

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT CRANE MOOR CHAPEL, CRANE MOOR, ON WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2004 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillors Dalton, Hague, Methley, Petty-Marsh, Rose and Rowley. Also present R Atkinson (Parish Clerk), and six members of the public.

2004/102. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Apologies were received from Councillors Berry (illness), Oxley (illness) and Taberner (holiday). There were no declarations of interest in any items on the agenda. It was noted that Councillor Oxley has undergone a hip replacement operation since the last meeting and it was proposed by Councillor Methley that a card and some flowers be delivered to her from the Parish Council. This was seconded by Councillor Rose and agreed by all present. The Clerk is to attend to this matter.

2004/103. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 JULY 2004

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 July 2004 had been received by all Councillors. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and Councillor Dalton signed them as such.

2004/104. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES WHICH ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising from the minutes which were not on the agenda of the meeting.

2004/105. REPORT FROM THE AREA FORUM MEETING

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has not received any figures via e-mail, but reported the figures from the minutes of the two Area Forum meetings which have taken place since the last Parish Council meeting.

1st April 2004 to 31st May 2004 Thurgoland – six crimes, Crane Moor – no crimes.

1st June 2004 to 10 August 2004 Thurgoland – six crimes, Crane Moor – 4 crimes.

2004/106. CIP PROJECT

There was no-one present from the Project and no report had been received. The Clerk advised the meeting that she had received comments from Mick Burkinshaw concerning the recognition of the work carried out on the Boundary Walk by the young people of Thurgoland as follows:-

‘I take note about the omissions from the Thurgoland Boundary Walk and feel the youth are already mentioned, although not specifically from the Parish. I was under the impression that Mick O’Rourke worked with the youth of the Parish and also from other areas, through the Barnsley Youth Service, and that is why their logo is on the leaflet. To highlight the youth of Thurgoland alone would be unfair to others who took part.’

These comments were noted.

2004/107. CLERK’S REPORT ON ITEMS OUTSTANDING

The Clerk had circulated Appendix A to all Councillors and reported that there had been no response to any of the items since the list was circulated. It was agreed that items 1 to 5, some of which have been outstanding since September 2003 should be progressed further, and the Clerk is to write to each recipient to ask if they can respond before the next meeting.

2004/108. PARISH PATHS

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting of the following items concerning Parish Paths:-

i) Walks

The response to the walks held in July and August had been very encouraging and many people have asked if there are to be more walks organised. As the nights will soon be drawing in, it is not possible to have evening walks and the possibility of having weekend walks is being explored.

ii) Stepping stones across River Don

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that no progress has been made in securing the stepping stones. As no progress will be made before the winter, Councillor Rowley wishes to approach Hunshelf again with a view to obtaining their agreement to provide a bridge across the river. It was agreed that Councillor Rowley should progress this idea.

iii) Various missing signs

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that there are various signs which are missing. A list was given to the Clerk who will write to Mick Burkinshaw to bring these matters to his attention.

iv) Drainage problems at Crane Moor Nook

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that the drain at Crane Moor Nook next to the stone trough is silted up and requires clearing out. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to ask them to attend to this matter.

v) Footpath sign at junction of Cote Lane and Huthwaite Lane

It was noted that the sign at the above location has been turned round and is not pointing up Huthwaite Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to ask them to re-site to sign.

2004/109. STILE AT FOOTPATH FROM SHARP FORD BRIDGE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter asking if she could provide the exact location of the stile at Sharp Ford Bridge in order that the work can be carried out. It was noted however that the stile has now been cleared of vegetation and therefore no further action is required.

2004/110. DIVERSION OF FOOTPATH 29

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received notification that the above footpath has now been officially diverted with effect from 8 July 2004. This was noted.

2004/111. THURGOLAND ACTION

Councillor Taberner was not present at the meeting but had provided the Clerk with a list of suggestions for improvements to the Parish which included bulb planting on Cote Lane, the provision of another village garden at Churchfield and the provision of hanging baskets. After a brief discussion it was noted that there appears to be some confusion as to where the demarcation is between what is provided via the Parish Council and what can be progressed via Thurgoland Action. It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged upon Councillor Taberner's return in order that this issue can be discussed fully and matters progressed via the appropriate channel.

