

# Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – 7:30pm

In Attendance: I Capps (IC) (Chairman) L Patterson (LP), C Popplewell (CP)

Minutes: T Higlett (TH) (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies from T Black, K Calderwood, Cllr K Mason Billig

2. Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations for Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest.

None

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 September 2022

These were agreed as a true record of proceedings

4. Public Open Forum

Member of the public had come to speak to the council to discuss the crossing of the A146 with school children in particular when all pupils from Thurton C of E primary school are attending Thurton Church. This happens at least 4 times a year with around 105 pupils including teachers/helpers. Discussions have taken place with the NCC Road Safety Officer to advise on safety. The traffic island is not a suitable mid crossing point. Lighting is poor on the road and it doesn't help that the school road sign is not fully illuminated. The consensus is that additional lighting is required and speed control on the A146. This could be addressed by the Parish Council applying for funding from NCC Parish Partnership scheme for a Radar Vehicle Activated Sign. The scheme requires the Parish Council to fund the project by 50% and the other 50% from the scheme.

**Action Point.** Clerk to contact highways regarding the faulty illuminated sign.

**Action Point.** Clerk to obtain quote for Radar Vehicle Activated Sign from Wescotec.

5. Matters arising from minutes

I. Village hall driveway. Clerk will submit grant application form on behalf of Ashby St Mary. Parish council will contribute a grant of £2,000 towards the refurbishment.

II. Defibrillator. Council unanimously agreed to purchase the cPAD Zoll AED 3 Semi Auto Defib+ Stainless Steel Cabinet. Council proposed to include a training package which could be carried out at the Annual Parish meeting for interested parties to attend. Date to be discussed. IC advised he would arrange for stainless steel to be installed around the base of the telephone kiosk which will house the defibrillator.

**Action Point.** Clerk to place order with Community Heartbeat and arrange for delivery to the Foundry.

**Action Point.** IC to arrange stainless steel installation.

III. Discussion around Prospect Place, Norwich Road and other highways concerns. Meeting took place at Prospect Place with G Overland (GO) NCC Highways engineer, Cllr Kay Mason Billig (KMB), IC and TH to discuss improvements on the visibility from Norwich on the approach to Prospect Place. A resident from Prospect Place also attended and spoke of his concerns of the speed of vehicles, the difficulty crossing the road and exiting onto the A146 in a motor vehicle and reduction of speed limit. GO advised It is difficult to change speed limits. When large housing developments are planned highway agencies discuss the speed limit on roads and possible reduction. An example was the Loddon development and the installation of a roundabout etc

It was also mentioned that the local bus company was not always stopping at bus stop opposite. All agreed that the vegetation on the left-hand side of the road requires cutting back, however the ownership of the land would need to be established. GO advised he would be prepared to arrange for it to be cut back and to investigate ownership of the land beyond. The approach to the area from Norwich could also benefit from a sign to warn motorists of pedestrians crossing. KMB proposed contacting the bus company to ensure that buses stop at the designated stops.

IC asked whether the village would benefit from the installation of village gateways, but GO didn't feel the financial outlay for these would really benefit the village.

IC asked if owners of properties on The Crescent had been written to by NCC advising them the trees and vegetation was not the responsibility of NCC but that of the residents. GO was confident a letter had gone out to residents and would confirm.

Concerns around crossing the A146 in the centre of the village at core school times. GO advised that to be able to do anything you would need to know the volume of people crossing the road. Thurton has a traffic island in its favour although there are safety concerns around the close proximity to vehicles passing particularly heading towards Norwich. Advised that other parishes larger than Thurton have approached the authority with a view to speed reduction during core times and it has been rejected.

Regarding Ashby Road and school crossing. Council could look to fund a wig wag sign (Radar Vehicle Activated) outside the school through the Parish Partnership Scheme. This could be supplied by Wescotec who are used to supply and install throughout Norfolk.

