

Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 5 May 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 F. Green, A. Hall (Chairman), P. Roberts, W. Haworth, T. Hucker,

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

2153 **Apologies** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr V. Curtis, away

2154 **Interests and dispensations** There were no declarations of interests

2155 **Highways**

part

The Chairman said the meeting had been called in view of public concern about the the fencing that had been erected at the junction of Fulwell Lane and the A366 at the Faulkland Inn and hence the narrowing of the road. It was not the Parish Council's job to sort the matter out but it was in the public interest to come to an understanding of the consequences

**PUBLIC
PARTICI-
PATION**

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

He invited Richard Clifford of the Faulkland Inn to speak.

Mr Clifford said that as discussed at the Parish Council in September 2013, there is no public footpath in front of the Faulkland Inn. He had erected a fence on his Fulwell Lane boundary because cars had been cutting the corner onto his land, encouraged by white lines showing a splay, which he believed had been put there to facilitate the future housing development off Fulwell Lane. It was his intention to replace the fence with a wall. Buses should stop at the official stop by Faulkland Pond, not pull on to his land.

At this point The Chairman read the following statement from Andrew Young, Managing Director of Frome Minibuses.

"Firstly, I would like to offer my apologies for being unable to attend your meeting tonight.

As far as Frome Minibuses Ltd is concerned the pick up and set down point for Faulkland village is the Faulkland Inn, and therefore, for a good many years this is where we have made our turn.

Recently a temporary fence has been erected at the junction of the A366 and Fullwell Lane which makes turning our bus very difficult.

Frome Minibuses Ltd complained to Somerset County Council who subsequently sent out a representative from highways to investigate. My understanding is that highways have confirmed that, in their opinion, part of the fence is sitting on, and blocking the highway, and that they have written to ask the landlord of the Faulkland Inn to remove

it.

Whilst we wait for this situation to be resolved, I can confirm that Frome Minibuses Ltd has every intention to continue to serve Faulkland on a daily basis as usual."

Mr Clifford said that Somerset Highways had not asked him to move the fence. He confirmed that he was meeting Highways Officers that Friday on site.

The chairman asked Mr Clifford if he proposed to build the wall right up to the A36. A gap for people to pass through would be helpful.

Mr Clifford said it was not his intention to disrupt village life.

Mark Corney said there was no doubt Richard Clifford owned the land. The bus company needed to be reminded where the bus stop was. The Parish Council should ask Highways to clear the footpath on the other side of the road.

The Chairman said it seemed a ludicrous situation that people had to cross the A366 to go 20 yards on the other side before crossing back again. A gap in the wall would solve this problem.

Mr Clifford said the white line in front of the Faulkland Inn is on Faulkland Inn land. The road surface was too high and needed scraping back. It encroached on his land Cllr Hucker referred to the lapsed planning condition relating to the three cottages next to the Faulkland Inn: that a pavement had to be constructed.

Lynda Le Ray asked if there was any reason the bus could not drive down the back of Faulkland Green and turn round in that way.

Judith Green asked what the PC's view of the Fulwell Lane/A366 junction was. 95% of people objecting to the West Farm development had cited the junction as a problem. The PC should have resolved the problem then and should do so now.

Mr Clifford said that the Faulkland Inn owned 40% of the width of Fulwell Lane.

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

2155 **Highways**

balance

Following discussion about the Fulwell Lane/A366 junction at the Faulkland Inn, the Parish Council

RESOLVED

- to write a strong letter to the Mendip Planning Department saying that the evidence informing the West Farm decision was wrong: the highway at Fulwell Lane was considerably narrower than had been stated. Did the means of access match the required safety standard? The original plan showed the road width to be 6.8 metres.
- A similar letter to be sent to Somerset Highways.
- A letter to be sent to Frome Minibuses asking them to drive round the back of Faulkland Green to turn round. There was no objection to the bus then proceeding back up the A366 and stopping just beyond the Fulwell Lane junction at the beginning of Lansdown View.

Ward District and County Councillors and Mr Clifford to be copied in.

2157 **Future meetings**

Annual Parish Meeting (APM): Wednesday 20 May 2015 at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 20 May 2015 at approximately 8.00pm in Faulkland Village Hall, after the APM.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.02pm.