

HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13 August 2014
at Faulkland Village Hall

Present: Councillors V. Curtis, F. Green, A. Hall (Chairman), W. Haworth,
P. Roberts

In attendance: R. Campbell (Clerk), eight members of the public

Actions – marked A – are on the Clerk and on any Councillor whose initials appear at right →

- 2051 **Apologies**
Apologies were accepted from Cllr T. Hucker, at work
- 2052 **Interests**
There were no declarations of interests
- 2053 **Minutes**
RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the PC meeting of 9/7/2014 as a true record.
They were signed by the Chairman.
- 2054 **Matters arising/Clerk's report**
2060(2) Francis Brothers have been asked to cut the hedges at Faulkland Playing Field and around the speed indicator device beyond Lansdown View.
- 2060 **County Councillor's report**
part This item was taken next.
County Councillor Philip Ham was welcomed by the Chairman.
- Cllr Ham apologised for not having attended previous meetings. As county councillor he has 17 parishes to visit. Unfortunately Hemington PC's meeting normally clashes with that of Coleford PC, of which he is Chairman.
 - Cllr Ham, as Policy and Performance lead councillor at Mendip, has been concerned with the £16m court service contract and the new £20m leisure contract.
 - He has also been in charge of the rebuild at Shepton Mallet, now known as Shape Mendip. The new council chamber will open at the end of August.
 - As well as Mendip DC, Shape Mendip will provide accommodation for Somerset County Council, the police, community support officers, the YMCA, the Citizens Advice Bureau and Capital Services.
 - At County level he is on the Scrutiny Committee and is deputy head of the Highways Committee.
 - The county was faced with 24K potholes to repair after winter 2013/14 and is trying to catch up as quickly as possible
 - He invited applications for a health and wellbeing grant for projects over £5K.
- Cllr Ham invited questions, but there were none. He was thanked for attending.

2055

Planning

(i) The following was on Mendip's website. Mendip to be asked if it was a matter for consultation. A

2014/1420/PAC Charlton Farm Hemington Radstock BA3 5XS. Change of use of agricultural building to dwelling house, inc. removal of existing wall and roof cladding, infilling with new curtain wall and roof cladding; installation of windows, doors, drainage & utilities.

2056

Highways and rights of Way

- A training meeting for the new Speedwatch Group would be held the next day, 14 August, at 7pm in Faulkland Village Hall
- Cllr Hall had been told by Highways that the layby on Faulkland High Street was their responsibility and should be included in resurfacing. Resurfacing from Faulkland to the Terry Hill crossroads was imminent.
- The grass had been cut at Terry Hill crossroads but was growing and again impairing vision. A
- Highways had been asked if they would install 'Slow, horses', signs at Tuckers Grave and Ruckley Ford. A
- Somerset Rights of Way had been asked to replace the footpath sign on the old county road behind Faulkland Green with a *byway* sign.

2057

Environment

(i) **Village green** Councillors discussed the possibility of parking mats along two sides of Faulkland Green. They noted an email of objection from a resident and a request from another resident, invited to speak, that parking restrictions at the back of his property adjacent to the green be removed. Cllr Roberts considered the mats would be too expensive and Cllr Green thought there was no need for them. In the absence of Cllr Hucker, who had suggested the mats, the matter was deferred until September.

(ii) **Playing field** Cllr Green and his nephew, together with Cllr Hall, had installed the picnic table and benches at Faulkland Playing Field. They were thanked.

(iii) **Allotments** Cllr Hall reported that Mr McClay, the sole current allotment holder, was willing to go along with whatever the PC decided on the future of the allotments.

RESOLVED (FG/AH unanimous) to ask the Kilmersdon estate if they will allow early surrender of the lease of the allotment land, should the PC request it. A

Councillors reviewed quotations for tree pruning at Faulkland Green.

RESOLVED (PR/WH unanimous) to accept Mr James Nash's quotation of £600.00, subject to proof of public liability insurance. A

2058

Finance

(i) Forms to add Cllr Hall to the list of cheque signatories were completed.

(ii) **RESOLVED** (FG/PR unanimous) to pay the following items:

Mendip Speedwatch £185.00

Staff salaries August

2059

Communication

(i) **RESOLVED** (PR/VC unanimous) to accept Cllr Haworth's offer to host a Facebook page for the PC (with strict privacy settings) to improve the PC's image with the public

AA

(ii) Councillors noted a letter from Mr Matt Walls, Field Change Advisor for the Post Office, offering full postal services from Faulkland Village Hall for three hours on Mondays and Wednesdays, to be run by the Mells sub-postmaster. Mrs LeRay, village hall secretary, had not yet been contacted to see what works were needed. Some doubt was expressed as to whether the scheme had gone out of the enterprise, given the amount of time that had passed since Faulkland Post Office had closed.

2060 **Correspondence and reports**

balance

(i) **Correspondence**

Councillors noted correspondence and information received since the meeting of 11/06/14. No actions were identified.

(ii) **Reports**

- The style in the second lavender field at Horsepond Farm, Faulkland needs attention
- The verge at Browns Lane, Faulkland had been cut back but needs doing again, as does the verge at Wild Orchard.

A FG

A

2061 **Next meeting**

Wednesday 10 September 2014, 7.30pm, Faulkland Village Hall.

The October meeting will be on the first of the month.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Andrew
10/9/14