

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT THURGOLAND SCHOOL, HALIFAX ROAD, THURGOLAND, ON WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 2008 AT 7.50 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillors Blythe, Cuerden, Hamblen, Oxley, Rowley, Warttig and Wilkinson. Also present Ward Councillor Barnard, Ruth Atkinson (Parish Clerk), and eight members of the public. Councillor Blythe opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.

2008/001. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Apologies had been received from Councillors Berry and Methley and Ward Councillors Hand-Davis and Wilson. Councillor Hamblen declared an interest in item 29(i) and Councillor Wilkinson declared an interest in item 29 (iii). These declarations were noted.

2008/002. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Wilkinson proposed that Councillor Blythe be re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the coming year. This was seconded by Councillor Oxley and agreed by all present. Councillor Blythe thanked the Councillors for their nomination and accepted the post.

2008/003. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor Blythe signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the coming year. This was witnessed by the Clerk.

2008/004. ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that Councillor Methley was willing to stand for election as Vice-Chairman, even though she was unable to be at the meeting. Councillor Oxley proposed that Councillor Methley be re-elected. This was seconded by Councillor Hamblen and agreed by all present. Councillor Oxley further advised the meeting that Councillor Methley had undergone heart surgery at the beginning of May and was now at home recovering. It was agreed that the Clerk send a get well card to Councillor Methley from the Parish Council.

2008/005. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

All Councillors present signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the coming year. They were all witnessed by the Clerk. Councillors Berry and Methley will sign their Declarations at their next meeting.

2008/006. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The following appointments to outside bodies were agreed upon:-

i) Penistone Rural Road Safety Committee

Councillors Methley and Oxley were re-elected to serve on this outside body. It was noted that during the past year only one meeting has been held.

ii) Penistone Paramount

It was noted that this outside body has recently changed its name to Leisure and Amenities. Councillor Blythe was re-elected to serve on the Leisure and Amenities Committee of Penistone Town Council. It was noted, however, that representation may change in the near future and Councillor Blythe will advise the Parish Council of any changes that take place.

iii) Thurgoland Pre-School

Councillor Berry was re-elected to serve on this outside body.

iv) Crane Moor Community Chapel User Group

Councillor Hamblen was elected at the meeting held in April to serve on this outside body. It was suggested that a further Councillor be appointed to serve on this outside body and Councillor Rowley agreed to take on this role. The Clerk is to advise Crane Moor Community Chapel of this appointment.

2008/007. SUBSCRIPTIONS FALLING ANNUALLY

The following accounts for annual payments were presented by the Clerk:-

i)	Yorkshire Rural Community Council	Annual Membership	£35.00
ii)	Local Council Review	Annual Subscription	£13.50
iii)	Yorkshire Local Councils Association	Annual Membership	£363.00
iv)	Allianz Cornhill Insurance	Annual premium	£1012.31

Councillor Wilkinson proposed that all of the above accounts were authorised for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present. The cheques were to be presented for signature later in the meeting.

2008/008. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2 April 2008 had been circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Wilkinson proposed that these 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.

2008/009. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes that were not covered in the Agenda.

2008/010. PENISTONE EAST CRIME AND SAFETY SUB-GROUP

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail asking for a formal representative to be appointed to sit on the Penistone East Crime and Safety Sub-Group. After discussion Councillor Rowley proposed that Councillor Blythe be the Thurgoland Parish Council representative. This was seconded by Councillor Wilkinson and agreed by all present.

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he had recently attended a meeting of the Crime and Safety Sub-Group at which the following items were of relevance to Thurgoland Parish:-

- i) During March there had been one reported crime in Thurgoland and one in Crane Moor.
- ii) Lead had been stolen from the roof of Thurgoland Welfare Hall.
- iii) A speed count of cars travelling along the A629 outside Thurgoland School had been undertaken by South Yorkshire Police and school pupils between 10 and 11 a.m. on 16 March. Out of 259 vehicles observed, 29 were speeding and 7 were travelling at speeds in excess of 43 miles per hour.
- iv) The Penistone area is currently being targeted by car thieves who are stealing car keys from houses and then driving cars away using the keys stolen.

Councillor Blythe suggested that any items relating to crime and safety could be placed in the Parish newsletter. This was agreed to be acceptable and the Clerk will contact the Crime and Safety Sub-Group to ask for any information in time for the July newsletter.

2008/011 REPORT FROM THE CLERK ON ITEMS ON APPENDIX 'A'

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the Agenda was produced there had not been any further responses to any of the items on Appendix 'A'.

2008/012. PARISH PATHS

i) Boundary Walk

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that 121 walkers had taken part in the Boundary Walk, an increase from 2007. The cost of refreshments provided by The Bridge Inn was £3.50 each, a total of £423.50. Councillor Rowley proposed that this amount be authorised for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Oxley and agreed by all present. Thanks were expressed to Councillor Rowley for organising another successful event.

