

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT CRANE MOOR CHAPEL, CRANE MOOR ROAD, CRANE MOOR, ON WEDNESDAY 2 JULY 2008 AT 7.00 P.M.**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Berry, Blythe, Cuerden, Hamblen, Methley, Oxley, Rowley, Warttig and Wilkinson. Also present Ruth Atkinson (Parish Clerk), and four members of the public.

Councillor Blythe opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance, particularly Councillor Methley, who was attending her first meeting since a recent operation.

**2008/064. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No apologies for absence had been received. Councillor Wilkinson declared an interest in item 26 (i) on the Agenda. This was noted.

**2008/065. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 JUNE 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4 June 2008 had been circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Oxley proposed a slight amendment to minute 2008/041. Instead of reading that Councillor Warttig suggested that Appendix A be revisited, it was, in actual fact, Councillor Oxley who made this suggestion. This amendment was made to the minutes. Councillor Oxley now proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Hamblen and agreed by all present. Councillor Blythe signed the minutes.

**2008/066. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The following items which were not covered on the Agenda were reported upon for information only:-

**i) Crane Moor Chapel Users Group**

Councillors Hamblen and Rowley had attended a recent meeting of the new group, which has been formed to try to encourage local groups to meet and for new groups to be formed. However, in order to bring together people with similar interests who may wish to form a new group, it is necessary for the Chapel to be available free of charge for at least an hour. It was agreed that this subject be placed on the Agenda for the meeting to be held in September in order that suggestions can be put forward.

**ii) Marine David Marsh**

Councillor Wilkinson advised the meeting that he has approached two monumental stonemasons, both of whom are willing to quote for the lettering to be placed on Thurgoland War Memorial at the appropriate time. The Clerk advised the meeting that, as agreed, an article has been placed in the Parish Newsletter which is to be distributed within the next week. Residents have been given until 1 September 2008 to give their comments on the proposal and progress can therefore be made at the September meeting of the Parish Council. It was noted that a three mile run is being organised on Sunday 6 July 2008, in memory of Marine Marsh. Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that the organisers have approached the Cricket Club to ask if permission could be granted for the bottom part of the Cricket Ground to be used as overspill car parking if necessary. Graham Dicker has spoken to Councillor Blythe who, on behalf of the Parish Council, gave permission, should it become necessary.

**iii) Grass cutting at Thurgoland Welfare Ground**

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that she has been informed that the grass behind the goals at Thurgoland Welfare Ground will be cut once again by the contractors who have been paid to tidy it up and, once it is level, it will be cut on a regular basis by the grass cutters employed by Thurgoland Welfare Association as part of their overall cutting of the football field. This was noted.

**2008/067. PENISTONE EAST CRIME AND SAFETY SUB-GROUP**

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he has not attended a meeting of the Crime and Safety Sub-Group and has not yet received any minutes. There were no matters to be reported to South Yorkshire Police at this time.

**2008/068 REPORT FROM THE CLERK ON ITEMS ON APPENDIX 'A'**

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the Agenda was produced a response has been received to item number 25. A Recorded Delivery letter was sent to Mr Khan, at the address held on file in Huddersfield. The letter was subsequently returned, marked, 'Not called for'. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk re-send the letter in the hope that it reaches Mr Khan before September. Until the Co-op Superstore is either opened or sold this is the only course of action that can be taken to try and gain access in order to have the Parish Clock repaired.

As agreed at the meeting held in June 2008, a review of items outstanding was made and the following course of action taken:-

**i) Highways matters**

Items 1) Road surface along A629, 2) Road surface at Sim Hill, 3) Signs at Churchfield, 4) Speeding along Old Mill Lane and 5) Playground sign at Roper Lane, are to be brought to the attention of the relevant department head, Nigel Bath (Area Forum Officer), Ward Councillors Barnard, Wilson and Hand-Davis, and Philip Coppard (Chief Executive). All of these items have been awaiting a response since at least November 2006 and it was felt that this course of action was necessary to make progress.

**ii) Drains on Roper Lane**

It was noted that the drains on Roper Lane have been cleared on a regular basis and this item was therefore removed from the Appendix.

**iii) Planning protocol and conditions**

It was noted that these two items were covered at a recent Planning Seminar attended by Councillor Blythe and the Clerk and these items were therefore removed from Appendix A.

**iv) Road repairs at Hopping Lane and Gudgeon Hole Lane**

Councillor Warttig advised the meeting that work on these roads has commenced within the past month. This item was therefore removed from the Appendix.

**v) Bench at Churchfield**

The Clerk advised the meeting that the bench will be delivered and installed before the end of July. This item was therefore removed from the Appendix.

**vi) Grass cutting at Welfare Ground**

A report had been made on this item earlier in the meeting and it was therefore removed from the Agenda.

