

Henstridge Parish Council

Clerk: Zöe Godden, Ashbourne House, Marsh Lane,
Henstridge, Somerset, BA8 0TG, Tel: 01963 362937
e-mail: clerk@henstridgeparishcouncil.org.uk

Draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Henstridge Village Hall Lounge on Monday 11th April 2011.

Present

Councillors: Norman Symcox (Chair), Jim Fitch, Adam Temperton, Mickey Vincent, Paul White, Geoff Jarvis, David Nichols, Peter Crocker, Paul Brighten,

Clerk: Zoe Godden

There was 10 member of the public in attendance for the beginning of the meeting

1. Apologies and to approve reasons for apology as seen fit.

Apologies had been received from, Jean Oswick and Caroline Rowland and the Council advised of the reasons for absence.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the reasons for apology as provided.

2. Declarations of Interest.

Pete Crocker declared a personal interest in item 6f.

3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 07.03.11

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the minutes of the previous meetings.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to bring forward items 4b and 6b to allow members of the public speak on and hear the items in which they were interested.

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to speak.

The meeting reconvened at 19:39.

4. Matters deferred and arising from previous meetings:

a) To feedback to councillors on the new grit bin for Woodhayes.

The clerk informed the council that the new grit bin has been ordered. It will be delivered to Highways who will put it in place and fill it with grit.

b) To update councillors with information regarding the proposal to investigate a dog ban on the recreation ground and agree any further action required.

The clerk informed the council of her findings in relation to this matter.

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Having listened to the members of the clerk and the public, the council agreed that there was a problem with dog fouling at the recreation ground and also that littering was a problem. They acknowledged that there are members of the parish who need to use the recreation ground to exercise their dogs and do so responsibly. They also acknowledged the problems faced by the football and cricket clubs in dealing with fouling on their pitches. The council felt that, considering the fact that there are no local dog bans, this would not be a suitable solution to the problem. Members of the public who exercise their dogs responsibly at the recreation ground, having volunteered to monitor the situation and report any instances of provable fouling to the clerk, should be allowed to do so for the period of two months, at which time, the situation will be evaluated by the council and any further action decided upon.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the volunteers of the parish will monitor the situation for a period of two months, after which the council will reconsider the issue and decide on any further action to be taken. During the two-month monitoring period, any instances of provable fouling may be reported to the parish clerk, who will forward the information to the Parish Environmental Warden at SSDC.

- c) To update councillors on the response from SSC regarding the potholes at Bellmans Cross and to agree any further action required.**

The clerk read the reply from SCC to the letter sent asking them to reconsider their decision not to repair the potholes at Bellman's Cross. William Wallace informed the council that an extra £5 million had been secured by the county and the intention was to use this to address pothole problems across the county. Council members discussed the fact that some of the potholes have been measured and are, in fact, 40mm deep. Since the potholes are on a 60 mph bend, this depth was said to be sufficient to cause a serious accident, especially for motorcycles. William Wallace confirmed that he would attempt to accelerate the repair of these potholes by discussing the issue with relevant individuals at SCC. The council thanked him for his interest in the matter.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that Adam Temperton would monitor the potholes and that the clerk should again write to SCC expressing the council's ongoing concern with the time taken to address potholes on roads in the parish.

- d) To update councillors on the issue of S106 funds relating to the Woodhayes development. To agree the type of equipment to be purchased for the play area. To discuss the nature of the improvements to the football and cricket club changing and referee facilities and decide any further action to be taken.**

The clerk informed the council that forms have been obtained to apply for the play equipment funds (£6325). The council were asked to suggest the type of play equipment they would like to purchase for the playground and informed that Stephen Barnes suggested a slide.

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RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the clerk should procure three quotes for a slide to ascertain if this would be affordable.

It was pointed out that a resolution had been passed at a previous meeting to construct a path from the village hall car park to the play park gate and to remove the large boulders on the same route. The clerk agreed to look into the matter to find out if adequate funds were available to carry out the work and to report back to the council at the next meeting.

Geoff Jarvis left the meeting at 20:17.

The clerk informed the council that Jake Hannis, Senior Sports Development Officer for SSDC, had advised her that the Strategic Leisure Contribution is not ring fenced for Henstridge and the parish is unlikely to be able to access it as these funds are used by SSDC for the upkeep of larger community sports venues such as Wincanton swimming pool.

