

Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Wednesday 29th May 2024 – 7:55pm

In Attendance: I Capps (IC), K Calderwood (KC), J Whitehouse (JW), L Patterson (LP), T Black (TB).

Minutes: T Higlett (TH) (Parish Clerk)

1. Election of Chairman
IC proposed K Calderwood – TP seconded.
KC accepted the role and duly signed the declaration of acceptance.
2. Election of Vice Chairman
TB proposed I Capps - LP seconded
IC accepted the role.
3. Apologies for absence
Apologies from C Popplewell.
4. To receive declarations of Interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.
None
5. Public Forum including County and District Councillors.
District Councillor V Thomson attended the Annual Parish meeting and conveyed his apologies for Annual Parish Council meeting due to another engagement.
Reported previously that South Norfolk Council budget has been set and approved. The Local Plan is now in approval stage and gives South Norfolk a 5-year land supply for development. Town and parish meetings which are held monthly, and council receives an invite to attend have grown in attendance. District Direct is offering wellbeing at home rather than in hospital. Nutrient Neutrality was a big hurdle and had a major effect on building development. Applications that could not be approved will be discussed at the June planning meeting.
6. To approve the minutes from the meeting held on the 21st of March 2024.
These were approved.
7. Matters arising from minutes – councillors only.
No comments.
8. Finance
 1. To consider the Internal Auditors report for year ending 31st March 2024.
Forwarded to members prior to meeting. Auditor advised that the Risk Register was last reviewed in 2022. Council to review in July 2024. No other items to be addressed.
 2. To consider whether to exempt from an external audit and if so to authorise the Clerk and Chairman to sign the form.
Members agreed to exempt and authorised Chairman and Clerk to sign on behalf of the council.

3. To consider the assertions on and complete the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 and to authorise the Clerk and Chairman to sign.
Members authorised Chairman and Clerk to sign on behalf of the council.
4. To consider and approve the Accounting Statements 2023/24 and to authorise the Chairman and Clerk to sign.
Members authorised Chairman and Clerk to sign on behalf of the council.
5. Councils financial standing at the end of financial year 2023/24
Balance as of 28th March 2024 - £14902.56
6. To note receipts since last meeting
South Norfolk. Council 1st half precept £4573.50
7. To approve insurance renewal for 2024/25
Clerk advised the last years premium was £520.69 this year £532.42. Confirmed with Zurich Insurance that additional defibrillator was included. Council approved the renewal.
8. Approve Payments

T Higlett	April and May salaries.	£588.80
Ashby & Thurton Village Hall	Hire of venue.	£160.00
HMRC	Clerks taxation.	£134.00
Zurich Insurance	Insurance 2024/25	£532.42
T Higlett	Computer security renewal	£19.99
T Higlett	Expenses/stationery/postage	£28.02
RJT Electrical	Electrical work	£96.50
L Trueman	Internal Audit 2023/24	£50.00
9. Approve Clerks mileage claim 2023/24
This was approved.
10. To note payments made between meetings.
None.
11. Grant towards Byrus Youth Group.
The council unanimously agreed to a grant of £150.00.
9. Planning
 1. To receive a report on planning applications determined since the last meeting.
2024/1103 3 Valley Cottages Cookes Road Thurton. Proposal: Replacement shed at front of dwelling. The council had no comments to make.
 2. To receive a report on plans accepted/refused by South Norfolk Council 2024/1067 App Type: Demolition. Location: Hall Farm Barn Hall Road Thurton
Proposal: Demolition of agricultural building/structure. Decision: Prior Approval not Required (Delegated) Date of decision: 10 May 2024

2024/0509 PD Change from Barn to Dwelling. Agricultural Buildings South of Hall Road Thurton. Notification for Prior Approval for a proposed change of use and associated building works of agricultural buildings to three dwellinghouses (QA and QB) Decision: Approval of details - Approved (Delegated) Date of decision: 20 May 2024.
10. Administrative Issues
 1. Review of Statutory Document
The council adopted Norfolk PTS Standing Orders.

2. Banking Arrangements.

The Clerk was asked to research investing council reserves into a saving account with Lloyd's bank. The council previously held a savings account with Barclays Bank. There are options for three accounts: Instant access, 32-day notice and 95-day notice. All offer different interest rates. However, the 95-day access account can only be applied for online. The chair felt that the council should open a 32-day notice account and consider investing £10,000. This could then be invested into a 95-day account once the council has online banking in place.

Members unanimously agreed.

The clerk asked signatories to complete the online banking documentation.

11. Village issues

Bus shelter maintenance

IC advised he had spoken with A Rudd with regards to carrying out routine maintenance on the shelters. TB said that the oak pillars could be replaced with brick, and this would save on future maintenance. IC Proposed asking A Rudd to look at the bus shelters and produce a quote on the work. Council would need to contact Bus company to advise them of closure to conduct any works.

12. Speed Awareness Campaign.

Next meeting will take place on the 1st July 2024, and an Invite has gone out Cllr Mason Billig to attend. Following the response from NCC and the A146 petition the Chair advised a further letter has been sent to Graham Plant Highways Infrastructure and Transport Norfolk County Council and a press release to Eleanor Storey EDP.

13. Biodiversity Action Plan

Proposed carrying forward to next meeting.

14. Correspondence

1. Financial Ombudsman.

The council in receipt of acknowledgement letter ref complaint against Barclays. Further information required how we would like Barclays to put things right for us, annual turnover, and balance sheet figure. Clerk to follow up.

15. General Parish Issues

TB proposed the council should consider drafting a summer village newsletter after the next A146 meeting.

Members unanimously agreed.

Council had received from South Norfolk Council notification of a Tree Protection Order SN0663 - White Lodge, Norwich Road, Thurton. Council had no comment to make.

16. Date of next meeting 31st July 2024.