

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT CRANE MOOR METHODIST CHAPEL, CRANE MOOR, ON WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL 2007 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillors Berry, Blythe, Methley, Oxley, Rowley, Warttig and Wilkinson. Also present R Atkinson (Parish Clerk), District Councillor Barnard, three representatives of In-Space Limited and five members of the public.

Councillor Blythe opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

2006/292. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Apologies had been received from Councillor Hamblen who was away on holiday. Councillor Methley asked if it would be possible to postpone Agenda Item 12 until Mrs Denton from Thurgoland Welfare Committee was in attendance. This was agreed to be acceptable. There were no Declarations of Interest in any items on the Agenda.

2006/293. PRESENTATION FROM IN-SPACE

Meryl Liddell, the Senior Tenant Liaison Officer, introduced herself and her two colleagues, Richard and Claire and began by explaining that In-Space Limited are the contractors working on behalf of Berneslai Homes on Council housing stock in the Barnsley Borough. Their responsibility is for the repair and maintenance of Council houses and they will shortly commence work on houses in Thurgoland. The power point presentation was not available because of a computer problem, but Meryl gave a verbal presentation and outlined the following:-

- i) Work on houses at Churchfield will commence on 23 April 2007 and will also include properties on Roper Lane and Fir Tree Estate. The expected completion date of the whole project will be the end of November 2007.
- ii) Number 12a Churchfields will be used as the site 'office' and respite home so that residents who need to vacate their property during the day can have somewhere to go to make a drink or perhaps a meal. A further property as yet to be identified will be used in cases where residents cannot return to their property for one night.
- iii) The work being undertaken will be replacement bathrooms and kitchens, re-wiring, central heating, wall and loft insulation and replacement windows. Not every property will need all of the above and each property will be assessed individually.
- iv) Residents can refuse some or all of the proposed work and will be required to sign a disclaimer to this effect.
- v) The anticipated maximum time spent on each property will be between seven and eight weeks.

Meryl handed out cards with her contact details on and advised the meeting that any resident who wishes to discuss any aspect of the project should contact her directly. Councillor Blythe thanked Meryl, Richard and Claire for their attendance and they left the meeting. A member of the public suggested that details of the presentation be put on the Parish Council website and in the July newsletter so that residents can be kept fully informed of the project. This was agreed to be acceptable and the Clerk is to attend to this.

2006/294. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 MARCH 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 February 2007 had been circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Methley proposed that they be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Oxley, agreed by all present and the minutes were signed by Councillor Blythe.

2006/295. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The following items were raised as Matters Arising from the Minutes which were not covered on the Agenda of the meeting:-

i) Parish Council website

The Clerk advised the meeting that Mr King, the resident who had offered the services of his son to update the site has confirmed the arrangement and the site has been updated during the past month. Mr King will update the site for a fee of £30.00 per month. It was agreed that, as this item was not on the Agenda, a final decision could not be made until the next meeting, but that in the meantime, the site continues to be updated by Mr King as discussed.

ii) Land at Huthwaite Lane

District Councillor Barnard advised the meeting that unfortunately the Enforcement Notice which the Legal Department of Barnsley MBC had been instructed to serve on 5 January 2007 has not yet been prepared or served. All three District Councillors have spoken to various officers of Barnsley MBC but do not seem to be having much success in progressing the serving of the Notice. Furthermore, a local resident has informed the Parish Clerk that the containers on the site have now been painted green and none of the fencing has been removed. After discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent to David Kennedy, enclosing copies of correspondence to date, asking for urgent attention to be given to the serving of the Enforcement Notice. This item is to be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting. Councillor Blythe thanked District Councillor Barnard for his work in this area on behalf of all present.

2006/296. CRIME AND SAFETY

There were no items to bring to the attention of South Yorkshire Police at this time.

2006/297. REPORT FROM THE CLERK ON ITEMS ON APPENDIX 'A'

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the Agenda was drawn up there has been a response to item number 15. The verge along Crane Moor Road has been cleared of litter and has been added to the database so that the area can be patrolled to try and identify 'litter louts'. Additionally, signs have been erected on four lamp posts warning of the fines association with littering. The Clerk confirmed that she has checked, and these signs are now in place. All of these comments were noted.

2006/298. NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIDE

It was noted that the litter and nettles at the exit of the footpath through the Welfare Ground opposite Thurgoland School have not yet been cleared. Councillor Warttig advised the meeting that he will personally trim the nettles, but it was agreed that the Clerk write to Neighbourhood Pride once again, asking them to attend to this area as soon as possible.

2006/299. PARISH PATHS

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

i) Bridleway at Crane Moor Nook

Councillor Rowley contacted BCTV to ask them to provide a quote to clear this path, but they had already done the work, on the instructions of Barnsley MBC. This was noted for future reference.

ii) Possible bridge across the River Don

Trevor Mayne has received a quotation for £20,000 from the same company that quoted £14,000 two years ago. He is in the process of obtaining additional quotes and no further action can be taken until they have been received.

iii) Boundary Walk

The annual Boundary Walk will take place on Monday 7 May 2007, starting from The Bridge Inn, Cote Lane at 10.00 a.m. The Bridge Inn has quoted a cost per person of £4.50 to provide pie and peas for each walker at the conclusion of the walk. Councillor Rowley proposed that this cost be met from the funds in the Parish Paths Account. This was seconded by Councillor Methley and agreed by all present.

iv) Footpath 12a – Pog Lane to Toad Hall

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that there are one or two problems with this footpath, namely a tree growing over the footbridge and a section of the footpath being fenced with barbed wire along a section that is steep and slippery in wet conditions. It was agreed that these items be brought to the attention of Trevor Mayne by the Clerk.

v) Vandalism of stiles

Councillor Rowley has received reports of various stiles being vandalized by someone sawing them through. One of the stiles in question is on footpath number 17d from Fir Tree to the old railway line. It was agreed that Councillor Rowley investigate these reports and make a report to the next Parish Council meeting.

2006/300. HERITAGE PROJECTS IN THE VILLAGE

Mr John Wade provided an update on the Heritage Project as follows:-

i) Maurice Williams is still waiting to hear from John Hislop to progress the Heritage Trail Leaflet.

ii) Councillor Berry and Mr Wade have been to Wortley Top Forge who are to have a further site meeting at the pump on Halifax Road to progress the matter of refurbishment further. The quote from Torres Pumps to restore the pump is £2745.00.

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received information from the Land Registry concerning the ownership of the pump, and there is no registered estate. After discussion it was concluded that the pump must be on Highways Land and that in order to include it on the Heritage Trail some work will need to be done to improve the pavement from the traffic lights and make it safe to access the site. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Highways Department at Barnsley MBC to make an initial enquiry and request a site visit.

After further discussion it was also agreed that the Clerk contact John Hislop to ask him to provide information to Maurice Williams as soon as possible. A meeting was set up for Friday 13 April 2007 at 1.30 a.m. for all interested parties to meet at the pump and provide a report to the next Parish Council meeting.

2006/301. ALLOTMENT REFURBISHMENT

The Clerk advised the meeting that the refurbishment programme has now been completed and that all but two of the allotments have been taken. A meeting has been arranged for Monday 16 April 2007 at Thurgoland School for all allotment holders, at which time the tenancy agreements will be finalised and any outstanding issues resolved. The Clerk is to attend this meeting. The Clerk also advised the meeting that she has received a letter from the Clerk of Penistone Town Council advising that there is currently a shortage of allotments and a suggestion has been made that Parish Councils may be able to help each other out if they have any unallocated allotments. As it is likely that all the allotments in Thurgoland will be taken at this time, it was agreed that the Clerk reply advising of this.

2006/302. OLD COPSTER LANE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence from Barnsley MBC advising that 'arrangements have been made to clear the section of carriageway highlighted in your letter (Old Copster Lane). I will then arrange for repairs to be undertaken to the highway.' This was noted.

2006/303. THURGOLAND YOUTH CENTRE

Mrs Denton from Thurgoland Welfare Committee was now in attendance and she advised the meeting that legal ownership of the Youth Centre is in the process of being transferred to the Welfare Committee. The Area Forum has awarded £2,000 towards the project and a meeting has been arranged for 25 April 2007 to which all parties have been invited. Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he will try to attend and a report will be made to the next Parish Council meeting.