2004/112. WATER PUMP AT HUTHWAITE LANE

Councillor Rose advised the meeting that he has not yet been able to progress this matter and asked if it could be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/113. STONE TROUGHS

Councillor Rose advised the meeting that he has looked at most of the troughs within the Parish. After discussion it was agreed that Councillor Petty-Marsh would visit the troughs with Councillor Rose to provide a full inventory and to take photographs of them for the website. It was suggested that the troughs should be placed on the Parish Council insurance policy and that conservation/preservation orders should be placed on them. The Clerk is to contact Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to ask how to progress this matter and place the item on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/114. THURGOLAND PRE SCHOOL

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter from Thurgoland Pre-School advising that they have received a sum of £2000 from Barnsley Community and Voluntary Network towards the purchase of a canopy for the pre-school building. However, it was noted that as a reply has not been received from the Our of School Club advising of the exact funding requirements, it was not possible to make a decision on the provision of a grant. Once a reply has been received a decision will be made.

2004/115. BUS SERVICE 23 AND 25

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence concerning bus services 23 and 25 as follows:- Service 25 'I can confirm that there will be no change whatsoever to service 25 in the foreseeable future. I can also confirm that a new leaflet is to be issued which will be available shortly.'

Service 23 'The arrangement to accept Senior Citizens Passes on the 0855 departure to Barnsley dates from a time when there were no other buses between Crane moor and Barnsley until much later in the day. Under such circumstances the Executive and Yorkshire Traction could agree to allow early use of concessionary passes without fear of establishing a precedent that could be prohibitively expensive if applied elsewhere. Since that time service patterns have changed and there is now a service 25 departure from Crane Moor to Barnsley at 0921. Senior Citizens' concessionary passes are valid on this departure. In the circumstances I am unable to pursue an agreement to continue accepting Senior Citizens' Passes on the 0855 service 23.'

The Clerk provided copies of this letter to Councillors in order that they could distribute them to the Parishioners who had raised the query.

2004/116. PARISH PATHS MAPS BOARDS

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has had a reply to her request to re-instate the Parish Paths Map Board outside the Village Hall. The original board is very faded and the original artwork is required to complete the

installation. The Clerk advised the meeting that she has the original artwork. It was agreed that this be forwarded to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council in order that they can reprint the map and re-install the board.

2004/117. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk advised the meeting that although all the allotments are currently tenanted, some of them are becoming increasingly overgrown. A discussion followed and it was suggested that the allotments may be split into more manageable plots so that more people could have an allotment and there is less chance of them become too much for the current tenants. It was agreed that the Clerk visit the site, ascertain which allotments are overgrown, contact the relevant people and make a report to the next meeting in order that a decision can be made.

2004/118. DUMPING OF TYRES AT CHEESEBOTTOM

The Clerk advised the meeting that Councillor Taberner had placed this item on the agenda. Mr Dowkes of Cheesebottom has a problem with residents dumping tyres over the wall of Thurgoland Bank onto his land. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to advise them of this and asked what action can be taken to remove the tyres.

2004/119. BENCH FOR SCOUT LEADERS

The Clerk advised the meeting that Councillor Taberner had provided her with quotations for the bench which is to be provided to commemorate the service provided to the Parish by the recently retired Scout Leaders. The quotations ranged from £135.00 to £449.00. It was noted that the Parish Council policy is that benches should be made from sustainable tanalised softwood or recycled plastic and it was unclear from the quotations what the benches are made of. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain additional quotations and that the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/120. WAR MEMORIAL AND VILLAGE PUMP

The refurbishment of the War Memorial and Village Pump on Halifax Road was discussed at length. It was agreed that the War Memorial will be tidied in time for November and that an article will be placed in the newsletter and on the website asking for ideas and suggestions for a long term, low maintenance refurbishment project. The item will be placed on the agenda for the meeting to be held in November.

2004/121. THURGOLAND HISTORY GROUP

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a request from Councillor Taberner for the Parish Council to provide funds to pay for the first three months rent of the Village all for the newly formed Thurgoland History Group. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should pay for one months' rent (£21.00) and then review the situation once the group is established. The Clerk is to advise Councillor Taberner of this.

2004/122. WALL ON THURGOLAND HALL LANE

This item had been placed on the agenda by Councillor Petty-Marsh. The wall from the top of Thurgoland Hall Lane towards Barnsley, opposite the allotments is unsafe in places and has fallen onto the pavement from time to time. After discussion it was agreed that Councillor Rose will speak to the landowner, Mr Wood to ask him if it is possible to make the wall safe.

2004/123. VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT/PARISH PLAN

A copy of a Village Design Statement/Parish Plan from Silkstone had been provided to all Councillors. After discussion it was agreed that this item requires a meeting of it's own to progress the matter. Once Councillor Taberner is back from holiday a meeting will be arranged and Judith Fozzard will be invited to attend.

2004/124. STREET LIGHTS ON COTE LANE

This item had been placed on the agenda by Councillor Taberner. The street lights from the top of Cote Lane to it's junction with Rookery Way are very often not lit. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to ask them to check the lights and ensure that they are all lit. it was also noted that the street light outside 4 Spring Grove is not lit. This will also be brought to the attention of the lighting department.

2004/125. TRAFFIC ON PINFOLD LANE

The Clerk advised the meeting that this item had been placed on the agenda by Councillor Taberner. Councillor Taberner raised concern about the width of the road and the excessive speed used by motorists using it. It was noted that this point has been raised before and the Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter advising that 'I have checked the Council's accident database and can find no records of injury accidents on the whole length of Pinfold Lane in the last five years. Consequently, I propose to take no further action at this time.'

These comments were noted and whilst it was felt that this did not address the issue it was agreed that no further action could be taken.

2004/126. ARMISTICE DAY PARADE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter, forwarded from Maurice Williams, from South Yorkshire Police asking for details of the Armistice Day Parade to be held on Sunday 14 November 2004. After discussion it was agreed that the letter be forward to Holy Trinity Church via Mrs Dorothy Shaw.

2004/127. INCREASE IN CLERKS SALARY

The Clerk had provided all Councillors with a copy of a document outlining the National Salary Award for Local Council Clerks. It was agreed by all present that the recommended pay increase should take place with immediate effect.

2004/128. TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS EVENT ON PLANNING

The Clerk had provided all Councillors with details of a Planning Event which is to take place on Tuesday 9 November 2004 at the Town Hall, Barnsley. After discussion it was agreed that Ruth Atkinson, Councillor Petty-Marsh and Councillor Rowley will attend the event.

2004/129. CHRISTMAS TREES

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Billingley Christmas Trees advising that orders should now be placed for Christmas. After discussion it was agreed that the following should be ordered:-

- i) A fourteen foot tree for Churchfield
- ii) A ten foot tree for outside the Village Hall
- iii) A ten foot tree for the Bridge Inn

The Clerk is to place the orders and advise the Bridge Inn and Welfare Association of this decision.

2004/130. MAKING BARNSELY CLEANER

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received notification of the 'Making Barnsley Cleaner Campaign' which is to be launched shortly. Councillor Rowley took the details of the launch as she may be interested in attending.

2004/131. SCRUTINY COMMISSIONS

The Clerk advised the meeting that two meetings have been arranged for Councillors to increase their awareness of the Scrutiny Commissions. The meetings are to be held on 9 September at St Johns Community Centre and on 29 September at Barnsley Town Hall. Councillors were asked to advise the Clerk if they wish to attend.

2004/132. OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

The Clerk advised the meeting that she would like to receive contributions for the October newsletter within the next two weeks. The following suggestions were made:-

- i) The refurbishment of the War Memorial and Village Pump as previously discussed.
- ii) Contact numbers for Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council departments
- iii) A report on the visit to Southport
- iv) An article on the pump at Huthwaite Lane and the stone troughs
- v) Allotments – suggestions on how to keep the site tidy
- vi) The Welfare Association pantomime

2004/133. THE PLOT AT FIR TREE

This item had been placed on the agenda by Councillor Methley. It was noted that there is still a problem with anti-social behaviour on 'the plot' at Fir Tree. After discussion it was agreed that to discourage young people congregating in the bushes and foliage it would be better if the area was pruned well back. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Neighbourhood Pride asking for this work to be carried out as soon as possible.

2004/134. THURGOLAND POST OFFICE

The Clerk advised the meeting that this item had been placed on the agenda following discussions between herself and the Chairman. The Clerk has received a telephone call from a resident expressing concern that the Post Office in Thurgoland has recently been put up for sale. The concerns raised were:-

- i) That if the Post Office is sold the advertisement indicates that it may be sold for 'alternative commercial usage'. This would mean the loss of the Post Office in the village.
- ii) The current owners of the Post Office have recently received a grant from the Countryside Agency Vital Villages initiative which was used to make improvements to the Post Office. The Parish Council supported the grant application and it is felt that the grant could have been used to add value to the property.

The Chairman advised the meeting that, following consultation with the Clerk the following action has been taken:-

- i) A letter has been forwarded to the Royal Mail asking for their comments on the possible loss of the Post Office if it is sold to someone who does not wish to retain it as a Post Office.
- ii) A letter has been forwarded to the Yorkshire Local Councils Association asking for their advice concerning the grant made by the Countryside Agency.

The Clerk further advised the meeting that no reply has been received from the Royal Mail, but that a telephone call has been received from Yorkshire Local Councils Association. They have informed the Countryside Agency of the concerns of the Clerk and Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council and the Countryside Agency have now taken the matter on board and will be in contact with the Parish Council in due course. The advice of Yorkshire Local Councils Association is to take no further action at this time, but to wait for a response both from the Royal Mail and the Countryside Agency. It was agreed that Councillors should exercise caution in speaking about this subject outside the meeting until further factual evidence has been provided and that the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/135. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has tried to ascertain if it is acceptable for members of the public to view Planning Applications at a Parish Council meeting. Whilst she does not have any firm policy on this, her advice would be that under the Freedom of Information Act any member of the public is allowed access to Planning Applications either via Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council Planning Department or by contacting the Clerk and arranging to visit her to view them. It would therefore seem logical that should anyone wish to view applications they should be allowed to do so after the meeting has ended. This would ensure that no comments could be made by members of the public which could influence the decision making process of the Parish Council as their comments would have been made and minuted before a member of the public sees the plans. Whilst this was felt to be an acceptable solution it was agreed that the Clerk seek advice on this matter from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association and place the item on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/136. TEN MINUTE ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

The following items were raised by members of the public:-

a) Litter bin at Churchfield

A member of the public asked when the litter bin promised by Neighbourhood Pride will be provided at the top of Churchfield. The Clerk advised the meeting that she has spoken to Elaine Down on this matter but will now forward a letter to Neighbourhood Pride asking when the bin will be in place.

b) Leaves on Halifax Road

Mr Roebuck again asked the Clerk when the piles of leaves which have collected at Halifax Road bus stop will be removed. The leaves now have weeds growing from them and are very unsightly. Mr Roebuck further asked the Parish Council to note that he has contacted Neighbourhood Pride by telephone and that they informed him that they have no record of this request being made. The Clerk advised the meeting that she has spoken to Elaine Down on this matter as she was advised some months ago to deal with matters such as this by telephone. However, as no action has been taken it was agreed that the Clerk put the request in writing.

c) Footpath through the Welfare Ground

A member of the public advised the meeting that the footpath from Roper Lane to Halifax Road via the Welfare Ground is overgrown and in need of some attention. It was also noted that the wall at the entrance to the footpath on Halifax Road is in need of repair. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to advise them of these matters.

d) Erection of fence at Romtickle

A member of the public asked if any progress had been made concerning the fence which has been erected at Romtickle without Planning Permission. It was noted that District Councillor Toon is progressing this matter and the Clerk is to contact her to find out the current position.

e) Access to Huthwaite Quarry

Mr Wade of Old Mill Lane advised the meeting that he has provided the Clerk with documentation outlining the agreed access from Old Mill Lane to Huthwaite Quarry for the Parish Council records. The Clerk thanked Mr Wade for providing this information and it was agreed that a copy should be provided to each Councillor for their information.

f) People United Against Crime

A member of the public provided the Clerk with a copy of some information concerning an initiative called People United Against Crime. The Clerk thanked the member of the public for providing this information which is to be placed on file for possible future reference.

g) Pavement at Roper Lane adjacent to new development.

A member of the public asked it to be noted that the pavement on Roper Lane at the new development has been made unsafe by the addition of the access road. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Wimpey Homes to ask them to make this part of the pavement safe as soon as possible.

