

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THURGOLAND PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT THURGOLAND SCHOOL, HALIFAX ROAD, THURGOLAND, ON WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH 2010 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT

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

Councillor Blythe opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance. The meeting scheduled for 3 February 2010, had been cancelled because of inclement weather.

2009/199. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no apologies for absence and no Declarations of Interest in any of the items on the Agenda.

2009/200. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20 January 2010 had been circulated to all Councillors. Councillor Wilkinson 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.

2009/201. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

i) Thurgoland Cricket Club

The Clerk advised the meeting that the 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 has not been successful. The reason given was that the application did not meet the outcomes of Awards For All. However, they considered that as the main purpose of the project was to extend community participation in sporting activities, an application should be made to Sport England. Upon investigation however, it was discovered that this avenue of funding is closed until April 2010. The process takes six weeks and therefore it would be too late to obtain a decision and have the work done before the start of the Cricket season. Following discussion, the following course of action was agreed upon:-

- i) The Clerk is to contact Gerry Green to ascertain if there is any possibility of some funding being provided from the Community Support Fund.
- ii) Other funding sources are to be fund and applications made as soon as possible.
- iii) The Clerk is to contact Graham Ducker to ascertain how long before the start of the 2010 cricket season work will need to commence.
- iv) The Parish Council affirmed its previous commitment to provide funding for the drainage system if all other avenues fail.

Councillor Berry proposed that, at the meeting to be held in April, the matter be finalised, and instruction be given for the work to be carried out so that the 2010 cricket season can commence on time. This was seconded by Councillor Wilkinson and agreed by all present.

ii) Penistone FM

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received information from Penistone FM who are doing a live broadcast from Thurgoland Village Hall on Saturday 6 March 2010 from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. All community groups are invited to attend and have time on air to speak about their organisation. This was noted.

2009/202 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 on Smithy Hill/Roper Lane had been brought to the attention of South Yorkshire Police at the meeting and they are to look into the matter and make a report to be presented at the next meeting of the Parish Council. The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received two e-mails on the subject. The first one suggests that double yellow lines be installed from Smithy Hill to the Doctors Surgery, and then from the top of Fir Tree to the Recreation Ground. The second one takes the opposite view, suggesting that residents of Elmhirst Cottages and Smithy Hill would have nowhere to park their cars if this was put in place, causing them to have to park a distance from their properties. These comments were noted and the subject will be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting.

ii) Recorded crimes in the Parish

Since the last meeting there had been three recorded crimes in Thurgoland and one in Crane Moor.

iii) Cold calling

South Yorkshire Police had asked that residents be made aware that cold calling can result in premises being burgled and that residents should not open their doors to cold callers. They should also ensure that doors are locked at all times as sneak thieves are in the area and will gain entry to unlocked premises, stealing car keys and valuables. It was agreed that an article on this subject be included in the April Parish Newsletter.

2009/203 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) Telephone Box at Cote Lane/Bridge Inn

Mr Wade of Old Mill Lane advised the meeting that the vandalised telephone box on Cote Lane has not been repaired, and that the windows have now been broken. It was agreed that the Clerk write to BT again, advising them of this additional vandalism and asking them to repair the box as soon as possible.

ii) Footpath through Welfare Ground

It was noted that the request for the footpath in the Welfare Ground to be cleared and weed killer applied has not yet received a response. The Clerk is to write to Sarah Ford, asking for this work to be carried out before the growing season commences.

iii) Broken sign at Thurgoland Bank

Mr Wade of Old Mill Lane advised the meeting that the broken bridleway sign at the junction of Roper Land and Thurgoland Bank has now been replaced. This was noted.

iv) Bridleway 16

Councillor Rowley advised the meeting that bridleway number 16 has not been cleared, despite a request in September 2009. The Clerk is to contact Sarah Ford to ask her to attend to this matter as soon as possible.

v) Removal of benches at Crane Moor Recreation Ground

Councillor Hamblen noted that the rotten benches at Crane Moor Recreation Ground have not yet been removed. The Clerk is to contact Tony Frank to ask him to attend to this matter as soon as possible.

vi) A629 Speed Indicator Devices and dragons teeth

It was noted that the speed reduction measures promised over two years ago have still not been attended to. The Clerk is to write again to Mr Richardson to ask for this matter to be attended to as soon as possible.

