



HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes

The Annual meeting of Henstridge Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Ash Walk, Henstridge on Tuesday 7th May 2024 from 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Veronica Smith (Chair), Cllr Ken Courtenay, Cllr E Graham, Cllr John Graham, Cllr Adrian Gaymer, Cllr Deborah Petheram, Cllr Dennis Finch, Cllr Christine Steel, Cllr Peter Thompson, Cllr Andy Scard. All present accepted their position as members of the Parish Council.

In attendance: John Smales, Parish Clerk Ann Lee and 4 members of the public

- 1. To elect a Chair and receive a Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Courtenay nominated Cllr Smith. This was seconded by Cllr Adrian Gaymer and unanimously carried.** Cllr Smith thanked those present and accepted the position. She duly completed an acceptance of Office form and submitted this to the Clerk.
- 2. Apologies for Absence.** To receive and approve apologies for absence including reasons given (Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) Apologies were received from **Cllr Nicola Clark, Cllr Jane Rose, Cllr Barry Howlett, Cllr Tony Cowles**
- 3. Declarations of Interest.** (Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any Pecuniary or Other interests they may have under the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct). Cllrs whose circumstances had changed were asked to complete a revised Declaration of Interest (DofL) form. The Clerk reminded members that it is their responsibility to notify any changes as they arise on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Code of Conduct.
- 4. To elect a Vice Chairman and receive a Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Finch volunteered to stand for this position. Cllr Graham nominated Cllr Finch and this was seconded by Cllr Gaymer and unanimously carried.** Cllr Finch thanked those present. He duly completed an acceptance of Office form and submitted this to the Clerk.
- 5. To elect a Chair and members of the Open Spaces Committee and receive Declarations of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Andy Scard volunteered to stand. Proposed by Cllr Denise Finch and seconded by Cllr John Graham. Unanimously agreed with no changes to the Committee membership.** Cllr Scard duly completed an acceptance of Office form and submitted this to the Clerk.
- 6. To review the arrangement that the Planning Committee is made up of the entire council and agree any changes. Cllr E Graham proposed no changes. This was seconded by Cllr Gaymer and unanimously carried.**
- 7. To elect a member to act as Coordinating Councillor for Personnel and Human Resources. Cllr Christine Steel nominated Cllr E Graham to be**

re-elected to this position. Seconded by Cllr Gaymer and unanimously approved.

8. To propose representatives of the Council to the following:

Cllrs discussed the following responsibilities:

- Allotments
- Highways/Drains
- Somerset Association of Local Councils
- Tree Warden
- Village Hall Management Committee
- Yenston and Bowden
- Youth
- Climate and Environment
- Community Speedwatch
- Airfield Consultative Committee

Cllr Smith proposed to keep the current allocation of representation making no changes to membership. Seconded by Cllr Finch. Unanimously agreed.

Cllr Thompson volunteered to be a representative for Henstridge and to assist Cllr Howlett to reignite the Community Speed Watch group locally . He will discuss this with Cllr Howlett on his return from his holiday. Cllr Thompson also agreed to establish if Somerset Council still intends to support an Airfield Consultative Committee which he is prepared to attend **ACTION: Cllr Thompson**

9. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 9th April 2024. (Local Government Act 1972 Sch 12). Cllr E Graham proposed the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Gaymer and unanimously carried. The Chair signed and dated them.

1. To note the Actions from the Meeting and discuss any matters arising.

4/10/22 8b	To investigate VH PV solar panels and progress with Village Hall Committee. ONGOING	Cllr T Cowles
6/12/22 9g	Flooding issues in Oak Vale Wood i)To learn further progress from volunteers to clearing the second half of the path for a mini digger to enable site access. ii)To provide two formal quotes by post or email to the Clerk prior meeting. ONGOING	Cllr Thompson
7/3/23 8f:	To obtain 3 quotes for gates & signage in Oak Vale Wood when the flooding issue has been resolved. ONGOING	Cllr Thompson
5/9/23 8biv	To establish if the Council will empty an extra dog excrement bin for the PC cemetery before committing to purchase. a)For discussion at OSC July 2024	Cllr Scard (Open Spaces Committee)

	b)The Clerk to draft a public article Article written and submitted. COMPLETED	
3/10/23 8l	To receive business case with recommendations for increasing the Parish Council prices for burial, Interment, memorials. ONGOING	Clerk
3/10/23 9d	To receive progress on website initiative following meeting with the website developer. Cllr E Graham reported that a meeting has taken place and progress will increase following the Village Fete. ONGOING	Cllr E Graham and Clerk
5/3/24 5a	To contact the local constabulary to discuss the timeliness of police report. Cllr Smith reported that she had received a response to her enquiry from Mark Shelford, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner indicating that crime statistics can be retrieved from Somerset's Portal. It is evident that Police reports have been cut in this time of austerity. COMPLETE	Cllr Smith
5/3/24 5b	To contact Cllr Clark to establish impact of cuts to Highways and flood issues from blocked drains and storm cover damage. The Clerk reported that Cllr N Clark is chasing the department for a response, Somerset's new website expects the Public to report issues using a portal. COMPLETE	Clerk

10. Reports

- a) **To receive a police report: None received**
- b) **To receive Unitary Councillor May 2024 reports from Cllr Nicola Clark.** The Chair noted Cllr Clark's apology and agreed to publish her comprehensive report on the PC website.

