

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 5th October 2022 at 7.00pm held in the Village Hall observing the Council's Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

CLLRS PRESENT: Mullins (Chairman) Duke, Richard Harper, Liz Harper, Preston, Marshall and van Bussel

ALSO, PRESENT: County Councillor Ross Henley, three members of the public and the Clerk, Heather Bryant.

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

The Council received the following questions or comments as follows:

- When will the hedge be cut along Ruishton Lane. The Chairman replied that the Small Improvement Scheme that was due to take place in October has now been delayed until December/January. The hedge cutting was part of this scheme.
- HGV's that use Hayden Lane as a short cut although there is a weight limit in place. C.C. Ross Henley agreed to look at the problem
- The Notice Board at Henlade. Could it be positioned in a more suitable place or removed completely. The Chairman replied that the Council will take his comments on board when this matter is discussed later this evening.
- The increased traffic has not reduced since the Creech Castle Road reopened.

POLICE REPORT – No Police present

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report had previously been sent by email. C.C. Wakefield sent her apologies.

C.C. Ross Henley reported on the following:

- Local Community Networks – the information is very scant.
- He is planning to visit Ruishton School in the near future. He will try and fit this in when the Chairman is available.

District Councillor Sue Buller sent her apologies

22/10/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs Bulgin and Fudge

22/10/2 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL (3)

No candidates have come forward

22/10/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Elizabeth Harper declared an interest in Application 31/22/0017 as she is the applicant.

Cllr Richard Harper declared an interest in Application 31/22/0017 as he is a close relation to the applicant.

22/10/4 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH SEPTEMBER 2022

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

22/10/5 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that Cllr Duke met with Kate Brown of County Highways to discuss the position of the poles for the SID's as he could not make the meeting.

22/10/6 LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS

After discussion the following was agreed.

To reply to Q3 and Q4 as do not support

To reply to Q5 Do you support the proposed boundaries as described in Proposal C.?

- Partially support – with a comment of Option C is slightly desirable than Q3 & Q4 even though none of the options available are desirable.

To reply to Q11 Is there anything else you would like to add?

Local Community Network's

- Local powers have not been defined.
- Will there be equal rights to vote between Community, Parish and County representatives.

- Funding has not been defined. Where will the funding come from?

The Clerk will forward the draft consultation to Councillors before submitting on line by 17th October.

22/10/7 PLANNING

31/22/0016/LB Various essential repairs at Henlade House, Stoke Hill, Henlade

The council had no comments

31/22/0017 Erection of a single storey extension to the side and replacement of corrugated roof with a flat GRP roof. 20 Newlands Road, Ruishton

The council had no comments

SW & T Decision

31/22/0012 Erection of a single storey extension to the rear of Ruishton Village Hall

Granted permission.

22/10/8 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATHS

Speed Indicator Devices (SID's)

The Chairman reported that the project is going well. The three SID units will be purchased once the poles have been installed. It was agreed to purchase the poles at £200-£250 each

It was further agreed that the Chairman could sign the agreement between Somerset County Council and the Parish Council.

Chapter 8 trained person – there is a local person who is Chapter 8 trained who may be willing to help. The Chairman will enquire.

The Clerk reported that to insure the SIDs will be an extra £36.15 on the insurance premium.

Any other Highway or Footpath issues

Fading give way sign & white lining – Kate Brown Traffic Engineer has emailed that they will check these problems when next in Ruishton but could take a few months before they could get the problems sorted.

Andy Coupe – pedestrian light A358 – He has checked with the designer and the louvres on the lighting were adjusted a few months ago. They have been optimised as far as they can be to reduce any see-through effect. The Clerk will contact him in regard to the hatching on the inner carriageway of the Nexus roundabout.

SIS Scheme

Unfortunately, there have been some delays with the procurement process for this scheme. It is now looking more likely December/January

Naming of Nexus Road

The Clerk contacted Andrew Doyle who has replied that this project was paused and he is not sure if it is proceeding. He said he will check with the team.

A358 Community Forum

Community Forum meeting on Wednesday 19 October from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. in person at Taunton Rugby Club. The Clerk has booked in Cllr Bulgin and Doug Lowe.

Footpath T22/14

The Clerk reported that she had an email from a resident stating that the stiles along this route are not safe and needs repairing. A wooden bridge had a broken plank of wood and a couple of fields were cropped with maize with no footpath left for walkers.

The Clerk will consult with Cllr Duke to get these issues reported online.

22/10/9 RECREATIONAL GROUND

Tree Inspection - The Clerk reported that Andrew Glide of Arbortech has now retired and Matt Cottley has taken over the business. He will take a look at the site and report back.

22/10/10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

QUARTER TWO BUDGET – Deferred until next month

CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2021/2022

To note: Completion of the limited assurance review for the year ending 31st March 2022 with no matters to report

CLERK'S EXPENSES

RESOLVED: to approve an increase in the Clerk's annual remuneration to take into account the use of space, lighting, heating, broadband, printing costs working from home from £100 to £200 from 1st April 2022 payable in February/March the following year.

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

22/10/11 CORRESPONDENCE

Fire Consultation closing date 30.11.22- Noted

Email in regard to the lack of toilet facilities offered for players of the Football Clubs and spectators when matches are played at the Recreational Ground. Cllr Elizabeth Harper reported that Ruishton Football Club is hiring Ruishton Village Hall for use of the toilets.

22/10/12 CLERKS REPORT

Notice Boards

The Clerk reported that she had emailed our usual Handyman in regard to the base of the notice board at Henlade but had received no reply. The Clerk will try other local handymen

The notice board needs to be replaced at Thornfalcon which will be around £500 (Greenbarnes) which will take four sheets of A4 paper.

The Ruishton Notice Board could probably be refurbished and the backing replaced with self-healing rubber pinboard. The Clerk will check its sturdiness and measure what backing would be required at her next visit to the notice board

Ledgability – pay roll

There will be a price increase £5 a month £30 to £35

22/10/13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Marshall reported that the NP Consultant will be checking the Statutory Consultation aiming for the approval by the Parish Council at the December meeting

22/10/14 MATTERS TO REPORT (for information only) OR FOR THE AGENDA AT THE NEXT MEETING

The following were reported:

- Thew Chairman asked Councillors to let him know the attendance for a Christmas meal.
- Cllr Duke will send details of information on the Council's website & facebook to the Clerk to include in the next newsletter
- The Clerk will enquire if the PCSO's can attend the November meeting as there was no presence at this meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.00PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL