

# HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 9 May 2012  
at Faulkland Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors M. Brombley (Vice-chairman), E. Drewe (Chairman), F. Green, P. Roberts

**In attendance:** R Campbell (Clerk), nine members of the public

**Absent:** Cllr D. Perkins

**1713 Chair**

Cllr Edward Drewe was proposed as Chairman for the coming year by Cllr Philip Roberts (2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Maggie Brombley). There were no other nominations. He indicated his willingness to serve, was elected unanimously and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

**1714 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Jim Knight.

**1715 Declarations of Interest**

None

**1716 Vice-chair**

Cllr Brombley was proposed as Vice-chairman by Cllr Francis Green (2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Roberts). There were no other nominations. She indicated her willingness to serve and was elected unanimously.

**1717 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 11 April 2012 were signed by the Chairman after approval.

**1718 Insurance**

Councillors considered three insurance quotations.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Green) that the AON/Allianz policy in the sum of £667.80 be renewed for the coming year.

**1719 Finance**

(i) **RESOLVED** to accept the audited parish council accounts for the year ended 31 March 2012 (proposed Cllr Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Brombley). Mr Nick Brown was thanked for carrying out the internal audit.

(ii) The Annual Governance Statement was considered by councillors line by line, approved and signed by the Chairman.

(iii) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Brombley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Green) to pay:

Somerset Association of Local Councils – affiliation fee 2012-13 £136.89

Savills – Professional fees for allotment lease £300.00 inc. VAT

Grants: Hardington Vale PPC – churchyard grant £300.00

Foxcote with Shoscombe PCC – churchyard grant £100.00

Staff salaries May 2012

Cheques were signed by Cllrs Drewe and Brombley after the meeting.

#### **1720 Planning**

(i) No applications

(ii) Mendip DC had advised the following, which accorded with the PC recommendation: **2011/0172** Agricultural Land at ST 71790 55403, Foxcote, Radstock. Formation of a concrete bunker to provide storage for agricultural (cattle) slurry as part of existing dairy unit. **Approval.**

(iii) The Mendip Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) was discussed. Three possible sites for development had been put forward to Mendip District Council by local landowners, all of which would require a change to the Local Plan. They were:

- West Farm (24 dwellings, possible timing 2017)
- Land south of Fulwell Close (18 dwellings, possible timing 2017)
- Land north east of Grove Lane (15 dwellings, possible timing 2018)

Mendip's Local Plan 2006-2026 gave a quota of 20 additional houses for Faulkland. Five had either been built or given planning permission. With a subsequent quota increase of 20%, that meant that a further 18 dwellings for this secondary village would accord with Mendip's Local Plan to 2026.

The Parish Plan said there should be no further development.

Cllr Drewe said he was pleased that no land at the edges had been put forward. Any development should be 'fattening-up', not making the village longer.

Cllr Green said the numbers were too great.

Cllr Brombley said a small number of additional houses suitable for young families were needed.

The matter to be put on June's agenda for consideration.

#### **1721 Allotments**

(i) Eight allotments had been let. The remaining five plots to be re-advertised to parishioners in the shop and on the notice board. If there were no takers then applications from Kilmersdon residents should be allowed, subject to permission to amend the lease.

(ii) An estimate of £970 for water connection had been received. Grants were being sought. Cllr Green said the parish council should not pay this cost for eight allotment-holders. If grants could be found for the allotments, could they be found to provide facilities for village children?

An annual rent of £30 plus water charge for initial allotment-holders was suggested.

#### **1722 Highways and rights of way**

(i) A blocked culvert at Hemington had been jettied. The pothole at the entrance to Bishop Street to be chased with Somerset Highways

(ii) Nothing to report on rights of way

#### **1723 Playing Field**

(i) Repair of the play equipment had been rescheduled for 10 May

(ii) Action on the agreed safety surface to be considered at the June meeting.

#### **1724 Faulkland Green**

(i) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Drewe) to buy an 8 metre fibreglass flagpole for £200 + VAT.

(ii) It had been too wet to dig the exploratory trench at Faulkland Green.

**1725 Localism**

Information was distributed to councillors. To be a June agenda item.

**1726 Correspondence and reports**

(i) Mendip District Council (MDC) – Parishes Information Bulletin May 2012 – available online at <http://www.mendip.gov.uk/Article.asp?id= SX9452-A7805520&cat=94>

B & NEs Council – Consultation on Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft charging Schedule

Mendip District Council – invitation to comment on Rural Lettings Policy Consultation

(ii) Councillors reviewed the following correspondence received since the last meeting

(ii) Miscellaneous reports:

- Lady Hylton was thanked for clearing rubbish in Faulkland
- Lichen needed clearing from the plaque on the village hall
- The contents of the former toddler group play equipment cupboard need a new home.
- Somerset will be chased about replacing the uprooted milestone at the top end of Faulkland.

**1727 Future meetings**

**Agreed** the following date:

Wednesday 13 June 2012, 8.00pm approximately, Faulkland Village Hall, preceded at 7.30pm by a defibrillator demonstration by St John Ambulance.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm