

Thurston Parish Council Meeting

1st June 2011

THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 1st June 2011 at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion, Recreation Church Road, Thurston

In the Chair : Cllr Campbell

Present : Cllrs Weeks, Jefferson, Rainbow, Fawcett, Mrs Harvey, Mrs Service, Mrs Bullen, and Dashper

In Attendance : Kathryn Savage, Clerk, D Cllr Mrs Powell, C Cllr Mrs Otton, PCSO Ben Ellis

1 member of the public was present

1 Opening – The meeting was declared open at 7.30pm

2 Apologies for Absence –

Cllr Robinson Holiday

These apologies were formally accepted on the proposal of Cllr Weeks, seconded Cllr Mrs Harvey, all in favour

Cllr Dolan Work Commitments (rec'd belatedly)

3 Declaration of Interest from Councillors –

Cllr Dashper Item 7a

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting – the minutes of the meeting held 11th May 2011 had been circulated and were approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Mrs Service, seconded Cllr Dashper, all in favour. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

- 1 At a meeting of the Full County Council on 26th May 2011, Cllr Mark Bee was voted in as Leader of the Council, and Cllr Jane Storey as Deputy Leader of the Council.
- 2 SCC were to look at creating a Community Interest Company (CIC) to be run by the Council to look after the libraries. CC still hoped for individuals and communities to help run the libraries, but hoped that this proposal reduced the threats of closure.
- 3 SCC had recently announced that the planned increase in school transport costs to families would be reduced as a result of a 2-year grant from Central Government.
- 4 Burtons Bus Company had gone into receivership. Services 377 and 386 were to be run by Galloway's, and others by Stephenson's of Essex
- 5 Parking problems at New Green Centre – Cllr Mrs Otton had been in touch with a resident, and had passed photos she had taken on to PC Miles of the SNT.
- 6 The CC Rights of Way committee were to consider the objections to the traffic order for yellow lines etc on School Road, School Lane and St Peter's Way on 16th June 2011.

POLICE REPORT – Delivered by PCSO Ellis – there had been 5 crimes reported since the previous meeting – 1 criminal damage to a motor vehicle; 1 criminal damage to a litter bin at the Youth Shelter; 1 theft of a motor vehicle from the Granary; 1 assault causing actual bodily harm and 1 theft of concrete slabs.. Speed checks had been carried out on Barton Road, and 3 vehicles were found to be travelling above 30mph. A bicycle had been found seemingly abandoned, and the SNT had tracked down the owner by virtue of the fact that the bike had been postcoded.

Ref Youth Shelter – the SNT had created a Tactical Action Plan which means that all actions taken and by the Police at the shelter would be logged. The Plan was to be regularly monitored by the SNT Supervisor. All addresses in New Green Avenue had been visited by the SNT to encourage residents to call in to the Police any situation where ASB was taking place, and the crime Prevention Officer was to conduct a Crime Reduction survey at this site. Her suggestions were as follows :- a) to install CCTV – considered unviable due to the fact that cameras are often themselves vandalised.

b) Remove all means to crime – ie ensure there are no missiles, rocks/stones, broken fencing, and fence poles etc lying around

c) Ensure the litter bin is fixed securely

d) Remove the polycarbonate panels- subject to risk assessment/ manufacturers recommendations

e) Consider tarmacking the whole area around the shelter

Ref Litter problems – the SNT are in possession of a ticket that allows them to issue a fixed penalty notice for £50 to anyone caught in the act of littering.

Cllr Fawcett proffered the Council’s thanks to the SNT for their hard work.

5 Statutory Business –

a) Approval of Cllrs Areas of Responsibility – this list had been circulated, and after consideration, was approved, unanimously.

6 Consideration of matters for referral to Police Tasking Meeting – The next meeting was to be in July, and it was agreed to forward issues of speeding along Norton Road and into Great Green, which often involved buses. **PCSO Ellis offered to talk with Officers with responsibility for speeding matters,**

7 Business Remaining from Previous Meetings –

a) Thurston under Fives – the CC had requested that Council consider offering a Licence to Build, in order that the build could go ahead while the necessary time was taken for the lease to be drawn up, signed etc. The PC solicitor had raised some issues of caution against this action, and after consideration of the fact that the delay at CC was because of staffing problems, it was agreed to contact the Legal Department at CC to ask that the matter be brought forward for earlier resolution. **Clerk to write.**

b) Provision of allotments – the Clerk reported nothing had been heard at this time ref the proposal to hand over land in Oakey Field Road from MSDC to the PC for this purpose. D Cllr Mrs Powell was asked if she would take up this matter on the PC’s behalf, to which she agreed.

c) Proposed closure of library – Cllr Dashper reported that everyone was waiting to hear further information ref the proposal to create a CIC, which was one option. The Library Group continued to meet – the next meeting being on 3rd June in the PC Office. The Chairman thanked Cllr Dashper and the whole Library group for their work.

d) Village Fete – this was to be held on Saturday 18th June 2011 at New Green, and Cllrs Mrs Service, Mrs Harvey, Fawcett and Campbell would man the PC stall.

8 Chairman’s Communications –

a) The Chairman advised Cllrs that a meeting had been arranged with the SNT reference the PCSO SLA to be held in the PC Office on Tuesday 14th June at 4pm. Cllrs Mrs Service, Mrs Harvey, the Chairman and the Clerk to attend.