11. Planning

- a) **To receive an update on Planning appeal 22/02240/S73, 23/01470/OUT and 21/03369/REM**
Cllr Gaymer reported that 100 people attended the Appeal Meeting in Yeovil on the 22 April 2024. The Planning Committee agreed with the PC that the proposal from Barrett Homes was unacceptable and failed to produce any degree of pedestrian safety or improve traffic risks either. At the meeting it was noted that the planning application expires on Sunday the 19th of May 2024. Since this meeting a considerable amount of activity has taken place on site; a porta cabin has been erected, concrete has been laid and fencing erected to protect trees and hedgerow. Residents are complaining and funnelling their concerns to Cllr Nicola Clark and Planning Officer Catherine Pearce. County Cllrs are vociferously supportive of residents' concerns and have indicated that enforcement officers are aware of site activity. Discussion followed about enabling works and if this constitutes the start of development activity. This is now in the hands of the planners, County Cllrs, Enforcement Officers, and lawyers. The PC resolved to seek transparency in all matters relating to this.

b) To receive an update on P/OUT/2023/02643 from Stalbridge PC

An appeal for this application at Stalbridge has gone to the Secretary of State. Henstridge PC wrote to support Stalbridge PC. Cllr Petheram reported that Paul Hancock is speaking on behalf of Stalbridge PC at the Appeal meeting. Cllrs concluded that the development would cause severe harm to the highway network locally. Dorset Authority were particularly concerned about the impact of increased traffic on the A357. **ACTION Clerk** to write to enquire if Stalbridge PC would like any further support to speak at the Appeal meeting on the 21 May 2024 in Dorchester.

c) To consider the following Planning Applications:

Application number	Proposal	Applicant Details
24/00810/FUL Comments by 20 May 2024	Demolition of existing agricultural building and erection of detached dwelling and create new access. Farm Buildings at Home Farm, Whitechurch Lane, Yenston, Templecombe, Somerset BA8 0NJ.	Mrs Rita Wall
Cllrs discussed the National Planning Framework for rural settings and concluded that this application falls within the framework and is an improvement to the area concerned. Cllr Petherham proposed to support the application, seconded by Cllr Gaymer, Proposal carried 9 in favour 1 objection. Decision carried by majority. Application Supported		
24/00815/FUL	Erection of dwelling, garage, swimming pool, solar panels and construction of access.Land At Lemons Ground Whitechurch Lane, Yenston, Templecombe, Somerset	Mr & Mrs D Coombes
Cllrs discussed concerns of property size, over development of area, size of swimming pool but acknowledged that previous permission had been granted for a smaller house on this green site currently a field. Cllrs asked that conditions for light pollution be considered by planning. Cllrs asked that dormer windows be excluded from the design, and that the pool be restricted in size to comply with others within the village, and with notice to ensure preservation of hedgerows. Cllr Steel proposed to support application, seconded by Cllr Gaymer. Proposal carried with a majority vote in favour of 6: 3.		
24/00600/S73	S73A application to vary condition 10 - (fencing colour) and remove condition. 12 - (provision of turning space); to allow changes to amend fencing colour to grey in relation to planning application 23/01306/FUL to extend storage yard and erection of fencing. Land At Ajn Steelstock, Landshire Lane Henstridge Templecombe Dorset	AJN Steelstock
Cllr J Graham proposed to support the application, seconded by Cllr E Graham, Proposal carried with a Majority in favour of 9:1.		

b) To note recent SSDC Planning Decisions: Cllrs noted the following applications.

Application number	Proposal	Applicant details	Decision
24/00619/HOU 24/00620/LBC	Erection of a single-storey side extension and porch, with new terraced landscaping scheme. Lea Hill Bowden Henstridge Templecombe Somerset BA8 0PQ	Mr Andrew Tillard	Awaiting decision
23/02944/FUL	Construct a new steel framed building to provide new offices and storage space for the developers Charleston Bespoke Homes Ltd	Adlem	Awaiting decision

	Land At Henstridge Airfield Landshire Lane Henstridge Dorset BA8 0TN		
24/00401/LBC 24/00400/FUL	Conversion & Change of Use of Chapel Barn, Coach House & Tack Room to domestic use associated with Monmouth House together with a swimming pool located in the paddock area. Monmouth House Chapel Lane Yenston Templecombe Somerset BA8 0NH	Mr & Mrs Gardner	Awaiting decision
24/00389/LBC	Replacement of 5no. front elevation sash windows and 2no. shopfront bay windows with new hardwood, double glazed windows. The Old Post Office High Street Henstridge Templecombe Somerset BA8 0RA	Mr Andrew Scard	Approved
23/01822/FUL alternative ref. PP-12304556	Erection of 1 No. self –building dwelling Land Adj. to 2, Yenston Hill, Henstridge, Templecombe	Debbie Warnes The Hollies Cabbage Lane Templecombe	Awaiting decision
23/01881/REM	Reserved Matters application for approval of appearance, landscaping and scale following outline approval 20/01212/OUT for 1no. detached dwelling house and detached garage. Formation of new access and new detached garage for existing house.	Whitechurch Manor Whitechurch Lane Henstridge	Approved with Conditions

c) To receive any further updates regarding any ongoing Highways concerns.

