

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT THURGOLAND SCHOOL, HALIFAX ROAD, THURGOLAND, ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2010 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT

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

Councillor Blythe opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and wishing everyone a Happy New Year! The meeting had been scheduled to take place on Wednesday 6 January 2010, but had been postponed because of inclement weather.

2009/177. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hamblen who runs the Crane Moor Book Club on the third Wednesday of each month. There were no Declarations of Interest in any items on the Agenda.

2009/178. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2 December 2009 had been circulated to all Councillors. There was one amendment to be made to the minutes as follows:-

i) 2009/159 (iii) – Rats at Churchfield

Councillor Berry had advised the meeting about the problems with rats at Churchfield not Councillor Rowley. This was amended.

Following this amendment, Councillor Oxley proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Berry and agreed by all present. Councillor Blythe signed the minutes.

2009/179. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Thurgoland Cricket Club

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has submitted an application to Awards For All, for funds to pay for the installation of drains and the Cricket Ground and running costs for the Cricket Club for one year, to help recoup the loss of income from 2009. A response to the application is awaited.

2009/180 PENISTONE EAST CRIME AND SAFETY SUB-GROUP

Councillor Oxley advised that since the last Parish Council meeting the Penistone East Crime and Safety Sub-Group have not met, and therefore there was no report. However, the following item was raised:-

i) Anti-social behaviour at Smithy Hill/Smith Court/Roper Lane

A further report of anti-social behaviour had been received in the vicinity of the footpath adjacent to Smithy Court/Fir Tree Estate. Councillor Oxley had advised the person making the report that the matter would once again be raised at the next meeting of the Crime and Safety Sub-Group and attended to by South Yorkshire Police. This was noted.

2009/181 REPORT FROM THE CLERK ON ITEMS ON APPENDIX 'A'

The Clerk advised the meeting that since the Agenda was produced the following items have received a response:-

i) Car parking at Churchfield

An acknowledgement of the request to consider providing additional car parking spaces at Churchfield has been received, further information will be forthcoming when the relevant department at Barnsley MBC has been able to assess the situation and make a report. This item is to remain on the Appendix until a firm response has been received.

ii) Footpath at Thurgoland School

Councillor Berry asked that this item be removed from the Appendix as the footpath in question had been re-surfaced and was now at an acceptable standard of repair. This was noted.

2009/182. PARISH PATHS

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

i) Parish Paths Map Boards

It was noted that no response has been received to the request for refurbishment of the Parish Paths Maps Board which was made in October 2009. The Clerk agreed to raise this matter again with Sarah Ford of Barnsley MBC.

ii) Annual Boundary Walk

It was noted that this year is the 10th anniversary of the launch of the Thurgoland Boundary Walk. Councillor Rowley asked the meeting if the walk was to take place, as she can begin planning if it is. Councillor Blythe proposed that, as it has become such a success over the past ten years, it should continue and the date of Monday 3 May 2010 was agreed upon. A discussion took place concerning the possibility of arranging some kind of entertainment to celebrate the 10th anniversary. The possibility of having Morris Sides performing at one, two, or three of the public houses en route was discussed and the

Clerk advised the meeting that she has contacts with various Morris Sides as a result of her work in 2009 with The English Mystery Plays. It was agreed that she make initial enquiries and report to the next meeting if possible. The Clerk is also to check stocks of the Boundary Walk Map, as at least 150 copies are required and a reprint may be needed. The subject of the Boundary Walk will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

2009/183. 10 MINUTE ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL

i) Thurgoland Boundary Walk

Mr M Williams advised the meeting that, in the past, when he was in charge of the Scouts in Thurgoland, he organised 'medals' for people taking part in sponsored walks, and wondered if it would be appropriate to produce such a 'medal' for walkers completing the 10th anniversary Boundary Walk as discussed earlier in the meeting. He agreed to look into prices for medals and provide the information to Councillor Rowley prior to the next meeting so that it could be discussed at that time.

ii) Dog Fouling

Mr M Williams advised the meeting that there seems to have been an increase in dog fouling in the Recreation Ground in recent weeks. This was noted.

iii) Car parking in Thurgoland

Mr M Williams advised the meeting that concern has been raised by a number of residents about the number of cars that are parking on Smithy Hill/Roper Lane, causing potential problems for buses and larger vehicles. These sentiments were echoed by Councillors and the Clerk felt it appropriate at this time to advise the meeting of an e-mail received from a resident, outlining exactly the same problem and asking for it to be discussed by the Parish Council. A suggestion made by the resident is that the double yellow lines at the bottom of Smithy Hill should be extended to end on Roper Lane, outside the Doctors' Surgery on one side and the top of Fir Tree Estate at the other side. It was agreed that Councillor Oxley should raise this issue at the Crime and Safety Sub-Group meeting and bring a response back to the next Parish Council meeting for further discussion and possible further action. It was also noted that this request had been made by the Parish Council some time ago and had resulted in parking restrictions being proposed at the opposite end of Roper Lane! This item will be placed on the Agenda of the next Parish Council meeting in the Crime and Safety Sub-Group report.

iv) Grit Bin provision at Old Mill Lane

Mr J Wade asked if a request could be made (again) for the provision of a grit bin on Old Mill Lane, in the vicinity of the houses that are at the Cote Lane end of the Lane. It was noted by the Clerk that this request has been made in the past, and she agreed to look out the response received and place the subject on the Agenda of the next meeting. Councillor Methley asked if the same procedure could be followed for the provision of a grit bin at the top of Fir Tree Estate at its junction with Roper Lane. This was agreed to be acceptable.

v) The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road

Mrs M Pemberton asked if any further information had been received concerning the Enforcement Notice to be issued at the Telephone Exchange on Halifax Road. As this item was on the Agenda at a later time, it was agreed that an update would be provided at that time.

There were no other matters to be raised by the public at this time.

2009/184. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**i) Erection of side extension to detached garage to form additional garage
5 The Old Rock Inn, Crane Moor Road, Crane Moor**

Councillor Hamblen had provided her comments to the Clerk via e-mail for consideration at this time. She had spoken to a number of residents in Crane Moor, none of whom have any objections to this application. She had been advised that this is a re-submission of a previous application that was rejected, but the application was not marked as such. After taking these comments into account it was agreed that the Parish Council has no comments or observations on this application.

**ii) Erection of two storey side and single storey front extensions to dwelling
40 Fir Tree, Thurgoland**

There were no comments or observations on this application.

2009/185. 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) Erection of a part first floor and part two storey side extension to dwelling
including widening of drive
6 Mount Pleasant Court, Crane Moor**

Councillor Hamblen had provided her comments to the Clerk via e-mail for consideration. As a near neighbour, she had not been given the chance to comment herself on the application and had been in contact with the Planning Department via Councillor Barnard to ask to be given the chance to make her own comments. A copy of her letter outlining her objections had been received. Her comments centered

on the close proximity of the extension to the houses at Mount Pleasant, resulting in the loss of light and privacy. These comments were taken into consideration by the Parish Council and it was agreed that no comments or observations be made.

**ii) Installation of a slops tank and bund at petroleum storage depot
Blackmoor PSD off Sheffield Road, Thurgoland**

There were no comments or observations on this application.

**2009/186. APPROVED/DECLINED APPLICATIONS AS NOTIFIED SINCE THE LAST MEETING
i) Enforcement Notice, The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road, Thurgoland**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had received an e-mail dated 3 December 2009 advising that 'Instructions to serve enforcement notices requiring the removal of the unauthorised alterations and extensions to the above building were sent to the Borough Secretary on 4 November 2009. The Legal Department are currently preparing the notices for issue but also have to carry out certain checks to establish the legal interests in the land to ensure that the notices are served correctly and in accordance with the Planning Legislation.' These comments were noted.

ii) Chapel Walk, The Methodist Chapel, Cote Lane, Thurgoland

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he had attended the Planning Regulatory Board meeting on 15 December 2009, when he had spoken, on behalf of the residents of Thurgoland and the Parish Council, against the application to remove the condition relating to the retention of the footpath known as Chapel Walk. After the applicant had spoken in favour of the removal of the condition, and Councillor Blythe spoken against, the Legal Department had informed the meeting that, legally, the condition should not have been made in the first place and that therefore it was not appropriate that an application be considered to remove it. The Planning Regulatory Board therefore voted in favour of removing the condition requiring the retention of the footpath. Councillor Blythe had since written to the Chair of the Planning Board and the Chief Executive, expressing his feelings on the subject and asking for a full explanation of the circumstances leading to the removal of the condition. At the present time he had not received a response. An article has been placed in the January 2010 newsletter asking residents (excluding those of Churchfield) to contact the Chairman or Clerk if they are prepared to send a letter confirming that they have used the footpath unhindered for twenty years or more. Once these letters have been received, a decision will be made on whether or not to proceed with an application to have the footpath 'claimed' and placed on the Definitive Map. This item will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

iii) Removal of sycamore tree and alders within TPO, The Old Mill, Old Mill Lane, Thurgoland

This application had been partly granted and partly refused. The part grant had been consent for the removal of the two Alders within the Tree Preservation Order, which was considered as acceptable maintenance work. The part refusal had been to refuse consent for the removal of the Sycamore within the Tree Preservation Order as insufficient justification had been given for the need for it to be felled and its loss would be harmful to the visual amenity of the area. This was noted.

iv) Tree Preservation Order 37/2009. Woodland South of Belmont House, Thurgoland

A report had been received advising that an objection had been received in respect of the above Tree Preservation Order and that it would be considered at a meeting of the Planning Regulatory Board on 12 January 2010. No notification of the outcome of this meeting had yet been received.

2009/187. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

The following item relating to Neighbourhood Services was brought to the attention of the Parish Council:-

i) Snow clearance

Councillors Berry and Oxley asked if the thanks of the Parish Council, on behalf of residents of Churchfield, Halifax Road and Roper Lane could be noted, following the excellent work undertaken by employees of Barnsley MBC in clearing snow from the footpaths during the recent inclement weather. This work had been very much appreciated by the residents. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Neighbourhood Services to this effect.

