

# HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Ian Treece; Rivendell, New Street, Marnhull, Sturminster Newton  
DT101NP Tel: 07745 270285

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## Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Henstridge Village Hall lounge on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

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**Present:**

**Councillors:** Dave Nichols (chair), Paul Brighten, Peter Crocker, Simon Cullum, Jim Fitch,  
Carolyn Nichols, Sue Place, Paul White

**Clerk:** Ian Treece

**There were 2 members of the public in attendance for the beginning of the meeting.**

The members of the public indicated that they wished to comment on Agenda Item 8a.

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

Apologies had been received from Adam Temperton, David Rabone and Jean Oswick.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Council accepts the reasons for the absences as reported.**

**It was agreed to move item 8a to this point in the meeting to allow the members of the public present to speak.**

**8.a To hear an update from the Clerk on the Traffic Calming scheme on the A357  
Stalbridge Road; to decide any further action to be taken.**

One member of the public commented on a number of highway matters, viz the delays in completing the works connected with the 20mph speed restriction outside Henstridge School, the delays in implementing a revised traffic calming scheme on the A357 Stalbridge Road and the perceived lack of police enforcement of the speed limits on the A357 Stalbridge Road. The other member of the public spoke about the delays in implementing a revised traffic calming scheme on the A357 Stalbridge Road and the uncertainty and inconvenience this caused him personally as the owner of a property within the traffic calming area.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Geoff Jarvis on a number of occasions to ascertain whether he had made any progress over the acquisition of the small piece of land needed to create an adequate visibility splay to allow the alternative scheme of works, as favoured by the Parish Council, to proceed. So far the Clerk had had no response from Geoff Jarvis on this matter, although he was aware of the 31<sup>st</sup> July deadline imposed by Somerset County Council Highways for this to be resolved.

Members of the Council felt that this was an unsatisfactory state of affairs and that they still wished to try to achieve the alternative scheme of works and, to this end, they would ask Somerset County Council to grant an extension of the deadline and that the Council would pursue discussions with the owners of the land in question.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed unanimously that:**

- (a) The Clerk be instructed to contact Somerset County Council Highways to request an extension of the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July to allow time for the Council to make further efforts to secure agreement on the piece of land in question;**

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- (b) The Clerk be instructed to open discussions with the owners of the land in question, in liaison with Sue Place, to see if an agreement can be secured;
  - (c) The Clerk be instructed to arrange a special meeting of the Parish Council to discuss this matter, when representatives of Somerset County Council Highways, HALT and other interested local residents could be present to see the details of the scheme(s) and discuss the relative merits of them.

The 2 members of the public left the meeting at this point.

## 2. Declarations of Interest.

Simon Cullum declared a pecuniary interest in Item 11e.

## 3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 07.07.14.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed unanimously to accept the minutes without amendment.

## 4. To consider the filling of the vacancy for a councillor.

Following the advertisement of the Council's intention to co-opt a member to fill the existing vacancy, one person has put their name forward for consideration for co-option – Mr. Michael Petheram. Mr. Petheram's application form and supporting letter will be available at the meeting. **To decide whether the Council wishes to co-opt Mr. Michael Petheram as a member of the Parish Council and, if so, to resolve accordingly.**

The Clerk reported that Michael Petheram met the requirements to qualify as a parish councillor. The Clerk gave Mr. Petheram's apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed unanimously that Mr. Michael Petheram be co-opted as a parish councillor to fill the existing vacancy.

## 5. To consider the following planning applications:

	Application Number	Proposal	Applicant
a)	14/03056/FUL	Form new window opening to first floor west elevation - retrospective	RM Mogridge Contracting Ltd., Unit 8, Marsh Lane Trading Estate, Henstridge. BA8 0TG
One letter of objection had been receive from a neighbour.			
<b>RESOLVED:</b> It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Clerk be instructed to write to the neighbour explaining the Parish Council's role in the planning process.			
<b>RESOLVED:</b> It was proposed and agreed that the Council objects to this application on the grounds that this type of retrospective application is contrary to the principles of fair and transparent government and application of the planning regulations and legislation and is designed to effectively bypass the statutory process and create development via a "back door" route. In addition, the Council believes that this is not the first such retrospective application to be submitted for this property and, as such, this has the effect of bringing the development control process into disrepute.			
Paul White and Peter Crocker abstained from voting and asked that this be noted.			

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The Clerk reported that the following revision to an application, to which the Council had previously made no objection. had been received after the preparation of the Agenda.

b)	14/02322/FUL	Revisions to windows following comments by the Conservation Officer.	<u>Mr &amp; Mrs H Bentley-Marchant, Barn At Elmbrook, Whitechurch Lane, Yenston.</u>
<b>RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Council had no further comment on this application.</b>			

## 6. Recent South Somerset District Council Area East decisions.

The Clerk reported that the following notice of decision had been received after the preparation of the Agenda.

Application number	Proposal	Applicant details	Current status
14/02783/FUL	Erection of a single storey extension to side of dwellinghouse	Martyn Harvey, 1 Townsend Farm, Barton, Henstridge BA8 0TU	Granted with conditions

Noted.

## 7. Planning Correspondence.

20/07/14	Notification of Intent to erect an agricultural building for the storage of machinery	James Ferrari, Quarry Farm, Sherborne Road, Henstridge BA8 0PH
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Noted.

## 8. Matters deferred and arising from previous meetings:

- a. To hear an update from the Clerk on the Traffic Calming scheme on the A357 Stalbridge Road; to decide any further action to be taken.

Item dealt with earlier.

## 9. Correspondence

a.	08/07/14	Jo Williams, SSDC	South Somerset District Council's Draft Housing Strategy Implementation Plan – inviting the Parish Council to complete a questionnaire.
<b>Noted. Sue Place agreed to complete the survey on behalf of the Council.</b>			
b.	17/07/14	David Heath MP	Change of date for visit to Henstridge – now 6 <sup>th</sup> August.
<b>Noted.</b>			
c.	17/07/14	Royal Bath & West of England Society	Letter of thanks for grant to Somerset Levels Relief Fund, agreed at meeting on 07/07/14
<b>Noted.</b>			
d.	24/07/14	SCC	Road closure: High Street, Combe Hill, Yenston Hill and Yenston Hill Road, 19/08/14 to 05/09/14.
<b>Noted.</b>			

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The Clerk reported that the following correspondence had been received since the preparation of the Agenda,

e.	31/07/14	North Dorset District Council	Notification of further consultation on focused changes to their draft Local Plan – Blandford Forum area.
<b>Noted.</b>			

## 10. Council Matters

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

There was no representative from the Police present.

### b. To receive a report from Simon Cullum on the new police operating model on Somerset East, following a meeting at Wincanton on 28 July 2014.

Simon Cullum reported that he had attended a meeting with the Police where they had explained their new operating model and structure. The main gist of that was there would be an extra beat officer provided for the Henstridge area and that the Force would meet its savings targets, mainly by reduction in middle management roles. Simon Cullum also commented that the Police were purchasing a number of speed camera fitted motorcycles, which would be deployed in the area.

### c. To receive a report from David Rabone on the presentation by BELECTRIC on their proposed solar panel installation.

In David Rabone's absence, there was no report.

### d. To receive a report from the Clerk on the completion of the works to the War Memorial; to decide whether the Council wishes to enter into a maintenance agreement for the war memorial.

The Clerk reported that all the works on the restoration of the war memorial were now complete and that the application for grant aid from the War Memorial Trust was being finalised. Members of the Council commented favourably on the works and the appearance of the war memorial. The Clerk reported that the Council had received a proposal from the specialist restoration company that had carried out the works for an ongoing maintenance contract at a cost of £1,300 per annum (plus VAT). The Council were agreed that a maintenance programme should be put in place but questioned the cost of the proposal on the table.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed unanimously that the Clerk be instructed to research other alternatives for the institution of a maintenance programme for the war memorial and report back at the next meeting of the Council.

