

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT THURGOLAND SCHOOL, THURGOLAND, ON WEDNESDAY 7 JULY 2004 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillors Dalton, Berry, Hague, Oxley, Petty-Marsh, Taberner, Rose and Rowley. Also present District Councillor Toon, R Atkinson (Parish Clerk), and three members of the public.

2004/68. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Apologies were received from Councillor Methley (previous engagement), District Councillor Rowley and Mick O'Rourke (CIP Project). District Councillor Toon advised the meeting that she would be leaving at 8.15 p.m.

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that she had an interest in item 17 on the agenda and would not take part in any discussion on this item.

2004/69. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7 JUNE 2004

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7 June 2004 had been received by all Councillors. Councillor Berry advised the meeting that item 2004.56 was incorrect as it had been agreed that it may be possible to provide match-funding for the pre-school depending upon the level of funding obtained from other sources. Councillor Oxley also asked that her name be added to the list of those in attendance at the meeting as it had been omitted. These amendments were made and the minutes were then accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Councillor Dalton signed the minutes.

2004/70. 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.

2004/71. REPORT FROM THE AREA FORUM MEETING

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has spoken to Andy Thompson concerning the lack of crime figures advised to the Parish Council. P C Thompson had advised the Clerk that the breakdown of crimes reported at the Area Forum Meetings could be obtained by either the Clerk or a Councillor attending the Area Forum Meeting at just after 6.00 p.m. obtaining the figures and then leaving. The Clerk advised the meeting that she is quite happy to do this and report the figures to each Parish Council Meeting. However, after discussion it was noted that the figures are available on e-mail and that Councillor Petty-Marsh receives them. It was agreed that Councillor Petty-Marsh will put the figures on the Parish website and e-mail them to the Clerk who will then advise each meeting accordingly.

The crime figures for the period 1 April to 31 May were:-

- 1 taking of motor vehicle
- 2 damage to motor vehicles
- 1 criminal damage
- 2 other crimes

2004/72. CIP PROJECT

There was no-one present from the Project and no report had been received, however, as noted earlier Mick O'Rourke had sent his apologies and will attend the meeting in September.

2004/73. 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 noted that some of the items have been outstanding for many months and the Clerk suggested that the list be reviewed at the next meeting. This was agreed by all present.

2004/74. PARISH PATHS

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

i) Evening walk in June

the response to this walk had been disappointing, but it was the night when England were playing football and it was raining. Two more walks are planned for the last Thursday in July and the last Thursday in August and it is hoped that a better response will be achieved. Both walks leave the Village Hall at 6.30 p.m.

ii) Stepping stones across River Don

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that the rangers wish to pull the stones back in place as a temporary measure during the summer and asked if the Parish Paths Group could provide fish and chips as on previous occasions. A vote was taken and it was agreed by all present that this was acceptable.

iii) Stile on footpath at Copster Farm/Copster Lane

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that no new stiles are being put in place until the rangers are sure about their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act. It may be possible to put a gate in place instead and this is being looked into.

iv) Footpath 12a

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that during the last evening walk it was noted that this footpath goes through a field of corn and the farmer has not left a gap through the corn for walkers. The stile at the entrance to the footpath is very difficult to negotiate and there is a fence through the field which would appear to be electrified. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Mick Burkinshaw to bring these matters to his attention.

v) Footpath 20a from Cote Lane to Mill Moor

It was noted that this footpath has become overgrown since it was cleared for the boundary walk. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Mick Burkinshaw to bring this matter to his attention.

vi) Footpath 23 from Old Mill Lane to Huthwaite Quarry

It was noted that this footpath has become overgrown and it was agreed that the Clerk write to Mick Burkinshaw to bring this matter to his attention.

vii) Diversion of footpath 29 at Romtickle

It was noted that this footpath has now been diverted and Councillor Rowley asked if the Clerk could find out if the diversion has been made official yet. It was also noted that the sign is not pointing in the correct direction. The Clerk is to ascertain if the diversion has been made official and the item is to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/75. STILE AT FOOTPATH FROM SHARP FORD BRIDGE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a reply from the Clerk of Hunshef Parish Council advising that the matter has been drawn to the attention of the footpaths chairman. It was noted that the foliage has not been trimmed back and the stile is now even more difficult to negotiate. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Mick Burkinshaw to advise him of this and to ask for his assistance in this matter.