**2008/069. PARISH PATHS**

**i) Footpath number 12a at Pog Lane**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Sarah Ford advising that the diversion of footpath 12a is under investigation at the present time. However, the barbed wire is on the field side of the posts and not on the path side and is therefore not considered to be a public nuisance. No further action can therefore be taken. Councillors Rowley and Cuerden have both walked the footpath recently and advised the meeting that the barbed wire is wrapped around the fence posts and is dangerous as it is on both side of posts. The site is still steep and slippery and could therefore result in a walker having an accident if they slipped and fell into the barbed wire. It was agreed that the Clerk advise Sarah Ford of this and ask her to reconsider her response.

**2008/070. NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIDE**

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that the Christmas Tree at Churchfield which was planted last summer has been damaged recently. The damage occurred following the visit of the grass cutting team from Neighbourhood Pride, who cut the grass around the tree. Whilst it was possible to prove that the damage was done by the grass cutters, it was agreed that the Clerk write to Neighbourhood Pride to advise them of this problem and to ask if it is possible for them to provide a replacement tree.

**2008/071. HUTHWAITE QUARRY**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter from Dransfield, Hodgkinson and Lofthouse Solicitors, advising that an appointment is made with Mr Lofthouse to discuss Huthwaite Quarry. The Title Deeds were given to Mrs Matthewman, the Clerk, in 1970 and it is believed that they have since been archived to Barnsley Library. However, there are files held from 1973 and 1979, but the matter could be complicated and Penistone Rural District Council, Barnsley MBC and the Secretary of State could be involved. It was agreed that the Clerk meet with Mr Lofthouse and then try to retrieve the Title Deeds. A report will then be made to the Parish Council at the September meeting when all the facts are to hand.

**2008/072. COUNCILLOR TRAINING SEMINARS**

All Councillors had previously been advised of a Councillor Skills seminar to be held on Wednesday 6 August 2008 at Penistone Community Centre. The cost of the seminar is £30.00 plus VAT per person. Following discussion Councillor Blythe proposed that the Parish Council pay for two Councillors to attend the seminar. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present. Councillor Wilkinson proposed that the two Councillors should be Councillor Blythe and Councillor Oxley. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present. The Clerk is to attend to making the booking at advise Councillors Blythe and Oxley of the joining instructions upon receipt.

**2008/073. PROPOSED POST OFFICE BRANCH CLOSURES**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Nigel Bath advising that the proposed Post Office closures for this area will now be announced on 5 August with the eight week consultation period ending on 22 September 2008. There will probably be an open Borough-wide Scrutiny Meeting at the Town Hall in the first week of September and some Area Forums (possibly Penistone) may have a special meeting in week commencing 18 August depending upon the actual proposals. It was also noted that Barnsley MBC are not privy to any inside information prior to 5 August. After discussion it was agreed that if Thurgoland Post Office is on the list of proposed closures the Clerk will telephone all Councillors to advise them of the date of the Area Forum meeting. It may also be possible that the Chair calls a meeting of the Parish Council during August if he feels it necessary to do so.

**2008/074. THE ISLE OF SKYE**

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that, as promised, he has looked into the subject of Thurgoland Parish Council donating funds to Hunshelf Parish Council to assist in their purchase of The Isle of Skye and the Parish Council has the authority to make such a donation if it is considered to be in the best interest of residents of the Parish. The Clerk advised the meeting that she has spoken to David Horsfall on the subject and that the amount required to purchase the land by Hunshelf Parish Council is now £5000. Councillor Warttig suggested that if Huthwaite Quarry is sold, some of the funds could be donated to the appeal. However, as this process is likely to be a very long one it was considered impractical to consider this option. Following a lengthy discussion Councillor Hamblen proposed that Thurgoland Parish Council does not contribute to the appeal at this time as she did not feel that it was in the best interest of the residents of Thurgoland. This was seconded by Councillor Berry and agreed by all present. It was noted that the fee of £20.00 agreed for the Internal Audit provided by Mr Horsfall would be made to the appeal, at Mr Horsfall's request. The cheque for this sum will be signed at the meeting to be held in September.

**2008/075. JULY NEWSLETTER**

The Clerk provided all Councillors with newsletters for distribution. Councillor Cuerden volunteered to deliver the newsletters usually delivered by Councillor Methley. Thanks were expressed to Councillor Cuerden for assisting in this way.

