



HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Henstridge Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th March at 7.00pm at Henstridge Village Hall

Present: Cllrs - Ken Courtenay (Chair), Dennis Finch, Barry Howlett, Any Scard, Christine Steel, John Graham, Adrian Gaymer, Deborah Petheram, Jane Rose, Veronica Smith, Peter Thompson

Also Present: Locum officer and two members of the public (each part-time).

Public Open Session:

The village dog warden reported that 2 warnings had been handed out relating to dog mess. The Parish Council expressed thanks for their efforts.

Wobbly stiles in the parish had been reported and the slats on Marsh Lane bridge were rotten and would be reported to SSDC.

19:05 - Meeting opened.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Elspeth Graham sent her apologies.
2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Howlett declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 7c and 8c, Cllr Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7d.
3. **To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 31st January 2023:**
RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3^{1st} January 2023 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. **To note circulation of the Actions from Meeting list and discuss any matters arising:**
 - 4/10/22 – 8g: To inspect Parish tree’s in spring. ACTION: Cllrs Steel /Gaymer. **Ongoing.**
 - 4/10/22 – 8b: To investigate VH PV solar panels. ACTION: Cllr Smith. **Ongoing.**
 - 6/12/22 – 9g: Flooding issues in Oak Vale Wood. ACTION: Cllr Courtenay/Thompson. **Ongoing.**
 - 3/01/23 – 9a: Review VHMC fees. ACTION: E Graham, J Graham, Steel, Courtenay. **Ongoing.**
 - 31/1/23 – 6a: To respond to planning application 22/03560/OUT. ACTION: Clerk. **Complete.**
 - 31/1/23 – 8c: To investigate parish communication methods. ACTION: All Cllrs. **Ongoing.**
 - 31/1/23 – 8f: To instruct Symonds & Sampson to prepare a lease. ACTION: Cllr Courtenay. **Ongoing.**
 - 31/1/23 – 8i: To request an annual application form from Cricket Club. ACTION: Cllr E Graham. **Complete.**
 - 31/1/23 – 8j: To source quotes for VH patio drainage solutions. ACTION: Cllr J Graham. **Ongoing.**
 - 31/1/23 – 8i: To report on clerk recruitment campaign. ACTION: Recruitment panel. **Ongoing.**
 - 31/1/23 – 8m: To respond to planning application L22/02240/S73. ACTION: Clerk. **Complete.**

5. Reports

- a) **To receive any police matters:** None.
- b) **To receive County and District Councillor reports:** There were no Cllrs present at this time.

6. Planning

a) To consider the following Planning Applications:

Application number	Proposal	Applicant Details
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Chairman

Date

22/02240/S73	S73 application to vary Condition 10 point iii (scheme for pedestrian improvements), and to also discharge points i and ii of Condition 10 of Approval 17/03029/OUT (Inspectorate ref APP/R3325/W/18/3197690) for the Outline planning application for up to 130 dwellings with public open space, landscaping, sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and vehicular access point from Woodhayes Way.	Land Os 5439 Part Townsend Green Henstridge Templecombe
No additional comments to those that were agreed at the previous meeting were discussed.		
22/03566/LBC	Enlargement of previously approved internal wall opening	Manor Farm Bowden Henstridge Templecombe Somerset BA8 0PQ
RESOLVED: To SUPPORT the application.		

ACTION: Clerk

b) To note recent SSDC Planning Decisions:

Application number	Proposal	Applicant details	Decision
22/03361/HOU	Alterations and conversion of domestic outbuilding into residential annexe, creation of new terrace and associated landscaping alterations (revised application to approval 22/02464/HOU)	Lea Hill Bowden Henstridge Templecombe Somerset BA8 0PQ	Approved
22/02569/FUL	Retrospective application to convert traditional agricultural barn into one dwelling and amend openings as built; amendment to permission 15/00348/PAMB.	The Old Dairy Whitechurch Lane Yenston Templecombe Somerset BA8 0NJ	Approved

Noted.

7. Finance

- a) To receive a budget statement at end of Q3. **Noted.**
- b) To consider a grant request from St John's Ambulance. It was decided not to award a grant at this time.
- c) To consider a grant request of £6,637 from the Explorers Pre-School
This was deferred to the next meeting.
- d) To agree to a request for funds to complete allotment project work.
RESOLVED: To earmark £2190 for a community allotment to be paid on presentation of invoices.
- e) To agree the 2023-24 contract for mowing the Cricket Ground at a cost of £1,700
RESOLVED: To approve the Cricket Ground 2023-24 mowing contract at a cost of £1700 by the Cricket Club.
- f) To approve the cashbook and bank reconciliation to 28th February 2023.
RESOLVED: To approve the cashbook and bank reconciliation to 28th February 2023.
- g) To approve the following accounts for payment to be paid via internet banking and agree two signatories to authorise.

