

Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Friday July 29th, 2021 – 7:30pm

In Attendance: I Capps – Chair, S Bush, L Patterson, T Black

Minutes: T Higlett (Parish Clerk)

1. To consider apologies for absence

C Popplewell

2. To receive disclosures of interests and dispensations.

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2021.

Minutes were approved. May 2021 minutes to be forwarded to members for approval.

4. Public Open Forum

No public in attendance

District Cllr V Thomson emailed report prior to the meeting. Advised the South Norfolk Village Cluster Housing Allocations Plan closes on the 6th August 2021. Covid numbers are still up and down. Norfolk Fire Service will be hosting water safety events across the summer educating the public about water dangers. In 2020, Norfolk had the third highest number of accidental water deaths in England, with 9 people losing their lives. There are concerns over the number of water deaths so far this year. Depleted batteries are not being disposed of correctly. Recent spate of recycling bin fires has identified depleted batteries as the root cause. Members asked whether the Bergh Apton recycling centre would remain open once the new centre opens at Harford Bridge in October 2021. Cllr Thomson could not confirm either way, however it would remain open for now. Concerns with the increase of fly tipping should the public have to travel further afield to dispose of items. It was also noted that there has been an increase in litter on Cookes Road.

County Cllr Kay Mason Billig - representing the Loddon ward was welcomed to the meeting as this was her first attendance to a TPC meeting. Attended the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework and was surprised to learn the A146 was not included and felt this should be along with other major Norfolk roads. If the A146 is closed this has an effect on the surrounding villages, particularly as traffic is diverted through them. Work will commence on the Loddon roundabout in September. The Broads Authority will be dredging the River Chet which burst its bank and has affected the partial closure of the Roman Way. Would envisage this fully re-opening in 2023. Both councillors have been working on the installation of electric charging points for electric boats on the Broads. Norfolk County Council are launching an Independent Living project at a cost of £21m. This is based on a European model and sites are already being built. Councillor Mason-Billig is currently working with the Parish Council and Norfolk Highways to resolve the question of ownership of the trees in the Crescent. Date for a meeting at the site with a highways engineer has been proposed just waiting on confirmation. Also asked for the Title Deeds to be obtained from the Land Registry and brought to said meeting.

I Capps took the opportunity to publicly thank L Patterson for all her work in respect of the ownership of the trees and in particular liaising with the residents and Cllr Mason-Billig.

Chair.....

5. Co-Option to Parish Council

Council have approached possible interested persons. To revisit at next meeting.

6. Repairs to bus shelters

The bus shelters have recently been cleaned by C Popplewell and T Black. Both shelters need some maintenance before they deteriorated more. The shelter on the Norwich side of the A146 has woodworm in the seat, window frames and roof will also need treating. The shelter near St Ethelbert's is missing a piece of wood on the fascia and the metal gates should be removed. The woodwork on both shelters has areas of rot and feel they would benefit from treating etc. before re-staining. Council had remedial works carried out in 2019, based on a professional report carried out by a local architect. Propose that council obtains three quotations for repairs. S Bush asked whether council should look to replace shelters for something more modern. T Black suggested displaying posters and painting the woodwork in bright colours rather than replacing, making more of a feature. Possible lighting too. To include on next agenda.

7. Village sign

I Capps advised materials will be obtained for the refurbishment. Gate to be removed and seal around the base. A flexible sealant will be used to prevent rot setting in.

8. Removal of old tree stump in churchyard.

Stump has been removed from the churchyard in readiness for the planting of a new tree later in the year. Council is grateful to three residents who removed the stump and a letter of thanks from the council will be drafted by the Clerk. The guard around the tree stump has been delivered to the foundry for refurbishment. C Popplewell is liaising with the church regarding a small dedication service when new tree is available for planting.

9. Planning

- I. Planning decision: 2021/0748 Vale barn Val Road, Thurton Variation of condition 3 of 2021/2034 to allow holiday lets/annexe accommodation – Approval with conditions.

10. Finance

- I. First quarter accounts presented to council.
- II. Cheques issued: T Higlett – salary July 2021 £250.38
Autela Payroll £52.20
- III. Receipts for July: £50.00 – Thurton Thunderer Advertiser
- IV. Barclays additional signatories' documents completed by two councillors.

11. Periodic Items

- I. Standing Orders – duly signed by Chair
- II. Financial Regulations – duly signed by Chair
- III. Financial Risk Assessment – duly signed by Chair

12. Mini Recycling Centre

Council approved the signing of the agreement from South Norfolk.

Chair.....

13. Highways

I. Norfolk County Council will re reinstating the Highway Rangers service. They will visit the village twice a year.

II. Highway repairs. Small sink hole in Whiteheath Road close to the crossroads, reported to Highways. 'C' missing on Cookes Road.

III. Trees on the Crescent, covered in County Councillors report

14. Correspondence.

I. "Parish Partnerships" scheme for local highway improvements. Council has until the 10th December 2021 to apply for a grant. One scheme which would be acceptable for a grant would be new bus shelter or shelter lighting, along with flashing signs to tackle speeding. Council have previously investigated mobile speed awareness signs under this type of 50% match funding.

15. Items for the Thunderer.

Clerk advised editorial for next edition has been submitted. L Patterson advised this has been received and there are a couple of amendments.

16. Date of next scheduled meeting 30th September 2021 unless an earlier meeting is required.

Meeting closed at 20:55

Chair.....