

HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 March 2011
at Faulkland Village Hall

Present: Councillors M. Brombley, E. Drewe (chairman), D. Perkins, R. Skinner

In attendance: County/District Councillor M. Ellis, R. Campbell (clerk), four members of the public

Absent: Cllr G. Ellison

1532 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr J. Knight (unwell).

1533 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Drewe declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item minuted 1536, Chairman's expenses.

Minutes

1534 The minutes of the meeting of 9 March were **agreed** to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

Risk assessment

1535 Councillors carried out a detailed year-end review of risk assessment. It is attached to these minutes.

1536 **Finance**

This item was taken next.

(i) The following were **agreed** for payment (proposed Cllr Perkins/2nd Cllr Brombley) and cheques signed at the end of the meeting: Savills, agent for Trustees Hon W. Jolliffe Settled Estate – annual rent Faulkland Playing Field £125.00; Chairman's expenses 2010/11 £100.00; R. Campbell – cost of clerks' workshop and mileage (1/3 share) £15.64, Clerk's salary for March

(ii) A quotation had been received from Quadron, the existing supplier; a comparison quotation was being obtained that week.

1537 **Planning**

County/District Cllr Ellis joined the meeting.

(i) Application:

2011/0122 Lower Row Farm, Laverton, Frome, BA2 7RD. Erection of an agricultural implements and feed store building. Full planning permission.

Parish Council recommendation: approval.

(ii) Updates.

2010/2913 Stock Barn, Laverton, Norton St Philip. Demolition of stock barn and store, construction of two holiday letting cottages with associated alterations. Application type: full planning. Mendip DC decision: refusal.

(iii) Cllr Drewe reported on the Draft Mendip Local Development Framework Core Strategy, which considered that, as a secondary village, Faulkland could accommodate an additional 15 houses between 2006 and 2026. Five had already received planning permission. Councillors discussed possible locations for up to 10 new dwellings. As per the Parish Plan, further lengthening of the village was not

favoured. Redundant buildings should be re-used.

Cllr Drewe invited comments from the public. One villager identified a possible site in the village centre, of which he was the owner.

Mendip DC to be advised that the parish council did not favour further development, but if it had to take place it preferred it to take place in the centre of Faulkland. There was a potential willing vendor of land.

County and District Councillor's report

1538

This item was taken next.

District Cllr Ellis said that Faulkland's secondary village status might be open to challenge by the parish council on the grounds of the distance from it of Hemington School.

County Council funding would be withdrawn from youth facilities at Coleford and the building taken over by a charity.

It was now hoped to keep Coleford recycling centre open two days a week, after the transitional year.

Users would be asked which day they would 'prefer' Frome library to be closed if opening had to be reduced to allow some smaller libraries, previously announced for closure, to remain open.

He asked for any reports of failure to collect refuse or recycling during the severe winter weather to be forwarded to him.

He would not be standing again as District Councillor and thanked Members for their support.

Cllr Brombley thanked Mr Ellis for his work and regular attendance and this was echoed by all councillors.

1539

Repairs and Renewals

Nothing to report.

1540

Allotments

Cllr Drewe reported on a meeting with Mr Ben Short of Savills. The land would be available after harvest 2011. The rental cost would be £150 per annum. The field would be fenced towards the bottom, allowing access for hedge trimming from the strip along the edge of Brown's Lane at the 90 degree bend. A three metre headland to allow trimming would be left on the three hedged sides. There would be a pedestrian gate at the top of Brown's Lane. Subject to tenant's permission and the provision of a gravelled surface by the parish council, parking for three allotment holders' cars would be allowed at the entrance to the field on the opposite side of Brown's Lane.

Councillors **agreed** that sheds should not be permitted. They discussed plot rents and numbers. A 15-year lease with 10-year break clause to be proposed to Savills.

The cost of water supply and gravel for hard standing to be established.

Savills to be asked to pay at least a half share of the fencing cost.

1541

Highways

Councillors noted the closure of the road from Green Street to Single Hill for three weeks from 14 March for drainage works.

A letter had been sent to the Assistant Area Highways Manger requesting a timetable for completion of various long-outstanding highways matters.

1542

Playing Field

Post hole boring for the safety surface edging was due to be done on 19 March.

Cllr Brombley said the work was taking a very long time.

1543 Correspondence and reports

(i) Councillors reviewed the following correspondence received since the previous parish council meeting:

Mendip DC – ‘Your Mendip’ Spring 2011 (*includes summary of Mendip Local Development Framework Core Strategy*), Parishes Information Bulletin March 2011, Census Poster (*Census is on March 27*); Somerset Skills and Learning – workshop leaflets; SALC – training dates; Came & Co – insurance leaflet; ‘Clerks & Councils Direct’ March 2011; Somerset Playing Fields Association – letter about QEII Fields Challenge (*to mark Queen’s Diamond Jubilee by protecting outdoor recreational sites*). Letter from S Wheeler, Somerset Chief Exec, asking for more localism ideas; SALC – training days up until August.

No actions resulting from the correspondence were identified.

(ii) Miscellaneous reports:

Bagged builders’ rubble was still fly-tipped at Brown’s Lane. Mendip will be chased. Hedge cuttings at Faulkland Playing Field had still to be burned: residents had complained when this was attempted previously.

1544 Dates of future parish council meetings

The following were **agreed**:

Wednesday 23 March 2011, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall (planning)

Wednesday 13 April 2011, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall (last of current council).

The meeting closed at 9.07pm