

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Faulkland Village Hall, on Tuesday Jan 29th, over which Mr. E.A. Green Presided, with the following members being present; Mrs J. Horler **154**. K. Pitman, P. Francis, and J. Green. The minutes of the Previous meeting being read, and unanimously approved.

equipment for Playing Field. A letter was to hand from the local Playing Field Committee requesting Permission to erect Playing Equipment, in the existing Playing field, to which members felt they should support this subject to inquiries from Messrs Cluttons, and the Mendip Planning authority.

Planning and Land (Bill No 2). Representations were made to the report on the local Government, Planning and Land (No 2 Bill) of which included a Proposal, for a new system of Control, of capital expenditure by Local Authorities, and it was decided to write to Mr R. Boscawen M.P. for the Wells Division, stressing there should be an assured allocation of finance for Local Councils, and that any new control should be flexible in operation to meet the fluctuating Pattern of Local Government.

County Structure Plan. As far as the proposed County Structure Plan was concerned, members doubted whether all the proposals would be implemented, in the light of the Present financial situation. But they hoped, any money becoming available, would be spent wisely, to the benefit of any community.

Terry Hill Crossroads. A reply from the divisional surveyor, to the Councils request, to implement any improvements at the Terry Hill crossroads, stated the Financial situation, Prevented any work at Present, but the matter would be borne in mind.

It was reported that a house collection, for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, had raised £26.21, in which the chairman expressed appreciation to all concerned in the effort.

Ditches Culverts lanes etc. Matters were brought forward (*sic*) regarding the state of some of the lanes, ditches, Culverts, etc, by Mr P. Francis, and K. Pitman, to which it was decided to report the complaints to the Appropriate (*sic*) Authority.

Planning Approval. The Sub-Committee, it was reported, had recently recommended Approval, for an extension (*sic*) at Lime Kiln Farm, subject it (*sic*) being carried out according to Plan.

The Annual Parish meeting was Re-arranged for Monday March 31st, at 7.30.

Signatures for Cheques were Prepared to the following. Faulkland Village Hall Committee. Messrs Cluttons £13.75. the Clerks Salary £75. 155. and expenses £12.08 J. H. Green travelling expenses £6.60 and E.A. Green the Sum of £15 of which was Proposed by P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler, for the Chairmans Allowance for expenses.

The Clerk was also instructed to make inquiries, regarding the Proposed Planning Application, to the erecting of equipment in the local Playing field.

Clerks Retirement. Preparations, as a result to the Clerks intention to retire, were discussed, and it was Proposed by P. Francis seconded by J. Batten to Pay the Clerk, amounting to twice his Salary, at the date of such termination, of which would be £150, this being approved unanimously.

Apple Tree Cottage. The Clerk was also instructed to inquire into the Planning application at Apple Tree Cottage.

Signed E.A. Green March 17th 1980.

A meeting of the Representatives from the Nordinton (*sic*) Ward, met in the Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday the 14th of Feb 1980 over which Mr B. Bush, the District Councillor to Mendip Presided. Mr E.A. Green, Chairman of the Hemington Parish Council welcomed the representatives, and hoped they would have an enjoyable evening. Matters were discussed relating to the Somerset County Structure Plan, and also the 3 Ton weight restriction on the B3110 at Norton St Phillip, and its effect on local farming activities, and District Council News.

Refreshments were Prepared by Members of the local Parish Council, and Appreciation was expressed by the Vice-Chairman of the Norton St Phillip Parish Council.

Electoral Review. Any other Business. Under this item of Electoral Review, of which included arrangements for the future of Election of County Councillors for the County of Somerset, the Hemington Parish Council Clerk stated this, rather confusing, but after a debate on this subject, it was felt that every consideration should be given to this, by every Parish Council and it was agreed by Members of the Hemington Council that they considered the County Electoral Division of Kilmersdon to be of more benefit, than Selwood and Berkeley, therefore it was decided that the Clerk write to the Boundary Commission recommending the old Kilmersdon Division, and strongly oppose the inclusion **156**. of the Selwood and Berkley Ward.

Signed E.A. Green March 17th 1980

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in the Faulkland Village Hall on Monday March 17th, over which Mr E.A. Green Presided, the following Members being Present: P. Francis, J. Green, K. Pitman, J. Batten, with an apology from Mrs J. Horler.

Matters arising. The minutes of the Previous meeting being read, and unanimously approved. Matters arising chiefly, were the Local Playing field, ditches, culverts etc, however, Planning matters, effecting (*sic*) the Playing field, were being attended to, and it was noticed, that some road repairs, and ditches, culverts etc were receiving attention.

Appointment of New Clerk. As the Clerk had recently Tendered 3 months notice, to retire from the Post, as Clerk, and only one Person appeared to be interested in the vacancy, and being Present for interview, it was Proposed by P. Francis, seconded by J. Batten, that Mrs F.M. Horler, be appointed to fill the vacancy, and approved unanimously.

Best kept Village. The meeting also agreed to enter the best Kept village competition again this year, when it was hoped that members of the Public would cooperate, in helping to keep the village of Faulkland reasonably tidy. As a result to this effort, the meeting also decided, that the clerk, write to Cluttons, to make inquiries, as to whether His Lordship would be prepared to give the Portion of Land, near the Kiosk, to the Parish Council, so that they will make an effort to keep it cut, clean, and tidy, and in the meantime, write to the technical Officer, with a view to getting a Price, to cut the said Piece of land, together, with quoting them a Price, for cutting the grass on the village Green.

The Rayner Study. The Clerk stated that a letter had recently been sent to the M.P. over what has been Put about the Rayner Study and the close links, between this, and the future of Sub-Post Offices, in which a reply was received, stating that many People had been greivously (*sic*) misled over this, and that the impression, simply, is not true, also the services of which Sub-Post Offices offer, in sustaining local communities, Particularly in the Rural Area's (*sic*) is recognised as **157**. essential and unique, and that the Views of the Public were warmly welcomed, and will be taken into account.

Signed E.A. Green 31st March 1980.

Through the courtesy of the W.I. who had a meeting at the Village Hall, on the 18th of March, to allow another meeting to be held in the small room, in which about 21 Representatives attended a meeting to discuss the difficulties arising from the recent Proposed Weight Restriction order. However, many suggestions were heard, and discussed, relating to this, and it was finally decided to accept a Proposal, Put forward (*sic*) over the phone to Mr B. Bush by Mr Stringer, from county Hall, to

extend the restriction from Mackley Lane to the Junction at Laverton, and up to Charlton Farm, thus allowing access to Lower Row Farm, Row Farm, Upper Row Farm, and Charlton Farm.

Corner at Laverton. The meeting was arranged by E.A. Green, chairman of the Parish Council, who jointly conducted the meeting with Mr B. Bush, Representative of the District Council. The meeting closed at 9-15 but during the meeting, a Mr Davis of Row Farm, Laverton, stated that he was Prepared to give a Portion of land, adjacent to his Premises, for improvement at the corner, Providing the County Council, would be interested to implement any improvement in due course.

However, the Clerk, of the Parish Council, was instructed to write to the Appropriate (*sic*) Authorities, seeking their Views.

Signed E.A. Green 31st March 1980.

The Annual Parish meeting, was held in the Faulkland village Hall, on Monday March 31st 1980.

Mr E.A. Green Presided, and members Present were Mrs J. Horler, J. Green, K. Pitman, P. Francis, with an apology from Mr J. Batten. There were about 6 Parishoners (*sic*) Present, including Mrs F.M. Horler, who had recently been appointed to the Position as Clerk. The Clerk gave a Financial Statement of the Parish Council accounts of which showed a satisfactory **158**. Balance, amounting to £191.00, and it was Proposed by P. Francis, seconded by J. Green, that these accounts be accepted, and approved.

Annual Accounts. The chairman also gave a Financial statement of the village Hall accounts, of which showed a satisfactory balance of £134.47, and it was Proposed by Mrs J. Horler, seconded by J. Green that these accounts be accepted, and approved.

The chairman gave a report on the efforts of the Council during their Period of Office, of which included many items of interest, all of which is (*sic*) recorded, during that Period.

Bamphylde Charities. He also stated, that a report on the Bamphylde Charities would be given at the next meeting, and thanked the Parish Councillors for their cooperation, during their first Term of office, and to the Clerk for his efforts, and cooperation.

matters arising. Mr Golland inquired if it was Possible to reseed the small Portion of land at the top side of the village Green, to which the chairman replied, that the matter would be borne in mind.

Signed E.A. Green 31st March 1980.

A short Parish Council meeting followed, in which the minutes of the Previous meeting were read, and approved. corner at Laverton. Matters arising chiefly, were the corner at Laverton, in which a letter from the Divisional Surveyor, stated that, he would contact Mr Davis, to which, he felt this to be a very useful Proposition, without involving very much inconvenience.

Playing Field. Best Kept Village. The Clerk stated that Preparations had been made in order to enter the best kept Village competition, and that the Plans, and applications, for the Playing field equipment to be erected at the local Playing field, had been forwarded (*sic*) to the Mendip Council, for approval, but no quotation, had Yet been recieved (*sic*), for cutting the grass, on the village green, and the land, adjacent to the Kiosk.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Clerks Retirement. This being the clerks last meeting, as his 3 months notice, was due to expire, a Tribute was Paid to him, by the chairman, and parish Councillors Present, old and new Members, in which the chairman stated, that looking back over the Years, he noticed that Mr Loader had served in this Capacity, as Cleek to the council, for a Period of approximately 32 Years, and Previous to this, had served as a Parish **159**. Councillor for 2 Years, and that the Office, as Clerk had been held in the family for 44Years, but he said, that no-one, could have been more efficient, than him, over this Period, and that they were sorry to lose him, but had been fortunate enough, to be able, to appoint Mrs F.M. Horler, to fill the vacancy. However, in acknowledgement to his services over this Period, the Chairman Presented him with a Cheque for £150 and a walking stick, on behalf of the Councillors, old and new, suitably inscribed from the Hemington Parish Council, as to the years of service, and his wife was Presented with a Boquet (*sic*) of flowers, for her support to him over this Period. In response, Mr Loader thanked, the Chairman, and all who had subscribed to the Presentation, and stated he had enjoyed it over the period, and if there was anything he could do to help the New Clerk, in her duties, he was only too Pleased to do so.

Signed E.A. Green May 20th 1980.

The Annual Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday May 19th 1980. Members present were: Mr E. Green. Mr P. Francis. Mr J. Green, Mrs J. Horler and Mr K. Pitman.

1. Election of Chairman. Mr E. Green was elected as Chairman. Proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman. Mr P. Francis was elected as Vice-Chairman. Proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

3. Minutes. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising (a) Grass cutting. The account for the last grass cutting season totalled £30.80. Mr P. Francis proposed that a cheque for this amount should be signed and Mr K. Pitman seconded this.

A quotation from Mendip District Council gave the cost of cutting the grass on the green, the area around the Village Hall and the plot of land adjoining the Kiosk at **160**. £8.75 per cut. They added that to clear the land around the kiosk before cutting would be an additional £10.

A letter from Cluttons stated that they would grant the Council a Gratuituous (*sic*) Licence for the land around the Kiosk and would allow the Council to control the grass and shrubs but the Estate must be allowed to terminate the licence without notice. Mr P. Francis proposed that these terms should be accepted and this was seconded by Mr K. Pitman and that Cluttons should be asked to pay the £10 charged by Mendip District Council for the initial clearance of the land.

(b) Playing Field. Permission has now been granted for the provision of recreational facilities at Faulkland Playing Field with an additional note that consideration should be given to providing a separate footpath link from Churchway. The Clerk was asked to write and suggest that these recommendations be sent to the Highway Authority.

5. Tree planting scheme. The Mendip District Council wished to know if the Parish Council had any specific proposals for their tree-planting scheme. Mr Loader had a list of people who had shown an interest last year and the Council suggested a replacement for the Jubilee Tree which had died.

6. Commercial Union Assurance. This is due for renewal by June 1st. They strongly recommended that the policy be reviewed with particular regard to Property Damage covers and third party legal Liability. It was suggested that other quotations

be given for the Policy and that the 'Damage to the Village Hall and Extension' section should be increased from £20,000 to £25,000 and that the Public Liability should be increased from £250,000 to £500,000. The rest of the Policy **161**, to remain as before. Mr P. Francis and Mr J. Green offered to get the other quotations.

7. Subscriptions to the Association of Local Councils & Bridleways. It was agreed that this should be renewed at a cost of £18.37 minus V.A.T.

Planning Application for Renewal of Temporary Use of Garage as Sales Office – approval had been given.

A letter from the County Solicitor confirmed that proceedings would be taken to remove obstructions from Bridleways if it was not possible to settle the matter by negotiation.

9. Hugh of Witham Foundation 'Village Ventures'. The Council decided to nominate the Playing Field under Section (b) Facilities in the Community and the Flower Show under Section (c) Community Spirit.

10. Small Industries Group. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of Mr Pye the Woodcarver and to put the poster up on the notice-board.

11. Other Business. After hearing the uncomplimentary remarks of Mr Taylor – Field Officer of the Best Kept Village Competition the Council instructed the Clerk to ask Mr. M. Horler to paint the Parish Notice Board and to write to Miss Corbin at the school and Mr James at the Youth Club asking them to encourage the children not to drop litter. She was also asked to write to Mr Burkitt at the Council Offices, Frome – with regard to a hump in the road above Kingman's Farm, a telephone trench in Faulkland, the Terry Hill Crossroads and a dislodged milestone at Tower Hill. It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that a cheque for £120 be signed for Mr E. Green for his work on the Playing Field Hedge. Mr Penny informed the Council that he wished to give up 5 perch of his allotment. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed E.A. Green 18 August 1980.

162. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 18th August 1980. Members present were: Mr E. Green, presiding, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Batten, Mr J. Green and Mr K. Pitman. Apologies were received from Mr P. Francis.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

Matters arising: (a) Insurance. Having decided to reinsure with the Commercial Union Assurance the Council had received a letter stating that the policy had not yet been processed due to an unprecedented demand for this insurance but confirming that they were maintaining cover while this was being done.

(b) Land adjoining kiosk. A letter from Cluttons stated that Lord Hylton was not prepared to contribute to the cost of clearing the land and suggested the council arrange a village party to raise this money.

(c) footpath link to playing field. A letter from Mendip District Council stated that the suggestion of a footpath was based on comments from the Highway Authority and was only a note – the parish Council are (*sic*) not obliged to provide this link.

(d) A letter from Mr Burkitt said that immediate attention was being given to the hump in the road at the top of Kingman's Farm and for the milestones to be re-erected. His trench inspector will be contacting the G.P.O. to insure the reinstatement of the footpath. He also arranged a site meeting at the Terry Hill Crossroads between himself, members of the P.C. and Mr Mitchell of the Highways Authority to discuss possible ways of preventing accidents there. Mr Mitchell assured the P.C. that Terry Hill was quite high on their list of priorities and when money was available would **163**, give serious consideration to staggering the junction. Meanwhile as a temporary measure they would raise the Crossroads sign which blocks the view of cars from Frome from cars coming from Kilmersdon.

Correspondence. 1. Weight restriction order. The Clerk had received a copy of the draft order, a copy of the Order being amended and a copy of the Plan showing the length of road affected by the proposal and a statement of the Council's reasons for preparing to make the order.

A letter from the Somerset County Council Surveyor's Dept. stated that due to the current lack of funds no action could be taken with regard to improving the bends at Row Farm, Laverton.

2. Faulkland Inn. The Clerk had received a notice for the Application for the transfer of Justices licence for the Faulkland Inn from a Mr William Hamilton Gibson from Corsham, Wilts.

3. Planning Apps. An application had been received from Mr Long of Chapel Fm. Faulkland to convert and extend buildings to dwelling. The P.C. made the observation that they would prefer to see the barn lowered to correspond with the existing building. A site meeting was held at which the Planning sub-committee, members of the P.C. and Mr Barnard Bush were present, but the Planning Committee preferred to keep the appearance of a barn and to make a feature of the existing pillars and arch.

4. Housing Bill. The chairman brought to the attention of the Council the Housing Bill and the Local Government Planning and Land No. 2. Bill.

5. Charges for Planning Apps. The Clerk read the details of the proposed charges for Planning Applications.

6. Fouling of footpaths and Recreation Areas. A letter from the Mendip District Council asked if we could help publicise this problem by putting up notices.

164. 7. 'The Village' Exhibition. A letter from the clerk of Norton St Philip informed the Council of 'The Village' Exhibition that would be visiting Norton St Philip on the 4th, 5th and 6th Sept. and that they will be holding a reception for the Parish Councils and Parish Meeting of Nordington Ward on 4th Sept.

Planning Relaxations for Small Industrial Premises. The Clerk read the details of this but the Council felt they had no comments to make on it.

Clerk's Training Course. Mrs J. Horler proposed that a cheque for £61 + VAT should be signed to enable the Clerk to go on this course in January 1981. This was seconded by Mr J. Batten.

Bridget Parker Commemoration Fund. Mrs J. Horler proposed that a cheque for £10 be sent as a donation to this. Mr J. Batten seconded it.

Frome & District Citizens Advice Bureau. Mr J. Green proposed that a cheque for £10 be sent as a donation to this. Mr K. Pitman seconded it.

Other matters. Attention was drawn to the state of the pump outside Pear Tree Cottage, Hemington. It was agreed that this should be looked at with a view to it's (*sic*) being repaired voluntarily.

A large hole in the Green is in need of filling in and the stocks are in need of repair. Mr Pitman was asked to approach Lord Hylton to see if he would be willing to let us have some of his old seasoned oak from the Game larder that has been pulled down.

The chairman offered to look into a scheme of Southern Electricity's whereby the Village Hall may be eligible for a cheaper rate.

It was suggested that the Clerk order a copy of 'The Village' magazine at a cost of 43p and to inquire whether it can be bought annually for a subscription.

165. Mrs J. Horler proposed that a cheque for £30 be signed for the Parish Burial Expenses. Mr K. Pitman seconded this. It was agreed to give some thought to increasing this donation.

Mr J. Batten proposed that cheques for Cluttons, for the ½ yearly allotment rent and the playing field rent, for the auditors fees of £26.45, for Mr Horler for £5, and for stationary from Humphries and West for £45.32 be signed. This was seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

The Clerk gave a report on the Local Council Meeting at Beckington where Mr Bush gave a talk on Planning. One of his suggestions was that Parish Councils should display lists of planning applications and it was agreed to do this.

It was reported that all the lights except one on the Council Estate were out of order and the Clerk was asked to inform the Lighting Authorities.

The Clerk brought to the Council's attention the Written Statement of the Somerset County Structure Plan which she had received.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed E.A. Green 12 Sept 1980.

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday 11th September at 7.30 pm.

Members present were Mr E. Green, presiding, Mrs J. Horler, Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green and Mr K. Pitman.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising: (a) The Insurance policy has now arrived.

166. (b) Bridget Parker Commemoration Fund. A letter was read giving details of how this money is spent.

(c) Pump at Hemington. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Lord Hylton asking him to set it in order.

(d) Oak From Game Larder. Mr Pitman reported that this was full of worm. Mr Francis said that he would see if he could provide some. Failing this it was thought Charltons may have some.

(e) Dogs fouling footpaths etc. The notice put up at the playing Field was removed after a few days. The chairman suggested that Mr Horler be asked to make a painted notice.

Farming inquiry. This is an inquiry into Intensive Farming of which none is done within the Parish. The Clerk, however, was asked to put a notice on the notice-board.

Planning App. An application had been received from Mr Moreton of 5 Pond Cottages for a 2-storey extension at the side of his house. The Council decided that they did not wish this extension to be put up as it would spoil the layout of Pond Cottages but stipulated that if the planning Authorities decided to allow this that they would wish to see a continuous roof-line and an alteration to the chimney.

Other Business. (a) A report to the Planning and Highways Committee on the Department of the Environment Draft Circular on Development Control had been received. It was felt that this was of more concern to Mendip District Council.

(b) A Training Day for Councillors and Clerks is to be held at Glastonbury on November 8th. Mr J. Green and the Clerk wished to go to this.

(c) National Tree Campaign. This is a 3 year project and this year may be associated with the Queen Mother's 80th birthday with celebration plantings of 80 trees – or a smaller number. It was suggested the Clerk contact the landowners who had shown interest in the Mendip District Council's **167**. Tree-planting scheme.

Allotment. A letter had been received from Mr W.E. Penney stating that he wished to give up his piece of allotment.

The Clerk brought to the Council's attention a Conference for Local Authorities by the National Playing Fields Association, the annual reports of the Community Council for Somerset, the Somerset Association of Local Councils and the Somerset County Playing Fields Association, a Local Council Meeting at Westbury-sub-Mendip on October 2nd, the AGM of the Somerset Association of Local Councils in Taunton on Oct 4th and a Ward Meeting at Norton St Philip on 30th October.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt with regard to potholes in the road between Hassage crossroads and Hassage Farm and mud on the road at Lippiatt Mill (*Hill?*), Stoney Littleton Lane.

It was mentioned that the footbridge at Hardington between Hemington and Buckland Dinham parishes has now been completed.

Youth Club. The Chairman informed the Council of the possibility of the Youth Club closing. It was decided that the money left in the fund should be frozen at the Bank and the Parish Council made responsible for it if it did, in fact, close. If, in the future, the Youth Club then reopened the Parish Council should be responsible for handing over the money. The interest on the money should be declared at the Annual Assembly.

Signed E.A. Green Nov 20th 1980.

168. A meeting of the Hemington, Hardington and Foxcote Parish Council was held at Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday 20th November 1980.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr. K. Pitman, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Green.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

3. Matters Arising: (a) The pump at Hemington. The Clerk had received a letter from the Kilmersdon Estate dated 7th October 1980 offering to give the pump to the Council followed by a letter from the Jolliffe Estate stating that the land is actually owned by them and that they will be replying. No more has, as yet, been heard.

(b) Report on Intensive Farming: The Environmental Health and Control Committee feels that there should be tighter planning controls over the development of intensive farming units and improved planning involvement in such developments particularly with regard to the proximity of residential development.

4. Listed Buildings: to consider whether certain dwellings within the Parish should be included in the list of buildings of architectural and historic interest. Mrs J. Horler proposed that the Council should ask that Pond Cottages and Ammerdown Terrace should be included in this list and that expert advice be sought with regard to other dwellings within the Parish.

5. The Housing Act 1980: to consider whether the Parish should be designated a Rural Area. The Council could see little advantage to this and, therefore, Mr Francis proposed that the Council should not apply for this.

6. Subscription to the County Playing Fields Association: Mr J. Green proposed that a cheque for £2 be signed for this. Mrs J. Horler seconded this.

7. Sapplings (sic) causing obstructions in the future: The Council were (*sic*) concerned that sapplings (*sic*) growing along Ammerdown Park wall, at Hemington turning on the Frome road and at the bottom of Black Hill, Hemington, would cause

obstructions in the future and felt they would be easier to remove now rather than let them get any bigger. The Clerk was requested to point this out to Mr Burkitt and also to inform him of a hump in the road in Hardington Lane and holes in Knoll Lane.

8. Correspondence: The Chairman informed the Council of proposed cuts in the local Bus Service, the latest developments of the County Structure Plan, the Hugh of Witham Newsletter, Report 395 of the Local Government Boundary Commission and of planning applications that had been received.

An application by Mr G. Snook for planning permission to build an Agricultural workers dwelling on Plots 4253 and 6253, Hemington. The Parish Council stated that they had no objection to this subject to Agricultural conditions being proved.

Mr Francis proposed that a cheque for £34.89 be signed to the Mendip District Council for grass cutting for this season. Mr Pitman seconded this.

Signed E.A. Green Jan 29th 1981.

169. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday 29th January 1981.
Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr K. Pitman, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Green and Mr J.

Batten.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no absentees.

3. Matters Arising: (a) The pump at Hemington. A letter from the Jolliffe Settled Estate stated that as soon as they had written confirmation that the Parish Council would accept responsibility for maintaining the stone work around (sic) the old pump they would get their solicitors to draft a simple document for agreement. The Clerk was asked to thank them for their gift of the pump and to state that the Parish Council were willing to maintain the stonework.

(b) Report on cuts to local bus service. A sub-committee held on 3rd Dec. 1980 proposed that the service from Frome to Radstock be reduced to 4 buses per day in each direction with no morning bus through to Bristol except Saturdays.

4. The Playing Field Committee wished the Parish Council to take over responsibility for the insurance and maintenance of the playing field equipment and would also like the permission of the Parish Council, Cluttons and the Planning Authorities to put the slide in the right hand corner and to build an artificial bank there. The Parish Council agreed to be responsible for the insurance and maintenance of the equipment. The Clerk was asked to apply for the free annual inspection service from Wicksteed, the suppliers of the equipment. Mrs Morgan, Chairman of the Playing Field Committee, was asked to arrange for a member of the playing field committee to make a weekly check and note this in a book purchased for this purpose. This would be signed by a member of the Parish Council; (sic) regular intervals.

It was agreed that the permission of Cluttons should be sought with regard to the erection of a bank for the slide and that Mr Bush be consulted with a view to amending the plans.

(b) (sic) Notice from the Playing Fields Association: It was decided not to subscribe to the magazine 'Play Times'.

5. Letter from Transport 2,000 Somerset Group 'Do we want 44 tonne lorries on the roads?' There were views for and against this but the majority opinion was that Britain needed to be competitive, that hopefully the lorries would keep to the motorways as the secondary roads were not built for large lorries and that the Armitage Committee had the facts and figures and were in a position to weigh up the pros and cons. Mrs J. Horler proposed that there was no need to write to our M.P. or Member of the European Parliament in protest. This was seconded by Mr J. Batten.

6. Planning Applications: The Parish Council had no objection to the application by Mr Applegate for Outline Planning Permission for erection of Agricultural Workers dwelling at Sunnyside Farm, Laverton.

Reports on : (1) Laverton model flying site – the decision was to approve as Chief Planning Officers report subject to SEB raising no objection.

(2) Agricultural workers dwelling on plots 4253 and 6253, Hemington. It was recommended that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food be consulted.

(3) Garage at Michaelmas Cottage – they recommended approval subject to M23 (Garage Private Use).

(4) Pond Cottages No 5- Permission for an extension was refused and the Secretary of State for the Environment had been requested to include the Pond Cottages in the list of buildings of architectural and historic interest. Mr Moreton has appealed against the refusal.

7. Accounts: Shaw and Sons

85p for public Notices of Annual Meeting of Parish Council.

£19 for book for Chairman's declaration of Office

£1.20 Delivery Charge + £3.16 VAT

Total: £24.21 It was proposed by Mr Francis and seconded by Mr Green that a cheque for this amount should be

signed. Also for the following:

Mrs C. Clarke, Ward Clerk's Salary £7

Mr E. Green, Chairman's Expenses £15

Mrs F. Horler, Clerk's Salary £75 and Expenses £15.13 = £90.13

Mr J. Green, Travelling Expenses £14.40

Martin Horler Sign for Playing field £14

Faulkland Village Hall Committee Hire of Hall £1.60 x 5 + £8.00

Cluttons £13.75 ½ yearly allotment and playing field rent

170. 8. A Book on the Parish Church Towers of Somerset can be bought more cheaply before 31.3.81 It was decided not to purchase this.

9. Allotment: there has been no application for the vacant allotment. The Clerk was asked to report this in the Parish magazine.