At the last meeting, it was proposed that the Playing Pitch contribution be used to provide changing facilities for the football and cricket clubs. The clerk is meeting with Jake Hannis and David Trott (football club) on Wednesday 13 April to look at the current changing provision in order to submit an effective application for funds for its improvement. This would take the form of plans and three quotes.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to defer the issue of the Playing Pitch contribution to a later meeting.

William Wallace left the meeting at 20:14.

5. Correspondence

04/03/11	Robert Parr – Snr Play & Youth Facilities Officer, SSDC	To agree the level of interest the council has in participating in the Reaching Communities Big Lottery Grant application to fund a full time member of staff to promote community development through play opportunities.
The clerk informed the council that, having spoken to Rob Parr, this is just a consultation to prove there is a need for a full time member of staff to focus on play related needs, to help the bidding process.		
<u>RESOLVED:</u> It was proposed and agreed that the clerk should make further enquiries to determine any potential financial implications to the council and to request a prospectus of information, if available.		
21/03/11	Heather Brown – Waste Policy Officer, SCC	To agree if a councillor will fill in the Waste Planning Consultation questionnaire.
<u>RESOLVED:</u> It was proposed and agreed that Paul Brighten will complete the questionnaire and that the clerk should forward him the necessary details.		

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23/03/11	Mr J Milward – Land and Property manager, Woodland Trust	To discuss if the council or any other community group would be interested in taking over the lease on Oak Vale Woodland
The council discussed the fact that the woodland in question was donated to the Woodland Trust by a parishioner and that local children had planted trees there.		
<u>RESOLVED:</u> It was proposed and agreed to leave responsibility for this woodland with the Woodland Trust.		
29/03/11	Saveria Moss – SSDC	To inform councillors of the South Somerset Growing Connections conference on Tuesday 10 May 2011 in Chard and to agree if a councillor will attend.
<u>RESOLVED:</u> It was proposed and agreed that no councillor will attend.		
30/03/11	Sheila Wheeler – Chief Executive, SCC	To inform the council of the joint bid with Devon CC for superfast broadband and to agree a councillor to compete the related survey.
It was pointed out that Henstridge is served by a Dorset exchange.		
<u>RESOLVED:</u> It was proposed and agreed that Adam Temperton will complete the questionnaire and that the clerk will inform SCC that Henstridge is served by a Dorset exchange and find out if this will impact on this project.		

6. Council Matters

- a. To receive a visit/report from a local police representative.

There was no police representative in attendance.

b. Skate Park:

- i) To agree if the youth of the village may have permission to paint the wall on the skatepark site;

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the youth of the village may paint the wall providing the Henstridge Youth Facilities ensures that anything on the wall is tasteful.

- ii) To hear information regarding an opening ceremony for the skatepark and for councillors to respond to the information;

The council discussed the issue and it was thought that the opening ceremony should be planned after work on the skate park has been completed. William Wallace pointed out that a skate park in Milborne Port was completely finished before the opening ceremony took place. With this in mind, the council discussed the issue of either re-seeding or re-turfing the area around the skate park. It was felt that re-turfing was the preferred, quicker option and that the clerk would liaise with the cricket club regarding watering the turf once in place.

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The clerk pointed out that the council will put insurance in place from the point that the ROSPA inspection has taken place. At the moment, the youth of the village should be kept out by the contractors. The council cannot be held responsible for any accidents or injuries incurred before the handover has been completed. Monster Play need to take responsibility for the security of the site.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the council will consider an opening ceremony only after the skate park is completely finished. The clerk will discuss irrigation of new turf with the cricket club.

iii) To hear a request for permission to install picnic tables near the skate park and agree if this is acceptable.

The council were informed that Henstridge Youth Facilities wishes to install four picnic benches, two near the skate park and two near the play park, as part of the skate park project. The council pointed out that picnic tables were not in the agreed skate park plans, so they would have to be considered as a separate project. Henstridge Youth Facilities will have to submit a new proposal detailing the locations, materials to be used and source of funding for the council to consider at a later time. The council discussed the potential of an increased litter problem due to the installation of the skate park.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the issue of picnic benches be brought back to the council in three month's time, once any potential increase in litter has been assessed. The clerk will also contact SSDC to ensure the new litterbin at the skate park will be emptied.

c. To inform the council of the various requests for donation of the basketball posts and hoops and agree where they should be donated.