2009/204. PARISH PATHS

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

i) Annual Boundary Walk

A discussion took place concerning the Annual Boundary Walk, which will take place on Monday 3 May 2010, and the following was agreed upon:-

- a) Councillor Rowley is to contact The Bridge Inn to ask if they will provide pie and peas, at a cost of £3.50 per head.
- b) R Pearson reported that it has not been possible to secure the services of any Morris Sides as they are booked up year-by-year for May Day Bank Holiday.
- c) Mr M Williams advised the meeting that he has sourced medals for walkers at a cost of £0.89 per medal. It was agreed not to progress this idea.
- d) Councillor Rowley has enough route maps for this year, but a further supply will be required for future years.
- e) Posters for the Notice Boards, newsletter and website will be produced by Councillor Rowley and passed to the Clerk for display.
- f) Assistance is required on the day of the walk. Councillors Hamblen, Cuerden, Methley, Blythe and Oxley all agree to assist with various duties.

ii) Parish Paths Maps Boards

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has had a response from Sarah Ford about the missing Parish Paths Board outside the Welfare Hall on Roper Lane. At the moment the rangers cannot find the board or the original artwork for the board. They also do not have access to the in-house graphic design team, so any artwork would have to be done via an outside contractor. All of this was noted. The Clerk further advised the meeting that in March 2002 the board was removed to a depot in Carlton for safe keeping. It has not been seen since. It was agreed that the Clerk advise Sarah Ford of this information and also to look for the original artwork which may be in the Parish Council records. This item will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

2009/205. 10 MINUTE ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL

i) Car parking on Smithy Hill/Roper Lane

The subject of car parking as discussed earlier in the meeting was raised by a member of the public. The comments made via e-mail to the Clerk were taken into consideration, but it was noted that the majority of problems were encountered during the recent heavy snow falls when residents parked their cars on Roper Lane to avoid getting stuck on side roads. Another resident made the point that the car parking problems on Smithy Hill are not really any different to problems in other parts of the village and that the increase in double yellow lines will only move the problem elsewhere. A resident asked if there was any record of traffic collisions at the site and it was noted that there has not been any evidence of incidents occurring. A resident of Elmhirst Cottages suggested that, as well as inconsiderate parking, the speed at which vehicles approach the bend at the top of Smithy Hill is an issue and that some kind of road marking

may help to slow traffic down. Councillor Wilkinson suggested that the idea of a residents only parking scheme at this location may be worth considering. All of these suggestions were agreed to be taken into consideration once information is received via the Crime and Safety Sub Group as discussed earlier in the meeting.

ii) Drainage at the Cricket Field

Mr Williams of Thurgoland pointed out that, once the new drainage system is installed in the Cricket Field as discussed earlier, the water will run onto Cote Lane. There is already an excess of water running off the Cricket Field onto Cote Lane, and this will inevitably increase unless some work is undertaken to the drainage system on Cote Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Highway Department to ask for their comments on this situation.

iii) Speeding along Halifax Road

A resident of Moorland View, Halifax Road, expressed concern at the speed at which traffic approaches Thurgoland from Penistone. Councillor Blythe pointed out that, as discussed earlier in the meeting, this was an ongoing problem, and one which will continue to be progressed by the Parish Council in the near future. Another resident advised the meeting that in Sheffield, there is a scheme in place, funded by South Yorkshire Police, in which residents are given 30mph stickers to go on their wheelie bins. When they put their bins out they put them with the 30mph sticker in evidence to oncoming traffic, to remind them of the speed limit. This scheme seems to be having a positive effect. This was considered to be a good idea and Councillor Oxley agreed to bring it up at the next Crime and Safety Sub Group meeting. She will make a report to the next Parish Council meeting on the subject.

iv) Trans-Pennine Trail

A resident noted that the lights in the tunnel at Thurgoland on the Trans Pennine Trail are once again in need of repair and replacement. He also noted that the signs directing horse riders to one side of the trail and walker to the other are in need of replacement. This means that horse riders are using the tarmac sections of the trail and it is becoming worn. It was agreed that the Clerk bring these matters to the attention of Sarah Ford as soon as possible.

v) Street light at The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road

Mr Oxley of Halifax Road advised the meeting that the street light outside his property, The Telephone Exchange, has not been lit for some time. It was agreed that the Clerk bring this matter to the attention of the street lighting department to ask them to attend to this matter as soon as possible.

vi) The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road, Thurgoland

Mrs Jones of Halifax Road asked if there was any information on the progress on the Enforcement Notice being served on The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road, Thurgoland. The Clerk advised the meeting that information was available, and would be provided later in the meeting in the Planning Applications section of the Agenda.

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

2009/206. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**i) Erection of a pre-cast concrete garage
Garage Plot, Churchfields, Thurgoland**

There were no comments or observations on this application.

**ii) Enlargement of window on rear elevation to create a doorway and internal alterations to Listed Building (Listed Building Consent)
Springwood Barn, Roper House Lane, Thurgoland**

There were no comments or observations on this application.

