

Thurston Parish Council Meeting
7th April 2010
THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7th April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Parish Council Office, New Green Centre, Thurston

Present : Chairman Cllr Sprake, Cllrs Campbell, Weeks, Robinson, Button, Sadler, Mrs Service, Dashper and Monk.

In Attendance : C Cllr Mrs Otton; D Cllr D Haley; Kathryn Savage, Clerk

0 members of the public were present

The meeting opened at 7.32pm

- 1 **Apologies for Absence** - There were none
- 2 **Declarations of Interest** - Cllr Sadler Item 9b
Cllr Sprake & Robinson Item 9f
- 3 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** - the minutes of the meeting held 3rd March 2010 had been circulated and were approved as a true record on the proposal of Cllr Mrs Service, seconded Cllr Monk, all in favour. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT -

- 1 The Household Waste Site at Stowmarket was to be given a new layout, and more staff to help visitors
- 2 Cllr Mrs Otton had given her written support to MSDC, for the use of the Amenity Land behind the bus shelter in School Road, for provision of off-road parking. She had also brought the parking problems along Church Road to the attention of SCC Highways.
- 3 Work to relieve flooding problems along Beyton Road had started, but funding from DEFRA had not been successful.
- 4 The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Authority had been granted permission by SCC to take ownership of the vehicles provided from Government's New Dimension Fund, to deal with terrorist attacks.
- 5 SCC had started to loan energy monitors from Libraries across the County, which check your usage of electricity

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT -

- 1 Recent Parish Liaison Meetings had highlighted the need to look at sites for Gypsies and Travellers
- 2 The integration of some services in MSDC and Babergh DC was ongoing.
- 3 West Suffolk Community Board had awarded £1,500 to Thurston Youth project.
- 4 MSDC had arranged various activities at various sites across the District for children throughout the Easter holidays.
- 5 SnOasis - Reserved matters referring to provision of Affordable Housing had now been agreed, and the site was being cleared.

POLICE REPORT - delivered by the Clerk

PC Haygreen reported 7 crimes since the previous meeting, as follows - 3 thefts; 2 damages; 1 assault; 1 harassment (domestic related). Speeding along Barton Road was still being monitored. He and PCSO Myall had attended the site meeting in School Road re parking problems there. PCSO Myall had been accepted for training as a Police Officer within Suffolk, and was awaiting his starting date.

2 **Statutory Business -**

- a) APM - this meeting was to take place on Thursday 15th April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Cavendish Hall. A guest speaker from the Royal British Legion would attend to explain what benefits and/or help from the RBL were available and to whom they are available. All Village organisations had been invited to present a report on their activities.

5 **Police Tasking Meeting -**

a) Cllr Weeks had attended the previous two Tasking meetings, and reported that the problems raised always seemed to be the same ones. At the last meeting, Police had confirmed their support for a Pelican Crossing on Station Hill. C Cllr Mrs Otton noted that a huge problem was that hardly any residents attended these meetings, it's mainly P Cllrs and Police.

6 Business Remaining -

- a) Parking Issues, School Road - SCC were looking at feasible options for additional off-road parking. Their plan would be notified to us by the end of April this year. Permission may the need to be sought from MSDC to use amenity land for this provision.
- b) Survey re PCSO - Rev'd Mathers had agreed that the survey could be delivered along with the Newsletter. A quotation had been sought from Kalkkwik, who print the Newsletter, to also print the questionnaire, a suggestion made by Rev'd Mathers. At a cost of £129 this was approved, proposed Cllr Monk, seconded Cllr Sadler, all in favour. Boxes for receipt of completed forms would be available at the Butcher's; the Post Office and the Library, with other forms being posted through the PC office door. The survey would also be available on-line.
- c) Working Party re Affordable housing Exception site - after consideration of this request from Suffolk ACRE and Flagship Housing, Council agreed that there was little purpose for such a working party. **Cllr Dashper to liaise with Suffolk ACRE.**

7 Chairman's Communications -

- a) The Chairman reported that an enquiry from a resident re the vacancy on the Council had failed to materialise.
- b) Improving parking spaces, Recreation Ground Car Park - reports had been received of cars parked in Church Road, when the car park is full. After consideration, it was agreed to ask the Rev'd Mathers to consider the provision of parking facilities in the field opposite to the Recreation Ground for the use of Churchgoers. **Clerk to write.**