The clerk informed the council of the requests made for donation of the basketball hoops removed from the skate park site.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the basketball hoops are donated to Strode College. Peter Crocker requested that his vote against this proposal be recorded.

d. To inform councillors that the chairman signed an application form for online banking.

No objections were raised.

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- e. **To receive two quotes for Parish Council insurance and to agree which should be accepted.**

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the council should accept the three-year quote from Came and Co as this offered the best value.

- f. **To receive an update on the issue of the damaged conifer boundary hedge at the recreation ground and agree any further action to be taken.**

The clerk informed the council that she visited the solicitor last week who has agreed to write a harsh letter to the person who has damaged the trees at the recreation ground. The council needs to consider the extent of any further action they would be willing to take if the same person causes similar damage again. An injunction would cost about £2000. He also suggests that if the trees do not regrow, that we charge the person for replanting and nurturing new trees.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the person who damaged the trees will be charged for replanting and nurturing of replacement trees in the event that the existing trees do not re-grow satisfactorily; that the clerk will write to all residents whose boundaries border the recreation ground to confirm the details of the original parish-resident agreement; that the next time the property concerned is up for sale, the clerk will write to the relevant estate agent with a copy of the solicitor's letter.

- g. **To discuss the nominations received for the May election and to agree any action to be taken.**

The clerk confirmed that there would not need to be an election as only 10 people were nominated. The council can now fill the remaining 3 vacancies by co-option without the need to advertise. Any vacancies that remain by 24 June have to be reported to SSDC who may wish to call for an election.

- h. **To discuss the matter of the formation of an allotment association and agree any action to be taken.**

To remind the council that the allotment holders had agreed to create an allotment association but that there had been no news on this issue. Certain allotment holders have raised the issue of removing stones and repairing the road at the entrance to the allotments. There has also been an enquiry from a member of the public regarding the contents of a bonfire that looked as though they had not been generated at the allotment.

There was some discussion in relation to ownership of the track leading to the allotments. It was asked if the excess stones on the allotment could be used to repair the track. It was asked if Geoff Jarvis had agreed to be on the Allotment Association.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to defer this issue while the clerk finds out more information regarding ownership of the track and the status of an Allotment Association.

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- i. To agree a date and any other arrangements for the second planning meeting in April.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the next planning meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th April 2011 at 7pm.

- j. To discuss any outstanding highways issues or highways matters which Councillors wish to raise and agree any actions arising.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the clerk will report that, opposite the Bird in Hand, the pavement needs resurfacing and that bushes are overgrown.

- k. Playground Inspection reports. To receive a quote for repairs to the playground equipment and to agree if this is acceptable.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the quote was acceptable.

- l. To receive reports from Representatives (VHMC, HALT, Footpaths, Other) and provide guidance as appropriate

Paul Brighten left the meeting at 20:45.

7.Finance

- a. To approve the cash book and bank account reconciliation for March 2011 as presented.

RESOLVED: The Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for March 2011 as verified by Michael Vincent were approved and signed by the Chair.

- b. To agree and approve transfers of funds between Parish Council accounts as presented.

The Clerk reported that a transfer of £3000.00 had been made from the deposit account to the current account in order to cover day-to-day running costs.

RESOLVED: The transfer as reported was approved.

- c. To approve the following accounts for payment and two signatories for cheques:-

Madasafish	Phone and Internet Services (24.02.11 to 23.03.11)	£32.94
WS Scrap Metal	Cemetery skip exchange	£170.21
SSDC	Playground Inspection Course	£95.00
Glasdon	Woodhayes grit bin	£200.64
Henstridge Village Hall	Hire for Childrens' Day 23/02/11	£51.00
George Edwards	Wages	£67.89

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Terry Pulling	Wages	£28.29
Zöe Godden	Wages	£517.48
Zöe Godden	Reimbursement for postage stamps	£41.00
Zöe Godden	Mileage claim 08/03/11 to 01/04/11	£16.60

The cheque values were verified against the invoices presented by Dave Nichols and Adam Temperton and the invoices signed as a correct match.

RESOLVED: The above accounts were approved for payment and Dave Nicholls and Adam Temperton agreed as signatories.

d.Income

Miss Moon	Allotment fee (8)	£15.00
Mr Graziano	Allotment fee (13 & 18)	£30.00
Mr and Mrs Norris	Allotment fee (5 & 6)	£30.00
A J Beaney	Allotment fee (4b & 6c)	£12.50

8. Date of Next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 9th May 2011**. 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 28th April**.



Zöe Godden
Parish Clerk