**2008/076. BENCH IN MEMORY OF MARINE DAVID MARSH**

Councillor Wilkinson had asked for this item to be placed on the Agenda. Councillor Wilkinson wished to propose that a bench, similar to the one to be installed at Churchfield, be purchased and installed at the junction of Huthwaite Lane/Ormsby Close. A suitable plaque should also be purchased and fixed to the bench. Councillor Wilkinson has approached the family of Marine Marsh and they are happy for such a gesture to take place. In the meantime, the Clerk has received information from Nigel Bath advising that an application for half of the cost could be made to the Area Forum. Councillor Methley seconded this proposal and it was agreed by all present that progress be made as follows:-

- i) Permission is to be sought from the relevant department in Barnsley MBC for the siting of bench.
- ii) An application is to be made to the Area Forum for half of the cost of purchase and installation of the bench and plaque.
- iii) Councillor Wilkinson is to agree upon suitable wording for the plaque.
- iv) Once funding has been agreed the bench is to be ordered for delivery and installation as soon as possible.

**2008/077. DOG BIN PROVISION**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Nigel Bath, the Area Forum Officer, advising that an application can be made to the Area Forum for 50% of the cost of a dog bin. A bin costs £200, so the Parish Council would need to be able to contribute £100. After discussion it was agreed that, subject to agreement with Elaine Down of Neighbourhood Services, an application be made for the provision of four dog bins in the following locations:-

- i) At the junction of the A629 and Roper Lane (near the boundary stone)
- ii) At the junction of Huthwaite Lane and Ormsby Close
- iii) Outside Crane Moor Chapel
- iv) At Crane Moor Nook at the junction with Pog Lane.

**2008/078. APPLICATIONS TO BE MADE TO THE AREA FORUM**

This item had been covered in the previous two items, but it was noted that any suggestions for further applications be presented at future meetings as and when appropriate.

**2008/079. PINFOLD LANE, THURGOLAND**

Councillor Warttig had asked for this item to be placed on the Agenda as the surface of Pinfold Lane was becoming increasingly eroded and was becoming dangerous. Councillor Warttig advised the meeting that since the last meeting, work has commenced and that major repairs to the surface are being undertaken at the present time. This was noted.

**2008/080. THURGOLAND TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that, once again, Mr Martin Jackson is organising a tennis tournament at the tennis courts on Roper Lane, to take place on 3 and 4 July 2008. Mr Jackson has asked if it would be possible for the Parish Council to provide funds for prizes for the winners, which will be tennis balls. Councillor Blythe proposed that the Parish Council provide the necessary funds for this competition, the amount to be agreed in September once the actual cost of the balls is ascertained. This was seconded by Councillor Hamblen and agreed by all present.

**2008/081. BUS SERVICE CHANGES**

The Clerk had provided all Councillors with preliminary details of changes to bus services which will affect services 23, 24, 24a and 25 in Thurgoland and Crane Moor. Service 25 is to be withdrawn and some residents had contacted Councillor Rowley to raise concern that this will mean that there is no service to Barnsley District General Hospital. It was noted from the information provided, however, that services 23 and 24 will change and will run via Barnsley District General Hospital. The new timetable comes into force on 19 July and full details will be available from 5 July 2008. It was agreed that if residents experience difficulties with the new arrangements, this item will be placed on a future Agenda for discussion and possible action.

**2008/082. AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT SMITHY HILL**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail advising that the street lamp at Smithy Hill will be removed in the near future, enabling a site access to be constructed and easing the traffic congestion at Smithy Hill/Roper Lane. This was noted.

**2008/083. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE 2008-2009**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a copy of a presentation made to the Area Forum by the Highways Department, outlining Highway repairs to be carried out in the current financial year. The only road for repair in the Parish is from Cliff Common Lane to Dance Lane. Bearing in mind the list of highway repairs requested earlier in the meeting it was considered even more important that they are brought to the attention of the Chief Executive as none of them appear on the list. Councillor Oxley took the presentation in order that she can study it further and, if necessary, bring any items to the attention of the Parish Council in September.

**2008/084. TELEPHONE BOXES IN THE PARISH**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has reported the vandalism to the telephone box on Cote Lane and has been advised that it will be attended to very soon. Mr John Wade, the member of the public who reported the damage, agreed to advise the Parish Council when the repair was completed. The Clerk further advised the meeting that she has received a list of telephone boxes which it is proposed to decommission. The only box within the Parish that is on the list is the one at Crane Moor Road, opposite New Bailey. After discussion it was agreed that this item be placed on the Agenda for the meeting in September as the consultation period ends on 6 September 2008. This means that a response can be formulated at the meeting on 3 September 2008 and sent within the timescale set.

**2008/085. CRANE MOOR DIKE**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council concerning the ownership of Crane Moor Dike, following a request made in November 2007. The land to the north of the dike is owned by numbers 1, 5 and 7 Mount Pleasant Court, with the land adjacent to number 3 remaining in the ownership of the estate developers, Wortley Construction. The land to the south of the dike is in the ownership of Barnsley MBC. Any maintenance of the dike is the responsibility of the owners of the land, with Barnsley MBC being responsible for the bridge across Crane Moor Road. All of this information was noted.

