

HEMINGTON, HARDINGTON & FOXCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th February 2021 (Remote Meeting - held over zoom & telephone)

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor Alison Berkshire and J Howell (Clerk).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

02/21-21:107 **WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

02/21-21:108 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

02/21-21:109 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 13th January 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

02/21-21:110 **REPORTS**

- a. The Chairman provided a report. Paint for the Telephone Kiosk has been impacted by EU supply chain and customs disruptions. Fasthost emails. The Chairman will liaise with Cllr Green with regards to the duck sign and securing it in position.
- b. The District Councillor Alison Berkshire provided a report. Highlights included:
Impact of coronavirus on Mendip DC staffing, priorities and budget/finances. Some of the workforce have been diverted to supporting the vaccination and testing programmes. MDC are reported to be around £2 million short on the budget which will be covered by reserve. Broadband contract awarded to Truespeed to deliver 2021-2024. MDC priorities as a result of coronavirus to support vaccination efforts, statutory duties and some impact on other services. Awaiting information from Central Government on the 8-week consultation around a move to unitary authority.
- c. The Clerk provided a short report. This included:
 - Making use of the new Parish Council website to publicise news items / posts. Recent items include - Walking in Somerset website, Somerset County Council Coronavirus Bulletins, Somerset Covid-19 Weekly Updates, Somerset Sight - service and request for volunteers and MDC Health and Wellbeing Briefing.
 - Ongoing issues with email – capacity issue is preventing Cllrs receiving emails. Fasthosts to be discontinued for Cllr email only. The Clerk will retain a Fasthost account and centrally manage / distribute Parish Council information as usual.
 - Resignation of Cllr Fiona Hayward. The Clerk will submit to MDC and obtain a notice for the vacancy.

02/21-21:111 **PLANNING**

a. Members noted the following planning decisions:

Planning Application	Details:	Mendip District Council decision:
2020/1852/FUL	Location: Land At 373747 154405 High Street, Faulkland. Proposal: Erection of 1no three-bedroom dwelling.	Reported as: Withdrawn by applicant
2020/2438/HSE	Proposal: Alterations to lean-to garage, erect two story extension. Location: Applethatch, Green Street to Single Hill Foxcote.	Approval with Conditions (Full details including conditions are available on the Planning Portal).
2020/2245/HSE	Proposal: Loft conversion with raised insulated flat roof rear dormer to the main house. Conversion of the rear conservatory to a garden room with an insulated flat roof with a lantern and bi-fold doors opening to the rear garden. Location: 4 Ruckley Ford, Green Street, Foxcote.	Approval with Conditions (Full details including conditions are available on the Planning Portal).
2020/2362/FUL	Proposal: Erection of a granny annexe. Location: Ashgrove, Grove Lane, Faulkland.	Approval with Conditions (Full details including conditions are available on the Planning Portal).

b. There were no new Planning Applications to consider at this meeting.

c. Members received the MDC Planning Bulletin: Service Update (circulated).

02/21-21:112 **PLANNING INSPECTORATE APPEAL DECISION**

The Parish Council note the decision by the Planning Inspector in relation to Appeal Ref:

APP/Q3305/C/20/3258757, Land at Faulkland, Radstock, BA3 5X. Summary of Decision: The appeal is dismissed and the enforcement notice is upheld with corrections.

02/21-21:113 **POST BOX TURNER'S TOWER**

The Clerk has received a response to the second letter: request for the stolen post box at Turners Tower to be replaced. The Post Office have requested the request be submitted to Royal Mail centrally. Request now submitted online. Response expected within 14 days.

02/21-21:114 **HIGHWAYS**

a. The Chairman provided an update on measures to tackle speeding in the parish

Actions in hand:

- Meeting request with Neighbourhood Policing Team / PCSO Beck. Awaiting dates from PCSO Beck. Clerk to chase.
- The Parish Council wish to have a meeting with the Police before writing back to SCC to take forward some of the main issues.
- The Clerk has submitted an enquiry with the Information requested from Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and information / advice has been provided. The Clerk will circulate and add to the March PCM agenda.

b. Lorries in Laverton

This relates to email correspondence to Somerset County Council copying in the Parish Council reference lorries in Laverton. Chairman liaising with point of contact at Norton St Philip and will follow up.

02/21-21:115 **TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE**

Order requirements updated – The Clerk reported having received an email from the Woodland Trust. The Woodland Trust reported a cyber-attack which has had an impact on systems. The charity is reported to also be running at much reduced capacity due to staff furlough. Tree packs have been delayed as a result. Delivery to take place in April.

Members discussed and concerns were raised about planting the trees in April and watering requirements. Members also considered planting logistics given that we are still in a national lockdown awaiting details for a route map out of lockdown.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council defer delivery of the tree pack from the Woodland Trust to Autumn 2021.

02/21-21:116 **FINANCES**

a. RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the payment schedule for February 2021

Cheque	Paid to	Amount
1179	Mrs J Howell	£303.78

	Basic pay, phone, work from home expense, printer ink. Zoom professional.	
Total payments for February 2021		£303.78

b. The Parish Council received the latest financial statement. (*Bank reconciliation to 31/01/2021 circulated*).

02/21-21:117 **SOMERSET WASTE PARTNERSHIP**

Somerset Waste Partnership have published details of the new 6am early start for all waste collections - recycling, rubbish, and garden waste - from Monday 1 February for at least one month. *Impact not yet seen by members.*

02/21-21:118 **VILLAGE CLEAN UP DAY – MARCH 2021**

To consider plans for the Village Clean Up Day, with support from MDC who provide bags etc and arrange the pick-up of the rubbish bags. (Item deferred from to March PCM due to Coronavirus).

02/21-21:119 **MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

The Clerk provided a brief update following briefing on MDC Priorities at the Parish Forum: Saving Lives, Delivering Statutory Services and Economic Recovery. (Bulletin circulated). *A recording of the briefing is to be made available on the MDC website.*

02/21-21:120 **CENSUS 2021**

Members note the census which will take place on 21st March 2021. *It is a once-in-a-decade opportunity to gather a detailed 'snapshot' of the population of Somerset and its characteristics. The information collected is used in planning and funding local services in our area, such as health, education, and transport.*

02/21-21:121 **EPC1-21 – RIGHT TO REGENERATE CONSULTATION**

RESOLVED: That the Chairman will prepare a response in conjunction with the Clerk. (Comments requested by 26th February 2021).

02/21-21:122 **CORONAVIRUS**

Meetings to continue remotely at present in line with latest advice / information. The Parish Council await further instruction from NALC / SALC relating to legislation to allow for remote meetings to May 2021. NALC are lobbying for an extension and further information from Central Government.

02/21-21:123 **INFORMATION / ITEMS TO RAISE FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING**

Report of anti-social driving. Details to be passed to Community Speed Watch and the local neighbourhood police team.

02/21-21:124 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th March 2021.

There being no further business, at 8.08pm the Chairman closed the meeting. The Chairman thanked members for attending.

Minutes are available on the Parish Council website.