### e. To receive a report from the Clerk on the draft regulations for Open and Accountable Government.

**Noted.**

### f. To discuss any matters arising from playground and skate park inspection reports and agree any actions arising.

There were no specific matters arising from the play area and skate park inspections. The Clerk reported that there had been concerns over the condition of the removable goal posts owned by the Football Club and potential health and safety issues. The Clerk reported that he

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was pursuing these concerns with the Chairman of the Football Club, in liaison with the Chair of the Parish Council and the Chair of the Open Spaces Committee.

**Noted.**

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

The Council reported the following faults.

1. The low bridge sign by the Virginia Ash was missing.
2. The hedge outside 2-4 Playing Fields Close was overgrowing the pavement.
3. The hawthorn hedge on the left of Station Gardens was overgrowing the pavement.
4. The trees on Woodhayes Way, from the A357 to Woodhayes, are overgrowing the pavement.

- h. To receive reports from Representatives (VHMC, HALT, Footpaths, Tree Warden, Other) and provide guidance as appropriate**

Simon Cullum reported that he had attended the AGM of the VHMC in place of Jean Oswick.

Simon Cullum reported that the footpath from Furge Lane to Woodhayes had not been cleared back as he had previously been assured and that he would pursue this.

## 11. Finance

- a. To approve the cashbook and bank account reconciliation for July 2014 as presented.**

**Deferred to the next meeting as the bank statement had not yet been received.**

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

The Clerk reported that he had transferred £10,000.00 from the Project Account to the Current Account in anticipation of payment of the war memorial restoration invoice. The Clerk also reported that he would shortly need to transfer £2,000.00 from the Reserve Fund to the Current Account to cover expenditure this month.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed unanimously that these transfers be approved.**

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

Madasafish	Telephone & Broadband 24/07/14 to 23/08/14	£34.67
Stalbridge Building Supplies Ltd.	Cable ties and staples	£7.59
Ring Street Filling Station	Fuel for mowers	£27.31
Staff	Salaries and expenses – July 2014	£1,136.83
HMRC	Income Tax and National Insurance	£113.40
SLCC	Registration fee for CiLCA for Clerk	£250.00
Somerset Wildlife Trust	Grant as agreed on 07/07/14, Minute 9(h)	£35.00
Broker Network Ltd. (Came & Company)	Insurance Premium Renewal 12/08/14 to 11/08/15	£1,980.94
BH Stretton Ltd.	Clearance of site on Recreation Ground	£360.00
War Memorial Restoration Company	Restoration of war memorial	£10,576.66

All the cheque values were verified against the invoices presented by Paul White and the invoices signed as a correct match.

**RESOLVED: The above accounts were approved unanimously for payment and David Nichols and Paul Brighten agreed as signatories.**

**d. Income**

The Clerk reported that, due to a typing error, some lines of the income statement had been missed off the agenda. The revised statement, as set out below, was presented to the Council.

S Folkes	L G Fowler Memorial (plot J33)	£110.00
S Folkes	B & ME Cook memorial (plots J26 & 27)	£110.00
Peter Jackson Funeral Services	Interment fee re KJ Hayter (plot I22)	£85.00
Peter Jackson Funeral Services	Plot purchase (O2) re John Barnes	£147.00
Lloyds Bank	Interest	£2.86
Drew Memorials	Memorial Fee – memorial tablet for Reginald Wiles and Ellen Rose Wiles	£54.00

**Noted.**

**e. To decide if the council wishes to make a grant to Henstridge Defibrillation Project; if so, to decide an amount to donate and sign a cheque accordingly.**

Simon Cullum took no part in the discussion and vote on this item.

The Council were conscious of their policy of only giving a grant of £35 to a body where no larger grant had been specifically budgeted. However, they were minded to provide a larger grant to this organisation if the Council's finances so allowed.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to prepare a report for the next meeting of the Council setting out the current financial position and whether this would permit a larger grant to this organisation, possibly from the Project Fund.**

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- f. To decide if the Council wishes to renew its membership of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) at a cost of £36.00 for the next year; if so, to sign a cheque accordingly.

As this matter had been the subject of a resolution within the last 6 months, the item was withdrawn.

12. **Date of Next meeting** – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014**. 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 21<sup>st</sup> August**.

**The meeting ended at 20:25**



Ian Treece  
Parish Clerk