**Action Point:** Clerk to contact Cllr Mason Billig about points discussed.

- IV. South Norfolk Emergency Co-Ordinator. Members attended a virtual meeting. Thurton's emergency plan did not require too many amendments. It was felt that the council should leave it to the official bodies should an emergency arise rather than calling upon people residing in the village for assistance. The plan will be reviewed with assistance from South Norfolk, who are currently holding a copy of the plan.
- V. Bus shelters maintenance -Clerk advised she had tried to contact contractor regarding a start date but unable to contact them either by email or telephone. It was proposed to leave now until the Spring and to source new contractor.
- VI. Music events held in the village. Council had received correspondence from SN Community Protection Officer stating that they had found nothing amiss. However, a balance should be struck between businesses offering entertainment and ensuring local residents are adequately protected from excessive levels of noise from live and recorded amplified music. If noise from a premises is determined to be unreasonable and is significantly affecting residents, then SN can take action to control the level of noise.

## 6. Finance

- I. Half Year accounts were presented. Appendix 1
- II. Council approved the following payments:

Payee	Reference	Amount	Chq. no
T Higlett	Salary – October	259.67	101398
C Limbach	Contribution towards remembrance wreath (S137)	10.00	101399
Roberts and Son	Printing of Thunderer	358.00	101400
T Higlett	Stamps and Ink cartridges	51.39	101401
Ashby St Mary PC	Jubilee mugs	263.61	101402
CPRE	Subscription	36.00	101403
T Higlett	Salary - November	259.67	101404

- III. Payments made since last meeting.  
A Rudd for maintenance of the telephone kiosk. £30.00
- IV. Payments received since last meeting.  
Community Infrastructure Levy of £369.49
- V. Clerks' salary increase  
As per NJC terms and conditions clerk's salaries have been increased by £1 per hour and back dated to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

7. Draft Budget 2023/24

Clerk gave an overview of the draft budget for 2023/24. Council asked for Grants to be set at £1,000. No budget had been set for the printing and editorial of the Thunderer until a decision has been made on the future of the publication.

8. Consultations

- I. Transport East – Rural Mobility Scheme – KC had responded on behalf of the parish council
- II. NALC .gov.uk email address pilot – Council were in favour and unanimously agreed to join the pilot scheme.  
**Action Point:** Clerk to advise NALC

9. Council Policies review

- I. General Risk Assessment – was reviewed and adopted.

10. Reports

- I. Village Maintenance – T Black not in attendance to convey a report
- II. Village Hall – L Patterson nothing to report as monthly meeting was cancelled due to the chair being on leave

11. Correspondence

- I. Broadland & South Norfolk Business Awards
- II. South Norfolk Bin Collections App
- III. South Norfolk Warm Spaces Grant
- IV. South Norfolk Email and Website Domain change
- V. WHP Telecommunications proposed installation for Arqivas smart meter for Anglian Water.

It was proposed that a meeting should be called to discuss the installation as council had received this as a planning application (2022/2216) from SN. Residents may want to hear what the council have to say on the application. Immediate thoughts were for the dwellings in close proximity and inference with communication reception, trees and attachments to the mast once installed. Date agreed as 8<sup>th</sup> December 7:30pm. To also include application 2022/2189.

**Action Point:** Clerk to book village hall and prepare agenda notifying of an extraordinary meeting.

VI. IC spoke of correspondence he had received from a resident regarding the local bus service. The bus from Norwich keeps driving past the stop at top of hill towards Loddon and they have been into station twice & complained. Has anxiety about bus driving past which they rely on to get to work each day and has asked if there is anyone who can raise this issue with First Bus, on their behalf.

**Action Point.** Clerk to contact First Bus.

12. Thurton Thunderer

LP has resigned from the editorial team as the role had become very demanding. Costs have increased in printing and advertisers have ceased which has influenced the contributions by both Ashby St Mary and Thurton Parish Councils. A meeting will be held in 2023 to discuss the future. Clerk will pull together the costs looking at both income and expenditure. If magazine continues, then printing costs will need to be reviewed. Clerk has offered to take on the finance.

13. Editorial for the Thunderer.

WHP mast, Parish Partnership Highway Scheme, Risk Assessment, defibrillator

14. Date of next meeting – to be arranged once date of precept notification has been received.