

# HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

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## MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

### **\*\*DRAFT\*\*** MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at Faulkland Village Hall.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: M Corney (Chairman), V Curtis, M Hanley, M Francis, F Green and A Hucker (Vice Chairman).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor Alison Barkshire, J Howell (Clerk) and three residents.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident asked about Highways. The Chairman provided an update on actions taken to date.

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## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- 06/21-22:023. **WELCOME & APOLOGIES**  
The Chairman welcomed members and residents to the first in-person meeting since the pandemic began. There were no apologies for absence.
- 06/21-22:024. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
There were none.
- 06/21-22:025. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**  
**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 06/21-22:026. **REPORTS**  
**a. The District Councillor provided a report. Items included:**
- Poll on unitary options. Stronger Somerset identified as the preferred option by voters (supported by 69% Mendip voters and 65% of voters as a whole).
  - Phosphate issues on the levels and potential impact on development.
  - Climate Emergency declaration. MDC aim for carbon neutrality by 2030 and current gap / challenges in meeting this target. District Council looking at: power, housing, transport and agriculture.
- b. The Chairman provided a report. Items included:**
- Theft of tractor at a paddock off Fulwell Lane.
  - Thanks to members and the Clerk for keeping parish council business progressing over the last 12 months and to the Clerk who will be moving on at the end of August.
- c. The Clerk provided a short report on actions / updates from previous meetings.**
- Meeting dates for the Village Hall. October meeting to be held at the school. Clerk to progress.
- 06/21-22:027. **PLANNING**
- a. There were no planning decisions to note from MDC.
  - b. Members noted the Planning responses made by Parish Council to MDC using delegated powers.

The following draft minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Planning Application	Location	Proposal and PC response
2021/0861/LBC & 2021/0860/HSE	Chapel Farm Faulkland To Norton St Philip Road Faulkland Proposal: Conversion of barn to annexe, installation of skylights on the main house roof slope facing south-west, installation of replacement skylights on roof slope facing north-east and partial infill of the study external doorway to form window	No response submitted to MDC. Response required by 07/06/2020.

c. The Parish Council considered the following Planning Application:

Planning Application	Location and proposal	Proposal & deadline for response to MDC
2021/0826/HSE	Location: 5 Pond Cottages Bishop Street Proposal: Installation of 3No. dormer windows	10/06/2021

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council have no objections to this Planning Application and recommend approval.

- d. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has received an appeal APP/Q3305/W/21/3271662 Location: Building At Row Lane Laverton Frome Somerset BA2 7RA. The Parish Council have previously submitted a response to the Planning Inspectorate and Parish Council objections remain.

06/21-22:028.

### **HIGHWAYS**

The Chairman provided an update on Highways matters. Highlights included:

- Disappointing response from SCC regarding a request from the Parish Council requesting a reduction of speed limit and double white lines (previously supported).
- Productive meeting with Neighbourhood Police Officer Toni Lines which included parish priorities of speeding and road safety. Police have advised that SCC implement requests to reduce speed limits, double white lines and further control and the Police are consulted at feasibility study stage.
- Dialogue with Kilmersdon Parish Council and Norton St Philip Parish Council. Kilmersdon Parish Council are collating a joint request to include Kilmersdon Parish Council, Norton St Philip and Hemington, Hardington and Foxcote Parish Council. Members agreed that if an unsatisfactory response is received the PC will write to SCC asking for support from local PM and District Cllrs to formally investigate a reduction of speed limit and double white lines.
- Auto Speed Watch – previous resistance from the PCC to use the data and developments that ICO have approved ASW as compliant. In the last month 574 movements exceeded 38mph in daylight hours.
- Further police assistance with speeding motorists including a request for additional motorcycle resources.
- Potholes – Clerk to progress with Cllr Hucker.

06/21-22:029.

### **PLAY AREA**

Members thanked Cllr Green for removing one of the play area towers and climbing rope structure. Cllr Hucker provided a report on the condition of the Play Area.

Action: The Clerk will book in the annual Play Area inspection.

A Cllr raised the position of the Play equipment. The Chairman provided an update on quotes (2 now received). There may be an opportunity to spread payment over 3 years. Cllr Corney and Cllr Hanley to progress grant funding opportunities / applications.

06/21-22:030.

### **FINANCES**

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council approved the payment schedule for June 2021.

Cheque	Paid to	Amount
1187	Mrs J Howell Basic pay, phone, work from home expense, printer ink. Final Zoom invoice.	£303.78
<b>Total payments approved June 2021</b>		<b>£303.78</b>

The following draft minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that she was awaiting grass cutting and internal audit invoices – these will be added to the payment schedule for July 2021 once received.

The Parish Council received the latest financial statement.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved 6 hours OT for Clerk (to include internal audit work undertaken).

06/21-22:031. **ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21 – CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION**

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the certificate of exemption in line with eligibility criteria.

Members agreed that the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer sign the Certificate of exemption.

06/21-22:032. **ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement. Members agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk sign the Annual Governance Statement.

06/21-22:033. **ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21 – ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENT**

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the Annual Accounting Statement. This section has been prepared and signed by the Responsible Financial Officer before the meeting. Members agreed that the Chairman sign the Annual Governance Statement.

06/21-22:034. **ANNUAL RETURN 2020/21 – DATES FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS**

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed the dates for the period for the exercise of public rights. Dates proposed: 14<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the bank reconciliation on 31 March 2021 and statement of variances.

06/21-22:035. **INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Parish Council received the Internal Audit Report.

06/21-22:036. **RESIGNATION OF THE CLERK**

Members noted the resignation of the Clerk and agreed preparations for recruitment. This included: advert for vacancy, budget for advertising, application deadline and dates for interview. The Clerk will progress with the Chairman.

06/21-22:037. **INFORMATION / ITEMS TO RAISE FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING**

- Cllr Hanley – Wildflower strips and reduced mowing to encourage biodiversity.

06/21-22:038. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Faulkland Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting. The Chairman thanked members for attending. **These minutes are in draft form and will be considered for approval at the next Parish Council Meeting.** Minutes are available on the Parish Council website.