2004/76. THURGOLAND ACTION

Councillor Taberner advised the meeting that the Public Meeting held on Thursday 17 June 2004 at Thurgoland Village Hall attracted approximately 10-15 people.

The presence at Thurgoland Gala had proved very successful and the following items had been present:-

- i) A local history presentation
- ii) A '5 a day' presentation by the Health Authority
- iii) A presentation by Yorkshire Rural Community Council
- iv) The Thurgoland Action gazebo
- v) A virtual village organised by the Out of School Club
- vi) A presentation centered around the Thurgoland Website

All of the above had created a great deal of interest and it is hoped that this will produce an impetus for the group to move forward. The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 14 July 2004 at 7.30 p.m. at The Bridge Inn, Cote Lane.

2004/77. FOOTPATH ALONG A629

Councillor Dalton advised the meeting that he has made enquiries concerning the Disability Discrimination Act and that as access is not available to disabled people that it should be suggested to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council that they have duty of care to make it accessible for all users. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to advise them of this. District Councillor Toon advised the meeting that it is possible that some funds may be available from the Area Forum local transport fund and the Clerk is to contact Nigel Bath to speak to him on this matter.

2004/78. LAND AT MOUNT PLEASANT/HUTHWAITE LANE

All Councillors had been provided with a copy of a letter from a resident of Huthwaite Lane concerning the land at Huthwaite Lane adjacent to Mount Pleasant. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk reply to the resident advising the following:-

- i) The Parish Council have not been in communication with the landowners on this subject as they are not officially aware who owns the land.
- ii) The landowner is perfectly entitled to remove the wall if he wishes providing that the wall is on his land. The Parish Council do not know if the wall is on his land, but it is more than possible that this is the case.
- iii) No planning application has been submitted for this land and until such time as an application is made they cannot make any further comment.

2004/79. WATER PUMP AT HUTHWAITE LANE

Councillor Berry advised the meeting that she has spoken to Mr Gary Marsh, in whose garden the water pump at Woodlands is situated. He is of the opinion that the pump is not on the deeds of any person at Woodlands but he has taken the broken pieces of the pump and has them in safe keeping. It was agreed that Councillor Rose will take a look at the pump before the next meeting and provide a report to the Parish Council giving his opinions on restoration.

2004/80. HUTHWAITE QUARRY

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has found a document dated 1988 from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council which states:-

‘This is an extremely pleasant site comprising of the combination of low crags of the former quarry and the existing woodland, scrub and open glades. Its attraction is reinforced by the seclusion arising from access being achieved only via footpath number 23 from Huthwaite Lane and Old Mill Lane. The site would certainly merit enhancement works but I would suggest that these needs not be of an elaborate nature and that the approach should be to retain the charm of the area whilst solving the existing problems. I would further suggest that the entire site, including the woodland area to the rear of Crossland House and the narrow western arm should be considered to ensure a comprehensive scheme.’

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk keep this letter on file, but that the project is one which requires major finance and planning and therefore may be a project which Thurgoland Action could take on board at some point in the future. It was also agreed that the suggestion made in September 2003 to adopt some of the unofficial footpaths be ‘put on ice’ until such time as a scheme of improvement for the whole area is drawn up.

2004/81. STONE TROUGHS

Councillor Rose advised the meeting that he has not yet ascertained the exact locations of the stone troughs in the Parish. They were confirmed as follows:-

- i) Pinfold
- ii) Hollin Dyke/Bird Lane
- iii) Crane Moor – just above the old school
- iv) Crane Moor Nook
- v) Old Mill Lane

Councillor Rose is to look at these troughs and report on their condition at the next meeting.

2004/82. KICK-WALL AT THURGOLAND SCHOOL

All Councillors had been provided with a copy of a letter received from Darryl Marshall in reply to the concerns raised about the kick-wall by Mrs Davies. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should respond as follows:-

- i) To thank Mr Marshall for providing the information concerning the ownership of the kick-wall, but to ask that the area be inspected more regularly and the bin emptied more frequently. It should also be asked that South Yorkshire Police keep an eye on the area on a regular basis.
- ii) On the subject of Mr Marshall’s concerns about the Boundary Walk it should be noted that all the walkers who took part in the Boundary Walk were given a leaflet which acknowledged the work done by the young people of the Parish in waymarking the route and mending stiles. This same acknowledgment was made on the Thurgoland website and it was also made clear in the article which appeared in the Barnsley Chronicle – not as an afterthought. It would appear that much of problem arose through lack of communication between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council,

Mick O'Rourke and the Parish Council, but in order to address the situation it is proposed to contact Mick Burkinshaw and ask that if any reprints of the map are made, the Parish Council is notified in order that the proper acknowledgment can be made in future copies.