10. Reports were made on:-

Precept: £425 was by the council (sic)

S.C.C. Committees

The Planning and Land Act 1980

Planning Applications – England. Statement for quarter ended 31.3.80

Complaints procedure

County Structure Plan – examination in public to be held on 24th February 1981

Village Action Courses

SALC List of meetings

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt to arrange a meeting with his travelling foreman to inspect a hole in the road at Terry Hill, the Electricity trench at Faulkland, the hump in Hardington Lane and the mud from the top of Black Hill into Hemington and above Rockly Ford.

The date for the Annual Assembly was arranged for Tuesday 31st March 1981.

Signed E.A. Green March 31st 1981.

The Annual Parish Meeting of Hemington Parish Council was held at Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday March 31st 1981.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr K. Pitman, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Batten and Mr J. Green. 4 Parishioners were present.

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

The Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts were read. These showed a balance of £52.47. It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr P. Francis that these should be accepted and signed by the Chairman.

The Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts were read. These showed a balance of £249.32. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr J. Batten that these be accepted.

The Chairman gave a report on developments during the year and in particular he thanked the Playing Field Committee for their hard work in erecting the equipment in the children's playing field. He thanked the Councillors and Clerk for the work they'd done during the year.

Mrs Morgan gave a report of the Playing Field Committee's progress during the year stating that swings, climbing frame, tunnels, stepping stones and logs had been erected so far and that they had £576.29 in hand. She said that she was sorry that a certain amount of damage had already been caused to the equipment in the short time it had been up. Mr Green stated that the Parish Council appreciated all the work done by the Committee and that it must be disheartening to see it damaged but he felt that provision must be made against removal of parts or equipment.

The Bamphylde Charities had paid out £55 to those selected to receive it.

The Chairman read out a letter from Mr King of Faulkland House. This pointed out that the Green had deteriorated in the twelve months since he'd come to the village and that this was as a result of cars being parked on it. He suggested a ban on the overnight parking of cars on the Green itself, the placing of bollards around the Green to discourage parking and that the northern and eastern sides be prepared with hard-core and gravel to provide parking spaces. He said that he would be prepared to put £100 towards such a scheme. The Council are (*sic*) grateful to Mr King for his concern and felt that although it was something they had discussed before it was an increasing problem and that further thought should be given to it.

The cuts in the Local Bus Service were discussed. The Council decided that there was little point in them organizing a mini-bus service unless a demand came from the parishioners.

This concluded the business of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Signed E.A. Green

171. The Annual Parish Meeting was followed by a meeting of the Parish Council.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Batten, Mr K. Pitman, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Green.

1. The minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Matters Arising: (a) A letter from Cluttons stated that Lord Hylton had no objec. to the proposals for a bank and a slide. The Chairman said that there was no need to get permission of the planning authorities to alter the position of the slide.

3. Best Kept Village Competition It was decided to enter again this year and the comments of last years judges were read out.

4. Deposit Account It was decided that £300 of the precept money should be put into a deposit account and drawn out as needed.

5. Request by Mr Hunt to use the playing Field for a barbeque and show in August in aid of the International Year of the Disabled. There were no objections to this.

6. Planning Applications:

Clutton's application for tipping of builders waste and excavated material of a non-combustible nature, OS PT 0988, Tynning Hill, Hemington. The Parish Council had no objection to this but would like to see trees planted on completion.

The Parish Council recommended approval to the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling at Laverton for Mr Applegate, to the change of use from garage to workshop at Turners Tower for Mr Horler and to the erection of a garage at Millstone, Foxcote for Mr Ward.

Report on: - Proposed erection of silage bunker at Haywood Farm, Terry Hill. The Parish Council commented: As the proposed silage bunker will be in close proximity to the road we feel that sleepers will be detrimental to the visual aspect of the farm – the existing cubicle housing and barns being of a higher standard. We feel that concrete panels would be more in keeping with the new buildings and more acceptable to the public view.

7. Mrs Christine Green has been making a weekly check of the Playing Field equipment on behalf of the Playing Field Committee. Mr E. Green offered to make the Parish Council check.

8. Part-Time Clerk's Gratuity It was decided not to apply for this.

9. 'Local Government Administration' It was decided to order the new edition of this.

It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr P. Francis that a cheque for £14.50 be signed.

Reports were made on: -

Association of District Councils' comments on the Armitage Enquiry

Planning Fees

MDC General Rate Fund Capital Expenditure

Clerk's and Councillors Course (*sic*)

Village Action and Summer Holiday Play Scheme

Exhibition for the International Year of the Disabled

SCC reports

SALC reports

SALC booklet on the Future of English Local Government from the Viewpoint of the Parishes.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed E.A. Green 18th May 1981

172. The Annual Meeting of Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday May 18th 1981

Members present: Mr E. Green, Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mr J. Batten, Mrs J. Horler.

Apologies were received from Mr K. Pitman.

1. Election of Chairman: Mr E. Green was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Batten.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman: Mr P. Francis was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mr J. Green.

3. Election of School Governors: The Parish Council decided to follow the recommendations of the County Council to extend the period of office of its governors, Mr E. Green and Mr J. Green, until the necessary arrangements can be made to reconstitute governing bodies in accordance with the Education Act 1980.

4. Election of Members for Bamphylde Charities Committee: Mr E. Green and Mr T. Hendy were re-elected.

5. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

6. Parking on the Village Green: The Council considered how best to overcome the problem of parking without spoiling the beauty of the Green. The banning of overnight parking and putting kerbing around the Green was one idea. Marking out bays in white lines was thought to be unsightly. It was felt that more thought needed to be given to this and that it should be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

7. To consider whether to have set dates for meetings: Mrs J. Horler proposed that bi-monthly meetings held on the first Monday every other month should be held for a trial period of twelve months. This was seconded by Mr J. Green and July 6th was the date set for the next meeting.

8. 'Kerb Your Dog' programme: This is a campaign sponsored by Pedigree Pet Foods to help make dog owners more aware of their responsibilities as pet owners and the fouling of public areas – suggesting the gutter as a suitable place to foul as pedestrians are less likely to tread there and they are regularly drained. The Council asked that the school be informed of the Project Pack.

9. Signposts: A letter from Mr Burkitt stated that as a result of the Local Government and Land Bill which obliges Authorities such as Somerset County Council to pre-plan and carry out works of maintenance without any over-expenditure whilst carrying increased overhead costs, he would be unable to deal with the repair and repainting of signposts very quickly. Mr Horler had given an estimate to paint them at £6 per post and £15 per arm. This was felt to be beyond the means of the Parish Council without precepting for more money. It was decided that a letter be sent to Mr West, the new County Councillor, asking him to put pressure on the Highways Authority.

10. Rural Post Offices – retaining a vital service. Copies of this report could be purchased for £1.50. As Faulkland has just been taken over by a new sub-postmaster it was felt that, at present, it was not necessary to have a copy of this.

11. Tree-planting Scheme The Mendip District Council have had to cut their expenditure on this year and participants are being asked to contribute 50% of the cost. The Clerk was asked to contact the usual people.

12. Village Ventures Competition by the Community Council. It was decided not to enter this.

13. Insurance: It was proposed that this should be renewed and the Public Liability and Village Halls premium increased by 10%. £63.95

14. SALC subscriptions: Mr J. Green proposed that the Annual subscription of £24.57 be paid and 35p for Audit Forms making a total of £24.92. This was seconded by Mr P. Francis.

15. Bridget Parker (Olympic) Commemoration Fund: It was decided not to send a donation to this.

16. Planning Applications:

(i) Erection of Silage Bunker, Haywood Farm. Planning Authorities recommend approval subject to a landscaping scheme.

(ii) Erection of a garage at Millstone, Foxcote. Approval is recommended.

(iii) Mr Hope, Chapel Cottage, Laverton. The Parish Council had no objection to this application for alterations and first floor extension to provide bathroom and bedroom.

(iv) Mr I. Holmes, Manor Farm, Foxcote. The P.C. had no objection to the application for a steel-framed agricultural building.

173. Accepted under building regulations was an agricultural building at Charlton Farm and alterations at Buckland Down.

It was noted that the Secretary of State had decided that numbers 1-6 Pond Cottages, Faulkland were not of sufficient merit to warrant their inclusion in the statutory list of buildings of architectural and historic interest.

The Building Preservation notices served by Mendip District Council in respect of each property were quashed and the Council would be unable to serve similar notices for a period of twelve months.

However, an appeal by Mr Moreton of 5, Pond Cottages, against the decision of Mendip District Council to refuse planning permission for erection of a 2-storey extension was dismissed by the Department of the Environment.

17. Disabled Liason (sic) and Co-ordination Council: This has been formed to collect and collate information on all aspects of life which directly or indirectly affect disabled people. It was decided that their diary be put up in the village hall to be brought to the attention of anyone to whom it may be of value.

18. Direct Information Service: It was decided not to subscribe to this.

19. Local Government following reorganisation: A note was made of the views of the Frome Town Council.

Signed E.A. Green July 4th (sic) 1981

(Newspaper Clipping.

BERTHA IS 100.

As sprightly as ever, Miss Bertha Probert blows out a candle to celebrate her 100th birthday, helped by Sister Mary Brook and Nurse Ruth Holliday.

Miss Probert, in St Martin's Hospital, Bath, after a fall seven weeks ago, last Friday entertained her friends and relatives with sherry and cake.

'I feel absolutely delighted – but it feels a long time,' she said.

Miss Probert, one of five Probert sisters, spent most of her working life in service and as a children's nanny. On retiring she moved to 249 Ammerdown Terrace, Radstock, to look after her parents. She stayed there after their death.

During the party, she was given a telegram from the Queen.)

174. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday July 6th 1981.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Batten, Mr K. Pitman, Mrs J. Horler.

1. The minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green

3. Matters Arising

- (a) Parking on the Village Green. Mr J. Batten proposed that the Green remain as it is as any alternative would detract from the beauty of the Green but that an eye be kept on the parking.
- (b) Signposts. A letter from Mr West assured the Council that the matter would be raised with the appropriate authority with a view to getting the damage rectified.
- (c) Insurance. In a telephone conversation the Insurance Company agreed to increase the Village Hall's premium by 10% with no extra charge for this year but the Public Liability they felt that the Parish Council would get no extra benefit by increasing this by 10%.

4. Accounts

Auditors Fee - £17.25

Bottle of Sherry and Greetings for Miss Probert of Ammerdown Terrace on the occasion of her 100th birthday on June 26th 1981 - £3.41.

Burial Expenses - £30.00

It was proposed by Mr J. Batten that three cheques be signed. This was seconded by Mr K. Pitman.

5. Parish Path Maintenance Scheme It was decided that use be made of this scheme to tidy up Back Lane.

6. Review of mileage allowance Mr J. Batten proposed that this should be paid at 10p a mile. This was seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

7. Correspondence:

(a) Foxcote Old Colliery. A letter from a resident of Foxcote Cottages complained that matter being tipped at Foxcote Old Colliery contravened the planning permission given to the landowner for soil and sub-soil to be tipped there. They also worried about the possibility of accidents occurring from the increase in traffic. The C. Clerk had details from Mendip District Council of their recommendations to amended (*sic*) plans applied for in May 1979. These recommended approval subject to 1. Submission of details, 2. Conservation of top-soil, 3. Control of materials, 4 Diversion of surface water, 5. No tipping shall take place within 6 metres of the water course which abuts the western boundary of the site. There was an added note that the Mendip District Council are of the opinion that the applicant should be encouraged to regrade the adjoining colliery tip in connection with the proposed tipping. At the end of the meeting the Council went to Foxcote Old Colliery. They felt that if the landlord had permission for tipping non-hazardous waste there seemed no evidence that he was contravening this. With regard to the danger from traffic – Foxcote Cottages are set back from the road to the Colliery and there should be no immediate danger.

(b) A letter from a member of the Flower Show Committee asked if the Council would be prepared to consider giving a donation towards prizes for the new competition – 'The Best Kept Garden' as it may encourage parishioners to tidy up their gardens. Mr K. Pitman proposed that the Council should not give a donation to this.

(c) A letter from Mendip District Council stated that the charge for grass cutting this year would be £9.63 per cut. The Clerk was asked to write to MDC requesting them to also cut the grass in front of the new houses in the High St. and to write to the Highways Authority to see if they would consider tarmac the area.

(d) A letter from Mr Burkitt stated that the sapplings (*sic*) growing at the Hemington turn off the Frome road was the responsibility of the landowner. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr J. Francis about this.

8. Notices The Clerk gave notices of meetings on Home Defence and Rural Transport and read out the NALC circulars.

9. Planning Applications

The Parish Council recommended approval to a storm porch at 2, Turners Tower and a first floor rear extension at 'Kenlyn' Faulkland High St.

To an application for extension at 5, Pond Cottages they had no objection as it now complied with their previous observations but would prefer to see the windows of the west side of the extension moved and a false door, pillars (*sic*) and pediment (*sic*) added in order that the overall aspect of the group of cottages would be more symmetrical.

To the application at Chapel Cottage, Laverton, Mendip have recommended **175**. approval subject to samples of materials.

For the change of use from garage to workshop at Turners Tower, Mendip recommend approval subject to temporary permission of 5 years and that it relates specifically to use applied for and no vehicles other than horse-drawn.

For tipping of waste at Tynning Hill, Mendip recommend no objection subject to submission of details and control of materials.

Signed E.A. Green 7th 1981 (*sic*)

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday September 7th 1981.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mr K. Pitman, Mr J. Batten and Mrs J.

Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies There were no absentees.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Foxcote Old Colliery. The Clerk had spoken with Mr O'Mahany since the last meeting and he said that the County Planning Dept. had refused permission for the tipping of anything but topsoil and subsoil. After writing to the County the Clerk had received a reply confirming this and stating that the site was under investigation.

(b) Grass cutting: A letter from the Chief Technical Officer stated that the additional charge for cutting the grass in front of the new houses would be £1.57 per cut. Mr Green said that the area was rougher than had been realised and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Lewis asking for topsoil for it.

4. Hemington Pump Mr J. Green proposed that the document read out by the Clerk should be signed. This gave the Parish Council permission to repair and tidy up the niche of the Pump at Hemington. This was seconded by Mr K. Pitman.

5. Home Defence. The District Council have asked Parish Councils to set up an Emergency Committee of four, one of whom should be appointed as Advisor to go on training courses throughout the Winter and at least one to be a member of the Parish Council. It was proposed that Mr Hildreth be asked to become Advisor and Mr E. Green volunteered as the Parish Council member – being the member most permanently in the Parish.

6. Clerk's Emoluments A circular had been sent from the NALC recommending that the Clerk's salary should be based on 40% of the current penny rate product of the Parish or the same proportion of the current population whichever is the less – provided that no salary should be less than £75 per year. The product of a penny rate for the Parish of Hemington is £336. 40% of this is £134.40. Mr J. Batten proposed that the Clerk's salary should be raised to £134. This was seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

7. Accounts (a) Path Clearance. It was proposed that Mr Loader be paid at £1.50 per hour for his work of clearing (*sic*) overgrowth in the lanes. His time totalled 25 hours. It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler that a cheque for £37.50 was signed. This was seconded by Mr P. Francis.

(b) Insurance. The Clerk had received a letter from the Commercial Union Assurance stating that they were charging an extra £3.84 for the 10% increase. Mr J. Batten proposed that a cheque for this amount be signed. This was seconded by Mr J. Green.

8. Tree planting scheme The Parish Council decided not to participate in this.

9. Planning Applications Erection of two stables at the Mill, Foxcote. The Parish Council felt that it would be unreasonable to grant permission for a stable as an application for a dwelling was refused in 1979 on the grounds that it lay within a White Area on the County Development Plan and that it did not represent an essential agricultural need. If the Planning Authorities are to be consistent the Parish Council feel that this application should be refused. If a dwelling for human habitation is to be refused so, therefore, should a dwelling for horses. The District Council did not agree and recommend approval.

The extension at 5, Pond Cottages, Mendip now recommend approval to this. Also to storm porch at 2, Turners Tower and extension at Kenlyn, High St., Faulkland.

Accepted under Building Regulations was an agricultural building at Manor Farm, Hardington.

10. Reports were given from the Hugh of Witham Foundation, Wicksteed, Bus Services, and the Norton Radstock Chamber of Commerce.

11. Notice of Meetings

National Playing Fields Association conference in October.

Special meeting on 'The Future of English Local Government from the viewpoint of the Parishes'

The Clerk was asked to inform Mr Burkitt of nettles obscuring vision on the Frome road, potholes near Oldfield Cottage, humps in Hardington Lane.

The date of the next meeting was set for Mon. Nov. 2nd.

Signed E.A. Green 2 Nov 1981.

176. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Monday November 2nd 1981.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mrs J. Horler, Mr K. Pitman.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: for absence were received from Mr J. Green.

3. Matters Arising: (a) the pump at Hemington. A letter from Cluttons asked the Council to give 14 days notice to the Trustees as well as to the Occupier of Kingman's Farm if they wish to carry out any work on the north side of the niche. Mr Francis informed the meeting that Tillhill Forestry had been asked to remove the tree from the pump by Lord Hylton.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr Francis and seconded by Mrs Horler that the following cheques be signed

(i) Cluttons:
£12.50 – ½ yearly Playing Field rent
1.25 – ½ yearly Allotment rent
£13.75 – Total

(ii) Inland Revenue: £0.50 Stamp Duty on Deed of Grant and Covenant for Hemington pump.

(iii) Society of Local Council Clerks: £6 Annual Premium

5. Faulkland Playing Field Rent: The Council agreed to the revised rent of £40 to be paid annually for the Playing Field.

6. Precept: It was decided that next year's precept should be for £500.

7. Twinning: The Council decided to sound out the local organizations to see if there was any support for the idea of twinning Faulkland with a village in L'Orne, France. If there was an enthusiastic response Mr Markwick the County Twinning Co-ordinator would be invited to give a talk.

8. Society of Local Council Clerks: It was proposed by Mrs Horler and seconded by Mr Francis that the Clerk should join this for a trial period of one year.

9. Correspondence: (i) A letter from Mr J. Arnold gave 6 months notice that he was giving up his allotment.

(ii) A letter from Mrs Eyres of The Cottage, Faulkland, asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do about the wall around her garden which was collapsing in several places and therefore becoming a danger. She stated she has proof that the wall belongs to the adjoining landowner which is now let – on licence – to the Parish Council. A letter from Cluttons states that the land belongs to the Jolliffe Settled Estate and that they question the fact that the wall is their responsibility. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to visit Mrs Eyres and explain that if she has proof that the wall is the responsibility of the landowner then she should contact the Jolliffe Estate about this.

(iii) The Tourist Information Centre in Frome are (*sic*) seeking financial help and it was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr K. Pitman that a donation of £2 should be sent at a future date.

(iv) A letter from Rhys Taylor asked for details of the use of the telephone kiosk at Hemington which would possibly be under threat of removal, with a view to conveying suggestions to British Telecom.

The Council were (*sic*) informed of a Parish Boundary Review Meeting at Shepton Mallet, The Somerset County Playing Fields AGM and the National Conference of Local Councillors.

10. Planning Applications:

The District Council have (*sic*) recommended approval to the extension at the site of 'Daytona', Row Lane, Laverton. The Parish Council made no objection to the rehabilitation, extension and erection of garage at Keeper's Lodge, Hardington.

Signed E.A. Green Jan 4th 1982

177. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Monday January 4th 1982 in the Faulkland Village Hall.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mr K. Pitman and Mr J. Batten.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: for absence were received from Mrs J. Horler.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Playing Field – It was proposed that the Clerk sign the supplemental agreement for the increase in rent for the Playing Field.

(b) Hemington Pump. The tree growing from the niche has now been cut down and the Clerk was asked to put this subject on the agenda of the next meeting when, with approaching light evenings, work could be started on this.

4. Home Defence: The Chairman had spoken with Mr Hildreth who had been nominated to go on the course of evening lectures on Home Defence. It had been suggested that village halls could be a possible base in times of emergency and it would be useful if this base could be contacted from outside. With this in mind the Clerk was asked to write to British Telecom inquiring the cost of installing a pay-phone.

5. Twinning: The Clerk was asked to advertize this again – but more prominently – in the Parish Magazine and if this produced any response Mr J. Green suggested he print cards to be put through the letter-boxes of the Parish asking interested people to contact the Clerk. It was asked that this subject should be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

6. Seat at Turners Tower: A resident of Turners Tower suggested that the seat should be moved from the opposite side of the road on to the green in front of the houses as she was concerned about the old people crossing the road to use the seat. In 1973 there had been thought of moving this to be positioned over the old well but residents had objected to this and it remained on the other side of the road. The Clerk was asked to, write to Mr Burkitt to ask whose property the piece of land on which the Tower used to stand was.

7. Playing Field Fence: Mr E. Green was asked to erect this. Mr Green declared his interest in this matter. It was suggested that a stile be built in with the fence so that balls could be retrieved from the next field if necessary, without damaging the fence.

8. Planning Applications:

The Parish Council had no objection to the application by the Southern Electricity Board for the construction of overhead lines at Keepers Lodge, Hardington and Faulkland Farm. The comments on the application for rehabilitation, extension and erection of garage at Keepers Lodge, from the Council for the Preservation of Rural England and the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings were read out. Under Building Regulations approval was recommended for agricultural building at Manor Farm.

9. Correspondence

(a) Precept. The estimated precept had been asked for by the Mendip District Council and the Parish Council requested £500 general expenses and £50 for 'others'.

(b) Election of School Governors. Mr. P. Francis proposed Mr E. Green. This was seconded by Mr J. Batten.

(c) Community Council. The comments from the Best Kept Village competition were read out. Faulkland had received sufficient marks to go through to the second round of the competition.

The Parish Council decided not to send a subscription to the Community Council or to the Village Halls Loan Fund. The Clerk was asked to put the notice on Rural Arts Project on the Hall notice board.

Any other business.

It was suggested that estimates be sought for the repair of the goal post.

The Chairman gave a report of his meeting with the Hugh of Witham Foundation on making the parishes of Kilmersdon and Hemington more self-sufficient.

Signed E.A. Green March 1st 1982

178. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland village hall on Monday March 1st 1982.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mr K. Pitman, Mr J. Batten, Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence. There were no absentees.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Hemington Pump. It was decided to hold site meetings on 23rd and 24th March with a view to starting work renovating the niche.

(b) Telephone in village hall. British Telecom would have to put up a new line which would be a business line. The coin box would cost £29 and the connection £109. The rental per quarter would be £21 for the line and £15 for the coin box. The Parish Council felt that this would be too expensive for the amount of use it would be likely to have.

(c) Twinning. There had been no response to this and the Parish Council decided to abandon the idea.

(d) Seat at Turners Tower. A letter from Mr Burkitt said that the piece of green on which the Tower stood belonged to Somerset County Council and that he had no objection to the seat being moved there. Some residents of the cottages thought that it was not worth moving the seat, others felt it was a good idea as old people would not need to cross the road. The Parish Council decided that as opinions were fairly evenly divided that it was not worth moving it.

(e) Repair of goal post. A verbal estimate from T. and H. White of £70 had previously been accepted. The account which included extra work and came via K. and D. Pitman was for £159.50. The fact that this account was more than double the estimate gave cause for great concern among the Councillors. After some discussion the Council came to the conclusion that a request from T. and H. White for a breakdown of this account would only result in the same figure. Therefore as the work had been done they felt the bill should be paid.

4. Supplementary Precept: With the repair of the goal posts and the unexpectedly high bill from Mendip District Council for the grass cutting it was necessary to apply for a supplementary precept. There was a balance of about £1 in the bank. This did not include the interest on the deposit account and any rent from the playing field or the payment for the goal posts. It was, therefore, decided to precept for an extra £160 until March 31st 1982.

5. Accounts:

Goal Post: It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that a cheque for £159.50 should be made out to K. and D. Pitman for the repair of the goal post.

Ward Clerk's Salary: It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that a cheque for £7 should be made out to Mrs C. Clarke.

Chairman's Allowance: It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that a cheque for £15 should be made out to Mr E. Green.

Allotment and Playing Field Rent: It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr P. Francis that a cheque for £13.75 should be made out to Cluttons.

Hire of Hall: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr K. Pitman that a cheque for £12.80 should be made out to Faulkland Village Hall Committee for 5 meetings at £1.60 each - £8 and 2 meetings at £2.40 each - £4.80.

Grass Cutting: It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr P. Francis that a cheque for £91.38 should be made out to Mendip District Council for 6 cuts at £9.63 and 3 cuts at £11.20.

Travelling Expenses: It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that a cheque for £14.80 should be made out to Mr J. Green.

Clerk's Salary and Expenses: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that a cheque for £145 should be made out to Mrs F. Horler for £134 salary and £11 expenses to date.

Subscription to Somerset County Playing Fields Association: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that a cheque for £2 should be made out for this.

6. Allotment Rent: A letter from Cluttons gave the Parish Council notice to quit the allotments. It explained that this was purely in order to negotiate revised terms for a new agreement as at 25th March 1983. At the same time the new agreement

would provide for payment of rent annually. The Clerk was asked to warn allotment holders that the rent would be increasing from that date.

7. Rent from Playing Field: Express Dairies who have been renting the playing field at £3 a game have been fined £8 a match as a result of the broken goal post. It was debated whether or not they should be charged the £3 a match for the period in 179, which the goal post was broken. With the cost of the repair of the goal post weighing heavily on their minds the Parish Council decided that they would send in the bill.

8. Terry Hill Crossroads: It had been suggested that crossroads signs should be put up on the bend of the road coming from Frome – near the lay-by as cars seemed to be passing at the present crossroads sign and therefore did not see it. The Parish Council took note of this suggestion and decided to look again and consider the matter.

9. Flag. The Flower Show Committee had said that they would be willing to contribute to the cost of a new flag if the Parish Council were to purchase one. The Council decided to enquire the cost of a new one.

10. Notice of Meetings: SALC meeting at Leigh-on-Mendip on Thursday 11th March.
Ward Meeting at Faulkland Wednesday 17th March.

11. Date of Annual Parish Meeting was fixed for Tuesday 4th May.

Any Other Business:

The Chairman reported that the Faulkland phone box had been out-of-order for 3 weeks from December and the light had been out during the months of December and January and the Clerk was asked to write to British Telecom asking for an explanation for the delay in rectifying these faults.

The Clerk was also asked to write to the Radstock Post Office pointing out the fact that the post had been arriving increasingly later within the Parish and also that letters were taking days – sometimes even weeks – to reach their destination. It was reported that Millards had left some dangerous holes in the road with no warning signs of any kind. The Chairman said that he would phone and ask for something to be done about it.

Signed E.A. Green 31st March 1982.

The Annual Parish Meeting of Hemington was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Wednesday March 31st 1982.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Batten, Mr. J. Green and Mrs J. Horler and 2 Parishioners.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

2. The Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts were read. These showed a balance of £38.51 but it was noted that payment had not yet been received for the hire of the Playing Field. It was proposed that the Chairman sign these accounts.

3. The Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts were read. These showed a balance of £131.06. It was proposed that these should be signed by the Chairman.

4. The Chairman gave a report on developments during the year. With regard to the parking on the Village Green he pointed out that the state of the Green was no worse than it had been last year. He thanked Mr Loader for the good job he had done on clearing the footpaths and said that this year an effort should be made to spray the footpaths with weedkiller in order to keep the paths clear before they became overgrown again and, in addition, to clear the rougher parts of the village of nettles and alder. He thanked the Councillors and Clerk for the work they'd done during the year.

5. The Bamphylde Charities have made 7 payments amounting to £35.

6. Any Other Business It was pointed out that the seats on the green were in a dilapidated state and the Clerk was asked to write to Mendip District Council to inform them of this fact. She was also asked to write to Mr Burkitt to say that the pavement from the Public House to Bishop Street was in a bad state mainly due to the fact that it had not been properly replaced after the telephone trench had been dug. She was also asked to draw his attention to the fact that lorries had been breaking the banks on the road from Hassage Crossroads to Hassage Farm and there is soil in the road as a result.

