

# HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

## **\*\*DRAFT\*\*** MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
(Remote Meeting - held over zoom & telephone)

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Corney (Chairman), V Curtis, M Francis, F Green, F Hayward and  
A Hucker (Vice Chairman).  
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: A Barkshire (District Cllr) and J Howell (Clerk).

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

#### 09/20-21:034 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed members to the remote/virtual meeting.

#### 09/20-21:035 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

*Under the councils Code of Conduct in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, SI No. 1464.*

There were none.

#### 09/20-21:036 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were approved as a correct record and agreement given for them to be signed by the Chairman.

#### 09/20-21:037 REPORTS

a. The District Councillor provided a verbal report. Headlines included:

- 'Stronger Somerset' proposal for two unitary authorities (details of which still being refined). Suggested residents who feel strongly in support of East Somerset and West Somerset under the Stronger Somerset business case as opposed to the 'One Somerset' proposal write to MP in support.
- New Recycling initiative and waste collection. Will come into effect end October 2020. Includes all sorts of plastics. General waste will move to collections every three weeks. Residents will receive a paper timetable and an electronic reminder which can be diarised to make use of reminders.

b. The Chairman provided a verbal report. Items included: Letter to PCC reference Auto Speed Watch.

c. The Clerk provided a verbal report. Items included: a MacMillan Coffee Morning, Recycle More initiative, correspondence from residents, Mendip Paths meeting (Cllr Hucker to attend), Clerk to chase response from Somerset County Council Highways – reference resident request to consider chicanes and previous discussion around double white lines. New Beat Manager PC Toni Lines.

#### 09/20-21:038 PLANNING

a. Members noted the following planning decision:

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Address and proposal</u>	<u>Decision by Mendip District Council</u>
2019/3031/FUL	The Old Barn, Green Street, Foxcote.  Conversion and Change of Use of Agricultural Barn to a Farm Shop and Cafe.	Approval with Conditions A full report is available for further details including conditions.
2020/1273/PAA	Land at Row Lane, Laverton, Frome.	PRIOR APPROVAL IS REFUSED A full report is available for further details.

The following draft minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

	Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development.	
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b. Members considered the following Planning Applications:

Application Number	Address	Proposal
2020/1577/FUL	Land At 377026 153330 Cherry Garden Lane, Laverton.	Conversion of existing barn outbuilding to a single storey dwelling.

Members noting the public concerns submitted relating to water pressure in that part of Laverton. The Parish Council have concerns that the barn is in a remote area and will have a significant impact.

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council **recommend refusal of permission** of Planning Application 2020/1577/FUL, land at 377026 153330 Cherry Garden Lane, Laverton in the current format.

The Parish Council would consider a resubmission if the proposed conversion had a reduced footprint to match that of the existing structure.

09/20-21:039 TELEPHONE KIOSK

Members agreed a proposal in principle to re-paint the telephone kiosk. Further research on cost to be conducted and budget to be brought to the October Parish Council meeting.

09/20-21:040 HIGHWAYS

a. The Parish Council noted the Somerset County Council's Traffic Regulation Order - intention to make – Temporary 40mph speed limit. Faulkland to Norton St Philip Road and A366 Wells Road in the Parishes of Hemington and Norton St Philip. Commencing 17th day of September 2020 and will remain in force for eighteen months. *Works to be carried out are for Openreach Works - access for pole testing and are expected to commence on the 28th September 2020 for one day, 09:30 to 15:30 hours, the restrictions will only apply when indicated by traffic signs. The Clerk will make enquiries: enforceable cameras.*

a. Discussion took place around white lines, Park Lane. It was agreed that since the repainting of the white lines along the A366 all roads off this appear very faint.

Clerk to ask SCC to revisit as a matter of urgency and complete the side roads.

b. The Parish Council discussed the request to consider street lighting, Westmead (formerly West Farm) which originated from. A Cllr outlined that he had been approached by a resident to raise street lighting at Westmead following an incident of vandalism. The Clerk reported on the three items of correspondence against the proposal (which had also been circulated) and members considered the points raised. The council also considered the impact on wildlife and bats also raised in objections. The Parish Council note that if any resident was minded to pursue a request for street lighting, Somerset County Council are the authority who install and maintain street lighting however given the strength of feeling against this proposal, the Parish Council do not support a request for street lighting.

