to work on the highway.

#### **21/4/10 S106 AGREEMENT £27209.75 FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION**

The Clerk reported that a picnic table of environmentally friendly recycled material is around £600 with or without wheelchair access. The Clerk will obtain a further price from another company as this will be required with the S106 application form. Cllr Fudge will look at football posts.

#### **21/4/11 RECREATIONAL GROUND**

It was agreed to wait until the new fence is in situ before erected of 'Dogs not allowed' sign.

#### **21/4/12 RUISHTON ELECTRIC SUPPLY**

Cllr Mullins reported on a recent cable explosion in the village and there has been other electricity supply interruptions which the village has experienced over recent years.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk to write to Western Power & Distribution to ascertain their report on the electrical supply to our village – recent cable explosion and historical interruptions. Cllr Mullins agreed to draft the letter

**21/4/13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Cllr Marshall reported that it is all in hand for a summary brochure and a response form in regard to the draft Neighbourhood Plan. These will to be sent to all households in the Parish. The Consultation runs from 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to 7<sup>th</sup> June 202. The draft NP is on the web site.

**21/4/14 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Rotary Club – Queen's Platinum (70<sup>th</sup>) Jubilee – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the Rotary Club to nominate a representative from the Council to attend an informal Liaison Group. The Nation will come together over a four-day Bank Holiday weekend to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee.

After discussion, it was stated that this parish has held their own activities for the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilees. It was agreed to ask for interest from parishioners in forming a Committee.in the Parish newsletter. Cllr Fudge stated he would be interested in being part of a Committee.

Litter bin at the bus shelter opposite Ruishton Inn

It was reported that dog mess has been being deposited in this bin which makes the bin smell. It was agreed to putting a sticker on the litter bin politely asking people not to do this and to use a dog bin or take it home.

Litter pick tools

It was reported that there are parishioners that regularly litter pick around the parish. It was agreed that Cllr Fudge could purchase litter pick tools for the volunteers. The Clerk will include a 'thank you' in the newsletter.

**21/4/15 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman reported on the following:

- She had cut down vegetation which was obscuring the visibility on the Cheats Road/Lipe Lane's junction turning left. There is still more to be cut back.
- She will attend the on-line meeting on the One Somerset and Stronger Somerset debate on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- The crab apples trees at Lawn Meadow and Dinhams still need pruning. The Clerk and the Chairman will take action to get this task done.
- As it stands at present, face-face meetings will start at the next PC meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Cllr Mullins agreed to work with the Chair to develop a Risk Assessment.

**21/4/16 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.

SSE contract for the defibrillator

The Clerk reported that our present contract ends on 31.5.21. There is a slight increase in the monthly charge from £3.17 to £3.97 (£47.64 a year)

It was agreed that the Clerk could sign the new Contract

**21/4/17 MATTERS TO REPORT (for information only) OR FOR THE AGENDA AT THE NEXT MEETING**

It was reported that residents are dumping rubbish in a ditch at the back of the school.

The Clerk will include a general article about fly tipping in the next newsletter

*There were no public present*

**21/4/18 PURCHASE OF LAND**

After a full discussion, it was agreed a full survey is required on the cost of clearing the land.

*The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.55pm.*

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00pm

DATE OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021 AFTER THE APM