2009/188. HIGHWAY MATTERS

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

i) Potholes

It was noted that as a result on the recent cold weather, many potholes have appeared in the roads in the Parish and beyond. However, it was also noted that Barnsley MBC have begun a programme of emergency repairs in the area and one pothole in particular, at the top of Thurgoland Bank, has had a temporary repair to make it safe. It was agreed that should there be any potholes brought to the attention of Councillors in the next few weeks that have not been repaired, they would be placed on a list at the next meeting, in order that they can all be reported at the same time.

ii) Junction of Hollin Moor Lane and Pinfold Lane

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received a letter advising that Barnsley MBC 'will be arranging replacement of the signs (as stated above) in the near future. The erection of the signs might

take a few weeks following the Christmas period, this will allow for the design and the programming of the works.' This was noted.

iii) Junction of Crane Moor Road/A629

It was noted that despite a request being made to improve the Give Way sign and road markings at the junction of the A629 and Crane Moor Road, and a letter dated 16 January 2009 stating that they would be inspected and any necessary works issued, the work was not undertaken and, subsequently the Give Way sign has been knocked out of the ground and is now lying adjacent to the highway. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Highways Department of Barnsley MBC, pointing this out and asking for the sign to be re-instated as a matter of urgency.

iv) Rural Speed Limits

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received correspondence from the Department of Transport concerning changes to speed limits on rural roads to 20 mph. It was agreed that this document would be copied to all Councillors for their consideration.

2009/189. AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME – SMITHY HILL

The Clerk advised the meeting that the official opening of Smithy Court, which was scheduled for 15 January 2010, had been postponed. No further information concerning the re-arranged date had been received. Upon receipt of the new opening date the Clerk will advise all Councillors.

2009/190. PARISH WEBSITE

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that a meeting had taken place at which representatives of various community groups within the Parish had been advised of the two options available for the updating and the Parish website. The options given were:-

- i) To keep the current site more or less as it is, with some minor amendments, but to ensure that it is kept up to date and that the flow of information from groups is improved.
- ii) To have a new website which enables groups to have their own page, which they can update independently of the Parish Council. There would, of course, be a cost to this option.

The group representatives had agreed to take this information to their groups and to ascertain their views. An article had also been placed in the Parish Newsletter, asking for the views of residents and groups. Once all of the views have been collected, a decision will be made on the future of the website. Councillor Cuerden expressed the view that she felt that the current site could be made better, but that the cost of a new site was not a good use of the Parish Council funds. Councillor Cuerden also advised the meeting that her husband has volunteered to undertake the task of updating the current site if that is what is agreed. This was noted.

2009/191. JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER

The Clerk had distributed the January newsletters prior to the meeting so that they could be posted as soon as possible.

2009/192. BUS ROUTES IN THE PARISH

The Clerk advised the meeting that, following reports that certain buses within the Parish may be withdrawn, Councillor Barnard had been in contact with South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive who advised that 'Stagecoach have advised that there are no plans to change any routes in Thurgoland and all their registrations have now been submitted.' This was noted.

2009/193. PRECEPT 2010/2011

The Clerk had provided each Councillor with a budget document to assist in making a decision on the amount of precept to be raised for 2010/2011. Councillor Blythe suggested that the annual grant made to Penistone Paramount of £500 be put on hold at the present time and set aside for possible projects within the Parish. This was agreed to be acceptable and the subject of Penistone Paramount placed on the Agenda for the next meeting. Bearing this in mind, Councillor Wilkinson proposed that the annual precept be set at £10,000, i.e. no increase. This was seconded by Councillor Methley and agreed by all present.

2009/194. NEWSLETTERS/CIRCULARS

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.

2009/195. BANK MANDATE

The Clerk advised the meeting that, since the last meeting, she has queried the form given to her to change her name on the bank mandate, and advised that she was given the wrong form. She has provided her new details to the bank and her name has been changed. This was noted.

2009/196. ACCOUNTS

The Clerk had circulated all Councillors with a list of accounts to be paid. There were two additional items to be added to the list. Councillor Oxley proposed that the cheques on the list, plus the two additional

items be approved for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Methley and agreed by all present. The following cheques were therefore signed:-

Ruth Pearson	Salary – January	386.46
Thurgoland School	Room Hire – January	30.00
Mr A King	Website updating – December	30.00
T Horsfield	Christmas Trees	138.00
Post Office	Stamps	75.00
Ryman	Photocopy paper	5.98

2009/197. MATTERS TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following items were requested be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting:-

- i) Christmas Tree provision 2011
- ii) Allotment rents 2010/2012

2009/198. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 3 February 2010 at Thurgoland School, Halifax Road, Thurgoland at 7.00 p.m.

Councillor Rowley asked that thanks be expressed to Councillor Blythe for his work and presentation to the Planning Board on the subject of Chapel Walk, and thanks to Mrs Pemberton for her work and presentation on the subject of The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road. These thanks were noted.

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

RUTH PEARSON
Parish Clerk