09/20-21:041 FINANCES

a. Members noted the payment to Information Commissioners Office – annual registration (Direct Debit of £35.00) payment due to be taken 20/09/2020.

b. **RESOLVED** – The Parish Council **APPROVED** the payment schedule for September 2020.

Cheque	Paid to	Amount
1168	Mrs J Howell Pay and expenses including Zoom professional.	£298.18
1169	Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) Planning Training.	£30.00
1170	IDVERDE Grass cutting CONTRACT invoices: GM787200 07/2020 & GM788645 08/2020.	£588.48
<b>Total payments for September 2020</b>		<b>£916.66</b>

c. Members received the latest financial statement. (*Bank reconciliation to 31/08/2020*).

09/20-21:042 PLAY AREA

Cllr Hucker reported having completed a Covid-19 risk assessment on the Play Area.

**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council keep the Play Area closed and re-evaluate in the Spring. Cllr Hucker will place an updated closure notice on the gate and apply new tape.

The following draft minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

- 09/20-21:043 TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE  
Members discussed a proposal for a tree planting initiative: to plant saplings in a row on the south side of the Playing Field.  
RESOLVED: That the Parish Council apply for Wildlife Tree Pack from the Woodland Trust consisting of 105 saplings (hawthorn, rowan, blackthorn, silver birch, hazel, and oak) for March 2021 planting.
- 09/20-21:044 PROPOSALS FOR UNITARY SOLUTION FOR SOMERSET  
The District Councillor had already provided a comprehensive update during the District Councillor's Report. The Clerk has circulated the Stronger Somerset Proposal / Business Case to members. Residents can find out more here: STRONGER SOMERSET Business Case. The Clerk will attend a briefing on 'Stronger Somerset' on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Members have been provided two dates to attend. District Councils have put forward an alternative proposal 'Stronger Somerset' to government setting out a case for a West and East Somerset (2 unitary authorities).
- 09/20-21:045 SOMERSET WASTE PARTNERSHIP - RECYCLE MORE INITIATIVE  
Members received the Recycle More briefing from Mendip District Council. New service to be launched in Mendip from the week beginning Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020.
- 09/20-21:046 CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMUNITY FUND 2020-21  
From 1 October we are invited to bid for between £5,000 and £75,000 for innovative projects that can make a real difference in reducing carbon emissions and can contribute to making Somerset resilient to the effects of Climate Change. The scheme will be open from 1 October for six weeks. Qualifying projects will include those to reduce carbon emissions, reduce consumption and to implement activities around climate change mitigation and adaptation. Full details are now available on the Somerset County Council Climate Emergency webpage.
- 09/20-21:047 PLANNING CONSULTATIONS  
The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government have issued three consultations on reform of the planning system: Changes to the current planning system (NALC deadline for responses 17 September), Planning for the future - the planning white paper (NALC deadline for responses 15 October) and Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control (NALC deadline for responses 16 October). No response proposed at the meeting but the Parish Council delegated responsibility to the Clerk. Views sought by the Chairman by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.
- 09/20-21:048 ITEMS TO RAISE FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING  
No items raised.
- 09/20-21:049 DATE OF NEXT MEETING  
The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at **\*\*7.30pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 – one off change for October Parish Council Meeting only.\*\***
- 09/20-21:050 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM  
RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within those paragraphs indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended – HR item and contractual item.
- 09/20-21:051 WEBSITE UPGRADE  
Members considered four quotations to upgrade Parish Council website.  
RESOLVED: The Parish Council accepted the quote from Parish Council Websites. The Clerk will progress the migration of the existing website to a new WordPress site in accordance with the quotation supplied and investigate options for email.
- 09/20-21:052 HR MATTER  
RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the NALC 2020-21 National Salary Award.

The Chairman thanked members for attending and for their valued input. Meetings to continue remotely at present given current advice. There being no further business, at 8.34pm the Chairman closed the meeting. These minutes are in draft form until considered for approval at the next meeting. Minutes are available on the Parish Council website.