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Trevor Mayne, advising of the following:-

ii) Footpath number 19 – 'Long Jack'

A new stile has been erected as requested by Councillor Methley some months ago.

iii) Footpath number 10 – Crane Moor Nook

Vegetation has been cut back along this footpath.

iv) Footpath number 12 – Pog Lane to Sim Hill

A rotten sleeper bridge has been replaced. The long-term drainage problem has been logged for attention in the future. Councillor Cuerden advised the meeting that there is still an issue with barbed wire adjacent to this footpath which is dangerous as it is on a steep part of the footpath and could result in injury to walkers. There is also still the issue of the diversion of this footpath and it was agreed that the Clerk ask the Countryside Group to look at both of these issues.

v) Footpath number 6 at Partridge Dale

The bridge reported by a member of the public has been inspected and found to be sound.

vi) Changes in the Countryside Group.

With immediate effect the Countryside Group of Barnsley MBC has been split into a Greenspace Management Team and a Public Rights of Way team. Trevor Mayne and the Countryside Rangers will do some maintenance work, but the Public Rights of Way Officers are responsible for the quality of public paths and should be the first point of contact on 01226 773555. This was noted.

vii) Footpath from Huthwaite Lane to Old Mill Lane

Mr John Wade advised the meeting that two new stiles have been erected on the footpath that links Huthwaite Lane and Old Mill Lane. This was noted.

2008/013. NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIDE

i) Footpath along A629

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received notification that the stretch of footpath along the A629 to which the Parish Council contributed funds for resurfacing will have weedkiller applied in the near future. This was noted.

ii) Drains along Thurgoland Bank

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that she has received a request from a resident of Thurgoland Bank, asking if it would be possible for the drains in the side of the road can be cleared as they are full of weeds and grass and consequently water cannot run down them, but runs down Thurgoland Bank, causing surface water to be present. Ward Councillor Barnard advised the meeting that this matter should be reported to the Highways Drainage Department of Barnsley MBC. The Clerk is to attend to this matter.

2008/014. PARKING RESTRICTIONS

The Clerk advised the meeting that, following the last meeting, a letter has been received from Alan Carnall, advising the following:-

- i) The objections raised by the Parish Council to the proposed restrictions at Roper Lane outside the Village Hall will be considered along with other objections and the decision made will be notified in due course.
- ii) Records kept by Barnsley MBC show that the change from Smithy Hill to Roper Lane is outside the Old School House, opposite Hollin Moor View.
- iii) Following discussions between Councillor Blythe and Gary McNaught it is now understood that the original request for parking restrictions to be considered referred to the bend on Smithy Hill adjacent to Elmhirst Cottages.
- iv) South Yorkshire Police have made comments in writing suggesting that the confusion about the location was as a result of the Parish Council providing wrong and misleading information. They also comment that they support the implementation of parking restrictions at Roper Lane outside the Village Hall.

After discussion the following was noted:-

- i) There are at least four properties recorded on the Electoral Role and telephone directory as Roper Lane which would change their addresses to Smithy Hill. These houses are also registered at Roper Lane on their Title Deeds and with the Land Registry.
- ii) Until very recently there were two street name signs adjacent to each other on the wall where the affordable housing scheme is to take place. One said Smithy Hill (right hand sign) and the other Roper Lane (left hand sign). The Roper Lane one has been removed.

Councillor Hamblen reminded the meeting that the whole discussion arose from the Parish Council identifying an area which it considered required parking restrictions and that this request should be made again. It was proposed by Councillor Warttig that the Clerk advise Barnsley MBC of the comments made regarding Smithy Hill/Roper Lane, and that a map be provided to clarify the situation. At the same time the request to consider restrictions at the original location be made again. This was seconded by Councillor Hamblen and agreed by all present.

2008/015. VILLAGE CLOCK

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received notification from Allianz Cornhill that they will pay for the repair of the Village Clock. An excess of £125.00 applies to the policy. It was noted that at the present time no access can be gained to the Old Co-Op Superstore as it is permanently closed. After discussion it was suggested that the Clerk contact the Land Registry to try to ascertain the owner of the property in order that contact can be made with them to progress this matter.

2008/016. PLAY EQUIPMENT AT CRANE MOOR RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received the Annual Inspection Report for the play equipment at Crane Moor. The 'nattertube' is not working properly, probably because of water in the pipe. This fault had also been notified to the Clerk by a resident, and Councillor Cuerden confirmed that she has also been made aware of the fault. As the play equipment is under guarantee, the Clerk is to contact Play and Leisure to ask them to rectify the fault as soon as possible. An invoice in the sum of £100 plus VAT has been received in respect of the inspection and it was agreed by all present that this by paid.