Cllr Gaymer reported that the traffic lights at the A30 were getting increasingly congested. He proposed that the PC consider lobbying MPs to push for a national bypass across the Blackmore Vale to alleviate the impact on rural communities. Cllrs agreed to discuss this strategy at the next PC meeting. **ACTION Agenda next meeting Cllr Gaymer/Clerk**

12. Finance

- a) **To review and update if required signatories for the Parish Council bank accounts.** No changes requested.
- b) **To note receipt of the 2024/25 precept amount of £73,470.00.** Cllrs noted the amount matched their expectations.
- c) **To note March 24 receipts.** Cllrs receipts received.

<u>Receipts (March24) for REPORT</u>		
RECEIVED	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
UTB	INTEREST	£ 722.40
CEMETERY	VARIOUS	£ 625.00
SAFE SOUTH WEST	EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT DONATION	£ 1,405.00
HMRC	VAT REFUND	£ 2,836.37
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	<u>MARCH 2024</u>	<u>£ 5,845.75</u>

- d) **To approve the following accounts for payment to be paid via internet banking and agree two signatories to authorise.** Cllr J Graham and Cllr Courtenay agreed to authorise payments except for the Clerk's payment as the receipt was missing.

MAY 24 Payment Schedule

INVOICE	PAYEE	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT	
1	MILBORNE PORT COMPUTERS	LAPTOP MAINTENANCE 22144	£	256.98
2	TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	PAYROLL 6545	£	18.00
3	SOMERSET COUNCIL	RANGER MARCH 24 30059164	£	845.02
4	SALC	CLERK TRAINING 2985 2990	£	95.00
5	STALBRIDGE BUILDING SUPPLIES	BIN BAGS 262624	£	10.08
6	SW COUNCILS	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 70071	£	598.80
7	YOUTH CONNECT SOUTH WEST	YOUTH SERVICES Q1 INV 1239	£	2,841.18
8	A LEE	REIMBURSE GRAVE MARKER	£	60.00
9	ANDREA MAISTRELLO ARBORICULTURE	TREE WORK IN REC GND 2114	£	530.00
PAYMENTS FOR REPORT				
	STAFF	SALARIES AND EXPENSES	£	2,135.01 PAID
	MR T PULLING	GROUND MAINTENANCE	£	111.93 S/O
	<u>TOTAL MONTH PAYMENTS</u>	<u>MAY 2024</u>	£	<u>7,502.00</u>

13. Council Matters

- a) To note that all members must complete their Register of Interests Form.
- b) To resolve to readopt the Council's Standing Orders Proposed by Cllr E Graham. Seconded Cllr Gaymer. Unanimously agreed.
- c) To resolve to readopt the Council's Financial Regulations Proposed by Cllr Gaymer, seconded by Cllr Finch. Unanimously agreed.
- d) To resolve to adopt the LGA Code of Conduct as presented. Proposed by Cllr Gaymer, seconded by Cllr J Graham. Unanimously agreed.
- e) To review and readopt the Council's Risk Assessment and Management document.
- f) To receive reports from representatives (Dog Warden. VHMC, Footpaths, Tree Warden, CSW, Youth) and provide guidance as appropriate. **(All reports must be sent to all Cllrs at least 4 days prior to the meeting to be included for discussion)**
- g) To receive update on Recreation Ground Maintenance **(Cllr J Graham)**
- h) To receive update on Youth Club proposal for YCSW to work directly with Parish Council **(Cllrs Rose & Steel)**
- i) To discuss Bird in Hand Public House **(Cllr Smith)**
- j) Cllrs noted advertising for Fete and agreed closure of the car park on day of event **to ensure access for emergency vehicles and store holders. Cllrs Smith requested that advance notice be provided to vehicle owners parked overnight two days before the event. Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr J Graham, unanimously agreed.**
- k) Items for the next meeting **Risk assessment revision Clerk and Cllr Finch**
- l) Parish Key Events **(Cllr E Graham)** Cllr Graham reminded colleagues that key events from May to August had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

m) To note the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting 15 May (Cllr Smith)

14. Date of Next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday **4th June**. All items for inclusion on the agenda and all items to be listed under issues arising from previous meetings must be received by the Clerk by **9.00am on Wednesday 22 May 2024**
Parish Clerk

Ann Lee