

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: HEATHER BRYANT, NORTHAY HOUSE, NORTHAY, CHARD, SOMERSET. TA20 3DN
EMAIL: ruishtonpc@gmail.com. TEL: NO: 01460 234770

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2022 at 6.00pm held in the Village Hall observing the Council's Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

CLLRS PRESENT: Bulgin, Fudge, Marshall, Mullins and Garbutt after co-option

ALSO, PRESENT: Domini John (retiring Chairman) District Councillor Buller and the Clerk, Heather Bryant.

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME (ON GENERAL PARISH MATTERS)

There was no public present

Domini Johns retiring Chairman was in the Chair at this point

22/5/1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: the elect Cllr Mullins for Chairman for this meeting

Cllr Mullins signed a Declaration of Office Form

22/5/2 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

TO NOTE: All Cllrs that stood for election had signed an Acceptance of Office form.

22/5/3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All present who stood for election

22/5/4 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED: to co-opt Susan Garbutt as a Councillor for the Parish (Ruishton Ward)

22/5/5 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

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

22/5/6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

22/5/7 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th APRIL 2022

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

22/5/8 PLANNING

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

RESOLVED: to object to this application on the following grounds:

- The proposed structure is significantly bigger than the original garage and will take this new construction to the full boundary with the neighbouring bungalow and therefore will impact this neighbouring property regarding light and proximity.
- The driveway has also been significantly widened with a dropped kerb which will likely cause more parking problems along an already congested area for parking.
- The large extended driveway and dropped kerb again will not be in keeping with other properties in Woodlands Drive, and as such may set a precedent for others to enlarge their driveways in a similar manner in this small cul-de-sac.

31/22/0008 Erection of single storey extensions to the front of Mantry, 3 Orchard Rise.

The Council had no comments

22/5/9 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.

22/5/10 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

John Thorn was not successful in the recent elections for County Councillors for the new Unitary Authority. Ross Henley and Sarah Wakefield were the successful candidates for this Ward.

It was agreed that the Clerk should send a thank you letter to John for his support he has shown these last few years with an updated monthly report, attending nearly every meeting and help with County Council problems for this parish

22/5/11 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON A PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Deferred until next month

22/5/12 TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS TO SPECIFIC AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

FOOTPATHS	HIGHWAYS
RECREATIONAL FIELD	SAFETY ISSUES
POLICE CONTACT	PRESS
HENLADE	THORNFALCON
RIVERBANK	LOCAL STRUCTURE PLAN
VILLAGE HALL REP	FLOOD COMMITTEE REP
TREE WARDEN	DEFIBRILLATOR

Deferred until next month

22/5/13 COUNCIL POLICIES, TERMS OF REFERENCE, RISK ASSESSMENTS

POLICIES

STANDING ORDERS – adopted 7.9.26 Min No 16/9/11. Recommend to review in 22/23

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – adopted 4.11.19 Min No 19/11/15 Recommend to review in 22/23

EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT - adopted 3.3.21 Min No 21/3/16. It is recommended to review each year.

CASUAL VACANCY POLICY – adopted 20.5.15 Minute No 15/05/12. Recommend to review in 22/23

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE- adopted 3.11.21 Minute No 21/11/17. Recommend to review in 23/24

COMMUNICATIONS POLICY – adopted 3.11.21 Min No 21/11/17. Recommend to review in 23/24

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY - adopted 3.11.21 Min No 21/11/17. Recommend to review in 23/24

PRIVACY POLICES – adopted 18.7.18 Min No 18/7/8. Recommend to review in 22/23

RISK ASSESSMENTS

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL – adopted 3.3.22 Min No 22/3/16. Recommend to review every year

RECREATION GROUND PLAY EQUIPMENT – Independent Risk Assessment carried out every year

OPEN SPACE POLICY – adopted 1.12.21 Min No. 12/12/15. Recommend to review in 22/23

TO NOTE: the above recommendations as the aim for a review. Reviews can be carried out earlier if there are legislation changes, advised by NALC or the Council, a Cllr, Clerk requests a review.

It was agreed that the Council must review the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations for 22/23 and to consider new policies such as:

Bullying & Harassment Policy, Grievance Policy. Disciplinary Policy

12/5/14 NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

RESOLVED: – to adopt the New Code as presented.

12/5/15 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATHS

Speeding Vehicles through-out the parish

The Clerk reported that she will advertise in the next newsletter for CSW volunteers.

A358 Southfields to Junction 25 scheme-

Cllr Marshall reported that Cllr Lowe was attending a meeting tonight with National England

Any other issues

The Clerk reported that a resident has complained about the very overgrown footpath that runs from in front of Stuarts Cottages to Bushy Cross Lane. Cllr Bulgin stated that he will ask his Son-in-Law if he strims that footpath.

22/5/16 PURCHASE OF LAND

The Clerk reported that the Geotechnical Survey and Ground Investigation with trial pits cannot now go ahead as permission from the landowner has not been granted to carry out the survey.

It was agreed to take this matter off the agenda for the time being

Cllrs Fudge and Marshall left this meeting as they had other commitments at 7.00pm.

The meeting was now inquorate

DATE OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1ST JUNE 2022 AT 7.00PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL