

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT CRANE MOOR CHAPEL, CRANE MOOR ROAD, CRANE MOOR, ON WEDNESDAY 7 APRIL 2010 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT **DRAFT MINUTES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY – SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION**

Councillors Berry, Blythe, Hamblen, Methley, Oxley, Rowley, Warttig and Wilkinson. Also present Ruth Pearson (Parish Clerk), and FIVE members of the press and public.

Councillor Blythe opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.

2009/221. **APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Cuerden (illness) and District Councillor Barnard (election duties). There were no Declarations of Interest in any of the items on the Agenda.

2009/222. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH 2010**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 March 2010 had been circulated to all Councillors.

There were two amendments to be made as follows:-

i) **2009/201**

The funding stream for Sport England was closed until April 2010, not 2009 as stated.

ii) **2009/204 (i)**

Councillor Berry will not be helping on the Boundary Walk as she is on holiday at that time.

Following these two amendments, Councillor Hamblen proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Wilkinson and agreed by all present. Councillor Blythe signed the minutes.

2009/223. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising that were not covered on the Agenda.

2009/224 **PENISTONE EAST CRIME AND SAFETY SUB-GROUP**

Councillor Oxley provided a report to the meeting, following the last Crime and Safety Sub-Group meeting:-

i) **Car parking in Thurgoland**

The subject of inconsiderate parking at Smithy Hill had been raised and South Yorkshire Police have visited the area on two occasions. They advised Councillor Oxley that they did not consider that there was any cause for concern. This was noted. Councillor Berry advised the meeting that inconsiderate parking is still taking place at Churchfield. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Councillor Oxley bring this matter to the attention of South Yorkshire Police and ask them to look at this area.

ii) **Recorded crimes in the Parish**

Since the last meeting there had been two recorded crimes in Thurgoland and none in Crane Moor.

iii) **'Be Safe'**

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that there is an event taking place at Silkstone Lodge, Silkstone, on Thursday 15 April 2010 between 11.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. It will focus on cold calling and all residents are invited to attend. Details of the event were left on the Notice Board at the Chapel, and other leaflets have been placed around the Parish by Councillor Oxley.

2009/225 **REPORT FROM THE CLERK ON ITEMS ON APPENDIX 'A'**

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the Agenda was produced there have not been any responses to the outstanding items on Appendix A. A discussion followed and the following course of action was agreed upon:-

i) **Clearway Signs on A629, Car parking at Churchfields, Crane Moor Road drains and gutters, A629 Speed Indicator Devices, Dragons teeth and 30 markings on A629, water on Cote Lane**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had recently attended a Clerks Liaison Meeting, which had been Chaired by The Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC, Phillip Coppard. He had advised the meeting that, only that day, he had spoken to Mr D Richardson of the Highways Department, who had asked him to advise the meeting that all items outstanding from Parish Councils had been attended to. As there were six items on Appendix A that had still not been attended to it was agreed that the Clerk bring all of the matters to the attention of Mr Coppard in order that he is aware that Mr Richardson was wrong to provide this information.

ii) **Dog Bin request**

It was noted that a request for funding towards a dog bin at Crane Moor Nook was made in November 2009, and that no response has been received. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Gerry Green again to ask him to provide a form for completion and make progress on this matter.

iii) **Potholes**

Councillor Oxley advised the meeting that the potholes reported at the last meeting on Churchfield have not yet been attended to. It was agreed that the Clerk write again to the Highways Department to ask them to attend to this matter as soon as possible. Councillor Methley asked if it would be possible to add a further location to this list, which was agreed to be acceptable. The location in question is at the entrance to Hartcliffe View.

2009/226. **PARISH PATHS**

Councillor Rowley brought the following items to the attention of the meeting:-

i) Annual Boundary Walk

The following update was provided:-

- a) Councillors Blythe and Rowley will provide marshalling of the route, paying particular attention to walkers crossing the A629 between Wortley and Thurgoland, and outside The Travellers Inn at Oxspring.
- b) Councillor Hamblen is to 'bring up the rear', walking at the pace of the slowest walker.
- c) R Pearson is to advise South Yorkshire Police of the walk, via the Safer Neighbourhood Team at Penistone Police Station.
- d) Councillor Rowley will walk the route before the day and advise R Pearson of any issues that require the attention of the footpath department of Barnsley MBC. This includes the underpass at the start of the walk, which was reported as overgrown by Mr J Campbell, who has recently walked part of the route.
- e) Pie and peas for the walkers have been ordered at The Bridge Inn and meal tickets will be given out at the start of the walk.

ii) Parish Paths Maps Boards

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an e-mail from Sarah Ford advising of the following:-

- a) The original board has still not been located.
- b) There is no guarantee that Barnsley MBC would be able to fund any of the project to provide a replacement board, design costs and printing costs.
- c) If an electronic copy of the artwork is found, it may be possible for the housing structure to be provided.

After discussion it was agreed that Councillor Methley will source a company who are providing artwork, design and provision of a similar board for Gunthwaite and Ingbirchworth Parish Council, so that a price for the whole project can be quoted. The Clerk is still to ascertain if the original artwork is within the Parish Council records and make a full report to the next meeting.

iii) Bridleway Number 16

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that this bridleway had been trimmed back and could be removed from Appendix A.

iv) Trans-Pennine Trail issues

The Clerk advised the meeting of the following response to the issues raised regarding the Trans-Pennine Trail:-

- a) Assurances had been received that the lights in the tunnel at Thurgoland would be replaced by the end of March 2010. Councillor Wilkinson agreed to walk through the tunnel to check that all the lights were lit, and advise the Clerk if any are still out, as many walkers use the tunnel as a short-cut on the Boundary Walk.
- b) The tarmac chipped section of the trail is to be swept to reduce the loose chips caused by horse riders using the tarmac rather than the softer surface. The horse riders can use any section of the route as it is all designated as a bridleway.
- c) The original advisory posts, advising that horse riders should you one side and walkers the other are being removed as they are no longer considered acceptable. A dust surface is to be put down on the planings side, to try to encourage horse riders to use it, rather than the tarmac. Maintenance of the trail should be easier once the posts have been removed.

All of these points were noted.

2009/227. 10 MINUTE ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL

i) Trans Pennine Trail

Mr Wade of Old Mill Lane commented that, in addition to the points made previously concerning the Trans Pennine Trail, there are sections of the trail over which foliage is growing, thus lessening the width of the tarmac. This was noted.

ii) Planning application outcomes

Mr Wade of Old Mill Lane commented that in recent months, there have been very few notification notices giving the outcome of Planning Applications on which the Parish Council made comment. The Clerk confirmed this fact and added that very soon, a new Planning Section will be available on the Metropolitan Borough Council website, where any member of the public will be able to check on the progress and outcome of Planning Applications. This was noted

iii) Speeding along Halifax Road

Mrs Denton of Halifax Road commented upon the lack of progress being made on the many issues of cars speeding through Thurgoland. Councillor Blythe commented that, as previously discussed, the Clerk is to write to the Chief Executive of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to ask him to intervene in this on-going problem. There were no other matters to be raised by the public at this time.

2009/228. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS PRODUCED

The Clerk advised the meeting that the following additional Planning Application had been received since the production of the Agenda:-

- i) Alterations and extension to the existing bungalow including raising roof height, a single storey side extension and creation of a balcony to side of dwelling**

Ayton Wood, Crane Moor Road, Crane Moor

There were no comments or observations on this application.

2009/229. APPROVED/DECLINED APPLICATIONS AS NOTIFIED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

There were no notifications of approved/declined applications since the last meeting.

2009/230. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

There were no matters to bring to the attention of Neighbourhood Services at this time, and no information on matters attended to by Neighbourhood Services since the last meeting.

2009/231. HIGHWAY MATTERS

The following highways matters were raised for discussion and action:-

i) Grit Bin provision

The Clerk advised the meeting that, following the request made for additional grit bins at Fir Tree, Roper Lane and Thurgoland Hall Lane, the following response has been received:-

A Highways Officer will be visiting each existing and new site, and use a 'scoring' system to prioritise the most 'in need' locations. This takes into account if the street is part of a regular gritting route, the steepness of the road, unusual road levels, the proximity of elderly persons complexes and other sensitive facilities such as health centers, schools etc. The allocation of bins is limited by funding and the score it receives on a 'worst first' basis. The requests made will be added to the database and considered in future years. This response was noted.

ii) Fire hydrant at Crane Moor Road

Councillor Methley advised the meeting that a resident of Crane Moor had raised concern about the Fire Hydrant on Crane Moor Road, opposite the Chapel. The post indicating the location of the hydrant has been moved and the resident is concerned that the hydrant itself may have been moved. After discussion it was suggested by the Clerk that she write to South Yorkshire Fire Service to ask them to check this particular hydrant.

