

# 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 on  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014**

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## Present

**Councillors:** David Nichols (chair), Paul Brighten, Carolyn Nichols, Michael Petheram, James Fitch, Jean Oswick, David Rabone, Simon Cullum, Sue Place, Peter Crocker

**Clerk:** Ian Treece

**There were 12 members of the public in attendance at the beginning of the meeting plus Linda Jones.**

**The meeting began at 19:01. The public session was deferred until the consideration of Agenda Item 4(a) with the agreement of those members of the public present.**

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

Apologies had been received from Adam Temperton, Paul White and Geoff Jarvis.

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

### 2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

The Chair agreed that Agenda Items 4(a) and 10(b) be brought forward for consideration at this point.

### 3. To consider the following planning application:

	Application Number	Proposal	Applicant and Address
a)	14/04721/FUL	Three 3-bed dwelling houses and one 2-bed dwelling house	Mr. Mark Warren Deneside, Shaftesbury Road, Henstridge BA8 0PR

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that South Somerset District Council be informed that:

The Parish Council wishes to record its strong objection to this application on the following grounds:

- (1) The scale and nature of the proposed development is inappropriate to the setting of the plot which stands amongst low density dwellings and enjoying views of the Blackmore Vale. In particular the erection of houses up to 3 stories high would dominate the skyline at this point and be out of keeping with the existing scale of buildings in the immediate area.
- (2) The proposed development is an over-development of a limited site. This will lead to issues of overlooking and traffic (see below).
- (3) The proposed 3-storey 2-bedroom house will overlook the neighbouring property, Barrowdene, looking directly into its windows and removing both privacy and light. The proposed 3-bedroom houses will likewise overlook the rear of Barrowdene and its rear garden with a loss of privacy.
- (4) The site will involve access and egress by motor vehicles (parking and garage provision is proposed for 7 vehicles) onto the A30 Shaftesbury Road on the brow of a hill and in close proximity to the A30/A357 traffic lights which will be dangerous. There is a very limited visibility

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splay proposed and it will be very difficult for traffic leaving the site to see traffic travelling along the A30 in a southerly direction due to the brow of the hill.

- (5) The limited space within the site will make turning into the garages of the 3-storey house almost impossible. It will also make it difficult for vehicles to turn around in the site, thus increasing the risk of vehicles reversing onto the A30, thus compounding the traffic risks highlighted above.
- (6) There is an LPG tank sited in the garden of Barrowdene immediately adjacent to the boundary with Deneside. We understand that no potential source of spark is allowed within 5 metres of this, but the proposed car parking spaces will be immediately adjacent.

Overall, the Council objects most strongly to this application. It is worth noting that it has generated the highest level of public objections from local residents of any application in the last few years. The Council also deprecates the fact that the developer has made no attempt to consult or communicate with the neighbours to this site.

Finally, representatives of the Parish Council would be keen to be invited to any site visit that may be held regarding this application.

All members of the public left the meeting at this point.

**4. Dog fouling: To receive a report from Linda Jones.**

Linda Jones reported that there had been very few problems with dog fouling on the recreation ground recently and that the persistent problems reported had turned out to be a badger rather than a dog. The recent dog training event organised by Patricia Thompson as part of the Apple Day had been a success and this type of event could only improve the standards of dog ownership in the community.

The Council thanked Linda Jones for her work.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to write to Patricia Thompson thanking her for her interest and contribution.

Linda Jones left the meeting at this point.

**5. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17.11.14.**

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

**6. Recent South Somerset District Council Area East decisions:  
None reported.**

**7. Planning Correspondence.  
None received.**

**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.**

The Clerk reported that he had written again to the agent of the owners of the land adjoining the A357 Stalbridge Road, by the northern traffic pinch point urging them to reconsider their position. No response had been received. In addition, the Clerk reported in the response from Louise King at Somerset County Council and that she was in the process of arranging a meeting with County Councillor William

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Wallace to discuss the Parish Council's submission. The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from a local resident which had also been sent to Louise King.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to write again to the owners of the land adjoining the A357 to see if they would reconsider their position, failing which he should raise the possibility of compulsory purchase with Somerset County Council.

**b. School parking in Park Road and the village hall car park:**

A number of councillors expressed concern that staff from the primary school were parking in Park Road when it was believed that the school car park was not fully used.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to write to the school urging that staff use the school's own car park or the village hall car park, now that CCTV is installed and the gates are not locked, rather than park on Park Road.