2004/83. CLERKS SALARY

This item had been placed on the agenda as a result of the Clerk attaining the AQA 'competent Clerk' qualification. The Clerk advised the meeting that she is currently on SCP 17 which is £7.55 per hour and is paid for ten hours per week. Councillor Berry asked if this number of hours was relevant for the work undertaken and the Clerk advised that it was. She asked it to be noted that some weeks the workload demands less than ten hours input and some weeks more, but that over a year ten hours per week is appropriate. It was also noted that the ten hours includes time spent on keeping the Parish Garden at Belmont Terrace neat and tidy. Councillor Hague asked if the Clerk was paid for the month of August when there is no meeting. The Clerk advised the meeting that her salary was based on ten hours per week, for fifty two weeks of the year, divided equally between twelve months. It was agreed by all present that the Clerk's pay should be SCP 18 with immediate effect. This is an increase of £0.15 per hour (£7.70).

2004/84. THURGOLAND OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

All Councillors had been provided with a copy of a letter received from Thurgoland Out of School Club asking for assistance in the purchase of the porch that the Pre-School are wishing to purchase. After discussion it was agreed that the letter was a little ambiguous in that it did not say whether the Out of School Club are asking for a grant in addition to any grant given to the Pre-School or if this is a separate application. It was also noted that Councillor Berry had an interest in this item as she is on the Management Committee of the Pre-School. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Thurgoland Out of School Club asking for clarification on this point and also to find out if bids for other funding by the Pre-School have been successful. A decision on this matter will be taken once a response has been received from both parties concerned in the request.

2004/85. WEBSITE

Councillor Petty-Marsh advised the meeting that she is pleased to report that on average the website is attracting 60 hits a day. The history pages are the most popular, followed by the news pages and the Parish Council pages. However, more information is required to keep the site interesting and relevant. If anyone has any ideas for items, please could they contact Councillor Petty-Marsh.

2004/86. BUS SERVICE 25

Councillor Dalton advised the meeting that residents of Crane Moor have raised concerns following reports from bus drivers that the times and directions of service 25 are about to change. It was agreed that the Clerk write to South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive to ask them to clarify this situation. Councillor Toon asked if she could have a copy of the letter in order that she can progress this matter on the Parish Council's behalf should it become necessary.

2004/87. CHAPEL WALK

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that the tree around the street lamp on Chapel Walk requires pruning back to allow the light to shine through and that the whole of the area requires a tidy up. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Elaine Down at Neighbourhood Pride to ask for this to be attended to.

2004/88. DRAINS ON ROPER LANE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council advising that 'Roper Lane has been inspected and it is evident that some of the gullies have become silted as a result of recent heavy rainfall. Arrangements will be made to have the gullies on Roper Lane and Smithy ill cleaned and checked in the near future.' It was noted that this must have been done as there had been significant rain in the past few days and no problems had been reported.

2004/89. THURGOLAND CHARITIES

All Councillors had been circulated with a copy of the latest Charities Accounts which were agreed to be in order. Councillor Hague asked if monies from the Charities could be put to any other use but Councillor Dalton advised that the terms of the charities were quite clear and funds could only be used for the poor and needy of the Parish.

2004/90. BUILDING WORK IN CRANE MOOR

Councillor Rowley had placed this item on the agenda as a result of the recent Planning Application for buildings to be erected on the former garage site in Crane Moor. She asked if it would be possible to ask if Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council could take into consideration the parking problems both in Crane Moor and Thurgoland when looking at Planning Applications. The Clerk advised that the best way to do this is for the parish Council to produce a Village Design Statement or Village Plan. Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council will

arrange to meet the Parish Council to discuss how such a plan can be integrated into the planning process. This will mean that once agreed, the plan is taken into consideration for all Planning Applications. The Clerk also advised the meeting that some Parishes have already begun this process and it was suggested that all Councillors are provided with a copy of a Village Plan for a local Parish Council to ascertain what is required. The Clerk is to provide a copy to each Councillor and this item placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

2004/91. PENISTONE PARAMOUNT

A letter has been received from Penistone Paramount requesting financial assistance towards running costs. In line with recent years, it was agreed that a donation of £500 be made. The cheque will be drawn up at the September meeting.

