

## THURLTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES of MEETING held on 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023 at VILLAGE HALL 7.30pm

#### **PRESENT**

Cllrs. Paul Jackson (Chair) Ange Jones (Vice Chair), Cllrs. Teresa Miller, Claire Kinzel, Mick Erskine, Councillor James Knight (Thurlton District) and Gill Crossland (Clerk).

#### **1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED - REF 03/23/01**

County Cllr. Barry Stone, Cllr. Andy Whiting

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – REF 03/23/02**

Cllr. Jones Community Shop

#### **3. ACTIONS/MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - REF 03/23/03**

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – REF 03/23/04**

It was agreed to change the wording on item 10 Ref 02/2/10 – Communications to explain why Council had decided to decline a donation to Age Concern. All other sections of the minutes were agreed by all present.

**Action** – Clerk to amend minutes and deliver to Chairperson to sign off next day.

#### **5. COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, COMMUNITY POLICING, LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, CLUBS, AND INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES – REPORTS / INFORMATION – REF 03/23/05**

All councillors standing for re-election need to complete necessary forms to be delivered by hand to Horizon House by 4pm Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Cllrs. Kinzel and Jones both announced that they would not be standing for re-election in May. Councillors thanked them for their service to the PC and their presence and expertise will be greatly missed in meetings after May. It was discussed the need to try and recruit new councillors urgently as in May we will have three vacancies. Thurlton have seven councillor positions with a quorum of three to hold meetings. Being down to four councillors from May 2023 is dangerously low. Awareness to residents within three miles radius need to be communicated through as many channels as possible.

**Action** – Clerk to collate and hand deliver all completed Election forms to Horizon by 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023 4pm

Cllr. Erskine attended the last village hall meeting. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council will purchase a new grit bin. However, grit bins are for use on highways and not for the car park, but Council agreed the steps should be gritted for safety purposes.

Village Hall Committee had agreed to refund Parish Council with over charge of half an hour per session last year.

**Action** - Clerk to ascertain from Highways where grit bin should be positioned and arrange purchase. Clerk to request quarterly billing for hire of village hall going forward.

Wave bill received and has been delivered to Allotment Committee.

Cllr. Barry Stone's Report received and circulated. – no action required.

Police presence in the village has improved and was being positively received by the community. The seminar held in the village hall on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March was well attended and it was agreed another should be held in approximately six months' time. Anything suspicious should be reported directly to the police to obtain a police reference number.

**Action** - Clerk to advertise how to report anything suspicious to Police on social media.

## 6. MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF P.C. ASSETS – REF 03/23/06

### (Addition to agenda agreed by Chairman)

Grass cutting of playing field – All hands in agreement to continue with GS Tractors quote of £200 per cut. This includes Mill Lane; front of village hall and both sides bottom of Hampton Avenue.

**Action** - Clerk to renew agreement for 2023 grass cutting with GS Tractors. Wildflower garden not to be touched. Four cuts throughout the year.

## 7. HIGHWAYS/TRAFFIC CALMING/FOOTPATH MATTERS - REF 03/23/07

## 8. PLANNING - REF 03/23/08

2022/2378 – The Barns Slip Road - approved with conditions.

2023/0138 – Lauren Farm, Low Road - decision – prior approval not required.

2023/0515 – Crossways Farm, Loddon Road - approved with conditions.

VCHAP comments date now passed. Parish Council would like to thank everyone that made a comment on the official site. Cllr. Jackson placed comments on behalf of Parish Council.

## 9. CHEQUES/FINANCE – REF 03/23/09

£280.92	Clerks March 2023 Salary including 50% broadband.
£9.99	HP printer March 2023
£43.80	HMRC Clerks Tax March 2023
£357.12	SNDC Dog bin annual charge

Bank balance as at 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 £24,038.96

Clerk advised Council that a claim for 50% broadband had been claimed twice in error. Attempts to contact HMRC for instructions to reverse prior to meeting had failed and therefore need to be adjusted at later date. It was agreed Clerk to produce amended Authorisation of Payment form when rectified with HMRC showing correct figures. This will be agreed by councillors in emails and Clerk to obtain Chair and Cllr. Miller`s signature on revised form.

It was unanimously agreed to switch banking with Barclays to Lloyds. Cllrs. Jackson, Erskine and Clerk to be signatories on account with dual authorisation.

All above proposed Cllr. Miller seconded Cllr. Jones.

**Action** – Clerk to pay SNDC dog bin annual charge, amend Clerks salary with HMRC and obtain signatures on new Payment Authority before paying wages on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Clerk to arrange opening of Lloyds Bank Account prior to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS – REF 03/2/10

King`s Coronation – Considering this is early May and outdoor activity would depend on good weather, it was decided that Parish Council would approach the Village Hall to join forces in providing refreshments at an open day in the village hall. Grants are available to Parish Council of £200. Parish Council would be happy to pay for hire of hall and expenses out of the grant if jointly working together. Part of the grant would be used to plant a tree of celebration.

The King is asking that a day for volunteering be part of the celebrations. Thoughts to be explored.

**Action** – Clerk to communicate with village hall committee and feedback in next meeting.  
Clerk to apply for grant of £200.  
Cllr. Erskine to raise at next Village Hall meeting.

Ball Court – An in-depth discussion took place with input from Cllr. Knight who suggested putting out a questionnaire to collate people’s views on higher fencing/netting of the court or high netting along the fence-line of the properties in question. Any fencing above 6ft would need planning approval and could reduce light into gardens. A higher fence around the court would be unsightly and objections against this have already been received verbally by councillors. Plus, the Parish Council has received a quote for over £10,000 to provide higher fencing on just two sides of the court which is unaffordable. A fence 6ft or below would not necessarily stop balls from being kicked into gardens, or in fact any fence height. Netting would be open to vandalism and could result in high maintenance. Netting over the top of the court again would be open to vandalism and become a danger to children. Moving the ball court has already been dismissed as an unaffordable option.

**Action** – Clerk to contact NALC to book a free one-hour meeting with Solicitor plus advise the Parish Council Insurance Company of the situation and gather what advice they suggest.  
Clerk to collate information already discussed on this matter before Solicitors meeting.

Cllr. Kinzel presented a cheque for £250.00 towards another defibrillator for the village. This has kindly been donated by the Ravensingham Country Fayre. Councillors are very pleased to accept this donation which will be used in the future for a defibrillator to be installed possibly in the vicinity of Blacksmiths Gardens. The existing defibrillator is based outside the Queens Head Pub. Council asked Cllr. Kinzel to pass on our grateful thanks for their generosity when attending the next Ravensingham Country Fayre meeting.

**Action** – Clerk to bank cheque and place in a designated holding fund in the accounts until a new defibrillator can be purchased. Clerk to make enquiries of current prices for next meeting.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION – REF 03/23/11**

Clerk handed out forms for Councillors to complete in time for Clerk to hand deliver to Horizon before the deadline of 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 10th April 2023 Thurlton Village Hall 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9pm

Signed..... Date.....