

Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on **Wednesday 11 November 2015 in 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 T Hucker (Chairman), V. Curtis, F. Green, L. Piper

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

**PUBLIC
PARTICI
PATION**

The Chairman opened public participation. Public comments (not minutes) in *italic*

- *Linda Le Ray reminded those present that there would be a social event on 20 November in Faulkland Village Hall, proceeds to the Hall*

The Chairman closed public participation and opened the Parish Council meeting.

2237 Apologies and Resignation

(i) Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor M. Corney, working away.

(ii) Councillor Laura Piper had written to the Chairman to say she would resign as a councillor the following day, 12 November, as she was moving away from the area.

The Clerk said that Mendip would be informed and a vacancy notice posted. Unless an election was claimed by 10 electors 14 working days, the Parish Council would be in a position to co-opt at the December meeting.

The Chairman thanked Laura for her enthusiasm, especially with regard to Speedwatch and PCSO liaison, to the agreement of other members present.

The Chairman then asked if any member of the public would be interested or knew of anyone who would be interested in joining the Parish Council, but there were no suggestions.

2238 Interests and dispensations

Councillor Hucker declared a pecuniary interest in planning item 2015/2042/FUL, Meadowside, High Street, Faulkland, as owner and applicant.

2239 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 7 October were agreed to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman.

2240 Clerk's report

- Mendip had agreed to replace the litter bin at the entrance to Faulkland Playing Field (ref MSR/196996)
- The Parish Council was now registered with the Information Commissioner's Office
- No reply had been received from Somerset Highways to the Parish Council's appeal against advice given to Mendip about planning

application 2013/0914 West Farm, Faulkland. To be chased.

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2241 **County and District Councillors' reports**

District Councillor Drewe, conveying the apologies of County Councillor Ham, said that there had been complaints about mounting traffic delays at local road junctions including the Terry Hill crossroads. Additional housing being built on the outskirts of Radstock would generate more traffic on the A362 and hence make matters worse at Terry Hill. Possible solutions to the problem in general could include traffic lights and roundabouts.

Cllr Drewe asked if the cats' eyes previously on the A366, Faulkland High Street, could be replaced.

Cllr Piper said that the PC's preferred option was for visual narrowing by means of white lines down both road edges, but no central white line and hence no cats' eyes. Shared space tended to slow motorists down.

Cllr Drewe said that in conversation with Mendip Planning Office James U'Dell he had been asked whether a submission from the Parish Council in relation to reserved matters on the West Farm development had been comment or an objection. To be clarified. He had been told that drainage matters might cause further delay in determining the application.

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The Chairman thanked Cllr Drewe for his report.

2242 **Faulkland Playing Field** Councillors Green and Curtis had not yet had an opportunity to straighten the goalposts.

The Mendip Legacy Fund grant application had been submitted

Planning

(i) Applications Councillors considered the following applications:

2015/2593/OTA Rectory Farm Green Street to Single Hill Foxcote BA3 5YE

Proposal: Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for an agricultural workers dwelling

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Curtis, 2nd Cllr Piper, unanimous) to recommend **approval**.

Cllr Hucker left the room. Cllr Curtis took the Chair

2015/2042/FUL Meadowside High Street Faulkland BA3 5UX

Proposal: Erection of 2 x 2 bedroom detached dwelling

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Piper, 2nd Cllr Curtis, unanimous) to recommend **refusal**.

Councillors noted that the application was unchanged from application 2015/1466/FUL, save for the addition of a noise report, and they gave the same reasons for refusal, namely:

- Faulkland has already exceeded its quota of new housing in the Mendip Local Plan to 2030.
- The narrowness of the junction of Fulwell Lane and the A366 (following the discovery that part of the land previously included in the highway splay is in private ownership) should preclude any development which increases the number of vehicle movements there.

Cllr Hucker returned to the room and resumed the Chair.