## 9. Correspondence

a.	07/11/14	SCC	Guide to winter services
b.	07/11/14 onwards	War Memorials Trust	Various re grant application
c.	11/11/14 onwards	Mr. Robert Garrad	Various re claim that spraying of allotments site oversprayed to his garden and damaged plants.
d.	11/11/14	SALC	Nominations for national council
e.	11/11/14	SSDC	SSDC policy on recording of meetings
f.	11/11/14	Wessex Strut	November newsletter
g.	14/11/14	SSDC	Area East Bulletin, November 2014
h.	14/11/14	Waste Partnership	Recycling newsletter
i.	19/11/14	Louise King, SCC	Traffic measures in Henstridge
j.	25/11/14	Mr. David Sekers	Traffic measures in Henstridge

Noted.

## 10. Council Matters:

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

No police representative was present.

**b. Dog fouling: To receive a report from Linda Jones.**

Dealt with earlier under Minute 4.

**c. SIDS Results:** The Clerk to report on the latest results from the Speed Indicator Devices (attached).

Noted.

**d. Fencing costs:**

The Chair suspended the meeting to allow a discussion on this item.

**e. Housing seminar report:** Michael Petheram to presented a report on a rural housing seminar attended by himself and David Rabone.

Noted.

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- f. **Adoption of BT call boxes:** The Clerk reported that discussions with BT were under way to adopt the telephone kiosk in Yenston.

**Noted.**

- g. **Village Fund Raising:** Michael Petheram queried whether there was an appetite in the village for a more co-ordinated approach to fund raising across all organisations. He offered to take such a co-ordinating role should it prove appropriate.

**Noted.**

- h. **Superfast Broadband:** Councillors deplored the fact that Dorset would receive super-fast broadband well in advance of Somerset and Devon.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to write to the local MP raising this issue.

- i. **To discuss any matters arising from playground and skate park inspection reports and agree any actions arising.**

None reported.

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

Councillors commented on the state of the old railway bridge on the A30, the siting of the temporary 20mph sign by the Bird in Hand and highways drainage opposite the Bird in Hand.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be instructed to raise these matters with the Highways Authority.

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

Jean Oswick reported on fund raising by the Village Hall Management Committee.

**Noted.**

## 11. Personnel Matters

**National Joint Council Pay Award:**

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Council adopts the revised Local Government pay scales as set out in the NJC settlement.

## 12. Finance

- a. **Interim Internal Audit Letter:**

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Council formally notes and accepts the Internal Audit Letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

- b. **Budget 2015/16:**

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**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed that the draft budget for 2015/16 as set out in the Clerk's report be approved as a basis for setting the precept at the January 2015 meeting of the Council.

- c. To approve the cashbook and bank account reconciliation for November 2014 as presented.

The bank statement for November had not yet been received. The reconciliation was therefore deferred to the next meeting.

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

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be authorised to effect such transfers between the Reserve Fund and/or the Project Fund and the current account as were necessary to effectively manage the Council's cashflow position and reflect the funding for specific items of expenditure.

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

Madasafish	Internet and telephone services 24.10.14 to 23.11.14	£1.55
PlusNet	Broadband for Village Hall – 19.10.14 to 18,11,14	£24.90
Light atouch Internal Audit Services	Internal Audit fee – 01/04/14 to 30/09/14	£205.00
Somerset Playing Fields Association	Membership fee, 2014/15	£15.00
SLCC	South-West Regional SLCC Conference – Clerk's training	£82.80
SLCC	Renewal of membership	£149.00
The Great Outdoor Gym Company	Refundable deposit against green gym equipment and installation: agreed by Open Spaces Committee.	£2,290.00
Staff	Wages and expenses for November 2014	£955.08
HMRC	Income Tax and NI for November 2014	£242.84

All the cheque values were verified against the invoices by James Fitch and the invoices signed as a correct match.

**RESOLVED:** The above accounts were approved for payment and Paul Brighten and Jean Oswick agreed as signatories.

## f. Income

HMRC	VAT refund	£2,131.16
Lloyds Bank	Interest	£2.08
SCC: Health & Well Being Fund	Grant for Green Gym project –see above.	£2,290.00

**Noted.**

**12. Date of Next meeting** – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015**. All items for inclusion on the agenda and all items to


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be listed under issues arising from previous meetings must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December.



Ian Treece  
Parish Clerk

DRAFT