This concluded the business of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Signed E.A. Green 28 March 1983

180. The Annual Parish Meeting was followed by a meeting of the Parish Council.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Batten, Mr J. Green, and Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies were received from Mr K. Pitman and Mr P. Francis.

3. Matters Arising: (a) A letter had been received from the postmaster of Radstock Post Office saying that he regretted the later deliveries but that these were unavoidable owing to deliveries at extra houses. However, later in the year a new sorting office will be completed and delivery routes will be revised and the time of delivery in this parish would revert to its previous time.

(b) British Telecom reported that they are going to give the Faulkland box a complete overhaul and apologised for the delay in repairing it. The box is taking around £300 a year and, at present, there was no danger of removal.

(c) Flag: It was felt that a flag 3 yards by 1 ½ yards would be needed. It seemed this would cost around £20. There is about this amount left in the Jubilee Account and it was felt that this would be a suitable way of spending this remaining money. The Chairman asked that the Jubilee Minute Book be brought to the next meeting.

4. Best Kept Village Competition It was decided to enter again this year.

5. Correspondence:

(a) A letter from Avon and Somerset Constabulary asked if our local Police Officer could be permitted to attend meetings occasionally with a view to fostering a better relationship between Police and Public and getting to know the Councillors. The Clerk was asked to let them know the dates of the meetings.

Owing to the May Day holiday it was decided to change the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to Monday 10th May.

Signed E.A. Green May 10th 1982.

181. The Annual Meeting of Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 10th May 1982.

Members Present: Mr E. Green, Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mr J. Batten, Mr K. Pitman and Mrs J. Horler.

1. Election of Chairman: Mr E. Green was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mr J. Green.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman: Mr P. Francis was proposed by Mr K. Pitman and seconded by Mr J. Green.

3. Election of Members for the Bamphylde Charities Committee: Mr T. Hendy and Mr E. Green were proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mr P. Francis.

4. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising

(a) The Flag: It was proposed that a notice should be put in the Parish Magazine announcing the closure of the Jubilee Committee and the proposed transfer of the funds to the Parish Council Account in order to purchase a new flag.

(b) Seats: Mendip District Council have carried out repair work to the seats but as one of the seats on the Green had been beyond repair this was removed and Mendip District Council contacted to see whose responsibility the replacement was. They replied that it was not the responsibility of Mendip District Council but that they could supply new seats on a rechargeable (*sic*) basis if necessary. It was proposed that the Clerk enquire the price of installing a new seat from Mendip and, if under £100, to ask them to supply this.

Grass cutting: It was confirmed that the Parish Council wished Mendip to cut the grass at £12.21 per cut throughout the season when their men were working in the area.

6. Accounts:

(i) Somerset Association of Local Councils annual subscription £23.94

It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that membership should be renewed and a cheque made out for this.

(ii) Insurance annual premium £67.79. It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that a cheque should be made out for this.

(iii) Arthritis and Rheumatism Council A letter requested that anyone within the Parish who had a replacement hip operation should be invited to join a sponsored walk and/or that the Parish Council should give a donation to the above fund. It was proposed that Mrs D. Green who has received this operation should be contacted.

7. Swings at the Playing Field It was reported that two swings have missing nuts and it was proposed that these should be replaced and sealed.

8. Any Other Business

It was reported that the Faulkland Post Office had been closed while investigations were being made. The Chairman had contacted the Post Master who said that they were unable to reopen the Post Office until their investigations had been made. In the meantime great inconvenience was being caused to Parishioners, particularly Old Age Pensioners who were unable to draw their pensions in the village. Temporary provision has been made for benefits to be drawn at Norton St Philip, Writhlington or Radstock Post Offices. The Parish Council are particularly concerned at the possibility that the Post Office may not be reopened and that a long closure would result in loss of trade. The Clerk was asked to write to the Post Master expressing this concern, pointing out the inconvenience it is causing and that they look forward to it's (*sic*) speedy reinstatement.

Posts around Allotment: It was pointed out that some of these were missing.

Cutting playing Field Grass: It was suggested that this should be cut more often this year and that Mr E. Green should be paid for doing this.

Children causing a nuisance: It was reported that children climbing on barbed wire fencing had loosened it and this had subsequently got entangled around a horse's (*sic*) leg causing some injury. It was felt that a mention should be made in the paper about this and pointing out that the Ratepayers were paying for a Playing field in which the children could play.

Litter: It was pointed out that there was a lot of litter where the children waited for the school bus near the Faulkland Inn. The Clerk was asked to write to the publican asking him to provide a litter bin.

Bus Shelter: It was reported that felt was coming off the roof of the bus shelter at the top of Hemington and it was proposed that this should be looked at.

Tip on Hassage Road: The Clerk was asked to write to Cluttons pointing out the unsightly state of this tip.

Signposts: Concern was again expressed at the state of the signposts and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt again about this.

Signed E.A. Green 15th July 1982

182. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland village hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 5th July 1982.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Green, Mr J. Batten, Mr K. Pitman, Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Flag. It was agreed that the money remaining in the Jubilee Fund be transferred to the Parish Council Accounts.

(b) Seat on the Village Green. It was proposed that the Parish Council order a seat 2.4 m. long at a price of £153 + V.A.T.

(c) Post Office – The Clerk had received no reply from the Bath Post Master regarding the closure of the Post Office but she had been contacted to be told that Mrs Small would be operating from her home on Mon., Tues., and Thurs. from 2 – 5 pm. The Clerk was asked to write expressing concern that no reply had been received. The Council's attention was drawn to the NALC draft code of policy in which it suggests that a sub-post office should not be closed until after the local council concerned has been informed and given a reasonable opportunity of expressing an opinion or making an offer under the Post Office Act 1953. The Clerk was asked to phone Mr Pollard at St Margaret's to inquire as to what the P.O. Act 1953 states.

(d) Hassage Tip – A letter from Cluttons stated that Lord Hylton has already made strenuous efforts over the years to stop the deposit of rubbish by erecting fences and digging ditches but that he will arrange for another fence to be erected.

(e) Signposts – A letter from Mr Burkitt said that he has no funds for refurbishing these signs and that the County policy does not allow him to use labour and finance on such works. He is, however, able to supply black, white and undercoat paint. Mr E. Green wondered if there was a government scheme whereby youths – preferably local ones – could be employed to paint the signs and Mr J. Green volunteered to enquire at Frome Job Centre about this.

4. Accounts:

It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that the following cheques be signed:

(i) Stan Fogg and Son Ltd. £25.81 for the new flag - £22.44 Goods and Carriage (*sic*) + £3.37 V.A.T.

(ii) Mr E. Green £80.50 for the Playing Field Fence.

(iii) Dept. of the Environment £31.05 Auditors Fees £27 + £4.05 V.A.T.

(iv) Frome and District Tourism Association £2 Donation.

5. Playing Field Rent: As this has gone up from £25 - £40 the Parish Council decided that £6 per letting would be a reasonable amount to charge for the hire of the playing field.

6. Wicksteed's annual inspection report stated that the equipment would benefit from being rubbed down and repainted (2) (*sic*) the equipment would benefit from lubrication (3) that the ground requires attention due to erosion of surface. It was suggested that if anyone could be found to paint the signposts that perhaps they could also repaint the playground equipment.

8 (*sic*). To set a date for work on the pump Saturday July 10th at 9.30pm (*sic*) was the time and date decided upon.

9. Ideas for celebrating the birth of Prince William of Wales. It was suggested that if they become available that mugs should be given to the children born this year in the Parish and also that an inscribed plaque should be put on the new seat.

10. Correspondence: (a) NALC Draft Code of Policy – The Parish Council felt that this was a reasonable code of policy.

(b) Proposal for Frome Town Appraisal: Mr E. Green said that he would inquire from other Parish Council's (*sic*) whether they were going to do anything towards this.

(c) SALC items. The Clerk drew the Council's attention to the Mendip District Council annual report and accounts, The Local Council Review, the A.G.M. and the booklet on 'Alternatives to Domestic Rates'

(d) Southern Electricity – widespread electricity supply failures contingency plans. As a result of the electricity supply failures in the severe weather last winter Parish Councils have been invited to nominate, through their District Councils Electricity Supplies Liaison Officers to collate information in the Parish for the Electricity Board and to receive information from them. Mr J. Batten volunteered to become Liaison Officer and suggested we invite a representative to attend a P.C. meeting.

(e) Hedgerow Tree Tags – These are used to mark sapplings (*sic*) suitable for growing into hedgerow trees so that the hedge trimmers can avoid cutting them down. The **183.** Parish Council decided to order 100 or so of these with a view to distributing them to local farmers.

(f) Staplemead Creamery – the Council's attention was drawn to a public inquiry to be held by the Secretary of State for the Environment into a planning application by Express Dairy Foods Ltd.

Any Other Business Parishioners were concerned that children starting school at Writhlington in September were being asked to pay to travel on the school bus if they lived within 3 miles of the school or to make their own way there. As there is no footpath for the entire way and the road is both fast and dangerous and the Frome – Radstock road prone to accidents without the added hazard of children walking or cycling to school the Parish Council felt they should support parents in protesting against this decision.

It was pointed that both parapets at Hardington Bridge were damaged – the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt about this – that the railings around the village hall were damaged - Mr Golland was asked to repair this and that the stocks were in urgent need of repair. Mr E. Green offered to order some oak from Charltons, Timber Merchants.

The date of the next meeting should be for September 6th but due to the imminent arrival of the Clerk's baby around that date it was decided to postpone the meeting for a month – until October 4th. Should pressure of business necessitate (*sic*) it an earlier meeting will be called.

Signed V.P. Francis

Photograph. Caption. 21.6.82 Raising the Flag on the Village Green to celebrate the birth of Prince William of Wales. Those present: Mr E. Green (Chairman) Mrs J. Horler (Councillor) Mrs F. Horler (Clerk)

184. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 4th October 1982.

Members present: Mr P. Francis (took the Chair), Mr K. Pitman, Mr J. Green, Mr J. Batten and Mrs J. Horler.

1. Mr A.B. Good from the Southern Electricity Board explained the nature of rural electricity distribution systems and some of the problems that occurred during the exceptional weather conditions of last December and the previous April when the electricity supply was off for long periods. In the December, when it was several days before the electricity supply was returned, much of the trouble was caused by wet snow turning to ice resulting in towers being blown over. Mr Good could not speak highly enough of the linesman who worked at all hours and in all conditions and temperatures in order to restore the electricity supply. He explained that the biggest problem was communications and that it was impossible for their small team operating the switch board to cope with the thousands of calls flooding in. Since then they have become equipped with a new and very efficient switchboard which means that calls will be able to be answered much more quickly. It is also hoped that by having a Liaison (*sic*) Officer within each Parish that the number of calls will be dramatically decreased. The sort of conditions that have arisen in the last 18 months or so have never been known in the working lifetime of some retiring linesmen and it is hoped that they will never happen again, but – when it has happened twice in less than a year – Mr Good was not relying on it !! If such an Emergency – on such a scale – should happen again the Electricity Board would feed the Liaison (*sic*) Officer with information. (In the case of Hemington Parish this would be Mr J. Batten of Faulkland Farm.) Mr Good answered a variety of questions and said that if anyone would like to visit the new control room at Yeovil he would be very willing to show them round. Mr Francis thanked him for coming up from Yeovil to talk to us and said that in future perhaps we would not take the electricity so much for granted.

2. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record

3. Apologies were received from Mr E. Green

4. Matters Arising: (a) Faulkland Post Office. A letter from the Head Postmaster at Bath stated that it is his firm intention to expand the part-time Post Office to a full service in the future provided that he can find an applicant for the sub-postmastership with suitable premises.

The Clerk read out copy of the Post Office Act 1953 which she had received from Mr Pollard.

(b) Raising the flag: This was raised by Mr E. Green on the occasion of the birth of Prince William of Wales.

(c) Signposts: Mr J. Green reported that local boys would be able to join the Frome job-creation scheme in order to paint the parish signposts. Mr E. Green approached boys in the village but they felt that they would not join the scheme. The Council decided that Mr Burkitt's offer of paint should be taken up.

(d) Hemington Pump. A site meeting was arranged for 6.30 pm on Wednesday (*sic*) 13th October.

(e) Commemoration (*sic*) mugs and plaque: As there seemed few mugs available this idea was abandoned. It was decided to ask Mr Chris Pye for a price for carving an inscription on the new village seat.

(f) School Transport: A letter had been received from the County Surveyor stating that the transport in the area was to be reviewed and if, as a result of this, they were unable to accommodate (*sic*) all children on a paying basis then the C. Council would not allow them to purchase additional seating on road safety grounds.

(g) Hardington Bridge: A letter from Mr Burkitt said that he was writing to the Bridge Engineer as he felt that the bridge was not wide enough to accommodate (*sic*) some of the heavy traffic using it

5. Accounts: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that the following cheques be signed.

(a) En-tout-cas. £153 + £22.95 V.A.T. for the village seat.

(b) Hemington Parochial Church Council £32 Burial Expenses

(c) Cluttons £1.25 ½ yearly allotment rent

(d) George Loader £24 – cutting the overgrowth in the lane adjacent to the Village Hall. 12 hours at £2 per hour.

185. 6. Planning Applications:

Agricultural Workers dwelling for Mr Snook – M.D.C. recommend refusal.

Clear Fell and thin wood at Lower Wood, Henly Plantation for Radstock Co-op.

M.D.C. decided that the applicant be informed that the Local Planning Authority would be concerned if it is the intention to incorporate a significant amount of Norway Spruce – any replanting scheme envisaged for the site the subject of the application. Erection of porch at front of 12 Turners Tower for Mr Clark. The Parish Council had no objection to this application if the outside walls were of natural stone. M.D.C. recommend approval.

Approved under Building regulations were extensions for Longclose, Hemington, and Green Farm, The Green, Faulkland.

7. Correspondence:

(a) Derelict Land Scheme: The Parish Council did not know of any areas within the Parish that would benefit from treatment.

(b) Transfer of License. A notification of Mrs Wilson of Tucker's Grave Inn's intention to apply for a transfer of license.

(c) Frome Public Transport Users Association wished to hear the Parish Council's views on public transport services in the area and ways in which it could be improved.

(d) Planning restrictions in relation to Sewage Treatment works. A letter stated that the Wessex Water Authority in so far as the Bristol Avon Division is concerned will be unlikely to object to development levels consistent with the approved Structure Plan as they had previously done owing to limitations on the capacity of local sewage treatment works.

(e) Housing Commitment – Frome sub-area. The Clerk read out the recommendations of the Chief Planning Officer.

(f) National Playing Fields Association Conference to be held on the 24th and 25th Nov. in Kensington Town Hall.

(g) Somerset Association of Local Councils AGM will be held on 8th October at 7.30 pm at Taunton.

(h) Lorry Controls. The Clerk brought to the Parish Council's attention a circular on this.

(i) Hugh of Witham Foundation items were given out.

(j) Trees for Tomorrow – A day on learning about grants, practical help and planting.

(k) Differential Rattling (*sic*): The SALC East Area meeting hoped for views of Parish Council's (*sic*) on the Frome Town Council's paper on Differential Rating. The Parish Council felt that the administration involved in this would make it impractical.

Signed E.A. Green Dec 6th 1982.

186. A Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland village hall on Monday 6th December at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Batten, Mr P. Francis, Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Mr Hildreth gave an interesting report on Home Defence and the training programme he has been receiving. He is now trying to form a Committee of about four who would be responsible for co-ordinating emergency procedures in the Parish in the event of war, in particular nuclear war, if the community should be cut off for any reason. He stressed that war was no more likely now than previously but that the Government felt it had a moral responsibility as they were spending so much on Defence in the form of weapons to ensure that the community was prepared for survival should war break out. Mr Hildreth, himself, Mr E. Green and Mr J. Batten volunteered as members of the committee and it was proposed that Mr Hildreth should ask Mrs Gatley or Mrs Pye to become the fourth.

3. Apologies were accepted from Mr J. Green.

4. Matters Arising: (a) Signposts. The Frome Springboard Scheme were interested in the project but as they were answerable to the Unions and to Manpower Services they held out little hope that they would be allowed to paint our signposts as it would be argued that doing Council work was taking jobs away from someone else. The Hugh of Witham Foundation are starting a 'Community Programme' to help local communities and those who have been out of work for some time. Mr J. Batten volunteered to hear Mr Turner, the regional Officer responsible for the programme outline and discuss the schemes possibilities. (b) Commemoration (*sic*) Plaque: The Parish Council decided to ask Mr C. Pye to carve Prince William, 21st June 1982 on the new village seat at 60p per letter.

5. Precept: The Parish Council decided to precept for £600 + £32 for Hemington churchyard and an additional £15 for Foxcote churchyard.

6. Bus Shelter on Frome Road: The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write to Mendip District Council asking them to repair the roof of this bus shelter.

7. Planning Applications:

Cluttons: - the P.C. felt that any new buildings in the village should be of natural stone and in keeping with the rest of the village, that there should be satisfactory disposal of sewerage, that the entrances should not be prejudicial to the safety of the children at the adjoining school, that the buildings should be built on the road frontage to be in line with the neighbouring cottage and in order not to obstruct the sun from the main hall of the school.

Row Farmhouse, Laverton: Alterations, provision of new kitchen, bathroom and bedrooms, re-opening of windows and provision of roof lights. The P.C. had no objection to this application as long as the work is carried out in a manner in keeping with a Grade 2 listed building.

The Cottage, The Green, Faulkland: First floor extension at rear of the cottage The P.C. had no objection to this application.

Kilmersdon Estate – Woodlands subject to a forestry dedication covenant – proposed programme of work to be carried out during next 5 year period. M.D.C. recommend that the Council support the County Planning Officer in efforts to achieve a balanced programme in which amenity and wildlife considerations are properly taken into account.

Shale Distributions (Radstock) Limited's proposals to carry out a Shale Washing programme on the disused colliery spoil heap tip at Lower Writhlington Radstock. M.D.C. recommend that no objection be raised to the proposal but that consideration should be given to routing all lorry traffic via the disused railway line.

Approved under building regulations were alterations and installation of bathroom and w.c. at Knoll Farm House, Faulkland, extension at 5, Ruckley Ford.

8. Correspondence:

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Council a Village Ventures Exhibition, Training for Consumer Representation, Somerset Bridleways Association Newsletter, M.D.C. Annual report and accounts. Local Council Review, Thatch, NALC circulars, Transport 2,000, proposed revisions to bus services and the comments on the Best Kept Village Competition which were a great improvement on last year's.

Signed Feb 7 1982 (*sic*)

Pages 187 and 188 are stuck together. There is a typed sheet between them, but I do not feel inclined to risk damage by forcing them apart.

189. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Monday February 7th 1983 at 7.30 pm in Faulkland village hall.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Green and Mr J. Batten.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no absentees.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Home Defence Committee. Mr Hildreth was awaiting a reply from Mrs Gatley.

(b) Manpower Services Community Programme. Mr E. Green and Mr Batten had attended two meetings about this since the last meeting and were able to report that the Hugh of Witham Foundation hoped to act as an agent collating work and labour from surrounding Parishes. A group would need to be employed for 12 months and as few Parishes would have this amount of work available it was felt that a steering agent was needed to gather in projects. The Parish Council was asked to put forward any project they thought suitable. It was hoped that the signposts could be repainted under this scheme. Repainting the village hall, repairing Hemington pump, the upkeep of bridleways and paths were among the other suggestions.

(c) Post Office: A letter from the Head Postmaster at Bath together with a newspaper cutting explained that the Post Office was unable to readvertise a vacancy for a Subpostmaster at Faulkland as Mr Sweet had not been dismissed neither had he resigned. He had been committed to Bristol Crown Court for trial on four charges of theft from Faulkland Post Office involving more than £11,000 and the Post Office were unable to dismiss him before the legal proceedings were completed as this would be an admission that the P.O. assumed his guilt before this had been proved by the Crown Court and would prejudice his position at his trial.

(d) Election Circulars – stated that no election could be held to fill a casual vacancy if it occurred within 6 months of the day on which the particular councillor would have gone out of office but that this did not debar co-options. A letter of resignation had been received from Mr K. Pitman but the P.C. decided to wait until the election to fill his seat.

4. Peacetime Emergencies: Mr J. Batten and Mrs F. Horler offered to act as contact points to collate 'situation' reports or information or from whom information could be obtained during any peacetime emergency.

5. A letter from Faulkland Flower Show asked if they could use the village green for a large 'Ox Roast' in June or July. The Council agreed to grant permission providing that provision was made to protect the grass.

6. The Parish Notice Board had been bent over almost at right angles with the legs. Mr E. Green said he would ask Mr Francis Green to straighten it again.

7. Accounts:

(a) Society of Local Councils Clerks subscription £6.50. It was decided not to renew this.

(b) Grass Cutting – Mendip District Council - £122.10. It was proposed by Mr Francis and seconded by Mr Batten that a cheque for this should be signed.

(c) Mrs C. Clark – Ward Clerk's Salary - £7. It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Green that a cheque for this should be signed.

(d) Mr E. Green – Chairman's Allowance £15 It was proposed by Mr Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that a cheque for this be signed also £6.84 for purchase of oak for stocks.

(e) Cluttons – ½ yearly allotment rent £1.25, annual playing field rent £40 £41.25. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr P. Francis that a cheque for this be signed.

It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that the following cheques be signed.

(f) Faulkland Village Hall Committee – Hire of Hall for 8 meetings at £2.40 each £19.20

(g) Travelling Expenses – Mr J. Green - £11.40

(h) Somerset County Playing Fields Association subscription

(i) SALC – Notices of Meetings £1.21

(j) Part-payment of Clerk's Salary – Mrs F. Horler - £60

8. Council Tip There had been complaints from parishioners that this had been opened up to reveal a tin shed and suggesting that evergreens be planted in order to screen it. The Clerk was asked to write to the Council about this suggesting that, perhaps, the shed could be painted.

190. 9. Waste tipped by road-sweeping lorry. This had been tipped at the top of Park Lane. The Clerk was asked to write requesting that more discretion be used in depositing this.

10. Footpaths It had been pointed out to the Chairman that there were blockages and stiles in need of repair on some of the footpaths in the Parish and he promised to notify the farmer concerned.

11. Erection of 2 dwellings on O.S. Pt 9136, Hemington. M.D.C. recommended that it be refused as 'the proposal is contrary to Policy SP7 of the approved Structure Plan in that it would result in the loss of an open frontage within the village which contributes to the rural character of the settlement and where public services are already minimal.' The Clerk was asked to write to M.D.C. stating that the Parish Council was strongly opposed to their recommendation to remove Hemington from the list of villages in the County Structure Plan and to state that there had been no precedent to do this.

Felling and replanting of dedicated woodland, Walton Wood, Writhlington Covert, Knoll Wood, Nap Wood, Buckland Belt (Kilmersdon Estate) for Forestry Commission. M.D.C. recommend that the Council support the County Planning Officer in efforts to achieve a balanced programme in which amenity and wildlife considerations are properly taken into account.

Alterations, re-roof pig-sty to form car-port including demolition of short section of wall to gain access to yard and restoration of dormers, Row Farm, Laverton. M.D.C. recommend that listed building consent be granted.

First Floor extension at rear of the cottage, the Green, Faulkland. M.D.C. recommend approval subject to 1. All materials to be used on the proposed extension shall match those on the existing dwelling.

Alterations, provision of new kitchen, bathroom and bedrooms, reopening of windows and provision of roof lights, Row Farmhouse, Laverton. M.D.C. recommend that listed building consent be granted.

Approved under building regulations were improvements to 'Rosedean' Faulkland.

12. Reports on:

1. Accident involving the wall at Faulkland village hall.

The Clerk had forwarded to (*sic*) estimates to Cotswold Petroleum.

(1) from Mr K. Pitman: To take down damaged wall, rebuild wall and gate pillars, Repair gates and railings and refix. Repaint as necessary. Price £627 + £94 VAT

(2) from Mr M. Jones Take down damaged front wall and part of return wall. Construct concrete foundation. Rebuild wall, repair and fix ironwork. Paint as necessary £412.

2. Mr E. Green had purchased some oak for the stocks with which Mr C. Pye was going to do the necessary repair work.

Any other business

The Clerk was asked to write to Bristol Omnibus Company reporting the damaged bus stop sign at Terry Hill. Also to Mr Burkitt reporting that the place where the sewer had been repaired in front of the garage had sunk and was becoming a danger, to motorcyclists in particular. That between Chickwell Crossroads and Tucker's Grave a number of lorries had gone off the road which tilts towards the ditch. At Lippiat Hill the drains are blocked to the Avon boundary. This is not caused by Mr Battens cows using the road. In Hemington all the drains are blocked and there are potholes in Lower Foxcote. The Parish Council agreed to pay Mr E. Green should his tractor have a puncture while he cleaned the village pond. Mr J. Green proposed that Mr M. Horler be thanked for repainting and reinstating the milestone at Terry Hill crossroads.
Signed E.A. Green 28th March 1983

191. The Annual Parish Meeting of Hemington was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 28th March 1983 at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Green, Mrs J. Horler and Mr J. Batten representing the Parish Council and 3 parishioners.

Apologies were received from Mr P. Francis.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

2. The Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts were read. These showed an Income of £800.10, Expenditure of £747.99 leaving a balance of £52.11. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that these be signed.

3. The Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts were read. These showed an Income of £567.46, Expenditure of £470.41 with £97.05 in the current account and £4.29 in the Deposit account. Mrs J. Horler proposed that the team who mended the Village Hall chairs should be thanked. These were Mr J. Green, Mr K. Small, Mr G. Clothier, Mr T. Hendy and Mr E. Green who also provided Home-made wine for the workers! It was proposed, also that Mrs Pugh, Mrs Hibbard and Mr Small should be thanked (*sic*) for running the Bingo.

4. Bamphylde Charities No payments had been made as yet as the Committee had been unable to arrange a date on which they could all meet.

5. Chairman's report: The Chairman reported on developments during the year and expressed the thanks of the Council and the village to Mrs Small for opening her home as a temporary Post Office for 3 afternoons a week. It was noted that the telephone trench had still not been attended to. He thanked the Councillors and Clerk for their work throughout the year.

Signed E.A. Green 8th May 1984

This meeting was followed by a meeting of the Parish Council.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Matters Arising: (a) Home Defence Mr E. Green had not been able to see Mr Hildreth with regard to the Home Defence Committee.

(b) SPCFA subscription. The Account for this had not yet arrived.

(c) A letter from Mr Burkitt commented in detail on the points raised at the last meeting. The Clerk was asked to reply thanking him for his letter but to say that the P.C. did not agree with all his points and to remind him yet again, of the telephone trench and the bridge at Hardington.

(d) Planning Policy for Hemington village. A letter from Mendip District Council stated that Somerset County Council were considering removing Hemington from the list of villages in the County Structure Plan and, instead, adopting 'open countryside' policies SP8 to SP11. The implication of this would be to apply stricter planning permission for developments within the village. The County Council wished to hear the views of the Parish Council before reaching a final decision. It was felt that the Parish Council had decided at the last meeting their views on this and this was covered in the letter the Clerk had been asked to write giving their strong objections to the proposal.

3. Allotment rent Cluttons wish to raise this from £2.50 to £40.00. The Parish Council felt that allotment holders would not be prepared to accept such a large increase in their rent and the Clerk was asked to write to Cluttons suggesting £20 as a more reasonable increase.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that the following cheques be signed.