Chairman

Date

Supplier/Contractor	Narrative	Amount
J Ferguson	Locum Fee	£1650.00
SSDC	Ranger Jan & Feb 23	£1482.56
Henstridge Village Hall	Hall Hire Fee	£10.50
C&G Tarmac	Henstridge Village Hall car park repairs	£4152.00
S&A Utilities	Water leak repairs	£1560.00
Milborne Port Computers	Livedrive Backup	£48.00
TOTAL	Mar-23	£8903.06

RESOLVED: To approve the payments, totalling £8903.06 as presented with Cllr Howlett agreeing to set up the payments as the locum did not have bank access and Cllr Gayner and Cllr Graham agreeing to authorise.

ACTION: Cllrs Howlett, J Graham and Gaymer

8. Council Matters

- a) To consider a request to SCC Highways for a 30mph speed limit in Whitechurch Lane. The clerk was asked to contact the parishioner who made the request and suggest that they might make the request to SCC Highways, expressing the full support of the Parish Council.
ACTION: Clerk
- b) To agree the Budget Setting and Precept Request 2023/24 public statement (Cllr Howlett)
RESOLVED: To approve the Budget Setting and Precept Request statement for publication on the PC website as presented by Cllr Howlett.
ACTION: Clerk
- c) To report on a risk of closure of Henstridge Explorers Pre-School group and consider the allocation of earmarked reserves.(Cllr Howlett).
Cllr Howlett explained in detail the challenges faced by the Explorers Pre-School Group, namely falling numbers and increased costs. He explained that this was the reason for the additional grant application, which would be presented at the next meeting.
- d) To consider a request from Greenslade Taylor Hunt for a pre-application meeting to discuss a housing development – Townsend Farm, Towns End, Henstridge
RESOLVED: To provide a response:

The Parish Council is not willing to have a closed door meeting to discuss a proposed planning application for the Townsend Farm site. Councillors cannot give indication of acceptability or otherwise of developer's plans other than during the course of an open PC meeting, having had sight of the proposal in sufficient time beforehand. To do as you suggest would seriously undermine the confidence our parish has in its Council.

You may not be aware that there is a proposed development for 130 homes on the other side of the A357 from Townsend Farm which has been causing concern since it was granted outline planning permission at Appeal in 2018. We suggest that you go to the South Somerset District Council's website and read the Conditions relating to the grant of Approval of 17/03029/OUT (Inspectorate Ref APP/R3325/W/18/3197690), specifically Condition 10, concerning traffic and pedestrian safety in our High Street and adjacent roads, which has not been discharged. We believe that the same concerns will apply to your proposed Townsend Farm development.

ACTION: Clerk

Chairman

Date

- e) Upcoming Events - To note upcoming events in the parish.
 2 May Annual Parish Council Meeting
 6 May Coronation Day.
 7 May Coronation: Big Lunch (to be confirmed)
 8 May Coronation: The Big Help Out (to be confirmed)
 17 May Annual Parish Meeting (*post-meeting date set*)
 Dates to be advised: Cricket matches
 23 August Family Fun day

Noted.

- f) To receive reports from representatives (VHMC, Footpaths, Tree Warden, CSW, Youth, other) and provide guidance as appropriate.
 Cllr Thompson reported on work required in the woods (gate narrowing and signage) and agreed to obtain 3 quotes for consideration at a future meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Thompson

Youth Club - Cllr Rose requested PC commitment to a grant request expected to be presented to the PC in the new financial year. The Chairman explained that, whilst the PC remained committed to supporting the Youth Club with a sum budgeted for, the decision could only be considered when the grant request was put before the PC, as an agenda item with the supporting documentation.

- g) To agree Litter Pick days

RESOLVED: To agree the following dates for litter picking:

- 1st April 2023 (Great British Spring Clean)
- 17th June 2023
- 20th September 2023

- h) Future use of football pitch and facilities. To consider a request from a football team to use Henstridge facilities. (Cllr J Graham)

Cllr J Graham gave a detailed breakdown of the proposals and discussions ongoing relating to Team Gryphon potentially moving their home ground to Henstridge. All existing sport clubs were pleased by the news and the PC expressed their support and enthusiasm. Cllr Graham explained that there were a few more issues to be sorted out, but would report back to the PC at a future meeting.

9. **Date of Next meeting** – The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 4th April 2023 at 7.00pm**. All items for inclusion on the agenda and all items to be listed under issues arising from the previous meetings must be received by the **Clerk by 9.00am on Friday 24th March 2023**

20:47 – Meeting closed.

 Chairman

 Date