

Henstridge Parish Council

Clerk: Rachel Walker, Westcombe House, 48, Bowden Road, Templecombe,
Somerset, BA8 0LF, Tel: 01963 370388
e-mail: clerk@henstridgeparishcouncil.org.uk

Approved minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held at the Henstridge Village Hall Lounge on Monday 12th May 2008.

Present:

Councillors: Norman Symcox (Chair), Paul Brighten, Jim Fitch, Geoff Jarvis, Jean Oswick, Malcolm Stobart, Adam Temperton, Mickey Vincent, Paul White

Clerk: Mrs Walker

There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from David Nicholls.

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To elect a Chairman of the Council and receive the Chairman's declaration of Office.

Mr Symcox was nominated to continue as Chair.

RESOLVED: Mr Symcox was unanimously elected as the Chair and signed the declaration of office form accordingly.

4. To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Council and receive the Vice-Chairman's declaration of Office.

Mr Vincent was nominated to continue as Vice-Chair.

RESOLVED: Mr Vincent was unanimously elected as the Vice-Chair and signed the declaration of office form accordingly.

5. To appoint members of the Finance committee.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to retain the current Finance Committee membership.

6. To review and agree membership of the Planning Committee and appoint members as appropriate.

Members felt happy with the current situation.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that no changes were necessary.

7. To appoint representatives of the Council.

A list of current representatives was provided. Mr Vincent said that he would be happy to step down from his role as Youth representative if someone else would like to take over.

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RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to continue with the existing representatives.

8. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 07.04.08.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

9. Matters deferred from previous meetings:

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, that the press and public be excluded.

- a. To receive a report back from the working group set up to review the Clerks terms and conditions in the light of the “Guide to Good Employment Practice in Local Councils” (SALC and SLCC) (Norman Symcox, Mickey Vincent, Paul Brighton).

RESOLVED: It was agreed to accept the recommendation of the working part that the salary scale be set at above LC1 and that the Clerk’s contract be adjusted to reflect this.

The press and public were re-admitted to the meeting.

- b. Correspondence item - 11.03.08
Philip Higginbottom – SSDC Planning Policy Team Leader
To agree any response the Council wish to make in the public consultation on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Issues and Options.

It was pointed out that the consultation had been closed to the public meaning that members had found it difficult to access the document.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Council had no response to make.

10. Correspondence

02.04.08	Andy Pritchard – Somerton Sector Inspector	To agree whether the Council wish to make any response to the consultation on the proposed name change of the Somerton sector to the “South Somerset Rural Sector”.
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Council had no response to make.		

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08.04.08	Henstridge Sports Club	To receive the plans for the proposed changing room development and request for support and agree the Council's response to this and any additional actions arising.
<p>The Council briefly looked at the plans. However it was questioned whether the Council were in a position to agree the use of the land due to the existence of covenants on the land. There was additionally a feeling that more information was needed.</p> <p>RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that while the Parish Council were mindful to support the request, that the Sports Club should be invited to come along and make a proper presentation to the Council at the next meeting and that it should be questioned whether permission needed to be sought from the de Pelet family.</p>		
24.04.08 (via e-mail)	Clive Miller	To agree a response to the Consultation on public sector land which could be considered for development for Affordable Housing
<p>The Clerk briefly explained what was being asked of the Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the response to the Consultation should be that none of the land under the ownership of the Parish Council is appropriate for development and that as the Parish Council wish to maintain the open spaces within the village that there is no land which could be considered for this purpose.</p>		
01.05.08 (via e-mail)	Saveria Moss	To respond to an invitation to South Somerset Together's Sustainable Community Strategy Stakeholder Events Thursday 29 th May 2008 (10.30 – 12.00 or 14.30 – 16.00) at Yeovil SSDC
No-one was available to attend the event.		
01.05.08 (via e-mail)	Saveria Moss	To respond to an invitation to South Somerset Together's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 18 th June 2008 (17.30 to 19.30) at Long Sutton Golf Club
No-one was available to attend the event.		

7. Council Matters

- a. To address and approve the recommendations of the finance committee:
- (i) that Evans and Co be appointed as internal auditor for the 2007-8 accounting period.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the finance committee's recommendation.

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- (ii) that the Council take up the three year insurance agreement with Norwich Union.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the finance committee's recommendation.

- (iii) that the Council approve the figures and notes as presented.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the finance committee's recommendation.

- (iv) that the Council should answer "yes" to the relevant questions (1-8) of the statement of assurance.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the finance committee's recommendation.

b. To receive the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Clerk provided members with copies of the agenda. The Chairman encouraged members to attend the meeting if possible. Mr Temperton offered to help with refreshments.

c. Representatives:

- (i) **To review the roles of the representatives of the Council.**

The Clerk explained that as the representatives had been re-elected it seemed an appropriate time to review the roles. Members spent some time looking through the roles as had been previously agreed.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that there were no changes necessary.