(a) Mr C. Pye £15 for engraving the village seat.

(b) SALC annual subscription £25.65

5. Hemington Pump It was decided that the Chairman would arrange a meeting and contact the Councillors.

6. Best Kept Village Competition It was decided to enter again this year.

7. Village Ventures Competition It was decided not to enter this.

8. Report from Wicksteed stated that the climbing frame would benefit from being rubbed down and repainted and the frame and swings should have grass removed from around the support tubes. The Swings would benefit from lubrication and the ground requires attention due to erosion of surface.

9. Correspondence

The Clerk brought to the notice of the P.C. the fact that ICI was offering free paint to any non-profit-making organisation. She was asked to send for an application form with a view to acquiring paint for the village hall.

It was decided not to send a donation to South West Housing Aid or to the South and West Concerts Board.

Signed E.A. Green May 16 1983

192. The Annual Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday May 16th 1983.

Members present: Mr E. Green, Mr J. Green, Mr R. Golland, Mr P. Francis

1. Election of Chairman: Mr E. Green was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman: Mr P. Francis was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr R. Golland.

3. Apologies were received from Mrs J. Horler.

4. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising: (a) Home Defence. Mr E. Green reported that Mr Hildreth intended asking Mr or Mrs Mowat to become the fourth member of the Home Defence Committee.

(b) A letter from Mr Burkitt promised to do something about the telephone trench and Hardington Bridge. It was pointed out by Mr Francis that two of the drains in Hemington were still blocked. The Clerk was asked to write about this again.

(c) Best Kept Village Competition: As there was a charge of £2.50 this year it was decided not to enter this after all as it was felt that the money could be better spent in other ways.

(d) Dulux Community Projects: Mr E. Green volunteered to fill in the application form on behalf of the village hall committee with a view to re-decorating the village hall.

(e) Hemington Pump: With the recent very wet weather it was felt that as soon as the rain stopped there would be more than enough work to catch up with on land and gardens and it was decided to postpone work on this.

6. Allotments: A new agreement had been sent from Cluttons reducing the rent from £40 to £25 per year with a review in three years time. Allotment holders were willing to pay £3 per allotment and it was decided that the new agreement should be signed. It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that Mr Wilken's allotment had been neglected and the Clerk was asked to write to him asking him to cultivate it in a proper manner or at the very least to cut the weeds off the top.

7. Accounts: (i) It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that a cheque should be signed for £67.79 for the Annual Premium to Commercial Union Assurance. The Clerk was asked to inquire what the extra premium would be to increase the insurance on the village hall from £25,000 to £30,000 and to ask if this could be Index linked, also to ask for insurance on 2 manual voluntary workers at 90p per person. She was also asked to make a claim for the vandalism of the Notice Board.

(ii) 2nd part payment of Clerk's Salary £74 and expenses £12.86 Total £86.86. It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland that a cheque for this should be signed.

8. Footpaths: It was decided to spray these with a selective weedkiller.

9. Correspondence: (a) General Accident Assurance: After a long wait and the sending of a solicitor's letter a reply was received from General Accident Assurance stating that the estimate submitted from Mr M.J. Jones for £412 was reasonable and that they had no objections to the work being carried out. The Clerk had contacted Mr Jones who agreed to do the work at his earliest convenience.

(b) Letter regarding trees in Hollowpit Lane. Mr Horler of Turners Tower had written to the Parish Council suggesting that the dead elms in Hollowpit Lane be replaced with horse-chestnuts and offered to plant them. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt enquiring to whom the land belonged with a view to approaching them on this matter.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed E.A. Green 5 July 1983

193. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Tuesday 5th July at 8 pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland, Mr P. Francis and Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green and Mr J. Batten.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Home Defence: There was no further news on this.

(b) Letter from Mr Burkitt reported that the Bridge Engineer intended widening the bridge at Hardington, that Somerset County Council maintained Hollowpit Lane and they had no objections to trees being planted there as long as they did not cause an obstruction. He also noted the blocked drains at Hemington. The Clerk was asked to write asking for more details of the plans to widen the bridge and also to point out that the drains in Hemington are still blocked.

(c) Hemington Pump. Mr Green will arrange a meeting to continue work on this when the rash of holidays is over.

(d) Commercial Union Assurance say that to increase the sum insured on the Village Hall to £30,000 the additional premium will be £3.13 and for two manual workers to be added to the personal accident section would be £1.80. It was proposed that the Village Hall premium be increased to £30,000. It was not possible to claim for vandalism to the Notice Board as the police had not been informed.

4. Public Transport Plan: The Parish Council had no comments to make on this.

5. Inter-village Quiz Competition: It was decided to inquire in the village whether anyone was interested in forming a team for this.

6. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr Francis and seconded by Mr Golland that the following cheques be signed.

(i) Cluttons: Allotment Rent £25.

(ii) Commercial Union Assurance: Extra premium £3.13

7. Damage to Village Green On May 25th a lorry drove its front wheels over the edge of the Village Green sinking in and damaging the drop. The Police were informed. The damage was estimated at £30 and the Clerk wrote to the firm concerned claiming compensation for this amount. The letter was returned by the Post Office with 'Gone Away' written on it! Commercial Union were unable to pay us compensation as the policy does not cover such things as damage to 'ground' trees, hedges etc. The Frome Police were contacted and developments are awaited.

9. (*sic*) Correspondence:

Grass cutting: The charge this year will amount to £12.82 per cut. The Clerk was asked to write asking whether the strimmer was still used as the edges around the Village Hall and the area behind the telephone kiosk were left in a very untidy condition.

The final copy of the Structure Plan has arrived and is available for those interested in reading it.

Other business: At the previous SALC meeting it had been suggested that a few days notice of the meetings was not enough for some members. As the minutes arrive 2 or 3 weeks before earlier notice would be possible. This Parish Council preferred (*sic*) to be told within a week of the meeting.

Hemington. There have been complaints from residents of Hemington that Lord Hylton's walls through the village are in a state of considerable disrepair and the Clerk was asked to write to Cluttons about this.

It was suggested that not everyone saw the Parish Council notices in the Church and perhaps they could be put up elsewhere in the village. It was agreed that the official Notice Board must remain in the Church but that an extra notice could be pinned onto Mr Francis' barn door.

Signed E.A. Green 5 Sept 1983

194. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday September 5th at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Green, Mr R. Golland, Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Batten and Mrs J.

Horler.

1. The minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no absentees.

3. Matters Arising: (a) A letter from Mr Burkitt stated that he hoped to divert a jetting machine to clear the drains in Hemington and that he had not seen the drawings for the reconstruction of Hardington bridge.

(b) Hemington walls: The Clerk had been through Hemington with Cluttons agent to show him the walls in need of repair.

(c) Trees for Hollowpit lane: Mendip District Council's present scheme is for the towns each in turn per year though they may return to the rural areas in due course. The County Council will give a 50% grant on a minimum of £100 spent, if they approve the scheme. The Tree Trust can provide Horse Chestnut trees for 50p each and disease-resistant elms for £7.50 each. The Clerk was asked to find out the size of the 50p horse-chestnuts while Mr Francis offered to explore the possibility of getting some 6 foot horse-chestnuts.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr P. Francis that the following cheques be signed:

(i) The Audit Commission for Local Authorities in England and Wales - £33.35 Auditor's Fees.

(ii) Burial Expenses: Hemington - £33 Foxcote - £14

(iii) George Loader – Clearance of Footpath – 6 hours at £2 per hour - £12

5. Mendip Area Survey: The Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation hope to organise a programme for identifying sites of interest within the area of Mendip District Council. The Clerk was asked to find out when they were going to hold their meeting.

6. Probation and After Care Service – Community Service (by Offenders) Programme. The Parish Council did not feel they had a job large enough to employ this scheme.

7. Police Liason (sic) Committee: A meeting had been arranged fro October 13th to elect a representative for the Sub-division for the Police Liason (sic) Committee. The Clerk was asked to contact Councillors closer to this date.

8. Clerks Salaries Agreement by NALC and SLCC. This recommended that councils should adjust their Clerk's salary by 4.9% as from 1st July 1983. It was agreed that this should be noted.

9. Grass at Turners Tower The cutting of the grass where the tower stood has been getting steadily more spasmodic over the years until this year it has been virtually non-existent (sic). The Parish Council suggested a letter to Lord Hylton asking that he arrange for this grass to be cut and if he is unwilling to do this could he donate the land to the Parish Council in order that they might.

10. Planning Applications: Mrs Leigh applied for a kitchen extension at 'Healey House' Hemington. The Parish Council did not object to this and Mendip District Council have recommended approval.

Mr Snook applied for a mobile home for Agricultural Worker on OS Pt. 5253 Hemington The Parish Council had no objection to this.

11. Notices: The Water Act 1983 was noted and also that there is a new minister for Children's Play.

Attention was drawn to the Hugh of Witham Foundations Newsletter and to the Ward Meeting to be held at Faulkland on Oct 26th.

Other Business: The Clerk was asked to find out the address of the Society for the Preservation of Rural England in the hopes of getting a preservation order for the Turnpike House at Tuckers Grave.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt – again – about the pavement through Faulkland which has not been put right since a trench was dug for the telephone cable.

Signed E.A. Green Nov 7th 1983

195. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 7th November 1983 at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland, Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green. Also present was Mr West, our County Councillor.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies were received from Mrs J. Horler.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Trees in Hollowpit lane. Mr M. Horler has paid the Parish Council £20 to clear the dead elms from the lane and he will organize the planting of replacement trees.

(b) Foxcote Burial Expenses: A letter of thanks was received from Foxcote Parochial Church Council and Reverend Bennett had also phoned to express his thanks.

(c) Police liason (sic) Committee: Mr E. Green, Mr J. Batten and Mr P. Francis attended a meeting to elect an area representative for this. Mr Edgar Francis was elected with Mr Cann as his deputy and they will periodically report back to the SALC area meetings.

(d) Grass at Turners Tower. A letter from Mr Burkitt said that he had no objections to the Parish Council making their own arrangements to cut the grass here for the time being so long as all care is taken to safeguard the public.

(e) Council for the Protection of Rural England: A letter from here suggested we contact the Avon Branch Secretary, Mrs D. Ellis. The Clerk was asked to do this.

4. Accounts: The Parish Council approved the signing of a cheque to Mr M. Jones for £412 for rebuilding the Village Hall Wall.

Mr E. Green - £6.50 for cutting the Playing Field Hedge. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr P. Francis that a cheque for this should be signed. Mr E. Green declared his interest in this. Correspondence between Mr M. King, Solicitor, and General Accident Assurance regarding the claim for the repair of the Village Hall wall was read out. Writhlington School - £20 (see Minute 5)

5. A letter from Writhlington School asked the Parish Council for a grant of £25 to help cover the cost of French children staying at Writhlington School next April. These children will be from the Institut Bellevue – a special school for disadvantaged pupils. This year the Concert Band and Choir of Writhlington School spent a week at the Institut Bellevue and were overwhelmed by the hospitality and friendship they received here.

The Parish Council felt this to be a worthwhile cause but with a fairly tight budget to keep to Mr R. Golland proposed that a cheque for £20 should be signed and this was seconded by Mr J. Green.

6. Precept: It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr R. Golland that next years precept should be for £700.

7. 5th March 1984 will be the 90th anniversary of the Act which established Parish Councils and it seems that a variety of celebrations are likely to be held to mark this event. The Clerk was asked to let Mr J. Green read through the old Minute books for Items of interest and Councillors were asked to bring their ideas to the next meeting.

8. Notice Board Mr E. Green said that he would arrange to have this mended.

9. Planning Applications: Mendip District Council approved Mr Snook's application for a mobile home – subject to temporary permission – 3 years and Agricultural Occupation.

Restoration of Bakehouse/Laundry and erection of extension to form dwelling and resiting boundary wall to form entrance at Row Farm, Laverton. Parish Council observations were that they had seen the plans and considered that the proposal would be an improvement to that which exists at present. With regards to the new entrance, consideration was given to the bends on the road

but the Parish Council felt that traffic was compelled to travel very slowly here, therefore they have no objection to this application.

Continued use of land for Model Flying at Upper Row Farm, Laverton. The Parish Council had no objection to this application as it is providing a leisure activity for some but there have been complaints regarding the noise from two residents in the area. Mr Raynsford had contacted the Clerk regarding the residents and she suggested that he contact Mr E. Green which he had not done. Mr E. Green said that he would contact Mr Raynsford next morning.

10. Correspondence: (a) Somerset Fellowship of Drama – the Clerk was asked to give details of this to the W.I.
- (b) Frome Museum – a letter from the Management Committee asked for a donation to this. They plan to move into the Literary Institute in North Parade, Frome but the roof of this needs renovating at a cost of £13,000 and dry rot made good costing £2,400 as well as £7,000 needed in order that they comply with fire regulations. This cost can be reduced by a grant from the Area Museum Council and by work being done under a new Manpower Services Scheme – Mendip Town Services – but they still need to raise a considerable sum. The Clerk was asked to bring this up again at the next meeting.
- (c) Peacetime Emergencies – the Clerk read out the note from the County Surveyor's Dept.
- (d) Training Day for Councillors and Clerks. There were no volunteers to go on this.
- (e) Community Twinning: There had been no response from the village when this subject last appeared and it was decided not to pursue it.
- (f) Mendip Town Services – the latest Manpower Services Scheme. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries about this as there had been nothing forthcoming from the Hugh of Witham Scheme with regard to the painting of the signposts.
- (g) Public Rights of Way Research Unit have copies of Definitive Maps made for Parish Councils.
- (h) Future of Telecommunications – a pamphlet gave details of this.
- (i), (j), (k) The Clerk brought to the attention of the Council the Somerset County Council and Mendip District Council Annual reports and accounts and the SALC annual report. Somerset Playing Fields Association annual report.
- (l) Local Information Directory. The Clerk was asked to fill in useful names in the back of this, pin it up in the Village Hall and advertise the fact in the Parish Magazine.
- (m) Local Government Boundary Commission have sent their report No. 443.

11. The Clerk was asked to inform Mr Burkitt of the dangerous state of the road from Green Parlour to Single Hill Bridge.

12. The Ward meeting has changed its (*sic*) date to November 30th.

Any Other Business

A meeting of the Playing Field Committee was held on November 4th and it was asked if a record of the minutes of this meeting could be included in the minutes of this Parish Council meeting to which the P.C. agreed.

Faulkland Playing Field Association.

An open meeting was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Friday November 4th 1983 on behalf of the 'Playing Field Association' Chairman was Mr E. Green.

The Committee wishing to close the 'Playing Field Association' sought legal advice and was informed that all money raised publicly must be dispersed publicly. Therefore the Committee proposed that money in the fund, amounting to £655.35 be shared between Hemington Church, Hemington School, Faulkland Village Hall and Senior Citizens Club.

A request for further proposals were asked for but none came forward. Mr G. Loader then proposed the motion acceptable and was seconded by Mr G. Hibbard. This winds up the 'Playing Field Association' and closure of funds. Tonights meeting to be recorded at the Parish Council meeting on Monday November 7th 1983.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt regarding the water breaking through the tarmac as one enters Hemington from the Frome side. Also to enquire the position regarding the waterfall as rumour has it that the water from this is to be piped, depriving Hemington of one of its (*sic*) features. She was also asked to mention that growth from the hedges near Chickwell New Farm is impairing visibility.

It was suggested that Parish Council meetings should be better advertised and this done earlier. It was felt that the posters should go up a good week before the meeting and, perhaps, more posters put up. However, the suggestion that each Councillor put one on his gate proved impracticable as most Councillors were set back from the village.

Signed E.A. Green Jan 2nd 1984

197. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday January 2nd 1984.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr R. Golland

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Trees in Hollowpit Lane have been ordered for next March. 6 sweet chestnut and 6 horse chestnut. The Tree Council advised 6 foot high standards which will be £2.30 each.

(b) Turnpike House at Tucker's Grave. Mrs Lewis at the Somerset Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England advised that this should be spot-listed by Mr Lillford at the County Conservation Office. The Clerk arranged this and Mr E. Green said that he would speak to the owner of the Turnpike House to see what his intentions were. A letter from Mrs Lewis was read out in which she suggested that the Parish Council become affiliated to the Council for the Protection of Rural England. This decision was deferred until the end of the financial year. Mr Golland asked if Pond Farm could also be spot-listed and the Clerk was asked to inquire of Mr Lillford if this was possible.

(c) Writhlington School Grant. A letter from Mr McNeil, the acting Headmaster, asked that his thanks be conveyed to the Parish Council for their grant.

(d) Precept. A letter had been received from the District Council suggesting that dire consequences would occur to the District Council if the Parish Council's expenditure were to exceed and that the Precept should not exceed the 1983/84 budgeted expenditure by more than 3%. The Clerk has, therefore, put in an estimated precept of £628 + £47 for the Burial Expenses giving a total of £675. Since then she has received a letter stating that as the amount for Burial Expenses was paid together with the precept and again in July 1983 that could £47 be deducted from the 1984/85 requirements.

(e) 5th March 1984: Mr J. Green is reading through the old Minute Book and picking out bits and pieces of interest. A list of these will be circulated to Councillors to mark pieces they find interesting. These will then be typed out with an explanatory heading, photocopied, and a copy put through each letter box in the Parish. The 5th March would, in fact, be the date of the next meeting and the Councillors were asked to think of anything that could be done then and let the Clerk know.

(f) Frome Museum: the question of a donation to this was deferred until the end of the financial year.

(g) Mendip Town Services: Mr Baillie said that the painting of the signposts could not be done until the better weather in the Spring and for the Parish Council to incur no cost would have to be done on an opportunity basis when they were in the area. He

said that he would contact the Clerk again in due course. It was also suggested that, perhaps, they could also paint the playing field equipment.

(h) A letter from Mr Burkitt stated that 1. he had no knowledge of any proposal for piping the water from the waterfall at Hemington. 2. That he had contacted the Bristol Waterworks Company with regard to the water seepage at Hemington. 3. That the landowner should be contacted with regard to the hedge growth. 4. He did not consider the road from Green Parlour to Single Hill to be in a dangerous condition but that the road is to be included in next year's surface dressing programme.

4. Grants to Citizens Advice Bureaux: A letter from Mr Pollard at the SALC strongly urged Councils to give an annual grant to their local Citizens Advice Bureau if they had the funds to do so. The Parish Council decided to defer a decision on this until the end of the financial year.

5. Bridget Parker Commemoration (sic) Fund: It was decided not to make a donation to this.

6. Planning Applications: The Parish Council considered the question of whether the neighbours of a planning application should be notified by either the Clerk or Councillors. It was decided that it was something that should be considered when more of the Council were present. It was decided, however, that all Councillors should be informed of planning applications in the future and given the opportunity of stating their views.

An application by Mr C.A. Pitman to convert former stables to garage and storage compound at Turners Tower. Opinions were that lorries unloading gas cylinders (for the storage compound) could block the road and that to see into the compound could be unsightly. It was agreed that the views of the rest of the Council should be sought. Mr E. Green offered to write and get photocopied a letter to all residents at Turners Tower stating that the application had been made and **198**. that the plans could be seen at Shepton Mallet and comments should be sent to the Planning Authority.

Continued use of land for model flying at Upper Row Farm, Laverton. M.D.C. recommend approval subject to temporary permission until 30-11-86 with an amendment stating – the applicants are advised of the Council's concern over flying hours and lack of parking available. They are strongly advised of the need to comply with the National Code of Practice agreed for such uses and of securing adequate parking to keep adjacent highways clear of vehicles. Failure to adhere to this advice may lead to a refusal of the Council to extend the period of use beyond 1985 (sic).

Proposed restoration of bakehouse/Laundry and erection of extension to form dwelling and resiting of boundary wall to form entrance at Row Farm, Laverton. M.D.C. recommended that a further report be made and that members of the Planning and Highways Committee be requested to visit the site.

7. Correspondence: In reply to an inquiry by the Clerk as to the future of the walls in Hemington Cluttons stated that Lord Hylton had not yet had an opportunity to look at the walls but, they wondered, what was the Parish Council's programme for rebuilding or repair to the pump at Hemington? It was decided not to forward the view that the Parish Council were so disheartened by the state of the walls that they would wait until the walls had been repaired before continuing with the pump! It was felt that the letter did not really require a reply!

(b) the Pitchfork Rebellion. As 1985 is to be the 300th anniversary of the Pitchfork Rebellion – the last battle fought on English soil – it was hoped that this would become a Tourist Attraction for 1985 and that as many different events as possible could be put on in the County. It was decided that the information should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Flower Show.

(c) Thatch. It was suggested that Parish Councils should subscribe to Thatch. It was decided to defer this until the end of the financial year.

(d) Somerset Fellowship of Music. It was decided that the question of a subscription to this should be considered at the end of the financial year.

(e) NALC: the Clerk brought to the attention of the Council a variety of leaflets from the NALC.

Any Other Business

The replacement Jubilee tree has been planted although it's (sic) position has been altered slightly and is now just below the stocks. It is a beech tree but Mr E. Green and Mr Golland who have seen the tree were not too happy about the head of it.

Signed E.A. Green 5th March

199. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Monday March 5th at 7.30 pm in Faulkland Village Hall. Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr R. Golland, Mrs J. Horler and Mr J. Green. Also Mr P. West (County Councillor)

1. The Minutes having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Mr J. Green apologised for arriving late.

3. Matters Arising: (a) As the trees are to cost £2.30 each instead of 50p it was proposed by Mr Francis and seconded by Mrs Horler that £20 should be paid to Mr Horler towards the cost of the trees.

(b) Spot-listing: A gentleman has looked at Tuckers Grave Turnpike House and Pond Farm with a view to spot-listing them but his decision has not yet been received. He did, however, explain that spot-listing meant that the owner is unable to pull down or alter a building. In the meantime it gives the authorities time to consider whether or not a preservation order is put on the building.

(c) 90th Anniversary of Parish Councils: Sherry and refreshments were served in honour of the occasion. Councillors were asked to distribute the leaflet of items from the minutes to each house in the Parish. It was proposed (in his absence) that Mr J. Green should be presented with a bottle of sherry in appreciation of the hard work and time he spent on compiling this.

(d) Mendip Town Services have discovered that they are unable to do Council work and, therefore, cannot paint the signposts. Mr West promised to inquire further into County Council intentions on this.

(e) It was proposed by Mr R. Golland and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that neighbours should be informed when a planning application is made. The Clerk had received a copy of the 'Code of Practice for Model Aircraft'.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mrs Horler and seconded by Mr Francis that the following cheques should be signed:

(a) Mr M. Horler - £20 For trees for Hollowpit Lane.

(b) Mrs C. Clark - £7 Ward Clerk's salary

(c) Mr E. Green - £15 Chairman's Allowance

(d) Faulkland Village Hall Committee - £14.40 Hire of Hall

(e) Mrs F. Horler - £134 Salary
££24.29 Expenses

(f) Cluttons - £40 Playing Field Rent

(g) Mendip District Council £115.38 Grass cutting

(h) Humphries and West - £24.84 stationary

(i) Hemington Parochial Church Council £18 Notice Board in Church Porch.

5. Hemington Pump: A letter had been received from the 'Friends of the Church Open Day Committee' requesting that work should continue on the pump before the planned Open Day on July 7th and 8th. It was decided this work would recommence when the clocks changed and the evenings were lighter and that anyone who was able to should begin dismantling the stone-work.

6. Bath Cancer Unit Appeal: for the Latest Mega-voltage radiography machine. It was agreed that this was a worthwhile cause but that a decision would be made at the next meeting when the Council's financial position would be clearer.

7. Notice Board: Mr Poyner of The Cottage, The Green has repaired this and the Clerk was asked to write a letter of appreciation.

8. Correspondence: (a) Wicksteed Annual report on the Playing Field Equipment stated that the climbing frame would benefit from being rubbed down and repainted and that the grass should be removed from around the support tubes. The swings in addition to the above, also requires (*sic*) attention to the ground due to the erosion of the surface. It was agreed that Mendip Town Services should be contacted and asked to repaint the equipment.

(b) Village Contact Scheme: a letter from the Hugh of Witham Foundation stated that they, in conjunction with, the Community Councils of Avon and Somerset had introduced this scheme in Hemington and that Mrs P. Aldrich of Vale Cottage, Hemington has been given some training as the Village Contact. She will be able to give necessary information on a variety of things as well as receive and spread information if necessary.

(c) Waste Disposal Draft Plan has been received from the County Council.

(d) NALC – What can Local Councils do? This leaflet summarizes the powers of the local councils.

(e) Training Day: There appeared to be no-one interested in this training day for Councillors and Clerks.

(f) Pitchfork Rebellion – a newsletter had been received.

(g) Open Forum on Voluntary Transport Scheme in Somerset. A meeting is to be held on 27th March in Taunton and another on 2nd April at Glastonbury.

(h) The Clerk read out a couple of items of interest from here.

9. It was decided to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 8th May (Monday 7th being a Bank Holiday) and that this should be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed E.A. Green 8 May 1984

Enclosed Leaflet.

Hemington Parish Council

Parish Councils attain the grand age of ninety years on 5th March 1984 and to commemorate this occasion Hemington Parish Council has listed below some amusing, some serious and some informative quotes from the Minutes of meetings over this period in this newsletter:

4th December 1894: A Parish Meeting was convened by Order of the Local Government Board. There were 8 candidates for 5 seats and on 15th December a Poll was held.

26th February 1895: First Council meeting – three held annually – at which a letter was sent to the Postmaster at Bath requesting the need for a letter box at 'Turner's Terrace or Ammerdown Terrace as the residents had to go nearly 1 ½ miles to post their letters.'

The main concern over many of the years was acquiring 'Allotment Gardens' for the residents, which eventually they did 'at 3d per perch, the tenancy to commence at Lady-day next.' The rent was paid 6 months in advance and shortly rose to 4 ½ d per perch.

4th March 1901: The next election: 5 Nomination papers only – all candidates elected. The Council sends (records) 'their deep sense of the loss the nation has sustained in the death of Queen Victoria and the appreciation of her great virtues. Also their satisfaction at the happy accession of King Edward VII to the throne of this Empire'.

Many cinder paths were made in this period and drain pipes laid at 10d a yard to very exacting requirements.

29th July 1912: The Green needed better protection from 'driving conveyances' that not only drove across it but also parked upon the said Green.

5th August 1919: A celebration day for all villagers in 'recognition of the terminating of the greatest war'. Children and over 65s received 'free tea and the youths that served His King and country had a meat supper'. Villagers danced till 'Half past Nine O'clock'.

7th May 1934: The stocks on the Green are reset in their original position and 2 or 3 park seats were put on the Green.

26th November 1937: A copy of the Conveyance of the Village Green was signed by Councillors for the use of the Parishes concerned. The rules (from the Rt. Hon. Lord Hylton) fills (*sic*) 1 ½ pages of the Minute book – 'no advertising, tents, swings or anything which may grow to cause a nuisance or disturbance'.

20th January 1942: The Chairman stated 'there was not enough ground to last 1942' for burial purposes at the church, but if permission could be given for land at the head of the church 'where the remains of the people lay that was interred in the year of the Black Plague' there would be room to last at least 4 years at an 'average 10 Burials per Year'. It was agreed to write to the Minister of Health.

20th March 1942: The Minister of Health replied the churchyard to be safe from contamination. Also the Parish invited to join the 'Dig for Victory Campaign' – 'A Good Company Being present.' At a later meeting men were required to attend a talk by the Staff Officer of Frome regarding 'New Fire Bombs the Enemy now used'.

