

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 at 7.00pm held in the Village Hall observing the Council's Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

**CLLRS PRESENT:** Mullins (Chairman) Bulgin, Marshall, Garbutt and Richard Harper & Liz Harper after co-option.

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

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

There was no public present

#### **22/6/1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED:** the elect Cllr Mullins for Chairman for the forthcoming year  
Cllr Mullins signed a Declaration of Office Form

#### **22/6/2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from Cllr Fudge

#### **22/6/3 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL**

**RESOLVED:** to co-opt Liz Harper and Richard Harper as Councillors.

#### **22/6/4 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**TO CONSIDER:** the election of a Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. Deferred until next month

#### **22/6/5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received

#### **22/6/6 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022**

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

#### **22/6/7 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

County Councillor Ross Henley reported that he plans to attend most meetings of all his Parish Councils and also provide a written report.

County Councillor Sarah Wakefield and District Councillor Sue Buller sent their apologies.

#### **22/6/8 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON A PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** for all councillors to serve on the Personnel Committee

#### **22/6/9 TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS TO SPECIFIC AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

**RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllrs, parishioners/clerk to the following duties

HIGHWAYS- Cllr Bulgin

RECREATIONAL FIELD - Cllrs Bulgin & Fudge

POLICE CONTACT – The Clerk

HENLADE- Cllr Garbutt

RIVERBANK – Cllr Mullins

TREE WARDEN - Domini John

FLOOD COMMITTEE REP: To advertise for volunteers in the September newsletter.

FOOTPATHS -Gill Ellis – Ruishton. Thornfalcon- To advertise in the newsletter

HEALTH & SAFETY - Cllr Mullins

PRESS - The Clerk

THORNFALCON - Cllr L. Haroer

VILLAGE HALL REP – Cllr. L. Harper

DEFIBRILLATOR - Cllr Mullins

#### **22/6/10 PLANNING**

31/22/0007. Erection of a single storey extension to the side, with entrance porch at Three Ways, Church Lane.

The Council has no comments

31/22/0009 Erection of entrance porch, jumbrella, bull status, fencing and lighting at Toby Carvery.

The Council has no comments

31/22/0010. Change of use of land from agriculture to mixed agriculture and equestrian use with erection of stable block and formation of access on land at Oakwood Barn, Stoke Road, Stoke St Mary (retention of part works already undertaken)

The Council has no comments

#### Any other Planning Matters

**31/22/0004** Demolition of garage and erection of a single storey extension to the side and rear for a garage and dog grooming parlour (private use) with formation of dropped kerb at 1 Woodlands Drive, Ruishton. THIS APPLICATION HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN

#### **22/6/11 ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR END 2021/2022**

The Internal Audit is not yet completed – Defer for a meeting later this month

##### A) ACCOUNTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/22

(1) TO CONSIDER: the report from the Internal Auditor

(2) TO CONSIDER: that as members of Ruishton & Thornfalcon 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 31.3.22 that we agree YES to questions 1-8. (Trust funds not applicable) of the Annual Governance Statement. (Section 1)

(3) TO CONSIDER: In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, this council approves the accounts for year ending 31.3.22. (Section 2)

#### **22/6/12 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATHS**

##### Speeding Vehicles through-out the parish

C.C. Henley reported that C.C. Wakefield could have a contact from another parish who may be willing to talk to us in regard to setting up a Community Watch Scheme.

##### A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme

Consultation Tuesday 24.5.- Sunday 26.6.22

Cllr Marshall asked Councillors to attend at least one of the public consultations or one of the webinars. Then send your comments to the Chairman who will collate the individual responses for a Parish Council response. Also, complete the consultation individually

##### SIS consultation

The occupant of 3 Orchard Rise has been doing some work on the drains and erecting a fencing very close to the boundary. County Highways is aware of the works. However, it was agreed to submit online to Somerset West & Taunton DC as a possible enforcement issue.

##### Any other Highway or Footpath issues

The Clerk reported that she had an email from a resident who lived near the school in regard to the dangerous situation at school opening and closing times and to his knowledge, the flashing lights have not been operating. Cllr Liz Harper reported that the lights had been only connected to electricity about a month ago. The Clerk will forward a letter to the school asking if they intend to use the flashing lights.

It was reported that there was overgrown vegetation at a property at Lawn Meadow. The Clerk will send a polite letter.

#### **22/6/13 RECREATIONAL GROUND**

Cllr Bulgin reported that there is a gang of youths, thought to be outside the parish, using the RG for late-night parties on Friday & Saturday nights resulting in a large quantity of rubbish. However, instead of disposing the rubbish in the bins they leave it scattered on the field. Glass bottles are a cause for concern as the youths smash the bottles and it looks like they have been hurling them onto Cheats Road which is obviously dangerous to unsuspecting vehicles.

Also, the play equipment has been vandalised with graffiti including sexually offensive and racist comment remarks. Cllr Bulgin has rectified with spray paint.

After a full discussion, it was agreed to erect a 6ft fence around the RG with gates that can be locked at night is not an option. The Clerk will do an article for the next newsletter asking parents of teenage children to ask them if they know anything about these late-night parties.

**22/6/14 FLOODING MATTERS**

The Clerk reported that the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) have approved the activated flood signs in the Parish; there are five to be shared between Ruishton and Ham. The project starts in April 2022 and finishes April 2024; it will not be a quick process as it needs Highway approval and will then go for consultation.

**22/6/15 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

CHEQUES FOR PAYMENT

**RESOLVED:** that this Council approves the schedule of cheques

**22/6/16 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported on the following:

- Email from Creech St Michael in regard to a Scout Hut – Noted
- Community Garden Group are asking for some funding towards the purchase of two planters for the entrance of Ruishton Lane and at the end of the village in Cheats Lane, The Clerk will ask for further details.

**22/6/17 MATTERS TO REPORT (for information only) OR FOR THE AGENDA AT THE NEXT MEETING**

There will be an extra meeting in June to approve the accounts.

*The Chairman closed the meeting*

DATE OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6th JULY 2022 AT 7.00PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL