

Thurston Parish Council Meeting
5th May 2010
THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 5th May 2010 at 7.30pm in the Parish Council Office, New Green Centre, Thurston

Present : Cllrs Campbell, Robinson, Sadler, Mrs Service, Dashper and Monk.

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

1 members of the public were present

The meeting opened at 7.35pm

- 1 **Election of Chairman** – Cllr Stuart Campbell was nominated by Cllr Mrs Service, seconded by Cllr Robinson. With no other nominations, Cllr Campbell was elected Chairman for the year 2010 – 2011, all in favour
- 2 **Declaration of Acceptance of Office** – Cllr Campbell duly signed the Chairman’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and took the Chair.
- 3 **Election of Vice Chairman** – Cllr Robinson was nominated by Cllr Mrs Service and seconded by Cllr Monk. There being no other nominations, Cllr Robinson was elected Vice Chairman for the year 2010 – 2011, all in favour.
- 4 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Mrs C Clark
Cllr Weeks
Cllr Button
On the proposal of Cllr Robinson, seconded Cllr Sadler, these apologies were formally accepted.
D Cllr Haley
Other commitments
Personal commitments
Business commitments
Unwell
- 5 **Declaration of Interest from Councillors** –
Cllr Sadler
Cllr Robinson
Items 13b & 7b
Items 13f and 16d.
- 6 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held 7th April 2010 had been circulated and were approved as a true record on the proposal of Cllr Sadler, seconded Cllr Dashper, all in favour. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – Cllr Mrs Otton had nothing to report

POLICE REPORT – PC Haygreen delivered the following report :-

There had been 4 crimes reported since the previous meeting – 1 criminal damage at the Bowling Green, and 3 of criminal damage to vehicles in Wheatfields, Barleyfields and Ryefields. PC Haygreen and PC SO Myall had attended the Youth Club and reported that it was very successful, and that they are impressed by the attitude of all members. PCSO Myall had attended the Cars on the Green event, when there had been a problem of visiting cars being parked along New Green Avenue. More cones will be used next year. Letters had been sent to the owners of cars parked inappropriately around the village, by MSDC.

The SNT had received many complaints about how dog owners manage their dog’s mess while out walking. The following information was produced by Suffolk Police –

“THE LAW STATES THAT ALL DOGS NO MATTER HOW WELL BEHAVED SHOULD BE KEPT ON A LEAD WHILE ON A PUBLIC HIGHWAY, THEY SHOULD ALSO BE KEPT UNDER CONTROL WHICH MEANS THAT DOGS SHOULD NOT BE SEVERAL METRES AHEAD OF AN OWNER WHILE ON A FLEXI-LEAD, MOST DO NOT DO THIS WITH A SINISTER INTENTION BUT YOU MUST BE AWARE THAT IF YOUR DOG IS NOT ON A LEAD AND UNDER PROPER CONTROL AND FOR INSTANCE CAUSES AN ACCIDENT, YOU AS THE OWNER WILL BE LIABLE. IT IS ALSO AN OFFENCE TO LET A DOG FOUL ON A PUBLIC HIGHWAY. THIS CAN BE DEALT WITH BY FIXED PENALTY TICKET BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY SHOULD BE PICKED UP FOR THE SAFETY AND HYGIENE OF THE PUBLIC, IT SHOULD ALSO NOT BE THROWN INTO HEDGES AS CHILDREN COULD PICK THESE UP, PLEASE RESPECTFULLY PLACE IT IN A BIN.”

Cllr Sadler reported that there were an awful lot of empty drinks cans and bottles around the village.

7 Statutory Business -

- a) Pay and Conditions of Service of the Clerk to the Council - the Clerk was asked to leave the room. After discussion, it was agreed that in the light of current economical climate it was imprudent to raise the clerk's salary. However, she was now eligible to receive 5 weeks annual leave (pro rata), and this was agreed unanimously. The Clerk re-joined the meeting.
- b) Pay and Conditions of Service of the Pavilion Cleaners - after consideration, it was unanimously agreed not to raise the cleaners' pay, and that their Conditions of Service should remain the same.