15th April 1943: The council instigates a Playing Field for the United Parishes so that young men and women returning from the Forces could play 'Football and other games', also to keep children off the highway.

20th January 1948: The Council wrote to Wessex Electricity Company for the supply of light to 'Hemington, Turners Tower and Terryhill' – this met without success!

19th June 1942 (*sic*): Council instigates the possibility of handing over the Faulkland School to the Parish Council.

25th June 1953: Lord Hylton is prepared to hand over the school subject to conditions - £1 for land adjoining it as a 'Coronation Gesture', also a suitable plaque 'commemorating His Lordships Gift'.

18th August 1954: Discussions take place regarding a Playing Field. Lord Hylton offers '2 acres of land at a reasonable Rent of £3 per acre'.

29th November 1954: The Council are delighted that Southern Electricity Board are to supply Terry Hill and Turners Tower with supplies in the Spring 1956.

6th February 1961: Faulkland Youth Movement is formed whereby they had the 'opportunity to learn Drama, Public Speaking, Arts and many other items'. 10 Adult members were elected to form the committee.

4th June 1963: A discussion arose on complaints of the embarrassing condition of the gentlemen's convenience at the Tuckers Grave Inn and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Ammerdown Estate to improve the situation.

25th September 1968: Several people receive financial benefit owing to serious flooding in the Parish.

15th December 1971: Local Government Planning Bill entitles councils to comment on Planning Applications. From this period until today many hundreds of applications have been discussed on behalf of the Parish.

27th September 1972: A Public Meeting held on Street Lighting. After lengthy discussions a show of hands indicated 5 FOR, 14 AGAINST, 2 ABSTAINED.

17th November 1975: One and a half-penny rate to assist the Village Hall Committee in their efforts to extend the Hall, which was completed by Spring 1976.

21st September 1978: Many local farmers take up Mendip Councils offer of Tree Planting to promote Tree Planting year 1978-79. 111 trees were allocated to various landowners.

31st March 1980: The Clerk, Mr Loader retires after 32 years service. His three-month notice is reluctantly received.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Tuesday 8th May 1984 at 7.30 pm.
Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Green, Mr R. Golland, Mrs J. Horler and 6 parishioners.

1. The Minutes were read and signed as a correct record.
 2. Apologies were received from Mr P. Francis and Mr K. Small.
 3. The Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts were (*sic*) read. These showed an Income of £1,242.75 and an expenditure of £1,206.59 leaving a Balance of £36.16. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr R. Golland that these should be signed.
 4. The Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts were (*sic*) read. These showed an Income of £714.25, Expenditure of £456.15 leaving a balance of £355.15 in the current account and £4.57 in the deposit account.
 5. The Chairman reported on developments throughout the year and thanked the Councillors and Clerk for their work.
 6. The Bamphylde Charities. The Committee has not yet met.
 7. Any Other Business: It was observed that the Council yard, could, perhaps, be tidied up or possibly obscured by conifers. It appears that gritting lorries are still parked in there although they are not in use at present.
- Signposts: There were several offers from Parishioners to help to repaint the signposts.
8. Guest Speaker: Mr Leach on Frome Public Transport Users Association and the proposed new bus to run from Faulkland to Frome. Mr Leach explained that the Association was first formed on April 1st 1977 and some of it's (*sic*) aims are to promote all forms of public transport in and around Frome, display information on the subject and to liase (*sic*) with public bodies. He is now in the midst of persuading the Bus Company to provide a service from Faulkland to Frome on a Wednesday – being Market Day in Frome. He is suggesting £1.75 return as a fair price to the Bus Company and that it should leave Faulkland (Turners Tower) at 9.57 am and arrive in Frome at 10.24 am. The return bus would leave Frome at 12.15 arriving back at 12.47. He hoped that this would begin on June 20th and start as a monthly service on every 3rd Wednesday in the month. Should it prove to be a viable proposition the service could be increased to once a fortnight.

201. The Annual Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council followed the Annual Meeting on May 8th 1984.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Green, Mr R. Golland, Mrs J. Horler.
Apologies were received from Mr P. Francis.

1. Election of Chairman: Mr E. Green was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Green.
 2. Election of Vice-Chairman: Mr P. Francis was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr R. Golland.
 3. Election of Members for the Bamphylde Charities Committee: Mr E. Green and Mr T. Hendy were re-elected.
 4. The Minutes having been read were signed as a correct record.
 5. Matters Arising: (a) Signposts – the paint has arrived for these. Mrs Mowat, Anne Rodgers and Jean Horler offered to paint a signpost and Mr E. Green said that he would make enquiries as to the cost of having them shot-blasted. (b) Hemington Pump. Mr E. Green and Mr P. Francis have managed to remove the tree stump that was growing through the stones and Mr J. Green has taken down some of the stones in preparation for rebuilding it.
 6. Accounts: (a) Allotment Rent £25
 (b) Burial Expenses: Hemington Parochial Church Council £33 and Foxcote Parochial Church Council £14
 (c) Commercial Union Assurance £70.91 – Annual Subscription.
 (d) SALC – Annual Subscription - £26.63
 (e) Subscription to Thatch - £5
- It was proposed by Mr R. Golland and seconded by Mr J. Green that the above cheques should be signed.
 It was suggested that a coffee morning should be held to raise money for the following (f) Bath Cancer Unit Appeal
 (g) Council for the Protection of Rural England
 (h) Frome Museum.
 (i) Citizens Advice Bureau

7. Grass cutting for the coming Season: Mendip District Council will charge £13.46 per cut for the Village Green, the area around the Village Hall and the plots adjacent to the kiosk in front of the new houses in the High Street. To cut the grass in front of Turners Tower would cost £7.19 per cut. This includes transportation costs. It was decided that this piece of grass should be cut every other time.

8. Footpaths: Mr E. Green is going to spray the lane adjacent to the Village Hall.

9. Correspondence: (a) Precept: The Clerk reported that having deducted the extra £47, which was paid for Burial Expenses last year by mistake, from the precept she had applied for £628. Mendip District Council wrote back to say that the £47 had not been deducted and that they would be sending £581. A phone call to the Treasurer's office corrected this and £628 was sent. A copy of the letter was sent to Mr Pollard at the SALC who said that he would be having a meeting with the District Councils to discuss matters relating to precepts. The latest information on the following was brought to the attention of the meeting. – The Boundary Commission, NALC, SALC, Community Council, Playground Safety, Forthcoming Fellowship events.

Planning Application: The Parish Council had made no objection to a change of use to residential at the former Methodist Church, Faulkland. It was recommended that it should be approved but Mr Green has since heard that it was, in fact, refused.

A letter had been received from Writhlington School describing the successful week that they had had when the pupils of Bellevue School, Ambares visited them and they thanked the Parish Council again for their contribution towards this.
Signed E.A. Green July 2nd 1984

202. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday July 2nd.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland and Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies were received from Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green and Mr J. Batten apologised for absence from this meeting and the last.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Signposts. To shot-blast the signposts would be prohibitively expensive. It was suggested that a generator could, perhaps, be hired and fixed with wire brushes in order to do the preparation of the signposts.

(b) Hemington Pump has almost been completed by Mr E. Green and after the meeting the Parish Council went to view the work and it was agreed that Mr Green had made a very good job of it.

It was proposed by Mrs Horler and seconded by Mr Golland that a cheque should be signed for £13.92 - £12.10 + £1.82 V.A.T. to C.H.L. Kendall and Sons for cement and lime needed for the work.

(c) Grass cutting and Highways Depot. A letter had been received from Mr Burkitt to say that the grass at Terry Hill cross roads was being given attention although it was a month and more later before the Radstock side was cut. With regard to the Highways Depot the County Planning Officer has now been consulted about the planting of a screen for this.

(d) The Coffee Morning in aid of Bath Cancer Unit Appeal, Frome Citizens Advice Bureau, Frome Museum and the Council for the Protection of Rural England has been arranged for 10.30am on July 14th. It was decided that there should be a Bring and Buy Stall and that notices should be put up in Hemington so that visitors to the Open Weekend could see them and that absent Councillors should be informed.

(e) Proposed new bus from Faulkland to Frome: Owing to a hitch with the bus company this bus did not begin on June 20th as planned but it is hoped that it will start a month later on July 18th.

4. Correspondence: (a) Thatch: A letter of thanks for the donation has been sent by the Community Council.

(b) Foxcote Parochial Church Council: have sent a letter of thanks for the Burial Grant.

(c) Inter-village Quiz: a team from Hemington has been entered for this. This is composed of Mr E. Green, Mrs J. Knight, Mrs A. Simms and Mr A. Aldrich or Mr M. Horler.

(d) Bath Cancer Unit Appeal asked if the Parish Council would be willing to sell raffle tickets on their behalf. It was agreed that 300 should be ordered to be sold at the coffee morning and, if necessary, afterwards.

(e) Public Transport Plan; Mr E. Green had read this and felt that there was little of direct relevance to Hemington other than the fact that the present buses are to continue.

(f) The Clerk read out a list of the NALC Circulars available and it was decided to order No. 15 Planning Control over Agricultural Land and Buildings.

(g) St Michael's on Wyre pumping plant accident. As this had involved Councillors from a small Parish Mr E. Green had suggested that a letter of condolence should be sent.

5. Report on S.A.L.C. meeting: The secretary of the east Area meeting has resigned and a new secretary is needed. It is hoped that Autumn meeting will combine with the A.G.M. to be held all day, hopefully at Glastonbury. This is likely to start next year.

6. Planning Application: Change of Use of Methodist Church, Faulkland has been approved subject to the following conditions 1. Submission of details 2. the consent shall be for one dwelling only 3. Waiting bay 4. Turning space 5. The dwelling shall be connected to the foul mains drainage.

7. Any other Business A complaint has been made regarding a horse that was being kept in the grounds of the Village Hall. It was noted that while the horse was helping to keep the grass down the Parish Council were paying the District Council to have this done. With the Mums and Toddlers Group possibly using the ground during fine weather it was hoped that the owner (who was present) would find some other location for the horse.

It was noted that the grass by the pond was in need of cutting and that which had been cut had been left in a pile.

It seems that the new Beech tree is either dead or dying.

The Clerk was requested to ask the District Council if it could be arranged that the grass on the Green should be cut close to the Flower Show date and also to inform them that the land behind the kiosk had been cleared of stones and cut with a small lawn mower so could that area be included in the future.

Signed E.A. Green 3rd Sept 1984

203. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 3rd September 1984 at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland, Mr J. Green, Mr P. Francis and Mr J. Batten.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J. Horler.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Signposts: Mr R. Golland was hoping to be able to borrow a generator from which wire brushes could be run to rub down the signposts in preparation for repainting.

(b) Hemington Pump: An anonymous donation of £10 towards the cost of the repair of the pump has been given to the Parish Council. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr P. Francis that Mr E. Green should be paid £25 for the time he spent in repairing this and it was agreed that he had made a very good job of it. Mr E. Green declared an interest in the matter.

(c) The Coffee Morning made a total of £30.45. The produce stall brought in £11.36 The Raffle £4.50, the coffee and biscuits £10.59 and there was £5 in donations. £27 worth of raffle tickets were sold for the Bath Cancer Unit. The £30.45 divided among the four agreed charities provides each with £7.60. It was decided that Frome Citizens Advice Bureau and Bath Cancer Unit Appeal should be made up to £15 from the Precept.

(d) The new bus from Faulkland to Frome began on July 18th with a Free Journey. There were about 20 passengers and the bus company were very pleased with the response. It will run every third Wednesday in the month for a trial period of 5 months until December. The next bus was also a free ride but it did not stop for the people at the 'Top Shop'. The next bus will run on the day of the Frome Show, the price is expected to be £1.50 and people are being advised to wait at the Green or to flag down the bus if they are at the 'Top Shop'.

(e) Inter-Village Quiz details have been circulated to competitors although a date has not yet been made.

(f) NALC Circular 15 on Planning Control over Agricultural Land and Buildings has been received by the Clerk.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that the following cheques be signed.

(a) Somerset County Playing Fields Association – Annual Subscription - £2

As balls are frequently going through the goal posts and into the adjacent field it was suggested that enquiries should be made into the price of a net. The subject of improvements to the hedge and of erecting stiles is to go onto the agenda of the next meeting.

(b) Council for the Preservation of Rural England – subscription and donation - £7.60

(c) Frome Citizens Advice Bureau donation - £15

(d) Frome Museum - £7.60

(e) Bath Cancer Unit Appeal - £15

(f) Mr E. Green for work on Hemington pump (He declared an interest in this) - £25

5. Correspondence: (a) A letter had been received complaining of four obstructions to Green Lane FR6/48 including baler twine, barbed wire and a gate. The farmer responsible, being present, was able to explain his predicament. He has a very large herd of cows which, when moved, could stray down this lane and onto the main A366 road. He has also found his gates left open and is concerned that his animals may cause a serious accident. He has been told by the police to remove the obstructions as this is illegal. It was suggested that perhaps an easily manageable gate such as a hunting gate, or a barrier of some sort could be erected to prevent the cows from straying but so that riders and pedestrians could open it with ease. The Clerk was asked to enquire of Mr Pollard at the SALC if the Highways Authority were the people to contact and whether the Parish Council should write on the Farmer's behalf.

(b) The Chairman of St Michael's on Wyre Parish Council has sent a note of appreciation for the expressions of sympathy that had been sent to them after the Abbeystead pumping plant accident.

(c) The Clerk brought to the attention of the meeting the latest literature from the Community Council including Thatch and also from

(d) the SALC

(e) Another circular has been sent from the Boundary Commission and the Clerk was requested to ask Mr Pollard if further representations could be made on this.

(f) The Pitchfork rebellion's latest magazine has been sent.

204. (g) Village Stores, Faulkland are applying for a new Off License.

6. Mendip Town Services are awaiting renewal of permission from Manpower Services to continue but are 99% sure they will get this.

There was a suggestion that an untidy area of grass near Faulkland House could be tidied up by them but it seems that the area belongs to the Highways Authority and this effectively prevents the Mendip Town Services from doing the work as it would be doing work that the Council is responsible for. The same problem applies to the Playing Field Equipment.

7. Any Other Business: (i) The Clerk was asked to inform Wessex Water Authority of the collapsed drain on the village green.

(ii) It was noted that a car had been abandoned behind 'The Cottage' The Green, Faulkland.

(iii) It was noted that builders waste is to be dumped at the tip at the end of Park Lane.

(iv) Enquiries were made about the lack of a water tap at the allotments but this would be extremely expensive.

(v) The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt informing him of a hollow in the road by Sunnyside Farm, Laverton which is a danger to motorcyclists and also of a bump on the sharp bend in Grove Lane.

Signed V.P. Francis

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Monday 5th November 1984 at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr R. Golland and Mrs J. Horler.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green.

3. Matters Arising (a) Signposts: Mr Golland has started work on the signpost by Highchurch Farm and will purchase some rust-inhibitor and wire brushes.

(b) Coffee morning Donations: Letters of thanks have been received from Frome Citizen's Advice Bureau, Bath Cancer Unit Appeal and Frome Museum. Also from Council for the Protection of Rural England though they have returned the £3 membership fee as the Somerset Branch has been dissolved. Both the Tollhouse and Pond Farm were found unsuitable for spot-listing.

(c) Green Lane FR6/48 The Clerk had phoned Mr Pollard at St Margaret's with regard to this lane. He said that it was the responsibility of the Highways Authority and that he would be very surprised if they agreed to a barrier being put across the lane as wheeled vehicles must be able to go along it. The Parish Council, in any case, should act in an advisory role only.

(d) Inter-village Quiz: Mr Green reported that the Hemington team of himself, Mrs Knight, Mrs Simms and Mr Horler had taken part in this and it had proved to be an entertaining evening.

(e) Boundary Commission: Representation has been made to the Boundary Commission to return the whole of Hassage to Somerset. It is already serviced by Somerset and the residents would prefer to be in Somerset.

(f) The collapsed drain on the Green has been repaired by Mendip District Council. Mr E. Green brought to the attention of the meeting the fact that there was a deep hole into the old stone drop adjacent to Faulkland House and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt about this.

(g) It was decided to leave the question of a stile into the Playing Field as the present arrangement seems not unsatisfactory but to find out the price of nets for the goal posts for the next meeting.

4. Precept It was proposed by Mr Francis and seconded by Mrs Horler that the Parish Council precept for this year should be £650.

5. Planning Applications: (a) Tipping of Non-Combustible Builders Waste and Excavated Material. Part Kingman's Farm, Hemington. Parish Council observations were to recommend access via Park Lane only. This is not only a shorter lane, but has no houses whereas the lane to Faulkland is built up at the far end and the children walk home from school along it. M.D.C. recommend No objection subject to tipping of specified materials only and subsequent restoration to agriculture.

(b) Erection of Stable/Loose Box at Ashgrove, Grove Lane, Faulkland. The Parish Council objected to the siting of this as it would be on raised ground and on the roadside. They felt that it would not only be less conspicuous but also more sheltered if situated nearer the house – preferably within the area marked by red crosses on the enclosed map. M.D.C. recommend approval subject to no part of the building being erected within 2m4m (*sic*) of the highway carriageway edge.

205. When passing on the Parish Council observations on this latter application to the planning committee Mr Bush decided to abbreviate the comments and in so doing alter the meaning. The Clerk had phoned Mr Bush about this and he had said that they

were trying to reduce the paperwork and that if Parish Council's (*sic*) were not happy about this interpretation they should contact their local councillor on the planning committee. The Parish Council felt that the Clerk should write to the Chief Planning Officer objecting to this as they were of the opinion that the Planning Committee preferred constructive observations from Parish Councils rather than Object/No Objection comment and that Parish Councillors gave up valuable time in order to make these observations. She was also asked to write to Mr Barnard Bush about this.

As a certain degree of unpleasantness arose as a result of calling on the neighbours of the applicant to inform them that an application had been made the Clerk was asked to write a note to neighbours in the future when an application is made.

6. Correspondence: (a) At the previous SALC meeting Parish Councils were urged to write to the Public Protection Committee with regard to proposed cuts of £85,000 to the Fire Service. This would have meant that Shepton Mallet and Cheddar would have lost their second pump, Street would have lost their fire-station and the fire-brigade would have sent only one pump to a fire in a low-risk (i.e. rural) area. Hemington Parish Council wrote to the Public Protection Committee about this and this proposal has now been withdrawn.

(b) Paths: Parish Councillors received a copy of a leaflet entitled 'Paths for People' produced by the Ramblers Association. It was noted that the footpath from the Depot to Hemington was difficult to walk along.

(c) The Clerk had received 'Alterations to the Structure Plan' and it was decided that Mr J. Green should read this with the original Structure Plan to see if any comments were required. (These had to be sent in by November 30th).

(d) The SALC agenda had been received.

(e) A General Plan of the Major Peacetime Emergencies had been received.

Any Other Business

The Clerk was asked to 1. Inform Mr Burkitt that the tarmac at the entrance to the Village Hall was in need of repair and that the black and white marker posts in the lane to the knoll had come out.

2. Inform British Telecom that the door of the Faulkland kiosk was split and is a potential danger.

The date of the next meeting will be January 7th 1985.

Signed V.P. Francis

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday January 7th 1985 at

7.30pm.

Members present: Mr P. Francis (who took the chair owing to Mr Green's lack of voice!), Mr E. Green, Mr J. Green, Mrs J. Horler and Mr R. Golland.

1. The minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no apologies.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Boundary Commission: A circular from Somerset County Council explained that, at present, there would be no major changes to the Avon/Somerset boundary.

(b) Price of net for goal posts – had not been ascertained.

(c) Reply from Chief Planning Officer regarding P.C. comments on Planning Applications. Mr Bush explained that the Planning Committee really do want constructive comments on planning applications but felt that he still had 'the right to condense any representations in the interests of clarity of the report and omitting those matters which will not assist the committee in reaching a decision'

(d) Alterations to the Somerset Structure Plan. Mr J. Green had read this and felt that there was nothing that our Parish Council need send comments in on. He did note, however, that there were 10.7% unemployed in the Frome area and the County average is 9.4%.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that the following cheques be signed:

(a) Thomson McLintock – Auditor's Fees £34.50

(b) Municipal Publications – 2 copies of the Parish Councillor's Handbook - £4

5. Centralisation of Council Offices: Mendip District Council Offices are to be centralized in the grounds of Highfield House, Shepton Mallet at an estimated cost of £1,278,000. It is thought that centralisation will mean greater efficiency.

206. 6. Rural Telephones: A letter from Somerset County Council expresses concern at the number of telephone kiosks whose revenue was less than the 'minimum figure' prescribed in British Telecoms operating licence fee i.e. £185 p.a. The Hemington kiosk was among this number and it's (*sic*) takings are, in fact, below £100 p.a. As almost every house in Hemington has a phone there are very few people who use this kiosk. Nevertheless the Clerk was asked to write to B.T. expressing the Parish Council's concern that another Rural Amenity seemed to be threatened although they do appreciate that economies need to be made. It was also pointed out that as the kiosk was already there and needed a minimum of upkeep it would be relatively expensive to pull it down.

7. Tree Preservation: Mr Francis felt that consideration should be given to applying for a tree preservation order for the row of chestnuts at the entrance to Hemington by the church and also for the oaks at the other end of the village on the road to Highchurch Farm. It was agreed that the Clerk should apply for this.

8. Correspondence

(a) Frome Citizens Advice Bureau is able to continue to function but still needs financial support. The Council agreed that this provided a very worthwhile service and that a donation should be made in the new financial year.

(b) Community Council: The Domesday Survey of barns is an attempt to record all barns built of traditional materials in England and Wales. Mr Golland had already undertaken to be responsible for the survey in this area.

The second edition of the Parish Councillors handbook has been produced at £2 per copy. The Clerk was asked to order 2 copies.

(c) Copies of the new Homes News publication were available.

(d) The Licence of the Tucker's Grave Inn has been transferred to Mr and Mrs Swift of Frome.

9. Reports on: (a) SALC meeting: i. Visit to Hinkley Point Power Station. It was thought that this should take place in April and Thursday 4th and Monday 15th were dates suggested ii. 48% discount on furniture for village halls is available on orders of £250 or more from Carlton Brookes, Oakeywell St., Dudley DY2 8NU West Midlands.

(b) Frome Bus: Thanks to the untiring efforts of Mr Leach this is to continue to run on the third Wednesday in the month though the bus company would prefer to see more people using it. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Leach and thank him for his work on our behalf and hope that the numbers will rise and it will become a viable proposition.

(c) Somerset County Council accounts have been received.

(d) Mendip District Council Accounts have been received.

Any Other Business

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt with regard to Hemington crossroads. This has been left in an untidy state after British Telecom installed a new cable.

Signed E.A. Green March 4th 1985

207. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday March 4th 1985 at 7.30pm.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr R. Golland,

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies were received from Mr J. Batten, Mr J. Green and Mrs J. Horler.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Telephones: A letter has been received from British Telecom stating that the annual revenue from the Hemington kiosk is well below the minimum figure of £185 but that there are no plans at present to cease this kiosk and, if in the future, they do then the Parish Council would be fully consulted.

(b) Hemington crossroads: A letter from Mr Burkitt stated that British Telecom are going to tidy this area. He also states that brushes for painting signposts would be arriving shortly. The clerk was able to confirm that these had arrived along with wire brushes.

4. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr R. Golland and seconded by Mr P. Francis that the following cheques should be signed:

(a) Mrs C. Clarke – Ward Clerk's salary - £7

(b) Mr E. Green – Chairman's allowance - £15

(c) Village Hall Committee (Hire of Hall) - £17

(d) Mr R. Golland – Travelling expenses - £14.30

(e) Mrs F. Horler – Salary £134, Expenses £20.12 - £154.12

(f) Somerset Association of Local Councils

2 NALC circulars + booklet on the Use of Conditions in Planning permission - £3.50

5. Appointment of School Governor. It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that Mr E. Green should be appointed as a Governor of Hemington School by the Parish Council. Mr E. Green declared an interest in this.

6. Playing Field Rent: A letter from Cluttons stated that the rent for the Faulkland Playing Field is due for review on March 28th and that they consider a fair rent to be £50 per annum. It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland that this should be accepted.

7. Pump by Hemington Church. It had been reported that this was in need of repair. The Clerk was asked to notify Lord Hylton of this.

8. Planning Applications: (1) Row Farm Laverton – Re-location of farm buildings and conversion of redundant stone barn. The Parish Council's observations were that they have no objection to the farm buildings being re-sited but they are concerned that large, heavy vehicles may be using the existing entrance. They feel that the so called 'proposed future access' should be made the main entrance – this being infinitely (*sic*) more suitable for the type of lorry likely to be using it. With regard to the conversion of the barn: again they have no objection but feel that the jams and the mullions in the windows would be more in keeping with the rest of the barn if old rather than reconstructed stone were used. Mendip District Council recomend (*sic*) refusal.

(2) 242-255 Ammerdown Terrace – demolition of single storey bathroom and kitchen extensions and erection of new 2-storey extensions. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

9. Correspondence: (a) Longterm policy for the Health Authority. It is being considered that neighbourhood hospitals should be used for the majority of patient care – in particular the elderly, the physically handicapped and the mentally ill. Patients needing major surgery or sophisticated technology would be treated at the District General Hospital. Councillors were asked to read and circulate this information with a view to discussing it at the next meeting.

(b) Tree Scheme: M.D.C. , S.C.C. and the Countryside Commission are offering grant aid of up to 50% for tree planting in the rural areas of the district. The Clerk was asked to inform the landowners who had expressed an interest in previous years.

(c) Wicksteed annual report: stated that the climbing frame would benefit from being rubbed down and repainted and grass removed from around the support tubes and the swings, in addition to this, would benefit from lubrication and the ground requires attention due to erosion of the surface.

(d) Allotment information manual – the clerk was asked to pass this on to the Flower Show Committee.

208. (e) Twinning Notes – this newsletter had been sent and renewed interest was shown by the parishioners present in the idea of twinning the parish. The Clerk was asked to find out whether there was general enthusiasm within the parish for this project.

11. (*sic*) The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th May followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Any Other Business

A report was given of the last SALC meeting. They are seeking nominations for Chairman by the next meeting.

It was pointed out that the 2-tier postal-system did not appear to be working in this area as 1st class letters posted in the evening were not being collected from the box at 8am as stated and not arriving at their destination the following morning as one would expect with a 1st class stamp. The Clerk was asked to write to the Head Postmaster at Bath about this.

Signed E.A. Green 7th May 1985

The Annual Parish Meeting of Hemington was held on Tuesday May 7th in Faulkland Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mrs J. Horler, Mr R. Golland and 7 parishioners.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were signed.

2. Apologies were received from Mr J. Batten and Mr J. Green.

3. The Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts were read. These showed an Income of £837.14 and an expenditure of £576.58 leaving a balance of £260.56. It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland that these should be signed.

4. The Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts were read. These showed an Income of £632.20 and an Expenditure of £913.91 with a loss of £281.71.

5. The Allotment Book was signed.

6. The Chairman reported on developments throughout the year and thanked the Councillors for their work.

7. Twining: Considerable enthusiasm has been expressed for the idea of twinning the Parish and Mr Jarvis of Laverton described to the meeting the village of Lauzun near Bordeaux where he lives for several months of the year. Bristol is twinned with Bordeaux and there would be a possibility that one could take advantage of their cheaper flights. With Mr Jarvis as a contact in Lauzun and as the community is of a similar size as Hemington parish the meeting decided that the Lauzun Parish

Council should be approached to see if they were in sympathy with the idea of twinning. Mr Jarvis agreed to do this when he went over within the next couple of weeks.

