

# Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

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## MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL (HPC)

Held on Wednesday 10 January 2017 at 19:30 in Faulkland Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors M. Corney (Chairman), V. Curtis, A. Hucker (Vice-Chairman), F. Hayward

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

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Richard Golland asked who was responsible for fingerposts. *See 2606 below*
- Edward Drewe asked if the village handy person would clear the road gutters. *See 2607 below*
- Lynda Le Ray warned that the 2018 Christmas tree could not be anchored as before, as the stump had split.
- Anne Gatley asked if the lifebelt attached to the tree at Faulkland Pond could be moved; it was unsightly. *See 2605e below*

#### 2601 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr F. Green (unwell).

Absent: Cllr B. Seviour

#### 2602 Interests

There were no declarations of interests

#### 2603 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 13 December 2017 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 2604 Reports

##### (a) District Councillor's report

- Referring to Richard Golland's statement (Public Participation, Minutes 13 December) that Mendip District Council did not provide much support for Hemington Parish Council's recommendations on planning, Cllr Drewe said that a planning officer could only take into account material considerations in planning terms.
- He noted that in the Local Plan Part II, the size of the Protected Open Space in the Faulkland Pond area was considerably diminished.
- A Housing White Paper was anticipated in March which might allow a 40% increase in dwellings over the Local Plan figure. This in turn might permit the development of the remainder of the field north of the High Street (towards Grove Lane) in which permission had already been given for eight houses. He questioned the adequacy of services for the larger number.

- He was asked why the parish had no control over the type and price of houses being built and, separately, why the parish had no say on materials. Referring to the completed house next to The Cottage on Faulkland High Street, he noted that the PC had made its preference for materials clear. The developer had concurred in wanting Vobster stone, but Mendip had chosen Cotswold stone, which was yellow. He had queried this decision.
- Mendip had borrowed £100m from the government for income-generating purposes. It had do far bought two properties, which would bring in 4.5% net.
- Some activities had been outsourced to Capita and Idverde would be doing more work. On the other hand, licensing had been brought back in house, as required by the government.
- With reference to Terry Hill crossroads he said a staggered junction would be a worse use of money than the promised roundabout, for which he said funding had been earmarked.
- Some time previously he had asked for one of several Radstock-Bath buses to be diverted via Kilmersdon and Faulkland but had been told there were not enough houses. The bus company had now been out and looked, with a view to diverting one bus per hour.

(b) Clerk's report Actions are reported under the relevant minute.

2605 **Planning**

(a) The following application was considered:

Number, date	Address	Details. Officer
2017/3218/FUL <b>RESOLVED to recommend approval</b> (proposed Cllr Corney, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cllr Curtis, unanimous).	Kingman's Farm Dairy Tynning Hill Hemington Radstock BA3 5UR	Erection of replacement livestock building. Carlton Langford

(b) There were no planning decisions to report.

(c) There were no enforcement updates to report.

(d) The Clerk had embarked on the process of registering Faulkland Green at the Land Registry.

(e) Mendip Local Plan Part II Consultation The Chairman noted that

- Faulkland continues to have an identified development limit, so can expect only localised infill. (Cllr Drewe considered there were only four possible sites.)
- The Development limit boundary had retrospectively recognised West Farm and the eight houses to be built north of the High Street.
- There is an interesting section about self-build.
- The outside sections of the Faulkland pond area of Local Green Space have been excluded but the valuable central piece has been retained

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Corney, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Hucker, unanimous) to advise Mendip that Hemington Parish Council strongly endorses the outlines of the two Local Green Space areas. The central area in LGS2 is essential to maintaining the

integrity of the ponds. The local residents' association would be asked to respond to concern about the siting of the lifebelt in this area.

**2606 Highways and rights of way**

(a) Highways updates The following to be reported to Highways:

- Rubbish in the layby on the A366 at the bottom entrance to Faulkland
- Broken-up road at Hassage crossroads

The grit bin on Hassage Lane to be moved to the crossroads.

Fingerposts are now the responsibility of the Parish Council, though Highways directs how they shall be maintained. To be a February agenda item.

(b) Rights of way updates None

**2607 Parish maintenance**

Appointment of a part-time parish maintenance person The description previously circulated was agreed.

The post to be advertised in the Parish Magazine (by the Clerk) and Village News (by the Chairman), with applications by end February, interviews in mid-March and a start date of 6 April. Clearing road gutters would not be part of the job description.

**2608 Finance**

(a) The Month 9 financial statement was approved

(b) Councillors reviewed the 2018-19 budget and precept (agreed minute 2598c, 13 December) in the light of new information that the Government would not seek to impose referendum principles on parish councils for the next three years. It decided to leave both unchanged.

(c) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Corney, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Curtis, unanimous) to pay

Clerk's salary January	180.96
HMRC January	45.20

**2609 Items of Information**

(a) Correspondence received was noted. No actions were identified.

(b) Miscellaneous reports

- The Chairman will try to attend the PACT meeting at Kilmersdon on 24 January
- Cllr Drewe reported on an attempted break-in at a local farm.
- A theft from a local property was reported
- Cllr Curtis said there was a lack of consistency in the collection of items for recycling.

**2610 Future meetings**

The next meeting would be on

14 Feb 2018 19:30	Parish Council meeting	Faulkland Village Hall
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The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20:40.