**iii) Erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension to dwelling
Eastfield Farm Cottage, Eastfield Lane, Thurgoland**

There were no comments or observations on this application.

2009/207. 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 single storey rear extension
1 Elmhurst Cottages, Smithy Hill, Thurgoland**

There were no comments or observations on this application.

2009/208. APPROVED/DECLINED APPLICATIONS AS NOTIFIED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

i) Enforcement Notice, The Telephone Exchange, Halifax Road, Thurgoland

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that an Enforcement Notice was served on 6 January 2010 stating that an alleged breach of planning control has taken place and that 'Without Planning Permission extensions built and alterations made to a former telephone exchange to form a dwelling'. The reasons for issuing the notice were:-

'The Council considers that the changes to the previous approved plan, in particular those on the north-western elevation are architecturally inconsistent with the original building that occupied the site and result in an overly prominent and discordant building that now dominates rather than integrates into the

rural surroundings. The development is therefore out of character with the locality and detrimental to the openness and visual amenity of the Green Belt contrary to Policy GS8A of the Council's adopted Unitary Development Plan.' Mr Oxley has appealed against the Enforcement Notice and any comments that the Parish Council wish to make must be received by the Planning Inspectorate before 25 March 2010. Councillor Berry proposed that the Parish Council make representation to the Planning Inspectorate, reiterating their original comments made to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. This was seconded by Councillor Cuerden and agreed by all present. The comments made previously, and to be sent to the Planning Inspectorate are as follows:-

This application far exceeds the approved plans in many aspects. The amendments that have been applied for have already taken place and it is the policy of Thurgoland Parish Council to oppose any retrospective planning application. There is very strong local feeling about this particular development and the Parish Council supports the residents in their concerns. The Parish Council would ask that the Planning Inspectorate refuses this appeal and ensures that all work that has been carried out which is over and above the permitted development (2009/0108) is stopped forthwith and put back to the original approved development.'

2009/209. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

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

2009/210. HIGHWAY MATTERS

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

i) Grit Bin provision

The Clerk advised the meeting that, following a request at the last meeting for information on the provision of grit bins at Fir Tree and Old Mill Lane, the following response had been received to requests made in February 2009:-

a) Fir Tree Estate

The grit bin at Fir Tree is to stay at the top of 'The Plot' as this is considered the safest and most suitable location. No additional bins are available at the present time but the request for an additional bin at the bottom of Fir Tree has been added to the database for consideration next winter.

b) Old Mill Lane

An officer from Barnsley MBC traveled the length of Old Mill Lane during the recent cold weather and noted that three bins are in the agreed locations. However, the request for an additional bin at the Cote Lane end of Old Mill Lane cannot be accommodated under the current assessment procedure. It will be placed on the list to be considered if the policy changes in the future. The officer negotiated the full length of Old Mill Lane safely when driving carefully and taking appropriate care given the conditions. A discussion took place, after which time it was agreed that the following requests be made for additional grit bins for winter 2010:-

i) Fir Tree – top of Fir Tree at the junction with Roper Lane

ii) Roper Lane – opposite the junction with Copster Close

iii) Thurgoland Hall Lane – between the junction of Roper Lane and Thurgoland Hall Fold

ii) Junction of Crane Moor Road and Halifax Road

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received notification of the following action which is to be taken at the junction of Halifax Road and Crane Moor Road:-

a) The Give Way markings and associated centre line to be re-marked and extended to provide better visibility on the approach to the junction.

b) The Give Way sign to be replaced.

c) An additional advance warning sign giving the distance to the junction to be erected.

d) The missing junction warning sign is to be replaced and the SLOW markings redone.

With regard to other requests made for this location the following information was given:-

a) As there have not been any recorded injury collisions in the past five years, a vehicle activated sign cannot be provided.

b) A STOP sign cannot be provided as this is only possible where visibility is so restricted that it is essential for drivers to stop before entering the major road. The visibility distances at this junction far exceed those criteria and as such a STOP sign cannot be considered.

These comments were noted.

iii) Pothole reporting

Councillor Oxley asked if it would be possible for the Clerk to report the following locations of potholes which require attention:-

a) Outside 30 Churchfields - six potholes

b) Outside 68 Churchfields - one pothole

c) Outside 46 Churchfields - one pothole and the road surface sinking

It was agreed that the Clerk bring these locations to the attention of Highways for their attention.