**2008/086. POG LANE/CRANE MOOR NOOK – ROAD SURFACE**

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that she has met with Gary Handley on site to discuss the possibility of obtaining some 'planings' on Crane Moor Nook and/or Pog Lane. Mr Handley has promised to surface the first few metres of Crane Moor Nook and to fill in some of the potholes further along. However, he cannot commit to any improvements on Pog Lane as the poor condition of the road has been caused by the contractors heavy vehicles being used in the construction of various properties in the

vicinity. Councillor Rowley has put a note through each letter box in The Nook advising residents of the re-surfacing and pot hole filling that is to take place and asked if it would be possible for the Clerk to confirm this verbal agreement in writing to Mr Handley. This was agreed to be acceptable.

**2008/087. OPENING OF LANGSETT RESERVOIR**

The Clerk provided each Parish Councillor with an invitation from Yorkshire Water to attend the official opening of Langsett Reservoir on Friday 4 July 2008 at 10.00 a.m.

**2008/088. 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) Forensic Marking System**

Mr John Campbell of Crane Moor asked if via the Penistone East Crime and Safety Sub-Group he could be informed if South Yorkshire Police operate a forensic marking system similar to ones used elsewhere in the country. Mr Campbell has tried to ascertain this information via e-mail and telephone calls but has not received any response so far. Councillor Blythe offered to obtain details of the scheme from Mr Campbell after the meeting and bring the subject up at the next meeting of the Sub-Group.

**ii) Highway issues**

Two members of the public raised issues concerning highway matters:-

**a) Bridge at Cote Lane, Thurgoland**

A resident asked if it would be possible for the Clerk to write to the Highways Department to ask if they could arrange for the foliage at the side of the highway on the bridge at the bottom of Cote Lane to be cut back as it obscures the vision of motorists approaching this single-file bridge. This was agreed to be acceptable.

**b) Thurgoland Bank**

Mr John Wade asked if it would be possible for the Clerk to write to the Highways Department to ask if the white lines from the junction of Halifax Road down Thurgoland Bank can be repainted following the recent road resurfacing. This was also agreed to be acceptable.

**c) Planning Application – Copster Close**

A resident of Copster Close provided all Councillors with a copy of a letter she has sent to the Planning Department, outlining her objections to a Planning Application for a front extension at 30 Copster Close. The document outlined twelve points of contention concerning the size of the proposed extension and the impact it will have on the adjacent property. The lady in question also provided photographs of the site in question and spoke about the various objections outlined in her letter.

**d) Pump at Huthwaite Lane**

Mr John Wade advised the meeting that the wooden casing for the pump at Huthwaite Lane is almost complete and that by the next meeting it may be ready to be placed in situ. This was noted.

**2008/089. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**i) Erection of front porch extension to dwelling  
30 Copster Close, Thurgoland.**

Councillor Wilkinson reminded the meeting of his declared interest in this item and took no part in the discussion that took place. The Parish Council had received a verbal and written objection to this application, which were taken into consideration. After discussion it was agreed that the size of the proposed extension was not in keeping with other properties in the vicinity and that a smaller extension would be more acceptable.

**2008/090. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS PRODUCED**

There had not been any Planning Applications received since the Agenda was produced.

**2008/091. APPROVED/DECLINED APPLICATIONS AS NOTIFIED SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

**i) Residential development (Outline), Land adjacent to 5 Crossways, Thurgoland**

This application had been approved on 9 June 2008. The application for reserved matters must be made within three years.

**ii) Fell two sycamore trees and crown lift two oak trees, 1 Berry Moor Cottage, Pinfold Lane, Silkstone Common.**

This application had been refused on 23 June 2008 because 'In the absence of any overriding justification, the proposed felling of the trees and lift crown lift would be harmful to the visual amenity of the area, contrary to UDP Policy GS22.'

**iii) Erection of two storey rear extension to dwelling, 7 Cliffe Avenue, Crane Moor.**

This application had been approved on 13 June 2008 and the work must take place within three years.

**2008/092. 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.

**2008/093. ACCOUNTS.**

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the production of the Agenda, one further item had been presented for payment. This was £23.52 for photocopy paper and ink for the production of the newsletter. Councillor Hamblen proposed that the cheques on the list and the additional item be approved for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Wilkinson and agreed by all present. The following items were therefore signed:-

Ruth Atkinson	Salary – July/August	744.90
Crane Moor Chapel	Room Hire	15.00
Andy King	Website updating	30.00
Tesco	Paper and ink for newsletter	23.52

**2008/094. 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 September:-

Pavements at Churchfield	Councillor Berry
Half yearly review	Councillor Blythe
Environment forum	Councillor Hamblen
October newsletter	Ruth Atkinson

**2008/095. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 3 September 2008 at Thurgoland School, Halifax Road, Thurgoland at 7.00 p.m.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

RUTH ATKINSON  
Parish Clerk