

## HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[www.henstridgeparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.henstridgeparishcouncil.org.uk)

### HAVING YOUR SAY

As always, the Parish Council are keen to receive input from parishioners and would remind you that while a discretionary public forum is held at the beginning of every meeting lawful items for discussion and decision have to be listed on the Parish Council's or Committees' Agendas. Therefore if there is something that you feel the Parish Council should consider, please put your concern or query in writing to the Parish Clerk. Planning meetings (held twice monthly) are open to the public, and public opinion on planning applications is always welcomed either at the meetings or in writing. Copies of meeting Agendas are posted the previous week on the Parish Council's Henstridge & Yenston notice boards.

### MEET THE COUNCIL!

The Parish Council in Henstridge is made up of 13 Councillors.

Norman Symcox—Chair, HACC Representative  
Mickey Vincent—Full Council Vice Chair, Planning and Finance Chair, Yenston and Youth Representative  
Adam Temperton—Planning Vice Chair, Footpaths and Play area rep  
Paul Brighten—HALT Representative  
Pete Crocker—Highways representative  
James Day  
Chris Everill  
Jim Fitch  
Geoff Jarvis  
David Nicholls  
Malcolm Stobart—SALC and VHMC Representative  
Jean Oswick—VHMC Representative  
Paul White

Administration for the Council is dealt with by the Clerk and Proper officer to the Council, Rachel Walker, while Planning and Finance matters are handled by the Planning Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Tracey Watson. In the first instance all queries should be made to the Clerks.

The District Councillors are Tim Inglefield and William Wallace, who is also the County Councillor.

The meeting dates for the third quarter of 2009 will be:

#### FULL COUNCIL:

Monday 10th August  
Monday 7th September  
Monday 12th October  
PLANNING

As above, plus Monday 17th August  
Monday 21st September  
Monday 26th October.

Full Council Meetings take place at 7.30 in the Village Hall Lounge. The start times of planning meetings have some flexibility to reflect the number of applications, however they usually begin between 6.45 and 7.15 and times can be confirmed on the notice board, website or by calling the clerk.

# HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1 JUNE 2009



**HAVE YOU CHECKED  
YOUR SMOKE  
ALARMS RECENTLY?**



As with the rest of the village, the Parish Council were greatly saddened to learn of the death of John Hunt, in a fire at his home in Vale Street on 30th May. Mr Hunt was a well known figure in the village and on the allotments where he held a plot, and his presence will be noticeably missed at key events in the Parish such as the Annual Parish Meeting, where he was keen to share his opinions. A minutes silence was held in memory of Mr Hunt at the Parish Council's meeting of 8th June, The Council were also pleased to welcome Mike Toop, from the Devon and Somerset Fire Brigade who

informed the Council about the Home Safety Visit service which the Fire and Rescue Service offer. This is a free service whereby a fire and rescue service employee will visit your home to give advice and guidance in respect of fire and home safety needs and the development of escape plans. Particularly help can be offered to vulnerable groups such as the hard of hearing who may not be able to respond to standard smoke alarms. The Council are keen to support the Fire Service in encouraging everyone to take up this offer, particularly due to the distance that we are from the nearest fire station.

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Further information will be delivered to all homes in the village and can be found on the notice boards or via the Clerk.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

The Parish Council are now at the start of the Council's year, which runs from May. The Annual Parish Council meeting, which is the May meeting, meant the election of representatives, committees and Chair of the Council.

The role of Chair is to be taken once again by Norman Symcox with the vice-chair role to be filled by Mickey Vincent.

The Planning Committee, on which all Councillors serve, will be chaired by Mickey Vincent with Adam Temperton as Vice Chair.

The Council have agreed a change to the existence of the Finance Committee this year due to a change in the time scales allowed for the return of the annual audit forms. As Financial decisions have to go through the full Council for approval and the Committee was only an advisory one, it was decided to disband the Finance Committee in favour of holding Special Finance meetings of the full

## SUPPORT YOUR PCSO

The Council were pleased to welcome PCSO Winfield to their May meeting but were disappointed to learn of the problems that he has been encountering where people in the village are aware of the culprits of certain crimes but are not willing to provide him with this information, even where the events have been quite serious, such as the woman

Council, at the appropriate times, which will allow for more flexibility to fit with the demands of the audit schedule and avoid the same issues needing to be discussed twice.

The Council have also elected the following representatives for the year:

**Henstridge Airfield Consultative Committee** Norman Symcox

**Youth Representative** Mickey Vincent

**Village Hall Management Committee** Malcolm Stobart  
Jean Oswick

**Somerset Association of Local Councils** Malcolm Stobart

**Yenston Representative** Mickey Vincent

**Highways/Drains Representatives** Adam Temperton  
Peter Crocker-

**Footpaths Representative** Adam Temperton-

**HALT** Paul Brighten

with two young children in the car who had her windscreen smashed by youths throwing stones. The Parish Council would urge everyone to share information with the PCSO, directly, or to do this anonymously via the Parish Council or through Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**—we need to work together to make our village safer.

## REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Parish Council were absolutely delighted to welcome more than 35 members of the public to the Annual Parish Meeting which was held on Monday 18th May this year, and was the highest number to attend a meeting since the current Clerk took over in 2003!

As usual it was positive to see that there continue to be so many thriving groups in the village, and as well as the report from the Chairman of the Parish Council, there were also reports received from the Parochial Church Council, the Village Hall Management Committee, Henstridge United Football Team, the Brownies, the Cameo club, the WI, St Nicholas Singers, St Nicholas Primary School, HALT, the Blackmore Vale Lions Club, Henstridge Sports Club and Loose Ends.

Those involved in the trial project of the Youth Café, also reported to the meeting on how this had gone and on their hopes for the future. Support for the team who had led the project and provision for the youth of the village was discussed at some length and it was clear that this is something which is felt to be a need which needs to be considered.

The Parish Council have recently welcomed input from a local parishioner

who is keen to see the provision of a skateboard facility and has been working to gain input from the local children with regard to this, as she reported to the meeting. This is an area which we are looking into and hope to progress in the coming months.

A large number of allotments holders had also come along to the meeting and the problems with access were discussed at some length and feelings were obviously running high, since the removal of the pedestrian access from the bottom of the site by Yarlinton Homes (formerly South Somerset Homes). The Parish Council, while already pursuing this matter, advised that they would consider their options at their next meeting.

Other areas which were raised within the open forum were the need for more dog waste bins along Marsh Lane, the possibility of the provision of a new Village Hall and the importance of consideration being given to the Village Design Statement in progressing this, and the clearance and provision of bridleways and footpaths in the village, with particular reference to the stretch of Old Railway.

The meeting drew to a close at 9.20pm, although the general discussions continued for some time after this!