Signed E.A. Green 6th May '86

209. The Annual Meeting of Hemington Parish Council followed the Annual Meeting.

1. Election of Chairman. Mr E. Green was elected for the 23rd successive year, proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman. Mr P. Francis was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr R. Golland.

3. Election of Members for the Bamphylde Charities Committee. Mr T. Hendy and Mr E. Green were proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

4. The Minutes having been read were signed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising: (a) Hemington Water tap. Mr G. Clothier has expressed great concern at the potential danger of this niche. A letter from Cluttons asked if the Parish Council wished to take over the maintenance of this. This was agreed to but to ask Lord Hylton to supply materials and the cost of the labour, at the same time to point out the fact that the wall in Watery Lane is falling down and ask if it could be repaired by the Open Weekend in Hemington – the first weekend in July.

(b) Postal System: Mr Jessop, the Head Postmaster at Bath explained in a letter that there is no difference in the service given to letters collected 2 or even 3 hours after the 8am marked on the boxes. There is, in fact, the advantage of being able to post later in the morning. Any complaints over the delay of 1st class letters should be made to the Customer Service Unit giving as many details as possible.

(c) Circulars that had been sent for were available for those interested.

(d) Telephones. The SALC had some suggestions as to how it could be possible to increase the revenue of little used telephone kiosks.

(e) Longterm policy for the Health Authority. Mr Aldrich who is a member of the Community Health Council was present at the meeting and promised to keep the Parish Council informed of developments.

6. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that the following cheques be signed.

(a) Mendip District Council – Grass cutting - £115.51.

The quote for the coming year is £14.13 per cut for Faulkland High Street and adjacent areas and £7.55 per cur (*sic*) for Turners Tower. It was suggested that inquiries should be made as to prices from private contractors.

(b) Cluttons – annual allotment and playing field rent - £65. The question of whether enough use was made of the playing field was raised. Mr Aldrich volunteered to try and organise a 6-a-side football team in hope that this would draw children towards the playing field and away from the village green.

(c) SALC annual subscription - £27.15

Community Council (Thatch) - £5

Best Kept Village Competition - £1

(d) Donation to Frome Citizens Advice Bureau of £15

(e) Donation to the Bath Institute for Rheumatic Diseases £15

(f) Bridget Parker Commemoration (*sic*) Fund. It was decided not to send a donation to this.

(g) Papercraft Ltd. £12.00 + £1.80 VAT - £13.80 for stationary.

(h) Somerset County Playing Fields Association £2 – annual subscription.

7. Triennial Audits: It was proposed by Mr R. Golland and seconded by Mr P. Francis that the parish council should apply for this for a trial period.

8. Chairman's Allowance: It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland that as there has been no increase in this for many years that it should be raised from £15 to £25.

9. Travelling Allowances: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr P. Francis that the NALC recommendations should be followed and that these should be raised to 20p per mile.

10. Footpath Clearance: Mr E. Green volunteered to spray the path adjacent to the village green.

11. Planning Applications: The Parish Council had no objection to applications for a car park at Tuckers Grave Inn or for a single storey extension with balcony over conservatory, internal alterations and window alterations at Park Farm Hardington.

Erection of Double garage at Ennox Farm, Hemington: The P.C. would like to see natural rubble quoins used instead of reconstructed stone quoins.

12. SALC Elections: The Parish Council did not have any nominations for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Area Secretary or representatives to the Executive Committee.

210. 13. Correspondence: The Clerk brought to the attention of the Council:

(a) the Parish Councillor's Handbook

(b) Leaflet on Buildings of Architectural and Historical Interest

(c) Thatch

(d) The Village Ventures Competition

(e) The Best Kept Village Competition which they decided to enter this year.

(f) Information on Conservation Grants.

(g) New Homes News

(h) Somerset Fellowship of Drama

(i) Oil and Gas Exploration – a letter from the County Planning Officer stating that Carless Exploration will be carrying out geological surveys in our parish.

14. Mr E. Green reported on the visit to Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station. He emphasised the fact that safety precautions are extremely high and the radiation in the area has remained at a very low level since the Power Station was built – in fact the radiation level was higher before it was built as a result of the Nuclear Tests that were being carried out in distant parts of the world in the 1950's.

15. It was decided to enter the inter-village quiz competition again this year and that Mrs Knight should be asked to be Captain again this year.

Any Other Business

(a) Definitive Maps: The Clerk was asked to find out the up-to-date situation with regard to the definitive map.

(b) It was pointed out that the notice board is extremely difficult to pin notices on and once on they often blow off. It was decided that Mr Golland would get a drawing made in order that a new notice board might be constructed.

(c) One of the seats on the green is in need of repair.

- (d) The Clerk was asked to inform Mr Burkitt that the tarmac at the entrance to the village hall has not been repaired and is of potential danger to users of the hall.
- (e) The Clerk was asked to find out the up-to-date information for calculating the Clerk's salary.

Signed E.A. Green 1st July 1985

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 1st July 1985 at 7.30pm.
Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland, Mrs J. Horler and Mr J. Green.

2. Apologies were received from Mr P. Francis.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Hemington Water tap. A letter from Cluttons stated that Lord Hylton is willing to pay the cost of the materials involved in repairing this. He will also insure that the wall in Watery Lane is made safe. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to Mr Clothier and Mr Simms who have done most of the work.

(b) Grass cutting: As no-one cheaper has been found to do the grass cutting it was decided to stay with Mendip District Council until a cheaper method is found. The Clerk was asked to enquire the cost of having the Playing Field cut.

(c) and (d) Letters of thanks had been received from the Community Council and the Bath Institute for Rheumatic Diseases for their donations.

(e) Definitive Maps: Under the terms of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act the Definitive Maps are being modified to show variations where paths have altered slightly for one reason or the next. This will then go to the Secretary of State for approval and when it has been completed (a long process) they hope to send maps to those who now hold them. If anyone has any doubts about a particular path they should contact Mr Westcott at County Hall, Taunton.

(f) Triennial Audit – the audits are now priced on the time it takes to do them (this includes going over the previous year's audit). Previously they had charged a percentage of the turnover of the Parish Council.

(g) Notice Board – Mr Golland brought a drawing which gave an idea of the style of notice board and it was agreed that he should work out the details with Mr Horler.

(h) Clerk's Salary: The recommended rate according to the NALC is 50.5% of 1p rate which at present is £367. It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr R. Golland that her salary should be brought in line with this.

211. 4. Footpaths: A letter from Mr Burkitt asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to use its (*sic*) influence with local landowners in order to have the footpaths cleared. The Highways Authority could release funds for physical improvements such as planks for footbridges, grants for stiles and footway and bridlepath way-marking posts.

The Clerk was asked to write back expressing the concern of the Parish Council at having to take on another responsibility and ask what grants are available to landowners, also to ask for footpath and bridleway waymarker posts.

5. Planning Applications: (i) Clearing ground vegetation, re-stocking, selective group felling and thinning works at Hardington Wood. The Parish Council had no objection.

(ii) Siting of temporary mobile home during alterations to house, Park Farm, Hardington. The Parish Council had no objection.

(iii) Conversion of fuel store and store into living room and kitchen. Tuckers Grave Inn. Parish Council wish lintels to be included, preferably in stone. Mendip District Council recommend approval.

(iv) Conversion of redundant stone barn to dwelling at Row Farm, Laverton. Parish Council have no objection but would wish the new window surrounds to be in natural stone. Mendip District Council recommend approval subject to: (i) All buildings specified to be removed on the submitted plan shall be cleared from the site and the land reinstated to the reasonable satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority before any other work commences. (ii) M.12A (Ancillary Buildings)

6. Accounts: Commercial Union Assurance: £88.65. It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Green that a cheque should be signed for this.

7. Fluoride in the water supply. Mr Peter Lacey wishes to receive comments and reactions from SALC members on fluoride being added to the water so that he can pass them on to the Customer Consultative Committee (of which he is a member) when they meet to discuss this. The Clerk was asked to find out some information on fluoride.

8. Correspondence: (a) Village Classification. When the list of 'villages' for the Structure Plan was drawn up it was done very quickly and has not proved to be entirely satisfactory. Local plans are now being drawn up to include all villages showing where development may or may not be permitted. Frome Local Plan should be finished by the end of 1985 and this should include our area.

(b) School Transport: The SALC noted that the Queen's Bench Divisional Court ruled that parents who kept their daughter (aged 13) away from school because she was refused free bus travel did not break the law. (They live under 3 miles from the school but the shortest route is a dangerous one). Judgement means that children are entitled to free travel to school unless they live within 3 miles by a safe route. The County is to appeal because of the implications of the judgement on the education budget.

(c) It was decided not to send a donation to the South and West Concerts Board.

(d) The Clerk brought to the attention of the meeting the Hugh of Witham newsletter.

(e) Mrs J. Horler will look around Frome Museum before it is decided whether or not to send them a donation.

(f) (g) and (h) Thatch, Local Council Review, Pitchfork rebellion news and the Mendip District Council handbook were brought to the attention of the meeting.

(i) It was decided not to join the Town and Country Planning Association.

9. Report of the SALC meeting: Mr Bromfield of Glastonbury is the new Chairman, Mr Maggs the Vice-Chairman but they have no secretary. Mrs Rowena Smith spoke on footpaths, Mr Jeffs, the Chief Executive of Mendip District Council will attend the next meeting to answer any questions. The subject of persistent (*sic*) absence arose. If a councillor fails to attend any meetings (including sub-committees etc) for 6 consecutive months he automatically ceases to be a member of the council unless his absence is due to a reason approved by the council.

Any Other Business: A query had been made as to whether a goat could be kept tethered on an allotment. The council felt that the risk of the goat getting loose and damaging the other allotments was too great and they do not feel they can approve this.

It was noted that the grass and cow parsley at the entrance to Wellow Lane is obscuring the vision of motorists trying to turn out onto the main road.

The signpost at Hardington crossroads is well on the way to being repainted.

It was suggested that the new seat on the village green should be moved from under the trees during the winter in order to give it a chance to dry out. The meeting did not think this would be necessary.

212. The question was raised regarding alterations at Terry Hill Crossroads as to whether it should be grassed over. It was decided to wait and see how the situation developed.

Signed E.A. Green Sept 2nd 1985

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 2nd September at 7.30pm.
Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland, Mr J. Green, Mr J. Batten and Mrs J. Horler.

1. Minutes: Mr Golland asked that the discussion regarding the grass at Terry Hill Crossroads should be included in the minutes. This having been done they were then signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Playing Field. A letter from Mendip District Council stated that they are unable to give a quote for cutting grass on the playing field as they have a reduced number of men cutting grass and are unable to take on any more work. 'Playground Services' wrote advertising their services for installation inspection, maintenance and repair of playground equipment and design of playgrounds but are unable to cut the grass. It was hoped that someone could be found to perform this task by the next meeting.

(b) Footpaths: In answer to a query on grants available for landowners Mr Burkitt stated that standard policy is to provide 25% of the cost of labour and materials for the provision of stiles but each case is judged on its (*sic*) merits. It was decided to ask Mr Burkitt for 10-12 waymarker posts.

(c) Fluoride. Dentists opinions are that fluoride is good for growing teeth. The Water Authority needs the unanimous directions of 3 Health Authorities before they will put Fluoride into the water supply.

The Clerk has been unable, as yet, to get in touch with the Health Authority.

The Parish Council feel they are in no better position than before to make a decision on this.

4. Frome Local Plan The Parish Council had the following comments to make on the subjects to be discussed regarding the Draft Frome Local Plan.

1. They feel there is a need for further parking provision in Frome Town Centre.

2. They think the cattle market should be relocated.

3. The enhancement of Conservation Areas should be completed.

4. There is no need for further recreational facilities in the area.

5. Tourism policies should be developed.

6. The Special Landscape area should be precisely defined.

5. Planning Applications: (i) Keepers Cottage, Hardington. The Parish Council objected that the extension would be out of character with the rest of the building.

(ii) 5, The Retreat, Foxcote – Extension to dwelling and erection of garage: The P.C. had no objection.

(iii) Chapel Farm, Faulkland - Conversion of barn, development of plot and use of existing farmhouse for private residential purposes: The P.C. have no objection to the conversion of the barn. However, they object very strongly to the entrance to the farm via 'Pond Lane' (the applicant's description of this lane – here it is known as Bishop Street). The narrowest part of the lane is only 10ft 2in for a length of some 30 yards with no pavement and this is not considered wide enough to accommodate the traffic which would use it. The increased use of this lane would be detrimental and dangerous to the properties adjacent to it. The Council strongly recommend that a new entrance should be made between plots 1 and 2.

6. Correspondence: (a) Boundary Commission will begin their review in January 1986.

(b) Grass around the pond. It had been agreed that the Parish Council would pay a couple of lads to tidy the footpath beside the pond. A letter has now been received stating that the area now looks 'dismal and muddy' and asking that the grass be replaced. It seems that in the past there have been offers to keep the grass cut but this has not been kept up and the area had become overgrown with nettles and weeds. It was agreed that a decision should be postponed until the next meeting when the area would have had time to settle down. **213.** It was proposed by Mr Golland and seconded by Mr J. Batten that Mr E. Green should be reimbursed the £5 he had paid the boys to clear the area. Mr E. Green declared an interest in this.

(c) The Council's attention was drawn to the availability of a variety of Training Courses.

(d) The Community Council Annual Report was available also the agenda of their A.G.M.

Any Other Business

The Council were very distressed to hear that the recently restored milestone at Terry Hill had disappeared and the newly painted signpost at Hardington Crossroads had been vandalised.

Signed E.A. Green Nov 4th 1985

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Monday November 4th 1985 at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Batten and Mrs J. Horler. Present also were two full rows of parishioners.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green and Mr R. Golland.

3. Matters Arising: (a) Grass cutting on the playing field. No-one has yet been found to cut this grass. It was suggested that perhaps the Parish Council should give up the playing field or at least reduce the area to that around the Playground equipment as the field appeared to be so seldom used. It was decided to give further thought to this at another meeting.

(b) Fluoride: The Water Fluoridation Bill has now been passed. The Clerk had spoken to Dr. Meadows of the Wiltshire Health Authority who stated that if fluoride is present by 1 part per million in the water it reduces dental caries by 40-50%. In large quantities it can cause discolouration of the teeth but there is no evidence of its causing cancer. A recent newspaper article supported this and said that studies in Finland and elsewhere suggest that it can help prevent bone decay in the elderly – making hip fractures less common.

(c) Frome Local Plan: A letter from the MDC thanked the Parish Council for their comments and stated that these would be taken into consideration during the formulation of the Local Plan. The meeting heard that all residential development – including barn conversions have been halted in Hemington until the draft Local Plan is published in 1986 and it is decided whether or not Hemington will still qualify as a village for the purposes of the Structure Plan.

(d) Grass around the village pond. The area around the pond is now beginning to green up – and consequently look more attractive. As it seems that no-one owns this land it was suggested that the residents around the pond should, once again, try a rota system for cutting the grass during the summer. It was pointed out that the weeping willow was badly placed and is now too big and in need of trimming. It was thought that much of the water could be kept from running off the road onto this area by continuing the pavement past the entrance so that the water flows on to the drain. A resident requested that the corner by Faulkland House could be levelled off in order that it could be kept tidier.

4. Precept: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr P. Francis that next year's precept should be for £700.

5. Footpaths: Mr Moreton and Mr Loader volunteered to help erect the waymarker posts and the Clerk was instructed to put a request for volunteers in the Parish Magazine. It was decided to begin by marking the following footpaths at each end:

1. From 'Perkin's Layby' on the Frome Road to Hemington.
2. From Turners Tower to Hemington
3. From opposite Haywood Farm entrance to Hemington
4. From Pond Cottages to Fulwell Lane
5. From Pond Cottages to Chickwell Lane
6. From Hemington school to Hardington

214. Footpath adjacent to the green: This is not marked as a footpath. The Clerk was asked to write for clarification on the classification of this lane.

6. Planning Applications: (1) Erection of front porch at 11, Turners Tower. The Parish Council had no objection to this application and MDC recommend approval.

(2) Erection of 2 houses and garages on land at the rear of the Village Hall, Faulkland. Mr J. Batten declared an interest in this application. The Parish Council had no objection to it. Residents next to the site were very unhappy with the Parish Council's decision.

(3) First floor extension at Keeper's Cottage, Hardington. MDC recommend refusal.

(4) 5, The Retreat, Foxcote. MDC recommend approval subject to a section 52 agreement to secure that the dwelling and granny flat are not sold or leased separately from each other.

(5) Conversion of barn, development of plot and use of existing farmhouse for private residential purposes at Chapel Farm, Faulkland. MDC recommend approval subject to 7 conditions. Residents of Pond Cottages were dismayed to hear that MDC seemed unable to prevent Pond Lane from being used as access to the grain store at the rear.

7. Accounts: (a) Burial Grant; this was increased from £47 to £200. It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that Hemington Parochial Church Council should be given £160 and Foxcote £40.

(b) Frome Museum: It was proposed by Mrs Horler and seconded by Mr Francis that a donation of £15 should be sent to Frome Museum.

(c) It was agreed that Mrs J. Knight should be reimbursed the £5 entry fee for the Inter-village quiz.

8. Bath Cancer Unit Support Group are looking for a parish correspondent. It was decided that this should be mentioned in the parish Magazine.

9. Street lighting/application for speed limit for Faulkland in view of the recent accidents. There has been new legislation passed on this recently. An automatic speed limit is in operation within a village that has street lighting but according to Mr Stringer at County Hall each village will be judged on its merits as regards a speed limit and as Faulkland has not put in an application for some time he felt that it is due for a review. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to apply for this. There is a feeling within the village that street lighting would also be of benefit – the Clerk was asked to apply for information on this.

10. Allotments: Owing to ill-health and death among the allotment holders there are now only one and two half allotments in use. The Clerk was asked to advertize these before any decision was made about relinquishing part of this land.

11. Correspondence: (a) Community Programme. This is operated by the Co-operative Retail Society to help the long-term unemployed.

(b) (c) (d) (e) the Council's attention was drawn to the following; Twinning Notes, Safety of the public at fund-raising events, Commercial Union's questionnaire on the insurance policy and the international Society – 'The Men of the Trees'.

(f) Imperial Cancer Research Fund – Mrs Horler suggested that the W.I. might be interested in raising money for this cause by Carol-singing at Christmas.

12. Reports on (a) Training Day at Queen Camel. One of the speakers was the District Auditor based at Exeter who spoke on Triennial Audits. He said that a statement of accounts will have to be sent in each year but the audit fees should result in being halved.

Speaker for the afternoon session was the Clerk to Nailsea Town Council. He had several suggestions as to how Parish Councils could be more efficiently run.

1. To have a formal attendance book, 2. Minutes – time of arrival and departure of members should be noted – in case an unlawful decision is made absent members can not then be surcharged. 3. Pecuniary Interest – direct or indirect interest must be declared and put in the book. That person should not be allowed to speak or vote. 4. Parish Councils should make use of their powers and spend the money if it is in the interests of the community. 5. Annual Meetings – if the previous chairman is up for re-election someone else should sit in the chair. 6. To have a democratic ½ hour/10 minutes when the meeting is adjourned for the public to speak but to avoid this getting out of hand the time should be rigidly stuck to. 7. Reports on items precises (*sic*) of letters to go round with the agenda. 8. Absence- apologies should be approved – reasons for absence should be provided so that they can be approved or otherwise and they should be in writing. 9. Potholes etc – delegate to the clerk to deal with they shouldn't have to wait for a meeting.

215. (b) SALC meeting: The Chief Executive of Mendip District Council was the speaker. He is very keen on communications between Parish Councils and Mendip and would be very willing to come and speak to the meetings.

(c) The Annual General Meeting of the Somerset County Playing fields Association will be Monday 18th November at Williton.

(d) Inter-village Quiz. The Hemington team consisted of Mrs J. Knight, Mr M. Thomas, Mrs P. Aldrich and Mrs A. Broom. They made it through to the second round this year.

(e) It was reported that the missing seat on the village green had had some welding done to it and was awaiting replacement of some of the wooden parts.

(f) A letter from Somerset County Council reported that the road through Rockley Ford would be closed for 4 weeks from the 6th January 1986 in order that British Telecom can lay a duct.

Signed V.P. Francis 6.1.86

A Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday January 6th at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr P. Francis (arr. by 7.30pm) took the chair, Mr J. Batten (arr. by 7.30pm), Mr R. Golland (arr. by 7.30pm), Mrs J. Horler (arr. at 7.35pm)

1. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr E. Green and Mr J. Green.

3. Matters Arising from the minutes. (a) Street Lighting/Speed limit. The Speed limit will probably be discussed in committee in February. Street lighting – for the County Council to provide street lighting for Faulkland High Street would cost about £2,000. This would have to be paid by the Parish Council although future maintenance and energy charges would be the responsibility of the County Council. The lighting would consist of 1 metre pole brackets with 55W low pressure sodium

lanterns. The Clerk was asked to find out which villages have this type of lighting and whether, if a public meeting were held, it would be possible for someone to come with some examples of different types of lights. The Parish Council also wished to know whether the County Council would be willing to consider any other type of light.

(b) Grass around the village pond: A letter has been received from Mrs Mowat expressing concern that no-one seemed to know who was responsible for the maintenance of the ground by the village pond. She had contacted the County Surveyor's department and had discovered that it is Common Land and could be registered with the County Council as 'Public Open Space'. The Parish Council decided that this should be done.

(c) Footpaths: It was decided that a start should be made erecting the waymarker posts on Saturday 11th January.

(d) Frome Local Plan: The meeting was informed of the reports of meetings on this.

(e) Playing Field: It was decided that an effort needed to be made to keep the grass cut regularly throughout the summer in order to encourage more people to use this and then review the situation at the end of the year.

4. Planning Applications

Continued Use of land for model flying at Upper Row Farm, Laverton. The Parish Council observed that the residents in this neighbourhood complain of the noise and disturbance that the model flying is causing and object most strongly and oppose the application. Mendip District Council approved it subject to 2 conditions.

Construction of garages at Park Farm, Hardington. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

Erection of 2 houses behind the village hall, Faulkland. Mendip District Council recommend refusal as the proposal is contrary to Policy SP7 of the approved County Structure Plan in that it does not represent satisfactory infilling in keeping with the established pattern of development in the village. It is also on land proposed to be excluded from the village envelope in the draft Local Plan and as such is contrary to the County Structure Plan Policy SP8 since there is no over-riding need for the dwellings to be erected outside the recognised limits of the settlement.

216. 5. Correspondence (a) Replacement of telephone call-boxes. A letter had been received from Mendip District Council outlining British Telecoms plans for replacement of ol-style (*sic*) telephone boxes and asking if there were any within the parish that the Parish Council would like to see preserved. The P.C. decided that they would like to see the boxes at Hemington, Faulkland and Turners Tower preserved – assuming that if preserved they would be maintained.

(b) Public Transport Plan. This was brought to the attention of the Council.

(c) Transport Contact for Somerset County Council. Operators of bus services will have to decide to what extent they can run their services without financial help from the County Council. This viable network will operate from October 28th 1986 and in the meantime the County Council will have to decide what other services should be 'bought in' on a contract basis from the bus operators. The County Council are asking for contacts in the villages who would be able to supply details of the transport needs of the parish. The Clerk was asked to find out from Mr Leach how many people are using the Frome bus.

(d) Foxcote Parish Council had sent a letter of thanks for their Burial Grant.

(e) The Best Kept Village Competition comments were as follows: Telephone kiosk – very clean and tidy; Churchyard – the grass was very well cut and the paths were clear of weeds. The gate was in good condition; School – very good; Notice Board and tidiness of streets – the notice board in the church porch was well used and in good order. Many weeds were noted along (*sic*) streets; General comments – the judges noted that obvious community effort is apparent in organising village events.

(f) St Margaret's Somerset Hospice Ltd. Building Appeal. The Council felt that as this was to be in Taunton that it was too far away to directly affect this parish.

(g) Parish maps project: An article in 'Thatch' magazine suggested that a local group may wish to begin a Parish map Scheme. The clerk was asked to contact the school and ask if they would be interested in doing this.

(h) Local Council Review – was available for anyone interested to read.

(i) Piper Lifeline Launch – Mendip District Council have been looking at the possibility of extending the concept of a 24 hour emergency service to all residents in Mendip. Mrs J. Horler volunteered to go to this launch on Jan 30th where there would be an opportunity to see the equipment and learn about the service.

6. Reports on: (a) Radstock and District Volunteer Bureau – volunteer bureaux are local organisations which exist specifically to support and promote volunteering of all types. Mr Golland reported on a meeting explaining this more fully. It seems there is a need for this within the Radstock area and that this would cover an area covering a 4 mile radius around Radstock.

(b) SALC meeting – there was the usual concern about subscriptions – should the larger councils pay more, could other councils be persuaded to join? and how can the A.G.M. attract more people. There was a request that at the more dangerous crossings patrols should be reinstated. They would like some guidelines on smell pollution from untreated slurry and possibly, in due course, a change in the law on this.

Any Other Business

There was concern expressed about the fact that a Draft Local Plan had been referred to in the comments on the planning application for two houses behind Faulkland village hall and the Clerk was asked to pass on this concern to Mendip District Council as it seems that this Draft Local Plan is already affecting planning applications within the village and to ask to what extent the Parish Council will be consulted.

There was also concern at the amount of fouling by dogs particularly on the Village Green. The Clerk was asked to obtain suitable notices for the notice boards.

She was asked to notify Mr Burkitt of the following areas that had been affected by the recent heavy rain. Park Lane, Between the bungalow, Daytona and Sunnyside Farm at Laverton, between Chickwell House and Chickwell Farm, Hassage Lane and Wellow Lane.

The Meeting was closed at 9.25pm

Signed E.A. Green 3rd March 1986

217. A Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday March 3rd at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman) (arr. by 7.30pm), Mr P. Francis (arr. by 7.30pm), Mr J. Green (arr. by 7.30pm), Mr R. Golland (arr. by 7.30pm), Mrs J. Horler (arr. by 7.40pm).

7. (*sic*) The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

8. (*sic*) Apologies – there were no apologies for absence.

9. (*sic*) Matters Arising from the minutes. (a) Street-lighting. A letter from Mr Thistlethwaite states that Holcombe and Coleford have 55W low pressure sodium lanterns. As an alternative they would consider mercury lanterns as in Fulwell Close. At the end of the meeting the Parish Council travelled to these villages to see the lights – these were orange. On the way back they stopped at Kilmersdon where they have a light blue light.

(b) Speed limit – the County Surveyor is, at present, consulting the Chief Constable.

(c) Grass around the village pond – the Parish Council are too late to register this as Public Open Space as the closing date for registration was January 2nd 1970. It was felt that an insurance should be made in case the pond burst it's (sic) banks but first that it should be established what the waterboard's position is regarding this area.

(d) Frome Local Plan – a letter from Mr Cook states that the Draft Local Plan will be published in April marking the start of an extensive public participation exercise. The plan will be exhibited in Faulkland Village Hall on April 16th.

(e) Playing Field Grass – the county Architect's Department sometimes cut the grass on playing fields and they will view the one at Faulkland and let the parish council know whether or not they are willing to cut it.

(f) Telephone call boxes – the Director of Planning and Amenities recommends to the planning committee that old-style kiosks be preserved only in the Conservation Area situations and that listed building status not be sought for any kiosks in the District.

(g) Transport contact: Mr Hopkinson at the Top Shop was asked if he could find out who the regular bus users in the village are.

(h) Parish map project – Mr Whetton, the headmaster of Hemington School, is interested in taking on this project but would like to keep in close touch with the parish council.

