

Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 11 February 2015 at Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30pm

Actions – marked A at right– are on the Clerk and on any Councillor whose initials also appear

Present: Councillors V. Curtis, F. Green, A. Hall (Chairman), P. Roberts, T. Hucker,

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

2119 **Apologies**

The following apologies were received and accepted: Cllr W. Haworth (unwell)

2120 **Interests and dispensations**

There were no declarations of interests

**PUBLIC
PARTICIP
-ATION**

The Chairman adjourned the Parish Council (PC) meeting and opened participation to the public.

- Laura Piper had produced a community shop questionnaire for distribution She said that, after her initial enthusiasm, she was now more sceptical as to how the proposal would be received.
- Roger Gatley reported a blocked gully outside Faulkland Village Hall with water backing up to The Green Farm House. The Clerk to advise Highways.

The Chairman thanked the speakers, closed public participation and reconvened the PC meeting.

2121 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the PC meeting of 14 January 2015 be confirmed as a true record with the following amendment: minute 2112, first line after bullet point, delete “Cllr Hucker”, insert “It was” The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

2122 **Clerk’s report**

- The goalposts on Faulkland Playing field had been prepared and painted, bar the top coat. The village-end posts still needed wedging.
- This month’s PC piece in *Parish News* did not appear, though it was sent in time. It will be put on the notice board.

2123 **Planning**

(i) **Application 2015/0005/LBC** Chapel Farm Faulkland Radstock BA3 5XD

Proposal: The installation of three velux rooflights on the front elevation and the erection of a timber porch

RESOLVED (TH/VC unanimous) to recommend approval.

(ii) The following decision by Mendip DC was noted:

2014/2495/PAA Charlton Farm Hammer Lane Hemington Radstock BA3 5XS.

Proposal: Application for prior approval to change the use of a building from

agriculture to a dwellinghouse.

Decision: Refusal

2124 **Highways and rights of Way**

(i) Road noise Mrs Schroder of Chapel Farm had complained to Highways (with copies to County Cllrs Ham and Siggs) about the noise and breaking-up of the road surface outside her house, but had had no reply. She was willing to meet officials on site.

Agreed to write to Highways, with a copy to Cllr Ham, supporting this complaint. It was suggested that Highways be asked to lay a decent tarmac surface with small stones rolled in, as at Tuckers Grave crossroads. **A**

(ii) Highways It was noted that:

- new batteries for the lower speed indicator device had been ordered and paid for, with delivery to Mr Gibbs
- Three grit bins had been ordered and paid for, with delivery to Frome Highways Depot
- The Chairman said that road outside hairdresser's had been repaired. However, damage to pipes further up the road was likely to result in major roadworks by the end of March.
- Speedwatch : Laura Piper reported three sessions. Quite a few are caught going fast; no-one had been caught twice. 17 drivers had been caught speeding in a 45-minute session the previous Saturday. The current team numbered four. More were always needed.
- The Clerk would collect bags of salt from Highways Frome depot to deliver to the resident of Foxcote Cottage complaining of the iced road. The PC will consider buying a grit bin for this locality in the new financial year. **A**
- Highways had reported that they had cut the hedge obstructing visibility at Greenway Lane, but this was agreed not to be the case. The Clerk will tell Highways. **A**
- Highways had reported that the verge at Gallant Hill 'requires ditching'. Cllr Green said that this had been done. What was needed was for the pipe under the road to be cleared. The Clerk to tell Highways this again. **A**
- Cllr Hucker had advised that the milestone on the A366 towards Turners Tower had disappeared. He had now found it in the undergrowth. The Clerk will ask Highways to refix it. **A**

(iii) Rights of way update

- Mrs Le Ray confirmed that Mendip Byways and Bridleway Association would supply signs for the restricted byway.

2125 **Facilities**

(i) Community shop Laura Piper had printed 70 questionnaires. The Clerk will deliver a further 130 to her. Councillors were keen that Ammerdown Terrace and outlying areas should be included in the distribution. **A**

(ii) Temporary post office The chairman reported that this seemed to be doing rather well, getting more customers than anticipated.

(iii) Faulkland Village Hall Cllr Hucker reported that the VH Committee had identified that

- The back roof is only partially insulated
- There are condensation problems

- An electric hob (instead of gas) would help
- The green door on the path to the Hall needs blocking up outside (as it is inside)
- Asbestos guttering and downpipes (note: only external asbestos) should be replaced
- Estimates will be obtained for secondary glazing on the big windows

The hob is being done, the rest is being discussed.

(iv) Allotments The Clerk had met Mr Adrian Francis on site, who had said

- The grass needs topping off before it can be ploughed.
- When topped, the grass might then need chopping up before ploughing.
- The PC was looking at £100+ without chopping. Inside markers and all other items to be removed first.
- He thinks the soil is quite reasonable

Agreed to proceed with the above work to a maximum cost of £120. Councillors undertook to clear the pegs.

A

2126 **Elections**

The following said will not be seeking re-election: Cllr Roberts and Cllr Hall. Councillors and members of the public present were asked to encourage residents to stand for the council or to stand themselves.

**All
Council
lors**

2127 **Finance**

(i) Current financial statement This was received and approved.

(ii) Payments **RESOLVED** (FG/PR unanimous) to pay:

Clerk's salary February £221.71, expenses £5.00

R. Campbell – refund purchase cost of three git bins £432.00

2128 **Correspondence and reports**

(i) Correspondence

A letter had been received from Lord Hylton, asking the PC if they would contact all village organisations asking them in turn to contact families and neighbours to ensure that litter is binned or taken home.

Lord Hylton asked if the PC would like to take ownership of Rebecca Well, now that it had been repaired at this family's expense. He also urge rotavation of the allotments and timely publicity.

It was **agreed** that a village litter day should be organised. To be a March agenda item.

It was **agreed** that the PC's previous decision to decline ownership of Rebecca Well stood.

The Clerk to write to Lord Hylton, also telling him of the work to be done at the allotments.

A

(ii) Reports Cllr Curtis reported an unlicensed vehicle whose owners had moved away. The Clerk to try and get it moved.

A

2129 **Next meeting**

Wednesday 11 March 2015, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.32pm