

Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Wednesday 13 January 2015 in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

Present: Councillors T Hucker (Chairman), V. Curtis (Vice-Chairman), F. Green, B. Seviour (from minute 2253)

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

**PUBLIC
PARTICI
PATION**

The Chairman opened public participation. Comments are noted in *italic*; they do not form part of the minutes

- *Mr Brian Seviour reported blocked gullies along Fulwell Lane and at the junction with the A366, as well as ripped tarmac at the junction with Fulwell Close. It was also noted that there were blocked gullies by the phone box in the High Street and in Grove Lane.*

A

Highways to be asked to clear and repair

- *Mrs Maureen Hucker asked if the new owner of Wellspring, High Street, could be asked to outline the edge of their protruding doorstep in white, to avoid people tripping over it in the dark.*

A

The Clerk to write to the owner

The Chairman thanked the speakers and closed public participation

2270 **Apologies** Apologies were received accepted from Councillors M. Corney and F. Haywood.

2271 **Councillors**

Mr Brian Seviour expressed interest in joining the Parish Council. It was agreed unanimously that he be co-opted. It was further agreed that the Declaration of Acceptance of Office should be signed at the start of the next meeting.

Cllr Seviour joined the meeting.

2272 **Interests and dispensations**

There were no declarations of interests. No requests for dispensation had been received.

2273 **Minutes**

- The minutes of the meeting of 9 December were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record
- The minutes of the meeting of 16 December were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record

2274 **Reports**

- Somerset Highways had been asked to put in place at once the two grit bins bought by the Parish Council earlier in the year
- The previous contractor was no longer available to cut hedges for the PC. A new contractor to be found during the cutting season. **A**

2275 **Faulkland Playing Field**

- In spite of agreeing initially to supply a replacement waste bin at Faulkland Playing Field, Mendip DC now declined, saying there was no record of a bin having been there previously. To be a February agenda item.
- The Clerk to speak to the Dog Warden about erecting 'no fouling' signs. **A**
- It was agreed to apply for a County Councillor's grant for equipment and fencing at the children's play area **A**

2276 **Planning**

(i) Application Councillors considered the following application

2015/2939/FUL Charlton Farm, Hammer Lane, Hemington BA3 5X.

Proposal Conversion of existing agricultural building to dwelling, including installation of septic tank, vehicle hardstanding and associated domestic curtilage (Revisions to Planning Permissions Ref: (2012/1626 and 2015/1717/VRC)

It was agreed unanimously to recommend **refusal**. Comments: the building has too industrial an aspect for its rural setting, is too tall, with an over-large silhouette viewed from the south. Unlike the previous application, it does not add any benefit to the surrounding area.

(ii) Update Mendip DC had acknowledged the Parish Council's response to the Local Plan Part II consultation.

2277 **Highways and rights of way**

Appeal in relation to advice on planning application 2013/0914 Somerset Highways had rejected the PC's appeal over Highways advice given to Mendip about the West Farm development, still maintaining that the strip of land adjacent to the Faulkland Inn at the Fulwell Lane/A366 junction is Adopted Public Highway and also that the splay referred to by them is at the junction of the development road and Fulwell Lane.

It was agreed to write again to Highways pointing out that they, Highways, in fact accepted that the land was in private ownership and that as a result, the A366/Fulwell Lane junction was not as described and not fit for purpose. **A**

(ii) Parking at Bishop Street Councillors would talk to their neighbours

(iii) Speedwatch Co-ordinator Cllr Seviour agreed to take on this role

(iv) Updates None

2278 **Rights of Way** Nothing to report.

2279 **Phone Box** A notice announcing the closure of the kiosk had now been put up

2280 **Temporary Post Office**

Mike Phipers from Mells was content to continue. It was agreed to ask him to

amend the hours to 10am – 12 noon on Mondays and Wednesdays.

A

2282 Finance

(i) Financial statement This was received and noted.

(ii) Friends of Foxcote 'Where We Live' project A letter had been received and circulated to Councillors.

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Hucker, 2nd Cllr Curtis, one abstention) to make a grant of £100 to this project in the current financial year.

(iii) Budget and precept 2016-17

The budget agreed in December (Minute 2262 iv), including a grant of £480 to the Village Hall Committee, and a precept of £7,750, were confirmed.

(v) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Hucker, 2nd Cllr Curtis, unanimous) to pay

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| The Landscape Group, grass cutting (dated January 2016) | 259.99 |
| Clerk's salary January 2016 (postdated) and expenses (£17.33) | 239.03 |

2283 Correspondence and reports

(i) Correspondence received since the last meeting and not elsewhere on the agenda, was noted as follows

- Somerset Education Committee – notice of consultation on school admission arrangements
- *Clerks and Councils Direct* – January 2016
- Somerset Rivers Authority *Under the Stream* – flood action progress update (emailed to Councillors)
- Mendip DC – Heritage at Risk Register – re-survey 2016.
It was agreed that Hemington PC did not have any items to add to the list.

(ii) Reports

- Following reports of littering Cllr Curtis suggested a repeat of the previous year's clean-up day. A date to be agreed in February.

2264 Next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Wednesday February 10 2016 at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall. All welcome.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20pm.