2006/304. HUTHWAITE QUARRY

The Clerk read out a letter she had received from Mr John Wade, outlining problems being encountered by residents of Old Mill Lane. The problem is concerning the public footpath that goes into Huthwaite Quarry. Many dog owners walk their dogs in the quarry and assume that there is a public footpath access through the quarry, which is not the case. This has led to confrontation between dog owners and residents. Mr Wade suggests in his letter that the extent of the public footpath is clearly marked and that notices be put up banning dogs from the quarry. A discussion took place and it was agreed that a site visit is necessary so that Councillors not familiar with the quarry can look at the footpath and make an informed decision. Councillors Blythe and Rowley are to organise a site meeting and invite any other interested Councillors and residents. A report will be made to the next Parish Council meeting.

2006/305. PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Clerk distributed the April newsletter to all Councillors for delivery around the Parish.

2006/306. 10 MINUTE ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL

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

i) History Group

Maurice Williams asked the permission of the Parish Council to use the photographs taken for the Millennium Biography in the book he is producing as part of the Heritage Project discussed earlier. All photographs used will be acknowledged correctly. It was agreed that permission be granted and the Clerk is to provide photographs to Mr Williams.

ii) Thurgoland Methodist Church

Mr Williams asked for similar permission to be granted to Thurgoland Methodist Church, as they are producing a book to celebrate the Methodist Church in Thurgoland. Once again permission was granted and the Clerk is to provide relevant photographs upon request.

iii) Mrs Kathleen Potter

Mr John Wade advised the meeting that Mrs Kathleen Potter, author of the book that is being serialised in the Parish Newsletter, will be 92 years of age on 10 April 2007. He suggested that it would be a nice gesture to send her a card from the Parish Council. This was agreed to be acceptable and the Clerk was provided with the address for Mrs Potter.

iv) Old Mill Lane – road sweeping

A resident of Old Mill Lane advised the Parish Council that it has been many months since Old Mill Lane has been swept. It was agreed that the Clerk make a request that Old Mill Lane is swept as soon as possible.

2006/307. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS PRODUCED

Erection of detached house (Reserved Matters) (revised submission)

Glengarry, Old Mill Lane, Thurgoland

Councillor Wilkinson declared an interest in this application and took no part in the discussion. No comments or observations were made on this application.

2006/308. APPROVED/DECLINED APPLICATIONS AS NOTIFIED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Clerk advised the meeting that the following grant of Planning Consent had been received:-

Erection of one detached dwelling

Land adjacent Ayton Wood Cottage, Crane Moor Road, Crane Moor

The approval had sixteen conditions attached, many of which relate to the visual amenities of the locality and road safety. Councillor Rowley asked if it would be possible for a copy of the conditions to be provided to herself and Councillor Hamblen. This was agreed to be acceptable.

2006/309. NEWSLETTERS/CIRCULARS

All newsletters and circulars received since the last meeting were passed on to Councillor Oxley for her to read and report any items to the next meeting.

2006/310. ACCOUNTS.

The following items were approved for payment and cheques signed accordingly:-

R Atkinson	Salary – April	363.44
Thurgoland School	Room Hire (duplicate cheque)	15.00
Crane Moor Chapel	Room Hire	12.00
Wentworth Castle Estates	Allotment Rent 2007/2008	287.50
Mr A King	Monthly website fee	30.00
National Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription	13.50

It was noted that it was not possible to sign the cheque for £500 for Thurgoland Welfare Association as the Clerk was awaiting delivery of a new cheque book. This cheque will be prepared and signed at the May meeting.

2006/311. MATTERS TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following items were requested to be placed on the Agenda for the meeting to be held in May:-

- i) D Horsfall – Internal Auditor
- ii) Dog fouling on Cote Lane
- iii) Road surface on Pinfold Lane
- iv) Pavement at Fir Tree Estate

2006/312. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 9 May 2007 at Thurgoland School, Thurgoland after the Annual Parish Meeting, which will commence at 7.00 p.m.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

RUTH ATKINSON

Parish Clerk