

# HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

## MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING held at 8.15 pm on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at Faulkland Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors M. Brombley, E. Drewe (chairman), G. Ellison, J. Knight D. Perkins, R. Skinner

**In attendance:** County and District Councillor M. Ellis, R. Campbell (clerk), nine members of the public

1404 **Election of Chairman**

Cllr Drewe was proposed/2nd by Cllr Knight/Cllr Perkins and **elected unanimously**. Cllr Drewe was thanked by Cllr Perkins for his hard work during the preceding year and in turn thanked councillors for re-electing him.

1405 **Declarations of interest**

None

1406 **Election of Vice-chair**

Cllr Brombley was proposed/2nd by Cllr Ellison/Cllr Drewe) and **elected unanimously**.

1407 **Minutes**

After correcting minute 1398 (iv) to read 'They are to be advised...', the minutes of the meeting of 14 April were **agreed** to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

1408 **Planning**

(i) **Application**

**2010/0555** Erection of 1 projecting sign and 3 hoardings on land at Manor Farm, Hardington. **Parish Council recommendation: approval**

1409 **Playing Field**

(i) **Youth/community building**. The planning application was still with Mendip.

Cllr Ellison confirmed that the Youth Group had been disbanded and the grant received was being returned. The youth group leaders had decided against continuing with the building due to persistent vandalism on the site. A wooden building would be at risk.

Cllr Drewe proposed that the planning application be withdrawn, £5,000 of grant-match funding raised by the youth group be held by the parish council and the matter reviewed in 6 months. **Agreed unanimously**.

Cllr Brombley proposed that a letter be sent to all households explaining why the action had been taken. **Agreed unanimously**.

(ii) **Pitch** Mr Mark Humphries was invited to address the council. He was looking for a pitch for Kickers Football Club, which he had started in Frome with the encouragement of the local PCSO and others for under-14s, including children with attention deficit and learning difficulties. Charging members £4 per match and £2 per training session, the club had been successful in its aim of reducing antisocial behaviour. He could maintain Faulkland Playing Field if he could get the pitch for free. The aim would be to add members from the parish to his existing membership. He felt the vandalism problem would be solved. He would get a groundsman to inspect the pitch.

Councillors discussed parking and the dropping-off of children from Frome at Faulkland Playing Field. Councillors will consider the whole matter again at the PC meeting on 9

June, which Mr Humphries agreed to attend with some of his members and possibly a representative from Knightstone Housing Association.

Advertising of the meeting to be included in the letter agreed in minute 1409 (i) above.

(iii) **Play equipment** The insurance claim had been made, Timberline having agreed to make no additional charge for the new vandalism discovered on their previous visit.

Timberline to be asked to speed up the repair, due in approximately six weeks.

(iv) **Hedge** Mendip DC to be asked if the hedge can be cut for safety reasons before September.

1410 **Finance**

(i) **Audited accounts to 31.3.10** Cllr Knight proposed that the accounts be approved. **Agreed unanimously.** Mr Nick Brown was thanked for auditing the accounts.

(ii) **Annual Return** The Annual Governance Statement was **agreed** line by line and signed by the chairman.

(iii) **Grants** From budgeted funds, churchyard grants of £265 to Hardington Vale PCC for St Mary's Hemington and £90 to Foxcote-with-Shoscombe PCC for St James Foxcote were **agreed** (proposed/2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Knight/ Cllr Ellison). Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

(iv) **Clerk's salary.** Following the annual appraisal, it was **agreed** the clerk's salary be increased from 1 April 2010 by one point to point 23 on the current National Association of Local Councils salary scale, for satisfactory service, as per contract.

Payment of the clerk's salary for May was **agreed** (proposed Cllr Knight). A cheque was signed at the end of the meeting.

(v) **Insurance** Insurance to be renewed with the current insurer as the play equipment claim was still pending.

1411 **Maintenance, repairs and Renewals**

Nothing to report.

1412 **New Model Standing Orders**

To be considered at the June meeting

1413 **Traffic and Highways**

Noted that the A366 had been surface dressed.

1414 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence, received since the last meeting, was reviewed by councillors, who took items of interest: Mendip DC – Parishes Information Bulletin May; Somerset Association of Local Councils – agenda East Area meeting 1 June, minutes of March meeting; Rural Youth letter; *The Playing Field; Clerks & Councils Direct*, May 2010; SW Ambulance newsletter; Avon and Somerset Police newsletter; HMG mortgage advice poster; domestic abuse support contact leaflet; SCC – management of public rights of way letter

1415 **Miscellaneous reports and information**

A parishioner reported that the stocks on Faulkland Green had been left dismantled by a visiting school party. The school will be asked to ensure that the site is left as found in future. The loose top bar of the stocks will be fixed.

1416 **Dates of future parish council meetings**

The following were agreed:

Wednesdays 9 June, 7.30pm Faulkland Village Hall

Wednesday 14 July, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.15pm