2004/92. PARISH PATHS MAPS BOARDS

Councillor Petty-Marsh asked about the possibility of providing maps showing the footpaths in the Parish, similar to the one at Crane Moor Church. The Clerk advised the meeting that the board that had previously been outside the Village Hall has blown down and been taken for safe-keeping by Nigel Labdon. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Mick Burkinshaw to ask him to arrange for the board to be found, refurbished and re-erected. It was also suggested that the board at Crane Moor is in need of refurbishment as the information has faded over the years.

2004/93 . TEN MINUTE ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

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

a) Leaves on Halifax Road

Mr Roebuck reminded the Parish Council that he had brought up the subject of the leaves that have gathered at the bus stop near Trinity Meadows some months ago. The clerk advised the meeting that she asked Neighbourhood Pride to sweep the leaves up at that time, but if they have not been swept, she will contact Elaine Down again and ask her to attend to this matter as soon as possible.

b) Allotments on Thurgoland Hall Lane

Councillor Berry commented that, despite the recent tidying up of the site, the allotments still appear to be in a state of disrepair and untidiness. The Clerk advised the meeting that, as in all areas, the grass has grown very quickly since it was trimmed down, but it was agreed that Councillors should visit the site between now and the next meeting to assess the situation themselves and that this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

c) Woodmans Cottage – Old Mill Lane

Mr Wade asked if any progress had been made on this subject. The Clerk advised the meeting that this item was on the Appendix and therefore will be discussed at the next meeting. However, District Councillor Toon advised the meeting that she will speak to the Leader of The Council on this matter and try to make progress.

2004/94. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**a) Erection of front two storey extension to dwelling
6 Copster Close, Thurgoland**

There were no observations or comments on this application.

**b) Erection of single storey side extension and front porch
110 Fir Tree Estate, Thurgoland**

There were no observations or comments on this application.

**c) Conversion of barn to dwelling plus alterations to existing access
Barn adjacent to Bank Cottage, Sheffield Road, Thurgoland Bank**

There were no observations or comments on this application.

2004/95. APPROVED AND DECLINED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no approved or declined applications to report.

2004/96. NEWSLETTERS/CIRCULARS

Various items have been received and they were passed on to Councillor Oxley.

2004/97. ACCOUNTS

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

Main Account

Ruth Atkinson	Salary – July and August	667.42
Thurgoland School	Room Hire – 7 July 2004	15.00
L Petty-Marsh	Stationery	34.50
L Petty-Marsh	Website registration	77.41

Parish Paths Account

NIL

The following deposits have been banked during June :-

Main Account

NIL

Parish Paths Account

NIL

2004/98. 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) | Dumping of tyres at Cheesbottom | (Councillor Taberner) |
| ii) | Scouts bench | (Councillor Taberner) |
| iii) | War Memorial/Village Pump | (Councillor Taberner) |
| iv) | Local History Group | (Councillor Taberner) |
| v) | Wall on Thurgoland Hall Lane | (Councillor Petty-Marsh) |
| vi) | Newsletter for October | (Parish Clerk) |

2004/99. BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk asked for permission to include this item at this point as a response is required before the next meeting. It is proposed by British Telecom to remove the payphone at Four Lane Ends and have sent a consultation document which requires a reply by 11 August 2004. It was agreed that a copy of the document should be forwarded to all Councillors and that they should forward their comments to the Clerk before 1 August 2004. The Clerk will collate the comments and reply within the timescale.

2004/100. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was confirmed as follows:-

Wednesday	1	September	2004	7.00 p.m.	Crane Moor Chapel
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2004/101. ITEMS TAKEN IN COMMITTEE

An incident had arisen in the meeting which prompted Councillor Dalton to ask if Councillors could take this item in committee. A member of the public had been across to look at one of the Planning Applications and had made comments to various Councillors on the plans. It was asked if this was good practice or not. It was agreed that the Clerk should check on the legality of this happening and report to the next meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Ruth Atkinson
Parish Clerk