(i) Piper Lifeline launch – Mrs J. Horler had attended the meeting to launch the Piper Lifeline. She described it as being rather like a telephone that would be worn around the neck and that someone could be contacted by pressing a button at any time of the day or night. It would be of particular interest to the old or disabled. They can be bought for about £300 or rented for about £2-£3 a week. The clerk was asked to make parishioners aware of this device by a letter to the parish magazine and a poster in the Post Office.

10. (sic) Accounts It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that the following cheques should be signed.

(a) Mrs C. Clarke – Ward Clerk's Salary - £7

(b) Mr E. Green – Chairman's Allowance - £25

(c) Village Hall Committee – Hire of Hall - £22.50

(d) Travelling Expenses - £52

(e) Mrs F. Horler – Salary - £185, Expenses - £35.57 - £220.57

(f) Mendip District Council – grass cutting - £150.79

(g) Envelopes - £5

11. (sic) Allotment Rent Lord Hylton is putting up the Allotment Rent from £25 - £30 p.a. Many allotment holders have given up their plots leaving only three people cultivating one whole and two half allotments. They were asked how they would feel about reducing the allotments by half but as this would mean they would lose their own allotment and thus have to start afresh they would not be willing to do this. Very regretfully, it was decided by a vote of three to one that the parish council would have to give up the allotments as there seemed to be no-one interested in taking on any of the vacant plots.

218. 12. (sic) Hinkley Point – proposed 'C' Nuclear Power Station. The SALC wish to know parish council views on this as they will have a part to play in the discussions regarding the planning application and probable Public Inquiry. The parish council are concerned about the building of another Nuclear Power Station when there seems, at present, to be inadequate provision for the removal of the waste.

13. (sic) Local Government Boundary Commission are now asking for the details of any desired changes. The clerk was asked to repeat the request that the boundary should be altered to include the whole of Hassage in the parish of Hemington and therefore in Somerset.

14. (sic) Mr Batten's Exhaust Mr Batten did considerable damage to the exhaust pipe of his car while viewing a planning application site. The parish council felt that he should make a claim to the parish council's insurance company.

15. (sic) Planning Applications

(a) Erection of a porch at Tucker's Grave Inn – the parish council have no objection.

(b) Alterations to provide garaging at Row Court Farm, Laverton – the parish council have no objection.

(c) Conversion from former piggery to boarding kennels at Hollybank, Foxcote. The parish council consider that the boarding kennels would cause undue noise and nuisance to the people in the adjoining property. Mendip District Council recommend approval subject to the portakabin be (sic) given temporary permission.

(d) Conversion to dwelling with two storey extension at side and double garage at Former Chapel, Brook House Farm, Laverton. The parish council have no objection.

(e) The clerk was asked to write to the planning office regarding the large orange light which had been erected at Tuckers Grave car park as complaints had been made about it.

16. (sic) Correspondence: (a) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – a meeting is to be held at Ammerdown on Tuesday 11th March at 7.30pm

(b) Carless Exploration – a map had been sent showing the route they would be taking in March.

(c) Playground Development – are unable to give us a grant this year.

17. (sic) Reports on (a) Playground Equipment. The Wicksteed Annual Report states that the climbing frame needs repainting as do the swings which also need oiling.

(b) SALC – a man from the Avon and Somerset constabulary spoke on problems associated with drug abuse and showed some slides. He described the affects (sic) different drugs could have on a person and signs to look for in a child who is taking drugs. Frome Town Council were perturbed by the fact that one can appeal against a 'No' decision by the planning committee but not a 'Yes' decision.

18. (sic) Date of the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council The first Monday in May being a Bank Holiday it was decided to hold these meetings on Tuesday 6th May and to begin at 7pm.

The meeting was closed at 9.25pm.

Signed E.A. Green 6 May 86

219. The Annual Parish Meeting of Hemington Parish Council was held on Tuesday May 6th 1986 in Faulkland Village Hall.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr R. Golland, Mrs J. Horler and Mr J. Batten. Six parishioners were also present.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green.

3. The Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts were read and signed. These showed an Income of £1,181.55 and an expenditure of £957.97. This gave a balance of £205.58.

4. The Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts showed an Income of £909.08 and an Expenditure of £478.23. These have yet to be audited.

5. The Allotment Book was signed.

6. Chairman's report: The Chairman reported on developments throughout the year. The year had begun with a visit to Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station and those who had visited had come away impressed with the very high standard of safety there. A year later the Station had been shocked by the disaster at the Nuclear Power plant at Chernobyl in Russia. Mr Green said that it was a very sad day for the Parish Council when they had to decide to give up the allotments. He thanked the councillors for their work throughout the year.

7. Street-lighting: The meeting discussed the merits or otherwise between the orange lights at Holcombe and Coleford and the pale blue/white lights at Kilmersdon. The majority of the meeting preferred the paler light but those present who had seen the lights at Hinton Charterhouse preferred these. In order to install the lights at £2,000 it would cost an additional 5 ½ p to 6p on the rates. The clerk was asked to find out further information on light-fittings and different designs before calling a Public Meeting.

8. Any Other (sic) Business A complaint had been made regarding the poor state of the footpath adjacent to the village green. It was agreed that Mr E. Green should spray this path with a selective weedkiller.

Signed E.A. Green 30 April 1987

220. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council followed the Annual Parish Meeting.

1. Election of Chairman: Mr E. Green was proposed by Mr F. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman: Mr P. Francis was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

3. Election of Members for the Bamphylde Charities Committee: Mr E. Green and Mr T. Hendy were proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mrs J. Horler.

4. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising: (a) Grass around the pond. Mrs Hildreth confirmed that the wall beside the pond belonged to her and that the bridge belongs to the Resident's Association at Pond Cottages. The Resident's Association have offered to continue cutting the grass beside the pond and the Parish Council said they would be most grateful if they were to do this.

(b) Frome Local Plan: The Parish Council felt that the boundaries given to the village of Faulkland should be extended as there is no room within the present boundary for new dwellings. They objected very strongly to the suggestion that Hemington should be changed from a Village to a Hamlet.

(c) Playing Field Grass: The County Architect's department quoted a price of £124 for the harrowing and first cut of the playing field. Mr F. Green has said that he would do it for £12 per cut and it was agreed to ask him to take this job on for the season.

(d) Parish Boundaries: Mr Leyton has written a very comprehensive report on the proposed boundary changes at Hassage.

6. Accounts:

It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland that the following cheques be signed.

(a) Frome Museum £15. The November cheque was lost in the post.

(b) Somerset Association of Local Councils – annual subscription £27.23.

(c) Community Council – annual subscription - £5

(d) East Mendip Scout Group – donation - £50

(e) Bridget Parker Commemoration Fund – It was decided not to give a donation to this.

7. Insurance: It was proposed by Mr R. Golland and seconded by Mr P. Francis that the Insurance should be increased this year. The clerk was asked to get a valuation from the Commercial Union Assurance Company.

8. Planning Applications: (a) Conversion of Buildings into single storey dwelling at Ennox Farm, Hemington. The Parish Council felt that this would be an improvement as the building is obviously redundant but that it should be kept as a single storey and a suitable entrance be formed for a garage space.

(b) Garage Extension at Finlandia, Faulkland. The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

9. Correspondence: (a) East Mendip Scout Group are a newly formed group based at Faulkland and are in need of basic items. It was agreed that they should be given a donation of £50.

(b) South Western Council for sport and recreation are promoting participation in rural areas. The Parish Council read a synopsis of their report.

(c) Safest Play Area Competition: It was decided to enter this.

(e) *(sic)* Somerset County Council: The Chairman of Social Services is asking Parish Councils to report any shortcomings in facilities for the disabled in the area. The idea of a zebra crossing to the telephone kiosk was discussed but dismissed. It was thought that if the speed limit through the village could be obtained that this would be the biggest benefit.

(d) *(sic)* General Plan for peacetime emergencies: This was available for anyone who wished to read it.

Signed E.A. Green 16 July '86

221. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Wednesday 16th July at 7.30pm.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr J. Batten and Mr R. Golland

10. *(sic)* The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

11. *(sic)* Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green. The Clerk apologized for the cancellation at less than half an hour's notice of the meeting that was to have been held on July 7th. Her daughter had swallowed a paper clip and had to go to hospital for an X-ray to locate it's *(sic)* whereabouts.

12. *(sic)* Matters Arising: (a) Insurance – regarding the valuation of the Village Hall. The Commercial Union Assurance Company do not give valuations but Mr Golland will ask a friend who is an architect to give a valuation.

(b) Letters of thanks have been received from Frome Museum and Community Council for Somerset for their donations.

(c) Proposed speed limit through Faulkland. This has passed from the Chief Constable to Somerset County Council's Speed limits and Traffic Management Committee. They decided that a case could be made for introducing a 40mph speed limit but because the A366 is a Principal route the final decision rests with the Department of Transport. It is possible that the necessary criteria may not be adequately satisfied to justify a restriction.

(d) Three mile milestone at Tower Hill. A letter from British Telecom denied liability regarding the disappearance of this stone. The stone, in fact, reappeared when the verges were cut.

13. *(sic)* Street-lighting: The quote from the Southern Electricity Board revealed that to supply wire and fix 8 pole boxes, 8 – 1 meter pole brackets and 8 – 55 watt SOX lanterns complete with SS9 part night-electric cells would cost £1,096 rather than the £2,000 suggested by Somerset County Council. It was suggested, at the meeting, that an extra light outside the village hall would be necessary. This would cost an extra £130 for a 35 watt SOX lantern etc. It was decided that a Public Meeting should take place as soon as possible.

14. (*sic*) Accounts: It was proposed by Mr John Batten and seconded by Mr R. Golland that the following accounts should be paid.

- (a) Lord Hylton, Kilmersdon Estate – Playing Field Rent - £50.
- (b) Mr J. Green, - Stationary, writing paper (Headed) - £22 +£5.60 V.A.T. - £27.60
- (c) Somerset County Playing Fields Association – Annual Subscription - £2

Hinton Chicken Factory are interested in renting the Playing Field and it was agreed that £3 per match should be charged.

15. (*sic*) Planning Applications: (a) Renovation of existing farmhouse and garage, Pond Farm House, Faulkland – the Parish Council had no objection to this application. In fact, they would be delighted to see it renovated.

(b) British Telecom – construction of new telephone at Oldfield Farm Cottage, Faulkland. As vehicles parked at this exchange are a hazard to users of the adjacent properties the Parish Council wish the boundary hedge to be removed in order to provide ample off the road parking space.

(c) Conversion of store building into a skittle alley and erection of electric light pole at Tuckers Grave Inn, Faulkland. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

(d) Mendip District Council had recommended approval for a garage extension at Finlandia, Faulkland.

16. (*sic*) Bus Services – proposed changes. Extensive changes to bus services will be taking effect from 26th October 1986. This will include the withdrawal (*sic*) of Badgerline services between Frome, Buckland Dinham and Writhlington and of the services at Faulkland and Kilmersdon. The County Council will be inviting tenders in mid-July and had attached a suggested timetable on which they were asking for comments. The meeting agreed that a service to Frome should be on a Wednesday as this is market day and that a Saturday service would also be welcome and that a service to Radstock should be on a Thursday. It was felt that at least 2 hours would be needed in the towns if people needed to visit a doctors surgery and complete their shopping.

222. Norton St Philip will be provided with a very good bus service in October and it was thought that, perhaps, some sort of link-up service could be organized. Mr Golland agreed to go to the meeting at Buckland Dinham being held the following evening.

17. (*sic*) Correspondence: (a) Footpaths – The Meeting's attention was drawn to an article which pointed out, amongst other things, that local authorities, by law, must provide signposting where a right of way leaves a road. The Rights of Way Officer confirms this but says that it is a never ending job with the amount of vandalism that is suffered and they lose about half of all that are put up. They, therefore, very much appreciate any voluntary help they can get.

(b) Citizens Advice Bureaux – South Wansdyke and the Frome and District had sent their annual reports.

(c) NALC circulars – The following circulars are to be circulated amongst (*sic*) the councillors:- Declaration of Interest.

Code of Practice for Local Councils in Handling Complaints – it was agreed that this code of practice should be adopted.

Local Government Act 1980 – Part of this act amends the law on expenditure by local authorities on publicity.

Local Government Act (Access to Information) this is to give members of the public greater rights of access to meetings and documents of principal councils i.e. County, District, and London Borough Councils. This circular strongly recommended that Parish Councils should follow suit although this Act does not refer to them. There is a feeling within Faulkland that more meetings should be open to the public – in particular the meeting which discussed the Frome Local Plan and that the Parish Council's comments on this should have been given in greater detail at the last parish council meeting. The Chairman explained that the District Council had put on the Exhibition on the Frome Local Plan which was open to the public to come and view and to make their own comments on. The Parish Council felt that they would not have been assisted in coming to a decision by holding a public meeting.

Summary of Proposals in Government's Green Paper 'Paying for Local Government'

(d) C.R.S. Community Insulation – details of this and those entitled to help was put up on the village hall notice board and the parish council notice board.

(e) Somerset County Council Accounts and annual report was available.

(f) Inter-village Quiz Competition – it was hoped that a team could be got together again this year.

18. (*sic*) Report on SALC meeting: Mr Bromfield of Glastonbury was re-elected as Chairman and Mr Maggs as Vice-Chairman. Frome Town Council again voiced the concern that if a local council do not approve the granting of planning permission there is no right of appeal. A change in the law would be needed for this to take place. It is hoped that Mr Bush, the Chief Planning Officer, will be able to come to the January meeting and that neighbouring councils will be invited if they are not already members of the SALC. Owing to the death of Mr E. Francis, Mr Maggs was elected to be the representative on the Police Liaison (*sic*) Committee.

There was great concern for landowners who had problems relating to the Peace Convoy. As trespass is a civil offence it has to go through the county to the High Court and the landowner ends up footing the bill. It was felt that a change in the law needed to be made and that Parish Councils may wish to write to their M.P's about this. It was agreed that Hemington Parish Council should do this.

Any Other Business

Mr Batten confirmed that the footpath adjacent to the Village Green was in a very rough state with large ash trees growing in the middle of the path. He removed his pieces of galvanized iron which had blown into the lane but it was decided that a concerted effort would need to be made in the autumn to clear this lane.

A request was made for the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings to be posted on the notice board as soon as possible after the meeting.

Mention was again made about the telephone trench in the High Street which is now causing pedestrians to walk in the road.

Also the arm on the signpost by the Faulkland Inn is loose. The clerk has already written to Mr Burkitt on these matters.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed E.A. Green Sept 1st 1986.

223. A Public Meeting was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Wednesday July 30th to discuss and vote as to whether to provide Street Lighting for the village of Faulkland.

Over 50 parishioners attended the meeting chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr E. Green.

Mr Green gave details of the position of the lights and explained that to pay the £1,096 quoted by the electricity board a rate of 3 ½ p – 4p in the pound would need to be levied. This would need to be for one year only. If the type of light recommended by the County Council was erected the County Council would then be willing to take over the maintenance and running costs of the lights.

As the parish includes many outlying areas including Foxcote, Hardington, Hemington and part of Laverton many of these parishioners came to the meeting feeling unwilling to finance the needs of Faulkland. However, considerable discussion

took place and it was felt that many elderly people in the village would benefit by the provision of lights and if the rate rise was for one year householders would not, in fact, be paying an extortionate amount.

Therefore, when the vote was taken there were 39 for providing the Street Lights with 15 against.

The meeting then went on to discuss the type of lantern required. It was decided to follow the County Council guidelines (*sic*) so that maintenance and running costs could be transferred to them.

The type of lantern recommended is either a 55W SOX as they have in Holcombe and Coleford which gives out an orange light or a mercury lantern as in Fulwell Close, Faulkland which provides a white light.

It was felt that a white light would be too harsh and would not be as efficient – particularly in fog – as the orange light. Many people voiced a preference for the peach lights as in Norton St Philip.

A vote was taken and there were 36 in favour of the orange light and no-one in favour of the white light.

Discussion took place as to whether or not to erect a light beside the village hall. The Parish Council had been given a quote of £130 for Southern Electricity to fix a light. It was decided to wait until the other lights had been erected to see how much light the nearest lantern to the village green would give out but in the meantime it was suggested that the present light on the village hall should be attached to a time switch which would automatically go out about half an hour after the lights in the village hall were switched off.

In order to pay for the lights the Parish Council would have to wait until the new financial year in April before they can receive the money from the Precept from the District Council. 14 parishioners generously offered to put up money for a loan so that the Parish Council can proceed as soon as possible.

Signed E.A. Green Nov 6th 1986

224. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Monday 1st September 1986 at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mrs J. Horler. Mr J. Batten.

19 (*sic*). The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

20. Apologies for absence were received from Mr R. Golland.

21. Matters Arising: (a) Street-lighting: A letter from Somerset County Council confirmed that they would be willing to accept responsibility for future energy and maintenance charges if the Parish Council were to install 70 watt SON lighting but that the County Treasurer should be consulted regarding the loan from parishioners. SEB confirm that the cost of the 70 watt SON lanterns would be £1,096 as with the 55 watt SOX.

(b) Local Bus Services: Somerset County Council have put their timetable out for tender. This would provide Faulkland with 'shopping journeys' to Midsomer Norton and Frome and a 'journey to work' service to Norton St Philip which would link up with the Badgerline service from Bath. The contract would be for one year and will be reviewed before a new tender is let for a longer period from October 1987.

(c) Reply from M.P. regarding the law of trespass. Mr Boscawen had sent a photocopy of a letter sent to another organisation stating that a Public Order Bill is under consideration before parliament.

(d) Planning Applications: Construction of new telephone exchange at Oldfield Farm, Faulkland – The Planning Office recommend approval subject to :

1. M.17B (samples of materials)

2. Before any development is commenced, a waiting bay shall be formed which shall have a maximum depth of 3m parallel to the carriageway edge, a 45 degree splayed end at the eastern extremity of the site and join into the existing parking space at the western end.

3. The hedge shall be replanted behind the waiting bay to screen the development before the building becomes operational. Renovation of existing farmhouse and garage, Pond farmhouse, Faulkland.

The planning office recommend approval subject to 1. Reclaimed clay double roamm (*sic*) tiles shall be used to re-roof the property and not inter-locking tiles as proposed.

2. The new access shall be recessed not less than 3 metres from and parallel to the carriage way (*sic*) edge with the wing hedges/fences splayed at 45 degrees on each side to facilitate ingress/egress.

Erection of garage and porch at 10, Turners Tower – the Parish Council had no objection to this application.

Erection of first floor extension at Depot Cottage, 233, Ammerdown Terrace – the Parish Council had no objection to this application.

22. Somerset Structure Plan – 1st review The Parish Council felt they needed to give more time and thought to the questionnaire provided and that it should be deferred until the next meeting.

23. Correspondence: (a) Hassage – Somerset County Council have submitted two proposals for boundary changes to the Local Government Boundary Commission. One of these is Hassage. (the other Yeovil).

(b) Public Transport Plan – it was noted that the 'shopping journeys' from Faulkland are, according to this plan, to Radstock and Frome whereas the timetable states Midsomer Norton and Frome.

(c) Society of Local Council Clerks now provide a free copy of the 'Clerks Manual' which contains 'invaluable information on the Law and Practice of Local Councils and is designed in order that it can be regularly updated as new legislation is introduced'. It was decided to join this for a year to see if the information did prove to be 'invaluable'.

(d) Request to change the day of the meetings from Monday to Thursday. It was agreed to do this.

(e) Community Council Annual Report and agenda of their AGM was available.

225. Any Other Business

It was brought to the attention of the meeting that the cross roads sign on the Frome road was obscured by growth along the park wall and the hedge from the entrance to the village to the 'Top Shop' is obscuring visibility. The pavement from the 'Top Shop' to Grove Lane is causing pedestrians to step off and the telephone trench and the signpost by the Faulkland Inn have still been left unrepaired.

Mention was made of the fact that Cleanaway Refuse Collectors do not always empty the bins on a Monday. Apparently there is a dispute within Cleanaway. The regular driver says that he is exceeding his hours on the tacograph but the foreman disagrees.

Mendip District Council state that the bins should continue to be put out on Mondays.

There has been an increase in vandalism within the village including padlocked gates being cut open and cows let out. The Clerk was asked to write to the police about this and to ask if a patrol could regularly drive through the village and sometimes stop and wander about.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed E.A. Green Nov 6th 1986.

A meeting of Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday 6th November 1986 at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr R. Golland and Mr J. Batten.

24. The Minutes. It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting should be altered to show that Mr Batten was present at that meeting.

25. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Green and Mrs J. Horler.

26. Matters Arising: (a) Street-lights. The County Treasurer finally reported that in order to take out a loan of any sort Borrowing Sanction needs to be obtained from the Department of the Environment via the SALC. This was applied for but they were unable to process this at present but will advise us if it will be possible for this to go through this financial year. It appears that the Parish Council are unable to take advantage of the generous offer made by the many parishioners to loan the money in order that the street lights may be erected without delay.

(b) Somerset Structure Plan – 1st review. The questionnaire booklet with the Parish Council's answers in was available for those who wished to see it.

(c) Car on village green. This car is no longer parking there.

(d) Hire of playing field. As there are no changing facilities available on the playing field Norton Chicken Factory have decided against hiring this. It was agreed that the subject of the playing field should be kept on the agenda for the next meeting.

27. Accounts It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mr R. Golland that the number of signatures needed on the cheques should be reduced from 4 to 2. It was proposed by Mr R. Golland and seconded by Mr J. Batten that the following cheques be signed: -

(a) £14 – Society of Local Council Clerks – annual subscription

(b) £3 – Postage and Packing of Clerk's Manual

(c) Payment of Burial Grant –

Hemington Parochial Church Council - £140

Foxcote Parochial Church Council - £45

28. Insurance of Village Hall. It was decided that this should be raised from £30,000 to £40,000.

29. Precept. It was decided that a precept of £800 for General Expenses and £1,096 for street lighting should be made this year.

226. 30. Planning Applications The Parish Council had no objections to the following applications:

Healey House, Hemington – first floor extension over existing kitchen,

Continued use of mobile home for agricultural worker – OS Pt. 4253, Hemington.

Amended plans for extension at the Methodist Chapel, Faulkland.

Ashgrove, Grove Lane, Faulkland – provision of side extension.

Row Farm House, Laverton. The Parish Council wishes the corners of the stairwell to be retained as a feature of the building.

Land at Chapel Farm, Faulkland. The Parish Council have no objection to this application and are pleased to see that the access to the 3 dwellings will be considerably safer than the access from Chapel Farmhouse.

The Retreat, Foxcote. The Parish Council object to the outline permission for a new dwelling as it stands at present but if the application were resubmitted to convert the existing building which has a number of interesting features it would (*sic*) be looked at more sympathetically.

Mendip District Council recommend approval to a first floor extension at Depot Cottage, Terry Hill, First Floor extension,

Healey House, Hemington, Erection of garage and porch, 10, Turners Tower.

The appeal by Mr and Mrs Batten for 2 houses on land behind the village hall was dismissed by the Department of the Environment.

31. Footpath beside the village green. It was agreed that this footpath was ready to be slashed and that this would be organised.

32. Correspondence. (a) A letter from the Post Office explained that there had been a complete revision of postmen's duties in the Radstock area and as a result some areas including Hemington had not been receiving the service to which they were entitled! Changes have now been made which should have improved the service.

(b) Somerset County Council sent notice of road closure at Foxcote for 2 weeks in order to repair the drainage.

(c) Somerset County Council explained that the hedge above the 'Top Shop' had been cut back but further cutting may destroy it. They say that the solution would be to acquire land either for visibility improvement or a road widening but they doubt if this would rank highly in the County Council's list of priorities bearing in mind the current shortage of funds.

(d) The NALC's notes and notices were brought to the attention of the Council as was the NPFA conference.

It was noted that the Ward meeting would be held on Wednesday November 19th in Faulkland Village Hall.

The next meeting was arranged for the second Thursday in January – the first Thursday being New Year's Day and therefore a Bank Holiday.

Signed E.A. Green

227. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday 8th January 1987 at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mrs J. Horler and Mr J. Batten.

33. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

34. Apologies for absence were received from Mr R. Golland.

35. Matters Arising: (a) Great concern was expressed about the future of the playing field as it seems to be so seldom used. The annual rent is £50 with an additional £30 or so for grass cutting and hedge trimming. The clerk was asked to send an article to the Parish Magazine about this and Mr E. Green said that he would speak to someone at Hinton Chicken Factory about whether or not to suggest to their management that they may care to erect changing facilities on the field.

(b) A letter from Foxcote Parochial Church Council thanked the Parish Council for their burial grant.

36. Accounts It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that the following cheques should be signed.

(a) Wiltshire County Fund – for the notice board - £54.67

(b) Commercial Union Assurance – additional premium - £8.60

(c) Mendip District Council – grass cutting - £146.53

(d) Mr J. Green – envelopes - £10.00

37. Planning Applications

(a) Sunnyside, Row Lane, Laverton – use of land for parking of one lorry and two agricultural tractors. The P.C. had no objection to this application but would like to see the area tidied, tarmaced or shingled. Alternatively, could the barn be used instead? The Chapel, Steps Lane, Laverton. – Repair/conversion of chapel to dwelling two new windows, three french doors and two roof lights. The P.C. had no objection to this application.

Conversion of store to new building, The Retreat, Foxcote. The P.C. had no objection to this application.

The P.C. were concerned that M.D.C. were recommending that the application for Chapel Farm should be refused. They feel it is about the only available area for new building as the draft Frome Local Plan stands at present and that 3 new houses would be preferable to 2 new houses + the grain store and would also remove heavy traffic using Bishop St. In particular they are concerned at the suggestion that Chapel Farm access should serve the barn as well, as this is a particularly dangerous access with little room for improvement. They have requested a site meeting.

38. Tollhouse at Tuckers Grave The Parish Council were very disappointed that this had been allowed to get into such a dilapidated state. The Clerk was asked to write to Mendip District Council requesting an up-to-date list of the listed buildings within the parish.

39. Light at Faulkland Garage The Parish Council have received a number of complaints about this light. They feel that it is a danger and a distraction to motorists as they drive through the village and the clerk was asked to write to Mr Chatfield requesting him to re-angle the light so that it shines onto the forecourt instead of up the road.

40. Correspondence: (a) It was decided not to give a donation to the Bridget Parker Commemoration (*sic*).

(b) The clerk was asked to notify the parish magazine of the revised timetable of the local bus service and to put the timetable up on the notice board when she receives it.

(c) The Community Council were requesting details of any voluntary transport schemes in Somerset.

(d) The meeting were informed of the NALC notes and notices and of the next **228**. SALC meeting on the 27th January.

(e) The Chairman and Councillors were invited to a Grand Re-opening of Frome Museum on 17th January and an informal preview on the 16th.

Any Other Business

The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council about the state of the roads and requesting a meeting with the road foreman. The Scouts have agreed to cut back the overgrowth in the lane adjacent to the village green and to help with the erection of the footpath marker posts.

As the Post Office is up for sale it was hoped that the village would not find itself without a Post Office.

Signed E.A. Green 5 March 87

A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday March 5th at 7.30pm.

Members Present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Green, Mr R. Golland, and Mr J. Batten.

41. The Minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

42. Apologies were received from Mrs J. Horler.

43. Matters Arising: (a) Playing Field. Mr E. Green was able to report that the workers at Hinton Chicken Factory were not interested in using the field. It was agreed that this was a subject that should be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

(b) Listed buildings: The clerk has received the details of listed buildings in the parish which included milestones and tombstones! It did reveal that the Turnpike House at Tuckers Grave is not among these and the clerk was asked to write to Mendip District Council to find out what powers they have to improve the appearance of this tollhouse.

