

# HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

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## MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 8 June 2011 at Faulkland Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors M. Brombley (Vice-chair), E. Drewe (Chairman), F. Green, D. Perkins, P. Roberts

**In attendance:** R. Campbell (Clerk), five members of the public

**1574 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Jim Knight, who was unwell.  
County Cllr Matthew Ellis sent his apologies

**1575 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**1576 Minutes**

The minutes of the annual meeting of the council held on 18 May 2011 were **approved** and signed by the chairman.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were not yet available.

**1577 Finance**

(i) The following items were **approved** for payment (proposed Cllr Brombley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Green)

Faulkland Village Hall Committee – insurance June 2010-May 2011 £622.08,  
hire of hall for meetings £84.00 (total £706.08)

AON – parish council insurance June 2011-12 £658.42

Clerk's salary for June

Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting by Cllrs Brombley and Perkins.

**1578 District Councillor's report**

Cllr Drewe said he was on a learning curve and was impressed with Mendip seen from the inside. He was a member of the planning committee. An early meeting, dealing with supermarket applications in Wells, had consisted of a full three hour briefing from officers before Members had been asked to comment. He was also a member of the Licensing Committee, which had not yet met.

He would keep the parish council informed of useful matters, such as grants for village hall heating.

**1579 Parish Design Statement**

This had been produced by the Parish Plan Group, chaired by Roger Gatley, and gave guidance on suitable design and materials.

Cllr Drewe, welcoming the document, thanked all who had been involved in preparing it.

Cllr Roberts found the design statement factual and to the point. There was sometimes a fine line between what was desirable and what was affordable (eg building garages of real stone).

Consideration of adoption of the plan was deferred until July.

**1580 Planning**

(i) None. The application listed on the agenda was not yet available.

(ii) It was **agreed** to write to the Planning Inspector in support of Mendip District Council's refusal of planning permission for the following: 2010/2913 Stock Barn, Laverton, Norton St Philip (demolition of stock barn and store, construction of two holiday letting cottages with associated alterations) which was being appealed by the applicant. Mendip's position echoes and expands the parish council's recommendation (Minute 1500 (i)).

A copy of the inspector's decision to be requested.

**1581 Allotments**

A lease was being prepared for consideration by the council.

The owner's agent had proposed a site meeting for July/August, after harvest.

It was hoped to use a solar panel to power a pump to get water from the stream to a butt.

**1582 Rights of Way**

(i) Problems previously reported on the Hemington to Hardington path were being dealt with. A damaged footpath bridge near the lavender farm to be reported to Somerset rights of Way.

(ii) Cllr Brombley will be the designated footpath officer as point of contact. Cllr Roberts will walk the paths and report problems.

**1583 Faulkland playing field**

(i) Vandalised play equipment. As requested, Mr T. Hucker had investigated installation of a webcam. Agreed not to pursue this, as it was impractical.

There was criticism of the materials and fixing of the play equipment. The specification to be checked with the manufacturer.

Councillors concluded that moving the equipment to another location would not prevent vandalism.

The vandalised play site to be taped off and 'keep out' notices erected. Installation of a safety surface deferred until it is decided what to do with the site.

Cllr Brombley will report to the July meeting on organising a barbecue or similar event to which interested parents and children would be invited in order to discuss the future of these facilities for which the village had petitioned.

(ii) Cllr Brombley will look into possible grants for a skatepark.

**1584 Highways**

The speed sign at the west end of Faulkland to be raised on its pole and realigned to try and make it work more effectively.

**1585 Clerk's appraisal**

To be considered at the July meeting

**1586 Correspondence and reports**

(i) Councillors reviewed the following correspondence received since the last meeting.

Mendip District Council – Parishes Information Bulletin June 2011;

Mendip District Council – district council organisational structure chart

Bath & NE Somerset – Core Strategy Submission documents

Mendip Business Exchange – invitation to business breakfast 10 June

Mendip in Bloom – competition entry form (closing date 11 July)

Somerset County Council – news of government funding for superfast broadband in the county; notice of further electoral review of Somerset

Somerset Local Authorities' Civil Contingencies Unit – request to consider looking after evacuees in an emergency. A speaker for August or September to be requested and the meeting advertised.

Mr J. Latch – email opposing a skatepark in Faulkland  
Somerset Playing Fields Association newsletter Spring 2011  
Society of Local Council Clerks – details of publications

(ii) Vandalism at the phone box at Turners Tower will be reported to BT.

CLlr Green offered to clear part of the footpath (county road) running behind Faulkland Green.

An update on clearing obstructions on the Buckland Dinham to Hardington restricted byway will be sought.

**1587 Date of next meeting**

**Agreed** for Wednesday 13 July, Faulkland Village Hall, 7.30pm. **Agreed** Cllr Brombley will take minutes as the clerk will be absent.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.09pm