8 Questions from Councillors - There were none

9 Reports from Committees and Groups

a PLANNING -

i Planning Applications received -

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
0452/10	2 storey ext., Hadfield, church Hill, Pakenham	SUPPORT
0860/10	Remove Minor Branches, Oak tree, 2 Blackbird Close	SUPPORT

ii Planning Decisions received -

3504/09	1 storey rear ext., Green Farm, Oak Road	GRANTED
3503/09	“ “ “	GRANTED
3181/09	1 storey det annexe, 21 Barton Road	GRANTED
0065/10	Replace Church room, Church Cott, Church Rd	GRANTED
0453/10	Tree surgery 4 Marley Close	GRANTED

b RECREATION GROUND -

i) Flood damage to Pavilion - Cllr Sadler reported that work was progressing, although the concrete left below the meeting room floor was still very wet. **Clerk to arrange de-humidifier.** It has also become evident that the existing light fittings had had to be removed, and a quotation had been sought for their replacements, which included three options, noting that the existing lights were obsolete. **Clerk to approach Loss adjusters for their approval.**

c COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS -

- i) Cllr Robinson reported from the Working Party re the college Sports Barn Extension - building was slightly ahead of schedule; a questionnaire would be included in the next Newsletter asking residents how they wanted to sue the facility - the College would study the resulting data; they are applying for funding for floodlighting from the Sports Foundation, and had asked if the PC could apply for any funding on their behalf. **Clerk to write to College with some suggestions**
- ii) Cllr Mink had attended the Ixworth PPA, which had been the best meeting in quite a while, and had included two representatives from the Surgery staff.
- iii) The Chairman reported on the meeting held in the PC office for the Under 5's and residents adjacent to the proposed site for the new building, where problems were noted regarding how much time the youngsters would be playing outside.

- d VILLAGE REPORTS -
 - i) Cllr Mrs Service reports that streetlight 274 was not shutting off, and that the Orchard Lane street nameplate is still not repaired. **Clerk to report to SCC.**
 - ii) Cllr Sadler reported the large number of bottles and bottle tops on several sites around the village. **Clerk to report to SNT**
 - iii) Cllr Weeks reported that a resident had asked the Council to investigate the possibility of a pedestrian crossing to be sited along Barton Road near to the junctions with Old Norton Road and Heath Road. **Clerk to contact SCC Highways Team**
- e EMERGENCY PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT - No report
- f EMERGENCY RESPONDERS REPORT - Cllr Robinson reported there had been 3 call-outs during the last month.
- g Quality Council Status - nothing to report..

10 Reports from Officers of the Council

- a CLERK'S REPORT -
 - 1 MSDC had circulated their new advertising protocol
 - 2 Information had been received from MSDC re the Surf and Turf event at Museum of East Anglian Life in Stowmarket, on 31st May. **TO BE CIRCULATED IN CORRESPONDENCE WALLET**
 - 3 Thurston Under 5's - A letter from David Ruffley had been received indicating his support for the Thurston Under 5's project., and Council received details of the public meeting to be held 27th May 2010
 - 4 MSDCC - confirmation had been received that the RoSPA inspections of the Play Equipment would be carried out in the first 2 weeks of June
 - 5 The insurance certificate for the Pavilion had been received
 - 6 A letter had been received from a resident regarding speeding traffic in various places throughout the village. A Copy had been forwarded to the SNT.

11 Resolutions or Recommendation already received - There were none

12 Finance

- a) Accounts Awaiting Payment :-

COMPANY	AMOUNT	VAT
Mrs K Savage, Clerk's Salary	700.64	
Mrs K Savage, Clerk's Expenses	119.86	
Ray Austin, Handyman contract	337.53	
R Sadler, Caretaker Salary (Rec Grd a/c)	107.25	
PC Medic, Computer Maintenance Contract	20.00	
Cllr Weeks, Travel to SNT meeting 18 th March	18.03	
“ “ 17 th February	<u>7.81</u>	
Cllr Mrs Clark, travel to SALC Area Meeting 11 th March	22.84	
SALC, Membership Fee	752.00	
 N Grn Community Trust, unpaid VAT	 5.33	

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

- b) Accounts already paid -

Plusnet, Broadband & Telephone	33.35	4.97
New Green Comm Trust	250.28	37.28
New Green Comm Trust, unpaid VAT	15.96	

- c) Receipts -

MSDC Street Cleansing Grant	746.98
Elmswell PC, fees for 2 Cllrs to POWB Training	30.00

- d) End-of year accounts - these had been circulated, and after consideration, were approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Monk, seconded Cllr Weeks, all in favour

- e) Annual Return – this had been circulated, and after consideration was approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Weeks, seconded Cllr Dashper, all in favour

13 Any Other Specified Business –

- a) Parking on Grass Verges – this had been noted in various roads around the village, and details of several vehicles had been forwarded to the SNT. MSDC had sent notices which could be used to remind offenders that their Byelaw22 for the Good Rule and Government states that ‘No person shall; without lawful authority drive or place a motor vehicle or cause a vehicle to be driven or placed upon any road margin to which this byelaw applies’.
- b) Village Clean -up day – details of volunteers already promised to take part were given to Council.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.21 pm

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 5th May 2010

Signed..... Chairman Date 5th May 2010