2009/232. CHAPEL WALK

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he had met with the Clerk and they had agreed to send a letter, provided by Barnsley MBC to all of the residents of Thurgoland who do not live at Churchfield, and who have expressed a desire to assist in claiming the footpath at Chapel Walk as a Public Footpath. Once all the letters have been returned, a formal application will be made by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council. Letters were given to Councillors for distribution with their newsletters, and all included a stamped addressed envelope for the return of the completed form. The last date for return of the letters was set for 30 April 2010. The Clerk will make a report to the next meeting of the Parish Council on this matter, by which time the application should have been submitted to Barnsley MBC. This was all considered as acceptable by all present.

2009/233. CHRISTMAS TREES

A discussion took place concerning the location of the Christmas Tree at Churchfield. It was agreed that, as a starting point, Councillor Blythe will contact Neighbourhood Services to ask for a site meeting in order that they can advise on where would be the best place to provide a new 'hole' and how much it will cost. At the site meeting consideration will also be given to the provision of power for the new tree, again, in conjunction with Neighbourhood Pride. Councillor Blythe will make a report to the next meeting at which time further progress can be made.

2009/234. THE VILLAGE CLOCK

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received the following advice from Bygone Times, the company who made and attached the new hands to the current clock:-

'The solar panel and battery option would not work because the clock needs a 240 volt supply and a solar panel of reasonable cost just would not be able to make enough power to run it. You could try Barnsley MBC to ask about the option of obtaining power from the adjacent street light. Another option would be to take out the existing mechanism and replace this with a 24 volt clock which could be run on 12 volt batteries which could be trickle charged by a solar panel. All the parts could be mounted on the outside of the building meaning that access to the building would not be necessary in the future. This would cost £700, but part of the cost could be off-set by the sale of the old movement.'

A discussion took place and it was agreed that, in the first instance, the Clerk contact the street lighting department of Barnsley MBC to ask if the option to obtain power from the street lamp can be progressed.

2009/235. MODEL STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk had provided all Councillors with a copy of Model Standing Orders prior to the meeting. A discussion took place and it was agreed that Councillors require more time to look at the document. Also, the Clerk agreed to provide a copy of the Councils current Standing Order to all Councillors, along with a recommendation on which ones require amendment. This matter will then be discussed at the meeting in June, at which time a decision can be made on revised Standing Orders for Thurgoland Parish Council.

2009/236. BENCHES AT CRANE MOOR RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk advised the meeting that Tony Frank had removed the rotten bench and the bench around the tree in Crane Moor Recreation Ground. An invoice in the sum of £100 had been submitted for the removal and disposal of the benches. This was agreed to be paid later in the meeting. Whilst on the subject of Crane Moor Recreation Ground,

Councillor Methley advised the meeting that the 'hole' that had been in evidence some time ago, has reappeared and could be a danger to young children playing in the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that the Clerk find the correspondence on this subject for the next meeting and that Councillors at Crane Moor look at the 'hole' in the meantime to make a report to the Council.

2009/237. THURGOLAND CRICKET GROUND

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has had a discussion with an Awards Officer at Sport England who has indicated that the application made for the drainage to the Cricket Ground is unlikely to be successful. She was not at all happy with the explanation and reasoning provided and asked if the application could still go to the panel for a full decision to be made. The panel will meet on Wednesday 14 April 2010, after which time a decision will be made. The application made to the Community Support Fund has not been progressed as no response to the request for an application form has been received. After discussion, the following course of action was agreed upon:-

- i) Councillor Blythe is to write to Sport England to re-state the Councils' case and ask for the panel to consider the application very carefully.
- ii) Once a decision has been made, the Clerk is to contact the contractors to ask them to begin work in time for the commencement of the cricket season, with funds coming from either Sport England or Parish Council funds, depending upon the outcome.
- iii) The application to the Community Support Fund will still be made.

A report will be made by the Clerk at the next meeting, by which time the work should have been completed and cricket matches played.

2009/238. BARNSELY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

A copy of the Core Strategy Publication Consultation had been provided to all Councillors for consideration and comment. Councillor Blythe provided a summary of the points that relate to Thurgoland:-

- i) There is no significant development envisaged in certain named villages (of which Thurgoland is one). Any development will only be permitted if it is consistent with current Green Belt Policy.
- ii) Any development will be permitted if it supports the rural economy and priority will be given to any application that re-develops existing buildings rather than new build.
- iii) Priority will also be given to affordable housing schemes and any project which supports home-based work.
- iv) The provision of high speed broadband connection to all areas is high on the list of priorities.
- v) The re-use of the Trans-Pennine Corridor, including railway lines is to be looked at again.
- vi) There will not be a full review of the Green Belt, any review will be localized and any changes agreed will be in connection with employment opportunities and not housing developments.
- vii) The LDF will look at the future development of Barnsley up to the year 2026.