2004/137. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey side extension

2 Brick Row, Crane Moor Nook, Crane Moor.

There were no observations or comments on this application.

b) Erection of side first floor extension to dwelling

Rivermill Farm, Old Mill Lane, Thurgoland

There were no observations or comments on this application.

c) Erection of two storey side extension

The Old Wire Mill, Old Mill Lane, Thurgoland

There were no observations or comments on this application.

d) Erection of first floor side extension

9 Heights View, Thurgoland

There were no observations or comments on this application.

e) Erection of rear single storey extension

2 Nearcoates Cottages, Coates Lane, Thurgoland

There were no observations or comments on this application.

f) Erection of agricultural beef rearing unit

Far Coates Farm, Maggot Lane, Oxspring, Sheffield

There were no observations or comments on this application.

g) Erection of detached bungalow with integral garage

Land adjacent to the Horse and Jockey, Roper Lane and rear of Watch House Row, Thurgoland

Comment was made that the proposed dwelling is on a piece of land which is raised above the land of the surrounding dwellings and concern was therefore made about the potential height and therefore possible overshadowing of dwellings in the immediate vicinity.

h) Formation of equestrian arena and erection of stable block and tack room

Land off Pog Lane, Crane Moor, Sheffield

Concerns were raised about the suitability of the road surface of Pog Lane for the traffic that this proposal will bring. The unmade road is very narrow and the proposed development will result in congestion and parking difficulties. It is not clear from the plans where the access to the development will be and the plans are incomplete.

Councillor Methley asked if it would be possible to raise a planning matter at this stage. It was agreed that this would be possible. A vehicular access has been formed at 4 Moorland view, Halifax Road, Thurgoland. Councillor Methley asked if it would be possible to ascertain if Planning Permission has been granted for this access. It was agreed that the Clerk contact the Planning Department to seek this information in time for the next meeting.

2004/138. APPROVED AND DECLINED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following approved and declined applications were reported to the meeting:-

Formation of vehicular access to classified road

Eaton House, Halifax Road, Thurgoland

This application was granted in August 2004.

Residential Development (outline)

Land adjacent Glengarry, Old Mill Lane, Thurgoland

This outline application was granted in July 2004.

Erection of two link detached housed with attached garages

Old Coal Yard, Crane Moor Nook, Crane Moor, Sheffield

This application was refused in July 2004 as 'in the opinion of the Local Planning Authority the development proposed would be materially detrimental to the amenities of the occupants of Greenways by reason of its overbearing and overshadowing effect, contrary to policy HBA of the Barnsley Unitary Development Plan.

2004/139. NEWSLETTERS/CIRCULARS

It was agreed that Councillor Rose would forward the newsletters and circulars received to Councillor Oxley within the next few days.

2004/140. ACCOUNTS

The following cheques were signed for payment in accordance with the schedule provided to all Councillors:-

Main Account

Penistone Paramount	Grant	500.00
R Atkinson	Ink jet cartridge	27.99
S Rose	Varnish for benches and boards	37.48
L Petty-Marsh	Banner for Thurgoland Action	80.00
Ruth Atkinson	Salary – September	388.22
Parkers Promotional Products	Thurgoland Action merchandise	659.77
R Atkinson	Purchase of stamps	10.08
J Taberner	Items for Thurgoland Action	104.45
Crane Moor Chapel	Room Hire – 1 September 2004	12.00
Yorkshire Water	Allotment water rates	11.35

Parish Paths Account

NIL

The following deposits have been banked during July and August :-

Main Account

NIL

Parish Paths Account

NIL

2004/141. STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE – AUDIT REGULATIONS

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Statement of Assurance required completing and signing off in order that the annual audit can be completed. The questions on the Statement were all answered in the affirmative and the Clerk is to forward the documentation to the Internal Auditor for completion.

2004/142. ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

It was requested that the following items be placed on the agenda for the next meeting:-

- i) **Pavement from Crane Moor/Lionel Hill to Crane Moor Club** (Councillor Dalton)
- ii) **Footpath upkeep via farmers fields** (Councillor Dalton)
- iii) **Overgrown bushes near War Memorial** (Councillor Methley)
- iv) **Village Handyperson** (Councillor Petty-Marsh)
- v) **Drainage problems from Butterfields development** (R Atkinson)

2004/143. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was confirmed as follows:-

Wednesday 6 October 2004 7.00 p.m. Thurgoland School

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.

Ruth Atkinson
Parish Clerk