

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 5th September 2011.

Present

Councillors: Adam Temperton (Chair), Dave Nichols, Carolyn Nichols, Jim Fitch, Paul White, Sue Place and Caroline Rowland

Clerk: Zöe Godden

There were 12 members of the public in attendance for the beginning of the meeting

The meeting began at 19:30

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

The following councillors had given apologies: Simon Cullum, Jean Oswick, Paul Brighten and Geoff Jarvis.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the reasons for absence as reported.

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 08.08.11

The clerk informed the council that she has updated the minutes at point 4(i) as she omitted to state that the appointments to the HALT and Yenston representative posts were temporary, as discussed at the meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the amendments as reported.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that items 6b and 6i be brought forward to this point in the meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that Item 5, 4th letter to be brought forward to this point in the meeting.

4. Matters deferred and arising from previous meetings:

- a) To review the council's representatives on other groups, following the temporary appointment of HALT and Youth representatives at the last meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that Paul Brighten will replace Jim Fitch as HALT representative and that Sue Place will permanently take over as Youth representative.

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- b) To discuss the issue of rabbits at the recreation ground and to take any information from councillors regarding potential people who could deal with the problem.

Adam Temperton reported that, having taken advice, the rabbits cannot be shot due to the proximity of the burrow to the road. He is awaiting further information.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting.

5. Correspondence

29/07/11	Avon & Somerset Police	Invitation to nominate an individual for the Community Policing Awards. Council to agree if they want to nominate someone, and who.
The clerk relayed the content of the letter.		
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting.		
05/08/11	Royal Horticultural Society	Letter giving information of the RHS 'In Bloom' campaign. To agree if any councillor wishes to take this project forward for the parish.
The clerk summarised the content of the letter. Caroline Rowland informed the council that, in her opinion, 'In Bloom' is a great project that brings lots of different people together and that entering the competition is a good focus for the community. She has had positive experiences when dealing with south west 'In-Bloom'. In her experience, once the community group has been formed they often take on further projects.		
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to defer this matter to the last meeting but in the meantime for the clerk to get more information from the RHS.		
20:22 – Caroline Rowland left the meeting.		
15/08/11	Becky Collier, Campaign to Protect Rural England Somerset	Invitation to attend the South Somerset District CPRE Group. To agree if a councillor will attend.
The clerk informed the council of the date and time of the meeting		
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that if any one wants to go to inform the clerk.		
18/08/11	Sam Best – Chairperson, Village Hall Management Committee	To relay the content of the letter to the council and for the council to decide on a course of action for promoting the raising of funds for a new village hall.
Sam Best informed the council that her idea is for the parish council to set aside a pot of money each year to build a fund for replacing the village hall and to realise this fund by raising the precept. The matter was discussed and the council agreed that the village hall is in need of attention.		
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to put this matter on the agenda for the special budget meeting on Monday 26 th September.		

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23/08/11	Sarah Hooper – Snr Road Closure Technician, Somerset County Council	Letter informing the council of a temporary road closure on the A357 at Ash End.
The council acknowledged the content of the letter.		
24/08/11	Mike Lewis, Chairman AE Committee, South Somerset District Council	Invitation to the Annual Meeting with Area East Town & Parish Councils. To agree if a councillor should attend.
The clerk informed the council of the date and time of the meeting.		
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that Adam Temperton and Jim Fitch would attend and that councillors should contact the clerk with any matters they may want to suggest for the agenda.		

6. Council Matters

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

There was no representative present.

b. To receive an update from dog walkers regarding monitoring of the dog-fouling situation at the recreation ground and agree any further action to be taken.

Linda Jones reported that there have been two instances of fouling which were marked by SSDC. Lots of broken glass was found around the big tree near the Playing Field Close entrance. Linda said she was happy to continue monitoring the situation. Adam Temperton thanks her and asked her to report back to the council in three month's time.

c. For the chairman and vice-chairman to sign the agreement for pitch rental with the cricket club.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that Adam Temperton and Dave Nichols would sign the agreement.

d. To discuss and agree items for the September newsletter.

