

HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10 March 2010 at Faulkland Village Hall

Present: Councillors M. Brombley, E. Drewe (chairman), G. Ellison, D. Perkins

In attendance: County and District Councillor M. Ellis (left after Minute 1383), R. Campbell (clerk), one member of the public

Apologies for absence: Councillor J. Knight

Absent: Councillor R. Skinner

1381 **Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Drewe declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to

- planning item 'Gallanthill Barn'
- finance item 'Chairman's expenses'

1382 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 10 February were **agreed** to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman

1383 (i) **District Councillor's report**

- The weight limit on the A366 at Norton St Philip is 'almost there'
- Mendip DC's budget increase of 1.76% for 2010/11 is solely to fund the inclusion of cardboard and plastics in the recycling collection from Autumn 2010. He will find the answer to Cllr Ellison's question as to what the plastics are used for
- He noted concerns about the increase in garden waste collection costs

(ii) **County Councillor's report**

- No increase in the County Council budget for 2010/11
- Regretfully no community budget allocation
- Highways spending to be maintained. Some staff cuts at County Hall. Care funding had been renegotiated
- The new Chief Executive, Sheila Wheeler would visit the area

Cllr Ellis was thanked and left the meeting.

1384 **Planning**

(i) **Applications**

Somerset CC

2010/0328 Sawmills, Buckland Down. Erection of building and installation of gasifier and electricity generation plant. The site is not in Hemington Parish.

Parish Council comment: no objection, subject to the green lane at the rear of the site not being used to transport miscanthus to the generation plant.

Mendip DC

2010/0090 Foxcote Cottage, Foxcote BA3 5YD. To erect an L-shape stable block and four lights. **Parish Council recommendation: approval**

2010/0234 Keepers Cottage, Hardington BA11 1NH. Demolition of an existing single garage and replacement with a double garage and ancillary accommodation above.

Parish Council recommendation: approval

Cllr Brombley took the Chair.

(ii) **Updates**

Gallanthill Barn, Foxcote. Agreed that the parish council will make the following written representation to the appeal against refusal of planning permission to convert/extend the barn for holiday let.

- It is an ideal location for a holiday let and will not be used for agricultural purposes. It is in a sustainable location within easy reach of facilities including shop, school, public house, garage, village hall and children's play equipment. It is also within easy reach of many country pursuits.

1385 Cllr Drewe took the Chair

Playing Field

(ii) **Safety surface** This needs to be installed, in spite of new safety regulations permitting tended grass to be used below a certain fall height

(ii) **Kissing Gate** The broken back panel to be dismantled and repaired

(iii) **Play equipment.** Repair of the damage would cost £950 + VAT. **Agreed** to pay Timberline £75 + VAT to inspect to ensure no undetected damage, before making the insurance claim.

(iv) **Hedges** Cllr Knight had sent an urgent request that they be cut. It had been arranged that they be cut to a height of 4 foot 6 inches.

1386 **Parish Plan**

A report had been received of the successful archaeology meeting. The group was now researching for a Parish Design Statement, which it was hoped would come to the parish council for approval in the summer. It would then become a design aid for planning applications.

1387 **Finance**

(i) **Grant application** It was **decided** not to make a grant to Victim Support.

(i) **Bills for payment** The following were **agreed** (proposed Cllr Brombley) and cheques signed at the end of the meeting: Savills (Hon W. Jolliffe Settled Estate) – Faulkland Playing Field annual rent £125.00; Faulkland Village Hall Committee – hire of hall for meetings £70.00, annual insurance 2009/10 £612.77; Clerk's salary for March.

Cllr Brombley took the Chair.

(iii) **Chairman's expenses** Chairman's expenses of £100 for 2009/10 were **agreed** (proposed Cllr Perkins).

1388 Cllr Drewe took the Chair.

Maintenance, repairs and Renewals

Councillors were pleased that the seat on Faulkland Green was being cleaned and renewed. They were less pleased to learn that the new flagpole donated by the Ammerdown Estate had been removed from the Green before being put up. It or a replacement to be sought.

1389 **Risk assessment**

Councillors carried out a detailed year-end review of risk assessment. It is attached to these minutes, of which it forms part.

1390 **Traffic and Highways**

(ii) **Somerset Highways Matters** At a site meeting the Area Traffic Engineer had

agreed the following with the clerk:

- A 'Caution Children Playing' sign either side of Faulkland Playing Field
- 2 bollards at junction of A362 and road to Hemington. Completion within 90 days of placing order in April
- New signs to Hemington School at 3 junctions, after consulting Headteacher
- Repair of flood-prone area at junction of A366 and road that leads to Tynning Hill

Work on A366 weight limit signage had started. Completion due by 26 March

1391 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence, received since the last meeting, was reviewed by councillors, who took items of interest: Mendip DC – Parishes Information Bulletin March, Somerset CC – Sunday/holiday services bus timetable, advice of taking over maintenance of rights of way from Mendip DC on 1 April 2010; Energy Saving Trust – leaflet on green community projects

1392 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

- Somerset Highways again to be asked to make visibility improvements at Brown's Lane
- The new speed sign at the west end of Faulkland village flashes when the vehicle is very close to it. Vegetation will be trimmed to try to extend the distance at which the sign registers the speeding vehicle

1393 **Dates of future parish council meetings**

The following were agreed:

Wednesday 14 April 2010, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall

Wednesday 12 May 2010, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.58pm