It was agreed by all present that at this consultation stage, no comments are to be made by Thurgoland Parish Council and that the points noted will be borne in mind once it is adopted.

2009/239. PENISTONE DISTRICT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Blythe gave a report on the activities of Penistone District Community Partnership as follows:-

- i) At the present time the Partnership does not have any funds.
- ii) Plans are being made to obtain funding for a Community Garden at Springvale.
- iii) The bike hire and bike servicing scheme that has been launched around the area has had the most success when it visited Thurgoland Welfare Hall.
- iv) The East Pennine Investment Partnership, which includes Thurgoland Parish, is embarking on a scheme to provide a beacon at strategic high points. Thurgoland has been identified as one of the areas for the siting of a beacon. It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council would support the siting of a beacon in a suitable location, subject to full funding being provided by EPIP.

All of the above points were noted .

2009/240. APRIL 2010 NEWSLETTER

The Clerk provided all Councillors with newsletters for distribution around the Parish. Councillor Methley asked how many newsletters are currently posted out. The number is just over 200, which represents a significant cost once a quarter. It was agreed that the Clerk provide a report to the next meeting, giving details of the postal newsletters. If any Councillors can deliver additional newsletters the list can be amended in time for the July newsletter.

2009/241. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 12 May 2010 and will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, preceded by The Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk suggested that the format of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council should be taken from the format given in the Model Standing Orders provided. This was agreed to be acceptable. Councillor Blythe and the Clerk are to meet to agree the Agenda for both meetings.

2009/242. NEWSLETTERS/CIRCULARS

i) One Barnsley Sustainability Forum

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received an invitation for a representative to attend the One Barnsley Sustainability Forum (previously The Environment Forum) on Wednesday 21 April 2010 at The Civic, Barnsley. Councillor Hamblen is the Councillor who usually attends this event, but advised the meeting that she is not available on that date. It was agreed that if any Councillor wishes to attend, they contact the Clerk for details.

ii) Other newsletters

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

2009/243. GRASS CUTTING AT THURGOLAND RECREATION GROUND

A letter had been provided to all Councillors prior to the meeting for their information and consideration. The letter outlined the financial difficulties facing Thurgoland Village Welfare, and asked if it would be possible for the Parish Council to contribute £1000 towards the cutting of the recreation ground. The full cost of cutting the grass for 2010 is £1512.66, which represents 13.8% of the income of the Association. Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he had attended the Annual Meeting of Thurgoland Village Welfare and was fully aware that funds are becoming increasingly stretched for this valuable organisation within the Parish. Mr J Campbell had sent an e-mail to the Clerk as a member of the public, suggesting that each year, a part of the precept is set aside to assist in this matter. This was considered to be a good idea in principle and one which will be discussed more fully in December 2010 when the 2011 precept is set. Councillor Wilkinson proposed that £1000 be granted to Thurgoland Village Welfare towards grass cutting, but that it is considered as a 'one-off' grant, to be reviewed annually. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present. The cheque will be drawn up at the May meeting of the Parish Council.

2009/244. ACCOUNTS

The Clerk had circulated all Councillors with a list of accounts to be paid. Since the list had been drawn up, a further payment of £65.87 was to be added to the list. This was for stamps and photocopy paper for the April newsletter. Councillor Hamblen proposed that the items on the list, and the additional item be approved for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Rowley and agreed by all present. The following cheques were therefore signed:-

Ruth Pearson	Salary – April	386.46
Crane Moor Chapel	Room Hire – April	15.00
Mr A King	Website updating – March	30.00
EasySpace	Website domain name fee	70.42
Tesco	Ink jet cartridge	29.37
Thurgoland Builders	Removal of benches at Crane Moor	100.00
Tesco	Stamps and photocopy paper	65.87

2009/245. MATTERS TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following item was requested be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting:-

- i) Request to draw water from Huthwaite Lane well - Resident via Councillor Blythe

2009/246. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at Thurgoland School, Thurgoland. This meeting will be preceded by The Annual Parish Meeting, which will commence at 7.00 p.m.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

RUTH PEARSON
Parish Clerk