(c) Roads. Mr Green was able to show the travelling foreman around the parish and to point out the potholes and areas in need of repair. These were noted and it is hoped that with better weather and the new financial year in sight there may be improvements.

(d) Street lights. The meeting heard that the engineers had discovered that poles 1 and 4 did not meet the required conditions for fixing the lanterns to and that 2X5 meter steel columns were needed. With the extra cost of these + £398 needed to supply the electricity and to allow for inflation and any other unforeseen (*sic*) expenses £1,800 was allowed for the precept on the street lights. Since then, however, the clerk has heard via Mr Budden of SEB, that the County Council are considering contributing 30% towards the cost of street lights for Parish Councils. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Budden to enquire whether wooden poles could not be used instead of metal ones as these would be more sympathetic to the village.

44. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr J. Green that the following cheques should be signed.

(a) Playing field grass cutting and hedge trimming Mr F. Green	£30.00
(b) Ward Clerk's salary	£7.00
(c) Chairman's Allowance	£25.00
(d) Hire of village hall	£25.00
(e) Clerk's salary £185 = expenses £37.34	£222.34
(f) Travelling Expenses	£5.20
(g) Citizens Advice Bureau (South Wansdyke)	£15.00

229. 45. Planning Applications

(a) Row Farm House, Laverton – replacement windows and surrounds.

The Parish Council were amazed at the improvement the new leaded windows fitted to the rear of the old part of the house had made. The front of the house was built in 2 distinct periods, the old part in 1690, the other being Georgian. To restore the older part to the original leaded lights would be a vast improvement to the building. The Parish Council support this application as it will give this fine dwelling the character it deserves.

(b) Plot 6, The Retreat, Foxcote – M.D.C. recommend outline consent.

(c) Sunnyside Farm, Laverton – M.D.C. recommend that it be conditionally approved.

(d) Erection of 2 dwellings and formation of new access at land at Chapel Farm, Faulkland. M.D.C. recommend refusal but were seeking the views of the Planning Committee. It has been heard, unofficially, that this application has been passed.

46. Parish Path Maintenance Scheme A letter from SCC reminded the council that they have not been utilizing the full grant.

47. Correspondence

(a) South Wansdyke Citizens Advice Bureau – it was decided that they should be sent a donation of £15.00

(b) S.C. Structure Plan – John Green has agreed to read this.

(c) Scouts. A letter of thanks was received for their donation of £50. This, in addition to money from fund-raising events was spent on equipping two patrols with tents and other items for camp.

(d) The Burial Grant for this year should be £200.

48. Somerset Association of Local Councils Report.

Mr Bush, Director of Planning at M.D.C. was booked to speak at the meeting but neither turned up or sent his apologies. Concern was expressed at the shortage of police in the Frome area.

Any Other Business

A complaint was received regarding the excessive noise caused by motorbikes in the village particularly around Fulwell Close which tends to be used as a racetrack. The clerk was asked to write to the police about this.

There is concern about the permanent parking on the Village Green. A variety of suggestions were put forward including curbs (*sic*), large stones a fence or holed bricks around the green or providing parking space by the telephone kiosk.

The clerk was asked to contact St Margaret's as to the legal position of the Parish Council

The date set for the Annual Parish Meeting was 30th April 1978. It was suggested that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council should be held on the same evening.

Signed E.A. Green 12 May 87

230. The Annual Parish Meeting was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday April 30th 1987 at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr J. Batten, Mr J. Green, + 18 Parishioners.

1. The Minutes having been read were signed as a correct record.

2. Apologies (*sic*) there were no absentees.

3. Financial Statement of the Parish Council Accounts It was proposed by Mr J. Green and seconded by Mr J. Batten that these should be signed.

4. Financial Statement of the Village Hall Accounts It was proposed that these should be accepted.

5. The Chairman gave his report on the year stating that he was pleased to see that the area around the pond was being kept cut by the residents of Pond Cottages. Mr Hildreth has resigned from the Peacetime Emergency Committee and Mr Kaye has taken over the position. The two parishioners present who used the buses were pleased with the new service but the clerk was asked to write to J.V.A. travel requesting them to stop at the Green for the benefit of the elderly people at that end of the village. It was felt that the Postal service had not improved over the year. The scouts are going to help erect the footpath signs. Mr Green thanked the councillors for their help over the year.

6. Bamphylde Charities The committee met on the 6th January to deal with business. The charities began in 1711 from Hardington with £29 to be distributed between those members of the parish who would benefit most.

7. The Playing Field Discussion took place as to whether or not to keep the playing field. The opinions altered between those who thought that £80 being spent on a playing field that was not being used was excessive and to those who felt that it should be kept for the benefit of the parish and future generations. A vote was taken with 19 in favour of keeping the field and 4 against.

8. The Village Green Documents from SALC advised the Parish Council that it is their duty to ensure that the green is available for all the people of the parish and parking cars on it is undermining (*sic*) the position of the green. Also it is a criminal offence to damage a village green. It is possible to adopt bye-laws. It was felt that it was the permanent parking that was causing the problem but that there was little alternative for those car owners. Thoughts turned to providing a car park and Mr R. Golland proposed that the parish council approach the owner of the field behind the village hall to see whether he would be willing to sell the field to the parish council for this purpose. This was seconded by Mr J. Green.

9. The street-lights – once they have the lanterns Southern Electricity will begin to install the street-lights. The County Council have confirmed that they will be contributing £501.50 towards the scheme.

10. The Somerset Structure Plan Mr J. Green had made a precis of the alteration to this and copies were available to those interested in reading this.

11. The date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was made for 12th May 1987.

Any Other Business The telephone trench in the High St has still not been repaired.

A dangerous spike has emerged on the village green. Mr F. Green will be asked to investigate this with a view to remedy.

Inter-village Quiz – there were no volunteers at the meeting to enter for this and the clerk was asked to pin the details to the notice board.

It was suggested that ramps in Fulwell Close may deter motorcyclists from using this as a race-track. The clerk was asked to enquire who this road belonged to.

Signed E.A. Green April 7th 1988

231. April 30th 1987

49. A brief extra-ordinary meeting was held after this in order to clear outstanding accounts.

Mrs J. Green – typewriter £50.60

Lord Hylton – playing field rent £50.00

SALC – annual subscription £28.24

It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr R. Golland that these cheques should be signed.

50. Notice Board – Mr R. Golland enquired whether the parish council would prefer perspex at £12 or poly-carbonate at £36 approx. It was decided that the supposedly unbreakable poly-carbonate would be worth the extra cost.

Elections took place on May 7th for the first time in 32 years.

Elected members were: Mr J. Batten, Mr P. Francis, Mr E. Green, Mrs J. Horler, Anne Rogers and Mr P. West.

The Annual meeting of the parish council took place on Tuesday 12th May at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall.

Members present: Mr E. Green, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Batten, Anne Rogers and Mr P. West.

51. Election of Chairman: It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that Mr E. Green should be elected Chairman.

52. Election of Vice-Chairman: It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr J. Batten that Mr P. Francis should be elected Vice-Chairman.

53. Election of members for the Bamphylde Charities Committee: It was decided that Mr E. Green and Mr T. Hendy should continue as members of this committee.

54. Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

55. Apologies: were received from Mr P. Francis.

56. Matters Arising: (a) Car parking on the village green as brought up at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed that the clerk should write to Mr Batten's solicitor in order to find out the situation regarding the field behind the village hall.

(b) A letter of thanks was received from Wansdyke Citizens Advice Bureau for the donation of £15.

57. Planning Applications: 3 storey Extension to the side of Keeper's Lodge, Hardington. The Parish Council were quite satisfied that this was a pleasing design which did not interfere with the existing dwelling allowing the unusual features of that building to remain.

Erection of Agricultural Bungalow, Charlton Farm, Hemington. The Parish Council have no objection to this application but are insistent that it should be in natural stone to match the farmhouse.

Erection of garage at Apple Tree Cottage, Faulkland. The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

58. Insurance Commercial Union Assurance are introducing index-linking to our insurance policy. It was decided that a builder or architect should be contacted with regard to giving a valuation on the village hall.

59. Correspondence (a) From Citizens Advice Bureau – the date of their annual meeting was given to the council.

(b) Linkline – it was decided not to contribute to this.

(c) Farming and the Public Highway code of practice. This dealt in particular with mud on the road, hedge cutting, Ditches and drains and a few miscellaneous matters. Mr West was concerned that solid lumps of straw and mud were blocking 232, the drains in Hemington and was anxious that it should be prevented from getting to the drains. Grit from the winter piles was also being washed into the drains. The clerk was asked to enquire how often the drains were cleared in Hemington.

(d) The booklet of the European Year of the Environment was brought to the attention of the meeting as was

(e) the booklet on the Trading Standards Service in Somerset.

(f) the correspondence on the emergency planning was not available.

(g) A letter from Mr R. Golland wished the new council an interesting and successful session. He mentioned the disgusting state of the telephone kiosk on the green and the clerk was asked to write to British Telecom about this.

He suggested also that a second-hand mowing machine might be purchased in order to cut the grass around the village. It was felt that the parish were getting good value from Mendip District Council but that it was worth enquiring about Manpower Services Schemes and Community Service Schemes.

60. Accounts: Posts and polycarbonate for the notice board - £54.98. It was proposed by Mrs J. Horler and seconded by Mr P. West that a cheque should be signed for this.

Any Other Business.

The clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt regarding the potholes in Chickwell Lane and the state of the road through Faulkland since resurfacing. This has been the cause of many complaints in particular with regard to the large gravel that is being used. It was felt that the road should have been tarmaced.

New councillor – Anne, asked if the councillors could sit facing the meeting as in the past she had found it rather unfriendly to sit behind the backs of the council and some parishioners found it difficult to hear. It was agreed that in future the council would face the meeting.

Mendip District Council have been approached by a parishioner with regard to the siting of a skip in the council yard at Faulkland. The clerk was asked to contact Mendip to be brought up to date with the situation.

Signed E.A. Green 2 July 1987.

Beneath this there is a photograph with the legend 'The New Notice Board with notices of the first Parish Council election for 32 years.'

233. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday July 2nd at 7.30pm.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr P. West, Mrs J. Horler, Anne Rogers.

61. The minutes of the last meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

62. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J. Batten.

63. Matters Arising: (a) Car Park. The land adjacent to the village hall is in the process of being sold with the house alongside it. It was suggested that the area next to the telephone kiosk could be used for some cars but it would be necessary to acquire the land from the owner, Lord Hylton, in order to do this. The problem of car parking remains unsolved for the time being.

(b) Insurance: Local builders and architects that had been contacted did not give valuations. Estate Agents – County Properties in Radstock would charge £30 + VAT to give a valuation on the village hall. The surveyor's department of Mendip District Council did not have the resources to provide this service. The clerk was asked to write again to the Commercial Union Assurance Company asking if they would give a valuation as some insurance companies are willing to do this. It was also suggested that Mr Pollard at the Community Council might be able to help.

(c) In response to an enquiry regarding the tarmacing of the road through Faulkland Mr Burkitt explained that the A366 had been given a cost-effective process called surface-dressing and there was no plan to lay tarmac.

(d) The surveyor's department explained that the drains in Hemington were cleaned out about 3 or 4 times a year – in fact more frequently than in other villages.

(e) Fulwell Close is a Class 4 Highway adopted in 1977 by the County Council. The clerk was asked to write requesting that 'sleeping policemen' should be installed in the road in the hope of deterring the motorbikes which appear to use the area as a race track.

(f) The District Council were aware of a request for a skip in the council yard at Faulkland and had deferred it to the County Council. The County Council said they had no knowledge of the request but they had no plans to extend their waste re-cycling service.

(g) The telephone kiosk in Faulkland has been cleaned and repaired.

(h) Manpower Services Commission and Community Service Orders with regard to grass cutting. Jobs undertaken by Manpower Services must not put at risk any existing businesses or jobs in normal employment. The projects must involve work which would not normally be done. If the projects are likely to involve the interests of unions in either the public or private sector or existing employers they should have the written support of the relevant trade unions and employer's organizations. Community Service Orders are tied by much the same rules. They work in groups of 4 or 5 at a time for one day a week. It was suggested that Mr Green should look through the book produced by M.S.C. with a view to asking a speaker to the next Parish Council meeting.

(i) It was decided not to enter for the European Year of the Environment award.

(j) Late postal deliveries. The Post Office Customer Services Manager has been advised that deliveries to Faulkland and Foxcote will be monitored within the next month with a view to improving the service.

64. Accounts: It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Mr P. West that the following cheques should be signed:

(a) Insurance – annual premium £139.04

(b) Southern Electricity: £528.00

£387.00

(c) Community Council – annual subscription £5.00

65. Planning Applications: (a) Keepers Lodge, Hardington: MDC recommended that Listed Building Consent should be given.

(b) Erection of Agricultural Bungalow at Charlton Farm: MDC recommended refusal as it was not considered that there was a genuine need. However Mr Wilmott has re-submitted his application.

66. Correspondence: The clerk had received a letter from Bathampton Morris Men who had been sent an anonymous note complaining that they had not removed their posters. It was agreed that whoever wrote the note should have signed their name.

234. (b) A letter had been sent to Mr Burkitt from a resident of Turners Tower following an incident at the crossing by Hollowpit Lane where another resident had been knocked over and badly injured. He suggested that warning signs and/or road markings would be a warning to motorists of the danger of pedestrians crossing and vehicles emerging from the cottages. The clerk was asked to write to the Road Safety Officer at Frome for his observations.

(c) There was an order to close the road at Hemington on the weekend of July 4th and 5th for the annual Open Weekend.

(d) The clerk gave notice of her resignation on October 1st. Due to changing personal circumstances she will find it increasingly difficult to find the time to carry out the duties of clerk.

(e) A letter from a resident at Faulkland complained of the state of the pavements. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Burkitt about this.

Mr. Green gave a brief report of the SALC meeting. Their notes and notices were read out.

Any Other Business A letter written to the SALC by Somerset County Council suggested that they were open to requests of grass cutting from Parish Councils. The clerk was asked to get further information on this with a view, perhaps, to them taking on the cutting of the Village Green and/or the Playing Field in the hope that perhaps Mendip District Council might transfer their work to the area around the village pond.

There was a complaint that the drain by the Hemington signpost, near the Council houses, in Faulkland needed attention.

Signed E.A. Green

235. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Thursday 3rd September at 7.30pm in Faulkland Village Hall.

Members present: Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mr P. West, Mr J. Batten, Mrs J. Horler, Mrs A. Rogers.

67. The minutes of the meeting having been read were signed as a correct record.

68. Apologies There were no absentees.

69. Matters Arising: (a) Valuation of the village hall: Commercial Union Assurance do not employ qualified surveyors and suggest contacting a local builder or surveyor. The Community Council are also unable to help. Mr P. West proposed that it should be left at £40,000 and reviewed in a year's time.

(b) A letter of thanks had been received from the Community Council for the annual subscription as well as their annual report and accounts.

(c) Replies from surveyor's department: a reply had been received regarding the state of the footpaths and also that they are sorry to hear about the misuse of Fulwell Close but the County Council does not install sleeping policemen. The Clerk was asked to write to the Housing Department at Mendip District Council about the nuisance of the motorbikes and informing them of the approach to the County Council.

(d) Grass-cutting – the County Council's surveyor's department explained that their very ambiguous letter had been misunderstood.

70. Peacetime Emergencies – Mr P. West volunteered to become the new parish contact.

71. Accounts: (a) Somerset County Playing Fields Association annual subscription - £2

(b) Southern Electricity £358

It was proposed by Mr J. Batten and seconded by Mrs J. Horler that these cheques should be signed.

The clerk was asked to bring to the attention of Southern Electricity the fact that the first light had not yet been lit and to make enquiries about the prepaid cards informing the authority of faults.

72. Planning Applications

Green Barn, The Green, Faulkland: the parish council had no objection to this application but would prefer the right hand opening to store to be closed by wooden doors.

Lower Farm, Faulkland – conversion of two barns to form two dwellings and alteration of existing vehicular access. The P.C. observed that the access to this site is a particularly dangerous one which will not be improved by lowering or removing the walls. The visibility is blocked by the house. The most suitable alternative access would be from the adjoining field if some arrangement could be agreed with the owner of this land. If this could be arranged the Parish Council would have no objection to the conversion of the barns.

Park Farm, Buckland Dinham – change of use of existing agricultural building for the storage and drying of timber and gate assembly. The P.C. had no objection to this but the access is within Buckland Dinham parish.

74. Correspondence: (a) Report of special needs review panel – the education committee is considering proposals regarding the re-organisation of special education in Somerset. Provision has been made for public discussion of the proposals during meetings involving parents. Mr E. Green volunteered to go to the meeting at Critchill School.

(b) Mendip Rural Youth Worker can be contacted to discuss her work and the clerk was asked to put the letter on the notice board.

(c) 'Removal of canine faeces' byelaws: the Secretary of State is willing to consider appropriate applications for new byelaws to parks, recreation grounds and 236. open spaces. The questionnaire regarding a consultation meeting was filled in.

(d) Review of Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way: this is now kept under continuous review and public paths can be altered, added or extinguished and the Definitive Map amended by a Modification Order. The Parish Council agreed that they should inform the County Council of the path opposite the school in Hemington at present described as a Bridle Way in spite of a very large stone slab blocking the entrance/exit which has been there for as long as anyone can remember.

(e) South Wansdyke Health Week – the council were informed of the date of its existence (*sic*).

(f) A visit has been arranged whereby the Chairman, the Clerk and one other member of the Parish Council may visit the offices of Mendip District Council.

(g) The Planning Department are to begin supplying copies of plans to Parish Councils.

75. Report on Training Day: Anne Rogers reported on this day – that great stress was put on the importance of Parish Councils, that where possible if helping organisations to give goods rather than money in order that the V.A.T. may be claimed back. She also gleaned the information that any donations should be made under the Free 2P.

76. Rubbish Clearance Cleanaway have often failed to collect the rubbish at the Keeper's Cottages at Terry Hill. The clerk was asked to write to Mendip District Council about this.

77. Appointment of new clerk Mrs Meek was appointed as the new clerk and Mrs Horler was thanked for her service over the past 7 years.

Any Other Business

The clerk was asked to write to the Highways Department about the road through Hardington, to British Telecom informing them of broken panes of glass in the kiosk at Turners Tower and Mr West volunteered to go into Frome police station to see if any thing can be done about the dangerous parking at Jubilee Terrace, Hemington.

Unfortunately obscenities have been scratched into the perspex on the doors of the new notice board. It was thought that it may be possible to rub it off with wet and dry silicone-carbide.

Signed E.A. Green Nov 5th 87

237. A meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held on Thursday, 5th November 1987, in Faulkland Village Hall. Members present were: Mr E. Green (Chair), Mr P. Francis, Mr P. West, Mr J. Batten, and Mrs Anne Rogers (who apologised for arriving late). The Chairman welcomed the new Clerk and the several members of the public who were present.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J. Horler.

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the previous Meeting: a) Motorbike nuisance: as the Parish Council would be able to pay for the cost of 'sleeping policemen' in Fulwell Close from the 'Free 2p', the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Burkitt to see if the District Council would authorise this.

b) Street Lighting: the defective light has now been remedied and the Clerk has received a supply of pre-paid cards for reporting faults.

c) Footpaths: it was agreed to contact the Somerset Probation & Aftercare Service to see if supervised minor offenders on Community Service Orders could clear the lane behind the green.

d) Special Needs Review Panel: the Chairman had been unable to attend this meeting or to obtain a report on it.

e) Visit to M.D.C. Offices: the Chairman and Clerk had been very impressed with the new offices, which were a vast improvement on the old premises. All information is stored on main-frame computers, and desk-top micros give staff instant access to the smallest details.

f) Notice Board: Anne Rogers had had limited success with rubbing down the scratches, and it was not considered worth the trouble and expense of trying to get the material repolished, as even if this was successful the damage might easily be inflicted again. The obscenities remain partly visible, and where rubbing down has been tried the polycarbonate is now somewhat opaque. It was therefore decided to remove the doors entirely for a trial period.

g) A letter from Somerset County Playing Fields Association thanked the Parish Council for their donation of £2.

h) Members' attention was drawn to a meeting at M.D.C. on 26th November to discuss the Canine Faeces Bylaw and the model Bye laws for the Regulation of Dogs.

i) The Definitive Map was produced to show that the Bridleway between Hemington and Hardington was originally classed as a Footpath; the reason for the change in classification is not clear. The Local Government Boundary Commission are to recommend that the whole of Hassage should be united in Somerset.

4. Precept: It was decided that a precept of £800 for General Expenses should be made this year.

5. Accounts: a) Burial Grant – Hemington Parochial Church Council - £150
Foxcote Parochial Church Council - £50

b) Auditor's Fees - £51.75

c) Mrs F. Horler – ½ -year's salary £92.50
+ expenses £33.54 - £126.04

It was proposed by Mr P. Francis and seconded by Anne Rogers that these cheques be signed.

6. Correspondence: a) It was agreed that the Parish Council might, at some future date, hire the video which gives information on the making of Village Appraisals and Parish Maps.

b) The Community Council had sent details of an Information Evening on the 'Best Kept Village' Competition, and a questionnaire on 'Thatch' which the Chairman will fill in.

c) The University of Bristol will hold a one-day conference on Rural Britain in the 1990's on Friday 20th November.

d), e), f), and g): S.A.L.C., S.C.C., M.D.C. and N.A.L.C. had all sent copies of their Annual Reports and Accounts. S.C.C. also sent details of their revised minibus service, and M.D.C. drew members' attention to a seminar on Playground Safety on 14th November.

It was agreed to post details of Mendip Marriage Guidance Council on the noticeboard, and to pass the information on the Piper Lifeline Forum to Mrs Jean Horler.

238. 7. Proposed Hinkley Point 'C' Nuclear Power Station: As the opinions of members as to the advisability of the proposed new Power Station were sharply divided, the Parish Council did not feel able to notify West Somerset District Council of a particular view. Members of the public were invited to make their own views known to West Somerset D.C.

8. Planning Applications: Park Farm, Buckland Dinham – change of use of existing Agricultural Building: the application now includes storage and handling (but not selling) of pre-packed fuels. The Parish Council had no objection, and M.D.C. recommend conditional approval.

Lower Farm, Faulkland: Conversion of two barns to form two dwellings and alteration of existing vehicular access. M.D.C. recommend conditional approval.

Members welcomed a letter from M.D.C.'s Director of Planning & Amenities stating his intention of informing the Parish Council of the outcome of Planning Applications.

9. Warning signs at Turner's Tower: The Road Safety Officer has stated that he will recommend that these be erected; the final decision however rests with Somerset C.C.

10. Tree Inspection: Following the damage to one of the chestnut trees on the green, caused by the historic storm of the night of October 15th/16th, it was agreed to ask Challoner & West to come and inspect both of them. As Commercial Union had written to say that the Parish Council would not be held liable for the damage caused to two cars by the falling branch, the Clerk was asked to write and ask them to explain exactly what the insurance did cover in respect of the trees.

Other Business: The Clerk had heard unofficially that the 40 m.p.h. speed limit through the village was to go ahead and that it was hoped to put it into operation by Christmas. In view of the public concern over the dangerous bends between Tucker's Grave and Norton St. Philip it was agreed to ask the Ward Clerk to raise the question of warning signs on this stretch of road at the next Ward Meeting. The threat to road safety posed by mud from several gateways between Hemington and the main road also gave rise to concern, and the Clerk was asked to write to the farmer concerned suggesting he put hard-core in these gateways. Anne Rogers raised the question of whether the Parish Council can reclaim V.A.T. on goods and services purchased for the Village Hall, and it was agreed to consult the S.A.L.C. about this. The Clerk was asked to thank Mr Burkitt for arranging the new culvert through Hemington, and to remind him of the potholes which still exist, and of the state of the pavements. After the meeting, it was agreed to write to Mrs Frances Horler expressing members' appreciation of her very conscientious work during her seven years as Parish Clerk, and to make her a presentation in recognition of this. The Clerk was also instructed to write to Mr Braithwaite of Somerset County Council regarding the possibility of installing a further street light, outside the Village Hall.

Signed E.A. Green 7th Jan 1988

239. A Meeting of the Hemington Parish Council was held in Faulkland Village Hall on Thursday, 7th January 1988, at 7.30p.m.

Before the Meeting commenced, Mr Ted Green presented Mrs Frances Horler with a golds wrist-watch, in recognition and appreciation of her service to the Parish Council as Clerk, from 1980 to 1987.

Members present were Mr E. Green (Chairman), Mr P. Francis, Mrs J. Horler, Mr J. Batten, Mrs A. Rogers and Mr P. West.

1. Apologies: there were no absentees.

2. The Minutes of the previous Meeting were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the previous Meeting:

a) 'Sleeping Policemen' in Fulwell Close: the local authority oppose the idea of erecting these, as they consider them hazardous to road users, and county policy now is not to use them. A letter from the Environmental Health Officer suggests action by the police as the only real solution to the problem.

b) Street Lighting: the County Council confirm that they would meet the full energy and maintenance costs, should the Parish Council decide to put a light outside the Village Hall. We would also be eligible for the same Grant as before (30%) towards the cost of installation. S.E.B. have confirmed their earlier price, i.e. £130 for the actual light and fittings, and £49.75 for providing the supply for it. The decision whether to go ahead with putting a light here or not was deferred until the Annual Parish Meeting. The question also arose of inadequate lighting in the main street and the Clerk was asked to inform S.E.B. of the black spot opposite the Village Green and investigate the possibility of re-siting or of providing an additional light.

c) Footpat Clearance: This is expected to commence in the New Year.

d) V.A.T. and the Village Hall: it appears that ultimate legal authority for the hall rests with the Parish Council. This means that, in spite of its being run as a separate committee, the parish Council might still be viewed as its Sole Trustees, and be able to claim back V.A.T. on all its expenditure. It was decided to write to the V.A.T. office to check on this.

e) Tree Inspection: a number of estimates were to hand for work on the (sic) two horse chestnut trees on the Green. However as these differed widely, and as all the firms concerned had a commercial interest at stake, it was decided to seek independent advice, from Mendip D.C. and Somerset C.C., before proceeding further.

f) Hinkley 'C' meeting: Anne Rogers and the Clerk had attended one of the public meetings, at which there was widespread concern on the part of most people attending, about the safety of the proposed new reactor. S.A.L.C. has decided to support the proposal subject to four safety provisos.

g) Speed Limit: the Clerk was asked to seek confirmation of this.

4. Accounts: a) For presentation watch for retiring Clerk - £31.49

b) For stationery - John Green - £35.70

c) For grass cutting - Mendip District Council - £292.88

It was proposed by John Batten and seconded by Paul Francis that these cheques by (sic) signed.

5. Correspondence:

a) Copies of the Byelaws relating to straw and stubble burning had been received from M.D.C.

b) Details of their training days for Councillors and Clerks had been received from the National Association of Local Councils. 240. c) Notes and Notices from the S.A.L.C. were available for members.

d) Dog Consultative Meeting: M.D.C. had sent a report of the meeting and copies of model byelaws for the control of dogs and the removal of canine faeces.

e) Quarterly magazines - 'Thatch', Local Council Review, and the Wicksteed report had been received. It was decided not to renew the subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks.

f) 'Armada 88' - details of plans to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the sighting of the Spanish Armada and the lighting of beacons throughout southern England are available to any organization that wishes to take part.