2008/017. FOOTPATH THROUGH WELFARE GROUND

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a telephone call from Mike Egner of Barnsley MBC in connection with the request made by the Welfare Committee concerning clarification on the responsibility for the care of the footpath through the Welfare Ground which exits onto the A629 opposite the church. This telephone conversation confirmed that the footpath is a designated footpath under the control of the Countryside Section of Barnsley MBC and that it was inspected in April 2008, but that the weed growth was not considered bad enough to need any work at that time. This was noted and the footpath will be monitored in order that it can be reported for work to be carried out at the appropriate time.

2008/018. HUTHWAITE QUARRY

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence from Newman and Bond, advising that they do not hold the Title Deeds to the quarry. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk contact Barnsley MBC, Dransfield and Hodgkinson and, possibly, the Land Registry, to ascertain where the Title Deeds are held in order that they can be looked at for any restrictive covenants.

2008/019. ALLOTMENT SITE

The Clerk advised the meeting that a meeting has been arranged for Thursday 15 May 2008 at Thurgoland Village Hall for all allotment holders. It is anticipated that at that meeting a new Chair of the Allotment Society will be elected and that keys for the padlock can be made available to allotment holders when they pay their annual fee. The cost of the hire of the room for this meeting will be £17.00 and a cheque will be drawn up for payment at the next Parish Council meeting. This was noted

2008/020. DRAIN CLEARANCE ON ROPER LANE AND HAND LANE

The subject of drain clearance on Roper Lane had been placed on the Agenda by Councillor Methley and could not be progressed as she was not present at the meeting. Councillor Hamblen advised the meeting that in the past, notification has been received by residents of Hand Lane, advising when the road sweepers and drain clearance vehicles are expected, and residents move their cars so that work can be carried out. This practice has stopped with the result that the road around the junction of Hand Lane and Crane Moor Road cannot be swept properly or the drains cleared. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Barnsley MBC and ask for this practice to re-commence in order that efficient road sweeping/drain clearance can take place. Ward Councillor Barnard also agreed to take this matter up with the relevant department.

2008/021. BUS SHELTER AT CRANE MOOR ROAD/HALIFAX ROAD

It was noted that, since the last meeting, a new bus shelter has been erected on the site of the old shelter at the junction of Crane Moor Road/Halifax Road. However, there is no 'front' on the new shelter and, bearing in mind the open aspect of the site, it was felt that the new shelter is inappropriate as it does not provide adequate 'shelter' from the elements. The Clerk is to write to ask if this situation can be altered and an appropriate shelter provided.

2008/022. CHAPEL WALK

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence from Barnsley MBC advising that Chapel Walk is not on the list of adopted streets or footpaths. However, should the street lighting column in the walk be required to be retained by any new owner, Barnsley MBC would require access for maintenance purposes. This information was noted for future reference.

2008/023. BENCH AT CHURCHFIELDS

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a quotation from Barnsley MBC for the installation of a bench at Churchfield. The cost of installing the bench on a concrete base and fixing the plaque previously on the bench at Thurgoland Welfare Ground is £580.00. Councillor Hamblen proposed that this quotation be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present. The Clerk is to attend to ordering the bench and arranging installation as soon as possible. The plaque is currently stored at Thurgoland Welfare Hall and this will be fixed at the same time.

2008/024. DOG FOULING

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence from Barnsley MBC advising that Mr Ford from Regulatory Services has responded directly to the two residents who contacted the Parish Council on the subject of dog fouling. He has also patrolled the Crane Moor Nook area and arranged for dog fouling signs to be placed on lamp posts in the area. This action was noted.

2008/025. AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT SMITHY HILL

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from the Strategic Housing Team advising that the transfer of land to Equity for the affordable housing scheme at Smithy Hill took place at the end of March and contractors are expected to be on site at the end of April. It was noted that contractors are indeed on site at the present time.

2008/026. FLY TIPPING AT HERMIT HILL LANE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Barnsley MBC advising that a team has traveled the length of Hermit Hill Lane and Cliffe Common Lane but can find no sign of any fly tipping. They have asked for an exact location to be provided. However, Councillor Hamblen advised the meeting that she has visited the site and the fly tipping has been removed!

2008/027. BARNSELY ENVIRONMENT FORUM

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an invitation for any Councillor to attend the Barnsley Environment Forum to be held at the Digital Media Centre, Barnsley, on 5 June 2008. Councillor Hamblen asked if it would be possible for her to represent the Parish Council at this event. This was agreed to be acceptable and the Clerk passed the invitation to Councillor Hamblen for her to respond directly.