- 2243 **2015/2381/HSE 2 Pond Cottages, Bishop Street, Faulkland BA3 5XB**
Proposal: Dormer window on north-facing roof.
RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Green, 2nd Cllr Curtis, unanimous) to recommend **refusal**.
Councillors considered that:

- The dormer window was too large and not in keeping with those on the rest of the block
- It was inappropriate in its situation overlooking Faulkland Green

(ii) Planning decisions The following decisions by Mendip were noted:
2015/0984/CLP Charlton Farm, BA3 5XS.

Proposal: Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed use and operational development. Decision: refusal.

2015/1984/HSE The Batch, Row Lane, Laverton BA2 7RA.

Proposal: Part demolition of N. wing and proposed 2 storey extension over N. wing.
Decision: approval with conditions

APP/Q3305/C/15/3026358 + 9 Land at The Retreat, Foxcote.

The Informal Appeal Hearing will be held at Mendip District Council offices at 10:00 on 25 November 2015.

(iii) Mendip's Local Plan Part II A response will be drafted for approval at the December 7 Parish Council meeting

A MC

2244 **Highways and rights of way**

(i) Updates Following the return to work of traffic engineer Chris Betty, the Clerk had again asked for the following work to be done and for a timetable:

- Renewal of rumble strips on the A366 at both ends of Faulkland Village
- White lines down both gutters of the A366 through Faulkland
- Warning signs at Bishop Street
- Tractor crossing signs near Haywood Farm, further along the A366 towards the Terry Hill crossroads.

Clerk has also asked Mr Betty's advice on making a Small Improvements grant application for raised tables and improved signage in Faulkland

(ii) Parking at Hemington School The Clerk that School had obtained one quotation (for £20,000 to include soil removal and surfacing) to excavate sufficiently to park seven or eight cars, i.e. all staff, off the road. They could not take the matter further this financial year, but hoped to do so next year. The School did not feel it would be appropriate to approach Somerset Education Committee at present.

(iii) Bus service No report

2245 **Rights of Way** No update.

From the floor, Linda Le Ray said that efforts to re-open the Buckland Dinham Restricted Byway were 'being pursued'.

2246 **Allotments**

- The Estate had asked if any existing allotment holder wished to take over the site. No-one did

- The Estate had agreed to end the lease on 31.12.15. There will be no refund of rent (paid to February 2016, difference £25)
- Bristol Water have been asked to close the account
- It is understood a local resident may rent the field for horse grazing.

2247 **Phone box** The contract had not yet been received but was expected soon.

2234 **Finance**

(i) The financial statement to 31 October was received and approved.

(ii) **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to pay the following:

<i>Cheque</i>	<i>Payee and item</i>	<i>£ *inc. VAT</i>
963	Mendip District Council. Cost of uncontested election 7.5.15	137.52*
965	The Landscape Group, grass cutting October 2015	259.99*
966	Clerk's salary November (postdated) and expenses £5.00	226.70

2235 **Correspondence and reports**

(i) Correspondence All matters had been covered elsewhere in the agenda.

(ii) Reports

- Cllr Green will collect the PC's winter salt allocation from Frome depot
- Mrs Heather Golland to be asked if she will attend the
- Cllr Curtis reported the poor state of the road markings at the A366 junction with Fulwell Lane. Charlie Higgins, Somerset Highways, to be contacted
- Cllr Curtis reported that the pavement service valves of the three houses next to the Faulkland Inn needed attention. Wessex Water to be contacted.
- It was reported that the road sign between Ammerdown Terrace and the Terry Hill crossroads needed repair. Highways to be asked to do so.
- Francis Brothers to be asked if they will cut the hedges as usual

Noting that a member of the public had joined the meeting since agenda item 2237, The Chairman repeated his enquiry as to whether anyone would be interested in becoming a parish councillor. Fiona Haywood said she would be. After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed that she should be co-opted onto the Council. It was agreed she will sign the declaration of acceptance of office at the start of the December meeting.

A FH

2236 **Next meeting**

(i) The following forthcoming meeting was noted:

- Mendip PCSO (Frome Rural North) Steering Group Meeting, 8 December 2015, Rode Memorial Hall BA11 6PZ

Mr Heather Golland to be asked if she is able to attend

(ii) The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 9 December at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall. This will be the budget meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50pm