

Thurston Parish Council Meeting
1st August 2007
THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 1st August 2007 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Church Road, Thurston

Present : Chairman Cllr Mrs J Service, Cllrs Robinson, Dashper, Button, Monk, Sprake, Mrs Clark, Campbell and Pattle

0 members of the public was present

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -

POLICE REPORT - In the absence of PC Mark Green, the Clerk delivered the following report sent by him :-

There were 7 crimes in the village in July, all minor crime ranging from a drunken person to theft of car badges. 4 of these crimes were attributable to the Community College. Most of these were damage, but there was 1 burglary at the College, where a large number of computers were stolen. PC Green has been talking to youths in the village re a skatepark and feels that if this project goes ahead, the site should be chosen carefully, and neighbouring residents canvassed beforehand for their views.

1. **Apologies** - Cllr Sadler - Holiday
2. **Declarations of personal/prejudicial interest from Councillors** - Cllrs Sprake, Campbell and Mrs Clark declared an interest in item 9a (1777/07). Cllr Button declared an interest in item 9a (1939/07).
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** - the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th July 2007 were considered.
4. **Approval of Signature of Minutes** - The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed Cllr Campbell seconded Cllr Robinson.
5. **Statutory Business** - There was none.
6. **Business Remaining** - There was none
7. **Chairman's Communications** - The Chairman advised Council of an e-mail received from Liz Bond, the Community Youth Worker, referring to research she and a co-worker had carried out amongst young people with regard to what facilities for older children they would prefer to see in the village. She reported that Ms Bond had the names of some young people willing to be involved in pursuing this project, and would be contacting them. The Chairman will ask Ms Bond and to advise Council when this contact has been established. **The Clerk will seek information on suitable products, and surfacing.** Cllr Chris Pattle is willing to be involved in a steering group for this project.

8. **Questions from Councillors** - There were none

9. **Reports from Committees and Groups**

a **PLANNING** -

Planning Applications received :-

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1777/07 | 2 storey side ext. and 1sr floor addition over existing bungalow, Cherry Trees, The Planche |
| 1435/07 | Outline for 1 new dwelling, rear of 1-3 Old Norton Road |
| 1939/07 | Retention of 2.2m fencing panels & posts, 13 Blackbird Close |
| 1538/07 | Alterations to existing dwelling and erection of 2 storey ext, to include double garage and side Conservatory, 54 Barton Road. |
| 1836/07 | Single storey rear ext., dormer window & roof alterations, 10 Heather Close |

Planning Decisions received :-

1638/07	Canopy reduction of trees, 3 Lapwing Close	GRANTED
1425/07	Single storey rear conservatory, 36 Barleyfields	GRANTED
3205/06	Modification of Forecourt canopy, etc., Cracknells Gge	GRANTED

b RECREATION GROUND -

- i This Committee and the Chairman had met at the Pavilion to consider necessary work to the structure of the building. Quotations will be sought for improvements to the roof and floors. The Clerk reported problems with the electricity meter still. Someone from the electricity company will inspect the meter on 3rd August.
- ii It was agreed that the Council will stand by the contract offered to the Caretaker/Cleaner earlier in the year proposed Cllr Pattle, seconded Cllr Monk, all in favour. **The Clerk will write to him and advise.**

c ACTION PLAN -

Cllr Campbell reported that this group had not met since the last meeting, but that a meeting was planned for the coming week.

d COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS -

- i Cllr Sprake reported that he and Cllr Robinson had manned a stall at the Village Fete, which had been a successful venture, with many residents interested in Council activities etc. The fete itself was also a huge success, with profits of around £800 being realised. **The Clerk will write to the Thurston Under-5's and thank them for their efforts in organising this event.**
- ii The Chairman had attended an MSDC Planning Event in Stowmarket and the MSDC Open Day, which had been very informative.

e VILLAGE REPORTS -

- i Cllr Sprake reported (a) that the ditch in Meadow Lane is still blocked and causing problems in heavy rain. **The Clerk will contact Anglian Water again to try to get them to look at this problem.** (b) Many cars are parking on the grass verges in School Road. **The Clerk will advise the Police.** (c) An overgrown hedge in Sandpit Lane. **The Clerk will write to the residents requesting them to cut this back to reveal the pavement.**
- ii Cllr Robinson reported that Lamp 31 is not working again, that the hedges along Station Hill need to be trimmed and that the hole in the fence between Station Hill and Howes Avenue is still in need of replacement.
- iii Cllr Pattle reported that he will maintain contact with Mrs Kelly with regard to keeping travel information on the Village website up-to-date.
- iv Cllr Campbell reported that Station shelter vandalised again. Cllr Pattle will report this to Network Rail.
- v The Chairman reported that the footpath leaflet needs updating, and some more printing. Council agreed, all in favour.

f EMERGENCY RESPONDERS & PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT - Cllr Sprake reported 7 call-outs for the Responder Group since the last meeting. Cllr Sprake is anxious that the Emergency Plan should be update to take account of recent unusual weather patterns, and has contacted three residents who had volunteered to be involved with this Group. .

10. Reports from Officers of the Council

a CLERK'S REPORT -

- 1 A new application for Non-Domestic Rate Relief in respect of the Recreation Ground has been submitted.
- 2 The Under10's Football Team will submit their fixtures list towards the end of this month.
- 3 A letter had been received from a resident in Heath Road, requesting that venue for the bonfire be somewhere other than the Playing Field there. This had been referred to the 68 club.
- 4 MSDC are holding a Parish Liaison Meeting on 24th September
- 5 the Annual Return for the Recreation Ground Charity had been completed on-line
- 6 Suffolk ACRE are holding their AGM and 70th Anniversary Celebrations on 27th September.

- 7 Correspondence from a resident willing for his land to be used to provide Affordable Housing had been referred to MSDC & Flagship.
- 8 Insurance for the Bonfire has been applied for by the PC
- 9 MSDC are holding a review of Polling arrangements. Council agreed no change to those in Thurston
- 10 Details of the costs of installing warning signs for cyclists and tractor drivers had been received.
- 11 SALC now offers bespoke training to suit individual Parishes requirements.
- 12 Consultation on proposed traffic calming measures in Ixworth Road were considered, and it was agreed that the Clerk will seek more information
- 13 the Clerk reminded Council that it should review the effectiveness of its accountancy systems during August.

11. Resolutions or Recommendation already received - there were none

12. Finance

a) Accounts Awaiting Payment :-

COMPANY	AMOUNT	VAT
Mrs K Savage, Clerks Salary	637.00	
Mrs K Savage, Clerks Expenses	65.00	
Ray Austin	322.87	
R Cook (Rec Grd)	100.00	
Mrs J Service (Expenses)	34.04	
CP Bugg (Plumbing, Pavilion)	268.25	
Secelec (Rec Grd)	37.01	5.51
Tindalls Business Machines	88.13	13.13
MSDC (RoSPA Inspections)	176.25	26.25
Suffolk CC (Install lamp 293, Field View)	354.64	52.82
Gasplumb Ltd (Emergency work, Pav)	52.88	7.88
Steve Gage (New USB adapter)	28.00	

a) Payments Received

Mrs K Savage (repaid over-payment [3 of 6])	53.25
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These accounts were approved for payment, on the proposal of Cllr Robinson and seconded by Cllr Monk

b) Receipts

Mrs K Savage (repayment 3 of 6)	53.25
HMRC (VAT reclaimed)	1,162.29

	1,215.54

13. Any Other Specified Business - There was none

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

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 5th September 2007

Signed..... Chairman Date 5th September 2007