2009/210. CHAPEL WALK

Councillor Blythe advised the meeting that he has received information from Sarah Ford concerning Chapel Walk. The owner of the Methodist Chapel no longer wishes to purchase or land swap the land to the rear of the site because of changes in his use of his existing land ownership. As he no longer needs the land, he is not considering re-opening the path at any time through the Chapel site. Councillor Blythe also advised the meeting that he is prepared on a personal basis, to apply for a Definitive Map Modification Order, as he has enough evidence from residents to support the claim. However, he proposed that the Parish Council take on the application as this should carry more weight. This was seconded by Councillor Berry and agreed by all present.

2009/211. CHRISTMAS TREES

A discussion took place concerning the Christmas Trees that were provided by the Parish Council at Churchfield and the Welfare Hall in December 2009. It was agreed that they were not acceptable, being too small and not in the best location. It was noted, however, that in order to provide suitable trees, a considerable amount of money will need to be allocated. It was agreed that for 2010 a bigger tree is required in the Churchfield area and that it needs to be sited nearer to Halifax Road so that it can be seen by residents and passers by alike, giving a much more favourable impression of the village. This item will be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting for further discussion and decision making on the location of the tree.

2009/212. ALLOTMENTS AT THURGOLAND HALL LANE

The Clerk advised the meeting that, as the year end is 31 March 2010, the rent for the allotments at Thurgoland Hall Lane needs fixing for 2010/2011. It currently stands at £20.00 for a small plot and £40.00 for a large plot. All of the plots are currently tenanted, with ten people on the waiting list. Of these ten people, six are from Thurgoland Parish, three from Penistone and one from Hoylandswaine. The Clerk reminded Councillors that residents of the Parish have priority over all other applicants. Councillor Methley proposed that the rent for 2010/2011 stays the same. This was seconded by Councillor Wilkinson and agreed by all present.

2009/213. THE OLD CO-OPERATIVE SUPERSTORE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has been provided with an address and telephone number for the owners of The Old Co-Operative Superstore. She has spoken to the daughter of Mr Khan, who is in possession of the key for the premises and is willing to meet on site to look at the Village Clock. However, she confirmed that the owner has no intention of opening the premises in the near future and the electricity will remain turned off. A discussion took place on how to restore the clock to working order and it was agreed that the Clerk look into the possibility of connecting the clock to an adjacent street lamp, installing a solar panel to power it, or attaching a suitable battery. This item will be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting for update and discussion.

2009/214. HUTHWAITE QUARRY

Councillor Blythe proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the discussion to take place on the subject of Huthwaite Quarry, the press and public should be excluded from this item on the Agenda. He further proposed that the item be taken at the end of the meeting, once the press and public had left. This was seconded by Councillor Wilkinson and resolved by all present.

2009/215. MODEL STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk provided each Councillor with a copy of proposed Standing Orders which had been provided by the National Association of Local Councils. Each Councillor is to consider the document and it will be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting in order that it can be adopted by the Council.

2009/216. NEWSLETTERS/CIRCULARS

i) Barnsley Local Development Framework – Core Strategy - consultation

The Clerk advised the meeting that she has received information concerning the consultation period for the Local Development Framework. Comments must be received by 9 April 2010. The document is available online, at all libraries or by paper copy. Councillor Methley noted that the document is 187 pages long and therefore paper copies may not be able to be posted out, other than at considerable expense. The Clerk agreed to arrange for a photocopy to be provided to each Councillor by hand, with the exception of Councillor Methley (already received a copy) and Councillor Hamblen (who will access it on-line). Comments will be made at the meeting to be held on 7 April 2010, and these will be made immediately following the meeting in order to meet the consultation deadline.

All other 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.

2009/217. ACCOUNTS

The Clerk had circulated all Councillors with a list of accounts to be paid. Councillor Wilkinson proposed that the items on the list be approved for payment. This was seconded by Councillor Methley and agreed by all present. The following cheques were therefore signed:-

Ruth Pearson	Salary – February and March	772.92
Thurgoland School	Room Hire – March	30.00
Mr A King	Website updating – January and February	30.00
EasySpace	Website hosting fee	39.34
Post Office	Stamps	6.78
Yorkshire Water	Allotment Water rates	3.59

2009/218. 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) Penistone Community Partnership report - Councillor Blythe
- ii) April 2010 newsletter

2009/219. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 7 April 2010 at Crane Moor Chapel, Crane Moor, at 7.00 p.m.

The public and press were asked to leave the meeting as previously resolved.

2009/220. HUTHWAITE QUARRY

The future of the land at Huthwaite Quarry was discussed at length. It was noted that the exact details of the ownership of the land has still not been resolved, but it is almost certain that the land is held in Trust by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council for the benefit of the residents of Thurgoland. It was resolved that at the present time no further action be taken regarding the land at Huthwaite Quarry.

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

RUTH PEARSON
Parish Clerk