9 Questions from Councillors previously submitted– There were none

10 Reports from Committees and Groups

a PLANNING –

i Planning Applications received – None

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
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ii Planning Decisions received –

1083/11	4 det bungalows etc, 84 Barton Road	GRANTED
1241/11	Remove minor branches of Oak Tree, Ash House, Pokeriage Gdns	GRANTED
0528/11	Install solar panels on swimming pool enclosure, Green Farm	REFUSED
3085/10	4 det dwellings, land at Thedwastre Road	GRANTED
0996/11	Det dwelling & gge., land adj Apple Tree Cottage, Gt Green	GRANTED
0722/11	exts to rear of Flintlot Cottage, 11 Meadow Lane	GRANTED
1148/11	10 Meadow Lane	WITHDRAWN

b RECREATION GROUND – Nothing to report – Clerk to set up a shared on-line diary for bookings at Pavilion, and to supply the Rec Grd Trust Chairman with a proforma Risk Assessment form

c COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS –

i) Cllrs Dashper and Fawcett had attended 1 meeting of the Library group

ii) Cllrs Weeks, Mrs Harvey, and the Chairman had attended a meeting of the Quality Council working group

- d VILLAGE REPORTS -
- i) Cllr Mrs Bullen reported that the trees lining New Green Avenue had very low branches. **Clerk to report to New Green**
 - ii) Cllr Fawcett reported streetlight number 116 was not working. **Clerk to report to SCC**
 - iii) Cllr Fawcett reported damage to a net in Thedwastre Park and to the matting at the entrance to the Park. **Clerk to ask Handyman to inspect/repair.**
 - iv) Cllr Dashper reported several streetlights in Wheatfields not working properly. **Clerk to report to SCC.**
 - v) Cllr Mrs Service reported overgrown hedges around the village, and was to deliver exact addresses to the Clerk
 - vi) Cllr Rainbow reported overgrown trees at an address. **Clerk to write.**
 - vii) Cllr Weeks reported that the mini-roundabout at Station Hill/ Barton Road needed re-painting. **Clerk to report to SCC.**
 - viii) Cllr Weeks had received a request from residents for the bus stop in Thedwastre Road to be hard-surfaced. **Clerk to ask SCC if this was possible.**
- e QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS -
- i) Consideration of proposed PC Newsletter -.this had been circulated, and it was agreed that 100 copies be printed in time for distribution at the Village Fete.
 - ii) Consideration of the draft Community Engagement Strategy - this had been circulated and was approved, proposed Cllr Mrs Harvey, seconded Cllr Jefferson all in favour. It was agreed that 100 copies would be printed off in time for them to be available at the Village Fete

11 Reports from Officers of the Council

- a CLERK'S REPORT -
- 1 The Bury St Edmunds branch if the CAB were to hold their AGM on 24th June
 - 2 The Internal Audit had been completed with no recommendations for revision of accounting processes made.
 - 3 MSDC were running the Community Achievement Awards again, the deadline for receipt of nominations at 22nd July.
 - 4 The clerk had reported various issues raised at the previous meeting.

12 Resolutions or Recommendation already received - There were none

13 Finance

- a) Accounts Awaiting Payment :-

COMPANY	COST	VAT	TOTAL
Mrs K Savage, Clerk's Salary	746.84		
" " " "(attend APM) 3hrs	<u>36.93</u>		783.77
Mrs K Savage, Clerk's Expenses - Travel expenses Including adjustments ref increase from 6 th April			63.40
Ray Austin, Handyman contract			346.00
R & C Sadler, (Rec Grd a/c) Caretakers Salary			107.25
PC Medic, Computer Maintenance Contract	20.00		
" " Install and set-up new computer	<u>65.00</u>		85.00
Staples, Stationery	86.05	17.21	103.26
M&TJ's Garden Svces, 1 grass cut Heath Road & Weedkill Recreation ground	400.00	80.00	480.00
New Green C Trust, Hire of hall ref Library meeting	26.67	5.33	32.00
SALC, Internal Audit Fee	201.00	40.20	241.20
MSDC, uncontested election fee			87.50

On the proposal of Cllr Dashper, seconded Cllr Weeks, these accounts were approved for payment, all in favour

b) Accounts already paid -

Plusnet, Broadband & Telephone	27.83	5.58	33.51
New Green Comm Trust	213.00	42.60	255.60
Purchase of Laptop computer (Chargecard)	439.00	87.80	526.80
Purchase of laptop computer bag (Chargecard)	12.49	2.50	14.99
Purchase of MS Office 2010 software (Chargecard)	204.16	40.83	244.99

c) Receipts –
Thurston Football Club (Rec Grd a/c) 416.00

- d) To consider renewal of Computer Maintenance Engineer's contract – copies of this had been circulated and the proposed increase to £30 per month from 1st July noted, and after discussion, including deleting 2 paras not applicable was approved, proposed Cllr Jefferson, seconded Cllr Weeks all in favour. It was further approved to review this contract at the June meeting in each year.
- e) Determination of process of selection to be employed ref applications for donations – after discussion, it was agreed that the primary criteria must be that the organisation proposes to use the donation for the benefit of the people of Thurston.
- f) Receipt of Budget to Actual statement to 31st May 2011 – this was now received.

14 Any Other Specified Business –

- a) To consider appointing paid litter-picker – this matter was considered and it was agreed that the contract with the current Village Handyman should be reviewed to determine his exact duties. **Deferred.**
- b) ASB at the Youth Shelter – dealt with in Police Report

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10pm

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 6th July 2011 to be held in the Pavilion meeting room.

Signed..... Chairman Date 6th July 2011