

Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL (HPC)

Held on Wednesday 12 September 2018 at 19:30 in Faulkland Village Hall

Present: Councillors J. Blake, M. Corney (Chairman) , V. Curtis, F. Green, F. Hayward, A. Hucker (Vice-chairman)

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- The grass round Faulkland Pond had not been cut

2698 **Apologies** None. All Councillors were present

2699 **Interests**

There were no declarations of interests.

2700 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8 August 2018 were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

2701 **Reports**

(a) District Councillor's report:

- Cllr Drewe said he thought it unlikely that white lines or other requested highways work would take place in the present climate of extensive cuts at Somerset County Council.
- Because SCC Highways rarely made comment on planning applications, Mendip had decided to employ its own highways engineers to respond meaningfully to applications, as had Sedgemoor DC, whereupon SCC had announced that, even in its current financial state, it would itself employ five more engineers.

b) Clerk's report: Actions from previous meetings are reported under the relevant minute. In addition:

- Faulkland Green: having researched the matter, the Clerk recommended that registration at the Land Registry be carried out by a professional. He had obtained an estimate from Wansboroughs Solicitors, having copied to them the 1937 conveyance to the Council.

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Corney, 2nd Cllr Hucker, unanimous) to instruct Wansboroughs to register Faulkland Green at the Land Registry for a fee not to exceed £600, including registration fee. The fee should be for land in the valuation band up to £80,000.

- Id Verde will be asked to remove the cut grass from Faulkland Green and to cut round Faulkland Pond.
- Mendip had been chased for a street sign for Bishop Street and for 'Beware Horses'S signs for Hammer Lane

2702 Planning

(a) The following applications were considered.

2018/1740/LBC Row Court Row Lane Laverton Bath BA2 7RA	Construction of a Conservatory attached to a current part of Row Court at the north of the property. Officer: Howard Warren	RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Blake, 2 nd Cllr Corney, unanimous) to recommend approval .
2018/1805/HSE 1 The Retreat Foxcote BA3 5YF	Two storey extension Officer: Lorna Elstob	RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Corney, 2 nd Cllr Hucker, unanimous) to recommend approval .
2018/1964/FUL 1 Westmead Faulkland BA3 5GL	Erection of conservatory Officer: John Shaw	RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Hucker, 2 nd Cllr Hayward, unanimous) to recommend approval .

(b) Planning decisions

2018/0331/FUL Land between Faulkland Farm & Oaklea Faulkland BA3 5UX	Erection of 8 dwellings and associated works (Re-submission)	Approval 4.9.18 (HPC approval 14.3.18)
---	--	--

(c) Enforcement

- Rose Cottage, High Street, Faulkland: if the structure is less than 4m high and less than 50% of the garden, it should be OK. The planning officer will check.
- Skip Hire business on A362: it is understood that the owner has an operating licence and has been invited to apply for planning permission

2703 Highways and rights of way

(a) Highways to be advised that the manhole cover at the junction of the A366 and Bishop Street was sinking and that the dip at the Fulwell Lane/A366 junction was deepening.

A letter to be sent to Somerset Highways, with copies to County Cllrs Ham and Pullin, saying that the money spent on Terry Hill crossroads had been wasted on cosmetic work and the junction was still dangerous, as witness the serious accident which had occurred recently.

(b) Speedwatch

- Ashley Reay of Mendip Speedwatch was happy to help get things going again. They could help with funding, but commitment was needed
- 4 trained individuals, ideally operating 4 times a month, were required. Cllr Corney volunteered to take part.
- Cllr Blake had completed an online training course
- He will send out a village email to seek support.
- Cllr Curtis to pass the camera to Cllr Blake

(c) Fingerpost repair – to be considered in October.

(d) Rights of way No update

2704 **Environment and maintenance**

A donation of £700 from a donor who wished to remain anonymous had been received with thanks. This was to go towards tree work on Faulkland Green, for which a quote of £1,400 had previously been supplied. Further quotations to be chased by Cllr Hucker and the Clerk.

2705 **Village Hall**

(a) Part-time post office

- It was AGREED that all communication from the operator should come through the Council
- The operator to be asked in writing to stick to his agreed opening period: Monday morning, not Monday afternoon
- The cost of electricity to be considered at October's meeting

(b) Trustees' minute book

- A continuation register was being purchased.
- It was emphasised that the role of the Council, as Custodian Trustee, was limited to holding the property
- Cllr Hucker having resigned from the Committee, Cllr Corney offered to act as second Trustee from the Parish Council in the short term.

2706 **Staff**

Councillors were pleased to CONFIRM the appointment of Joanne Swift as Clerk and RFO from 1st October. Jo is a qualified and very well-experienced Clerk.

2707 **Policies**

(a) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Corney, 2nd Cllr Hucker, unanimous) to adopt the following policies, previously circulated.

Equal Opportunity Policy; Expenses Policy; Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures; Health and Safety Policy; Sickness Absence Policy

(b) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Blake, 2nd Cllr Corney, unanimous) to adopt the General Privacy Notice, previously circulated.

2708 **Communication**

It was AGREED to provide Hemington Parish Council email addresses for Councillors and Clerk at a total cost of £24 per annum for two 'full' addresses (for Chairman and Clerk) and five 'light' addresses (for Councillors). Cllr Blake was thanked for offering to set this up. Domain name registration will be moved to the same provider on renewal.

2709 **GDPR**

The Clerk was undertaking a full data audit as part of the handover process.

2710 **Finance**

(a) The Month 5 financial statement was APPROVED

(b) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Green, 2nd Cllr Curtis, unanimous) to pay:

1084 Clerk's salary September	207.70
1085 HMRC September	48.60
1086 Id Verde – grass cutting August	235.72
1087 R. Watts – replace gateposts x 2 at Faulkland Pond, inc VAT	434.22
1088 Sally Vince – 16 months' website maintenance	240.00
1089 R. Campbell – 26 weeks home-as-office allowance, stamps	120.08
1090 A. Jay – mileage expenses	29.25

1091 Payman – payroll services 2018/19, inc. VAT	72.00
--	-------

2711 Items of Information

(a) There was no correspondence to consider

(b) Information received was noted

(b) Miscellaneous reports

- Cllr Curtis said he had given up using the kerbside recycling service as it was so erratic in what waste it took
- District Cllr Drewe said he had no problem with the service but knew that others did. Somerset Waste Partnership found it hard to recruit. There was pressure to extend opening hours at Frome Recycling Centre
- Cllr Hucker said there was now a dedicated plastics bin at Frome
- Cllr Bake said members of the public should use common sense when stacking their recycling
- It was agreed to monitor the situation

On behalf of the meeting the Chairman warmly thanked the outgoing Clerk for his work over the preceding 12 years and, to a round of applause, presented him with a framed photograph of the Falkland lavender fields. Robin Campbell thanked everyone for this and for their sympathetic support over the years.

2712 Future meetings

The next meeting of the council was confirmed for

10 October 19:30	Parish Council meeting	Hemington Primary School
---------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------

Cllr Green gave his apologies.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20:40