The following ideas for the September newsletter were put forward:

- A full report of the special meeting relating to Oak Vale Woodland,
- To inform residents that the council is considering raising the precept in order to amass a fund to rebuild the village hall,
- To inform residents that the council is gathering more information regarding the 'In Bloom' project and will consider taking it up.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the above items should be included in the September newsletter.

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- e. To discuss and agree meeting dates for next year. The clerk has provisionally listed the following dates:

Full meeting & Planning meeting	Interim Planning Meeting
09/01/12	23/01/12
06/02/12	20/02/12
05/03/12	19/03/12
09/04/12	23/04/12
07/05/12	21/05/12
11/06/12	25/06/12
09/07/12	23/07/12
06/08/12	20/08/12
03/09/12	17/09/12
08/10/12	22/10/12
05/11/12	19/11/12
03/12/12	17/12/12

The council discussed these dates.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the above dates.

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

The clerk reported that Highways have responded regarding the finger post at the Ash Walk crossroads, which cannot be replaced this year due to budget constraints and the gully clearing on A357, which is scheduled for this month.

- g. To decide on the best litter picking products to purchase based on the clerk's research.

The clerk informed the council of the prices sourced.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to choose to source the equipment from Helpinghand.

- h. A proposal that we write to South Somerset District Council and Somerset Waste Partnership to ask why part of Henstridge (Marsh Lane and Camp Road) was missed Friday 12th August for recycling collection and why after a resident reported the issue the recycling still was not collected 16th August as promised.

Adam Temperton

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the clerk should write to SSDC as per the above proposal and to enquire as to the steps being taken to prevent this happening again.

- i. To hear an update from Simon Cullum regarding Oak Vale Woodland and to agree if, due to the additional information received, the council will take on the lease.

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The clerk informed the council that, as Simon Cullum has tendered his apologies, Sue Place had agreed to update the council. The meeting was opened to the public for their comments and questions. The following is a summary of the public's views:

The wood is a natural local amenity and brings great pleasure to residents who use it. The wood was originally bequeathed to the Woodland Trust by Mr Coffin, a previous resident of the parish and has been maintained as a public space for 20 years. It would be a great pity if it were to be bought by someone from outside the parish. The general consensus is that the parish council should take on the lease. There have been no reports of anyone being against the parish council taking on the lease. Since the skate park has been built, the pathway that runs through the wood is no longer modified by young people to make ramps.

The meeting was closed to the public.

The council acknowledged the strength of public feeling in this matter and heard from Sue Place that the Woodland Trust is willing to remove the wood from sale as long as the council registers its intent to take over the lease at least a day before the date of sale.

Jim Fitch could see no reason why the council should not take over the lease. Adam Temperton explained that he would have to call a special meeting to discuss the matter further. This would enable the clerk to gather information regarding the financial and management implications of taking on the wood, which she will present at the special meeting to aid the councillors in coming to a decision. The clerk will inform the Woodland Trust of the council's intention to hold a special meeting and take advice from SALC on suspending the standing orders as the matter had been discussed at previous meetings within the last six months.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to call a special meeting on Monday 12th September 2011 at 7pm for the council to decide if they will take on the lease of Oak Vale Woodland. The clerk is to gather information as detailed above.

j. Playground and Skate Park Inspection reports.

The clerk reported that there are no immediate problems but that, in addition to the quotes being obtained to replace some surfacing, the toddler unit will also require some attention soon.

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

l.

No representatives were in attendance.

7. Finance

a. To approve the cashbook and bank account reconciliation for August 2011 as presented.

RESOLVED: The Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for August 2011 as verified by Paul White were approved and signed by the Chair.

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

There have been no transfers this month.

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

Madasafish	Phone and Internet Services (24.07.11 to 23.08.11)	£32.69
Madasafish	Phone and Internet Services (24.08.11 to 23.09.11)	£33.80
Information Commissioner's Office	Data Protection register	£35.00
Simon Cullum	Mileage payment for councillor course	£10.80
Zöe Godden	Wages	£560.37
Terry Pulling	Wages	£28.29
George Edwards	Wages	£67.89
Zöe Godden	Mileage Claim	£18.00

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

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

d. Income

There has been no income this month.

The meeting closed at 20:33

Date of Next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 10th October 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 21st September**.



Zöe Godden
Parish Clerk