2008/028. 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) Planning Application – High House Farm

Mr John Campbell advised the meeting that the revised Planning Application for High House Farm has been approved, although written notification has yet to be received. This was noted.

ii) Planning Application – Land at Dance Lane/Hand Lane, Crane Moor

Mr Roy Harris advised the meeting of the objections raised by residents of Crane Moor for the revised plans at Dance Lane/Hand Lane, Crane Moor. Councillor Hamblen took no part in the discussion as she had lodged a personal objection to the plans and has assisted residents in their objections. The comments made by Mr Harris were noted.

iii) Access to Huthwaite Quarry

Mr John Wade asked that it be noted for future discussions concerning the quarry at Huthwaite that the access footpath to the quarry is exactly that – an access to the quarry – not a public footpath. This was noted.

iv) Thurgoland Youth Club

Mrs Margaret Denton advised the meeting that the Youth Club adjacent to Thurgoland Welfare Hall will re-open on 17 May 2008. She also advised the meeting that the area of land behind the goal posts at the end of the football ground nearest to the footpath discussed earlier is to be improved and landscaped with funds donated by the previous and present owners of Inglemount. This was noted.

2008/029. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

i) Erection of two detached dwellings (resubmission)

Land off Dance Lane, Crane Moor.

The comments made by Mr Roy Harris earlier in the meeting were taken into account at this time and, once again, Councillor Hamblen took not part in the discussion. After looking at the revised plans, Councillor Wilkinson proposed that the Parish Council comment as they did for the original plans. This was seconded by Councillor Warttig and agreed by all present. The following comments were therefore made:-

1. It is felt that the design of the proposed dwellings is not in keeping with the rural aspect of the village of Crane Moor.
2. The Parish Council wish to raise concern about highway safety at the access to the proposed development as it is on a blind bend, on a narrow road.
3. The siting of the site will be detrimental to the open character of the Green Belt.
4. The development is not in keeping with the visual amenities of Crane Moor as it extends beyond the natural form of the village and is not infill or 'rounding off'
5. The adjacent sewerage works pose the potential for problems arising with flies and odours as well as vehicles accessing the site.

ii) Erection of two storey extension to dwelling (resubmission)

High House Farm, Crane Moor Nook, Crane Moor

Following the comments made earlier in the meeting by Mr John Campbell, Councillor Wilkinson proposed that no comments be made on these plans. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present.

**iii) Erection of detached dwelling (certificate of lawfulness for an existing use)
Little Huthwaite, Huthwaite Lane, Thurgoland**

Councillor Wilkinson declared an interest in this application and took no part in the discussion. It was noted that this application is not for a new building, but for a Certificate of Lawfulness for a building that has been on this site since 1993. Councillor Hamblen proposed that no comments be made. This was seconded by Councillor Oxley and agreed by all present.

**iv) Erection of one detached dwelling (Outline)
Land adjacent to 1 Spring Row, Cote Lane, Thurgoland**

Councillors Oxley and Rowley had conducted a site visit to this location as agreed previously and they proposed that no comments be made on this application. This was agreed by all present.

**v) Residential Development (Outline)
Land adjacent to 5 Crossways, Halifax Road, Thurgoland**

Councillors Oxley and Rowley had conducted a site visit to this location as agreed previously and they proposed that no comments be made on this application. This was agreed by all present.

2008/030. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS PRODUCED

There had been no applications received since the Agenda was produced.

2008/031. APPROVED/DECLINED APPLICATIONS AS NOTIFIED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

There had been no notifications of approved or declined applications since the last meeting.

2008/032. 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.

2008/033. ACCOUNTS.

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the production of the Agenda, two further items had been presented for payment.

Councillor Wilkinson proposed that the cheques on the list, and the additional two items were approved for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Hamblen and agreed by all present. The following items were therefore signed:-

Allianz Cornhill	Annual Insurance Premium	1012.31
Yorkshire Local Councils Association	Annual Membership Fee	363.00
Local Council Review	Annual Subscription	13.50
Playdale Limited	Inspection of playground equipment	117.50
Thurgoland History Group	Grant as agreed	2000.00
Thurgoland Village Welfare Association	Grant as agreed	500.00
Tesco	Paper and ink cartridge	26.59
Post Office	Stamps	54.00
Tesco	Ink cartridge	14.87
Andrew King	Replacement for lost cheques	240.00
Ruth Atkinson	Salary – May	372.45
Thurgoland School	Room Hire	15.00
Yorkshire Rural Community Council	Annual Membership	35.00
The Bridge Inn	Food for Boundary Walk	423.50

2008/034. 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 June:-

Parish Councillor Training Programme	Ruth Atkinson
Parish Map Boards	Councillor Rowley
Annual Governance Statement	Ruth Atkinson

2008/035. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 4 June 2008 at Thurgoland School, Thurgoland, at 7.00 p.m.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

RUTH ATKINSON
Parish Clerk