- (ii) **To agree any additional representational roles necessary.**

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that it would be appropriate to elect a Footpaths representative and a representative for HALT.

- (iii) **To appoint Councillors to fill any additional roles as agreed.**

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that Mr Temperton be elected as footpaths representative and Mr Brighten be elected as HALT representative.

d. To remind Councillors of the Airfield tours.

Councillors were reminded that the next tour would be on Saturday 19th May. Those who had already been on a previous tour emphasised how useful they felt that this had been.

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- e. To agree any issues which the Council would like raised at the SALC area meeting.

The representative was unavailable to attend the meeting and there were no issues to raise.

- f. Allotment issues:

- (i) to update the council with regard to the fencing of the allotments
- (ii) To provide instruction to the Clerk with regard to security of the allotments site

It was felt that the issues were related and agreed to take the items together. The Clerk explained that the fencing to the rear of Windsor terrace had now been completed by South Somerset Homes and asked for instruction with regard to consideration of the fencing between Pip's play area and the allotment site. The Clerk additionally asked for instruction with regard to security of the site as a whole as previously the instruction had been to lock the vehicular access gate at the entrance to the rear of Centenary Gardens but there were repeated problems with locks and chains being removed and even cut, and this was proving a costly option.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to leave the main gate unlocked for a three month trial period and that the Clerk should seek quotes for replacement of the fencing between Pip's play area and the allotments with something similar to that installed by South Somerset Homes and bring this back to a future meeting.

- g. To approve memorials as received.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the memorials as presented.

- h. Parish Council newsletter:

- (i) To agree the format of the next newsletter

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Council are happy with the existing format.

- (ii) To provide the opportunity for Councillors to put forward any issues which they feel should be covered in the next Parish Council newsletter.

Suggestions for inclusion were the illegal use of motorbikes on public land and the current problems of dog mess and vandalism in the village.

- (iii) To agree distribution format

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that piles of newsletters should be distributed via the pubs, the village shop and the Indian restaurant and that the newsletter should also appear on the website and notice boards.

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- i. **To agree whether the Council wish to subscribe to the Community Council at a cost of £25.00**

It was pointed out that in the past advice has been sought with regard to the village hall.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to continue to subscribe.

- j. **To consider whether the Council wish to add any further local information (e.g. a list of all local clubs as listed in Wots on) to the website and where such information would be appropriate.**

The Clerk explained that the item had arisen because when clearing out some old paperwork she had come across a "Welcome" leaflet with useful local information on and it seemed appropriate to ask whether this was something that the Council may wish to reinstate via the website.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that a "Local Information" page be added to the website including local clubs, services and businesses with the inclusion of a statement to emphasise that the Council are simply providing information and not endorsing any of the businesses etc listed.

- k. **To agree a response to a request from Wessex Water with regard to using the Village Hall Car Park for siting of a booster for improving water pressure at the lower end of the village.**

The Clerk explained the request that had been received.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to defer the item due to a query as to whether the Council have the power to agree this due to the covenants on the land and additionally to ask for clarification of the noise levels and technical specification.

- l. **To provide an update with regard to the Yenston field and agree any actions arising.**

The Clerk explained that this item had been outstanding for over a year now and that despite repeated chasing of the land agent she was not receiving responses to e-mails or having calls returned.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk be instructed to write a strongly worded letter of complaint to Cooper and Tanner.

- m. **Playground issues:**

- (i) **To receive Playground Inspection Reports.**

The Clerk reported that there was nothing new arising but that there were obviously ongoing issues which were in the process of being dealt with.

- n. **Report from VHMC reps**

It was reported that minutes of the recent meetings had been received but that no meeting had occurred as yet. Concern was raised that Sam Healy is leaving the village

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and that Lesley Best is also stepping down which will leave several gaps on the committee.

8. Finance

a. To approve the following accounts for payment:

Community Council	Subscription 08/09	£25.00
R Walker	Stamps	£37.50
Ben H Stretton	Hedge trimming Ash Walk Rec.	£123.38
Countryside Boundaries	Trim & haul away from hedge laid last winter	£611.00
R Walker	Salary April	£240.37
T Watson	Salary April	£283.97
Inland revenue	NI & Tax Contributions	£76.40
Madasafish	Line 2 DD Internet & Telephone 06/04/08-05/05/08	£36.85
Madasafish	Line 1 DD Internet & Telephone 24/04/08-23/05/08	£37.28

b. Income –

T Watson	Line rental	£8.50
L A Eastment	Allotment rent 08/09 plots 12 & 14	£20.00
L Blakesmith	Allotment rent plot 11 yr 8/09	£10.00
Scottish & Southern		
Electricity	Wayleave payment	£2.30
SSDC	Precept 08/09	£20,000.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT repayment	£199.40

RESOLVED: The above accounts were approved for payment.

9. Date of Next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 9th June 2008**. 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 Thursday 29th May 2008**.

The meeting closed at 8.13pm.