

HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20 January 2010 at Faulkland Village Hall

Present: Councillors M. Brombley, E. Drewe (chairman), J. Knight, D. Perkins, R. Skinner (from 8.15pm)

In attendance: R. Campbell (clerk), four members of the public

Apologies for absence: Councillor G. Ellison; County and District Councillor M. Ellis

Note: This meeting was postponed from 13 January due to bad weather

1360 **Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Dewe declared a personal interest in relation to planning item 2009/1992

1361 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 9 December were **agreed** to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman

1362 **Planning**

(i) **Applications**

2009/1987 Marrow Pole House, Hammer Lane, Hemington BA3 5XS. Single storey rear extension. Householder Planning Permission.

Parish Council recommendation: approval.

2009/1905 Stock Barn, Laverton. Demolition of stock barn and store, construction of two holiday letting cottages. Full planning permission (8 weeks).

Parish Council recommendation: refusal. Councillors noted that planning policy E7 requires that the existing building be of substantial construction and sympathetic to the area. This was not considered to be the case and so the application should be considered as development in the open countryside.

2009/1992 Land at Lower Farm, Faulkland, BA3 5XD. Erection of dwelling and garage. (Retrospective – amendments to 106970/026). Full planning permission (8 weeks).

Parish Council recommendation: approval.

(ii) **Updates**

Mendip DC had notified the following decisions:

Oldfield Cottage, Faulkland – **approved** (PC recommendation refusal, due to the siting of the garage in relation to the A366).

Foxcote Cottage – **refused**. Mendip considered the proposal presented a material, not a non-material change to the plans already granted.

Ashgrove, Grove Lane, Faulkland – **approved** (PC recommendation approval).

1363 **Parish Plan**

Councillors reviewed actions taken to date and those outstanding, from the list starting on page 29 of the Parish Plan.

13.1 Councillors discussed the village development limit in Faulkland and whether it was under threat from changes in Government policy. They affirmed that development should be within the limit only.

13.2 The Chairman reminded councillors that part of action 13.2, to assess options for

an alternate location for the village hall, had not been endorsed by the Parish Council.

- 13.4** The villager attending the Police Community Support Officer's meetings to be asked to report on them to the parish council.
- 13.5** A design statement was being prepared under the auspices of the Parish Plan Group and a proposal for a Conservation Area could follow from this.
- 13.6** Play equipment had been replaced at Faulkland Playing Field and a safety surface was being provided. Relocation of the play area was not being considered at present.
Cllr Ellison regularly walks the footpaths and repairs or reports damage.
- 13.7** The second speed sign had arrived; its solar panel was on order.
White lining as a safety measure had been done at Bishop Street and opposite Grove Lane, but not yet at Browns Lane.
Footway widening at Faulkland Green had failed Somerset CC's costing test.
Cllr Brombley said that no measures had been taken to slow traffic on the A366 outside Faulkland village.
The effectiveness of new freight route signage would be gauged once the Norton St Philip weight limit was in place.
The designation of 'village gateways' had still to be made. The area traffic engineer to be contacted about this.

Councillors agreed to review the Parish Plan at regular intervals

1364 **Playing Field**

- (i) **Youth building** Cllr Drewe had completed the drawings and would submit the application with the agreed cheque (Minute 1353 (i)).
Councillors **agreed** unanimously to end the temporary halt (Minute 1343) and proceed with the erection of the building when permission was granted.
- (ii) **Play area** Noted that the insurance excess is £125. A claim had been discussed with the insurer and confirmation of the value of repairs was awaited from the manufacturer.
Agreed to spend up to £250 for posts and edging for the safety surface bark (proposed Cllr Brombley). Use of a tractor with post hole borer to be sought.
- (iii) **Hedge cutting** Nothing to report

1365 **Finance**

- (i) **Budget 2010/11** Cllr Skinner joined the meeting. Councillors reviewed the draft budget line by line and made adjustments. A copy of the **agreed** budget is attached to these minutes. Grant allocation will not include a grant to the Pre-school.
- (ii) **Precept** A precept of £6.750 for 2010/11, unchanged for the third year running, was **agreed** (proposed Cllr Perkins).
- (iii) **Bills for payment** The following bills were agreed for payment (proposed by Cllr Perkins): Quadron – grass cutting £1322 inc VAT; Mendip DC – planning application fee £167.50; Clerk's salary for January
The following previously agreed item had been paid since the last meeting:
Midsummer Energy – solar panel for speed sign £521.50 inc VAT.

1366 **Maintenance, repairs and Renewals**

Flagpole at Faulkland Green Cllr Brombley questioned whether one was needed.

1367 **Traffic and Highways**

- (i) **Speed sign** The solar panel had been ordered
- (ii) Councillors noted the closure of Southfield Hill, Hemington for 2 weeks from 25 January, for drainage works.

(iii) **Somerset Highways** Somerset Highways were no longer leaving salt dumps in Foxcote or other contry areas in icy weather. Bagged salt, obtained from Frome Highways depot, had been distributed to some. Councillors felt it was not reasonable to expect all minor roads to be salted. The requirement was for everyone to have one route to access the main roads.

1368 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence, received since the last meeting, was reviewed by councillors, who took items of interest: Mendip Community Newsletter; acknowledgement of grant to Foxcote Church; Jo Merrick – details of Hemington 10K run – *the PC to write in support*; Parish Information Bulletin (new acting chief executive for Mendip); SALC update January 2010 (note of new Model Standing Orders, note of forthcoming Model Financial Regulations to include use of internet banking); Local Works – Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill information; Somerset Rail Guide till May – *PC to ask to place in Faulkland shop*; Clerks and Councils Direct, January

1369 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

None

1370 **Dates of future parish council meetings**

The following were agreed:

Wednesday 10 February 2010, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall

Wednesday 10 March 2010, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.49pm