8 Appointment of Groups and Representatives - deferred to next meeting

9 Consideration of matter arising for referral to Police Tasking Meeting - The Clerk advised the meeting that Cllr Weeks was unable to attend the upcoming meeting on 13th May. After consideration, it was agreed to forward the following items for consideration as priorities - Speeding along Barton Road and Parking Issues around the Village. **Clerk to advise SNT**

10 Business Remaining from Previous Meetings -

- a) Affordable Housing Exception site - nothing to report, since no reply had been received from Suffolk ACRE.
- b) Public Meeting re TUF's request to rent land to rear of Cavendish Hall - this had been arranged to take place on 27th May 2010 in the Cavendish Hall, to start at 7.30pm. Notices were to be placed around the site three weeks prior to the meeting date. The Parish Council were to meet on 25th to agree the order of proceedings.
- c) Traffic Problems, School Road area - the bus lay-by had now been extended, and the feasibility study results from Suffolk CC Highways team had been promised by the end of April, but had not yet been received. **Clerk to enquire.**

11 Chairman's Communications - The Chairman asked that a formal letter be sent to retiring Chairman, Councillor Sprake, expressing Council's best wishes for the future. This was unanimously agreed. **Clerk to write.**

12 Questions from Councillors - There were none

13 Reports from Committees and Groups

a PLANNING -

i Planning Applications received -

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
SCC	Proposed construction of new timber-framed pre-school/wraparound building, Thurston Under 5's, Recreation Ground Car Park - Comments deferred until result of Public Meeting (27TH May) was known	
0980/10	Steel Staircase re Scouts, Cavendish Hall (Proposed Cllr Mrs Service, sec Cllr Monk, all in favour)	SUPPORT

ii Planning Decisions received -

0452/10	2 Storey ext, Hadfield, Church Hill, Pakenham	GRANTED
3166/08	1 X 1.5 storey dwelling, rear of 1-3 Old Norton Road	REFUSED

b RECREATION GROUND -

i) Flood damage to Pavilion - Cllr Sadler thanked Cllr Dashper for the loan of his dehumidifier and advised that the Recreation Ground Committee would need to meet in the near future. He reported that there are some tiles off walls behind wash basins which need replacement and that Mr Robert Cook had replaced the vandalised downpipes at the front entrance to the Pavilion earlier in the year without asking anything for his time. Heath Road Playing Field had a problem with rabbits, and after discussion, Council asked the **Clerk to obtain professional advice.**

ii) A quotation from M&TJ's to spray weedkiller at Heath Road Playing Field at a cost of £140 + VAT was accepted, proposed Cllr Dashper, seconded Cllr Robinson, all in favour. **Clerk to notify.**

iii) Cllr Robinson announced his intention to stand down from carrying out the regular risk assessment in Thedwastre Park. After discussion it was agreed to ask Cllr Button if he would accept this responsibility in future.

c COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS -

i) Cllr Robinson reported from the Working Party re the college Sports Barn Extension - The work was on target; the questionnaires were expected to be returned soon, and they were looking into the provision of floodlighting.

ii) Cllr Robinson had attended the Youth Forum which had bought a TV and X-box and had asked Cllr Robinson to ask if this could be stored in the PC Office. After consideration of insurance and security issues, this proposal was rejected, all in favour.

Cllr Robinson to notify

iii) Cllr Robinson had attended the Thursties Awards Ceremony at the College on 6th May 2010.

ii) Cllr Mrs Service reported on the Fun run and Craft Fair, at which, on behalf of the Council, she had manned an information stall.

d VILLAGE REPORTS -

i) Cllr Sadler reported an extremely overgrown hedge along Beyton Road near the junction with Thedwastre Road which was impeding visibility to exit the junction. **Clerk to write to landowners and send copy to SCC Highways.**

ii) Cllr Mrs Service reported the poor condition of the Heath Road Playing Field (see item 13b(i) above)

e EMERGENCY PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT - No report

f EMERGENCY RESPONDERS REPORT - Cllr Robinson reported there had been 4 call-outs during the last month. One new volunteer was imminent bringing the total number of volunteers to 8.

g QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS - nothing to report.

10 Reports from Officers of the Council

a CLERK'S REPORT -

1 Notification of an interruption to the Electricity Supply at the PC Office had been received to take place on 13th May 8.30am - 11.30am

2 Residents had supplied more information regarding cars parked inappropriately around the Village. This had been passed to the SNT.

3 Mr Dick Flower had written expressing concerns about the bus timetables displayed at various stops which seemed to only show buses going one way. **Clerk to pass concerns to SCC Highways**

4 Notification had been received for a temporary speed limit of 30mph at Fishwick Corner from 1st - 4th June 2010 to enable improvements to the junction.

5 A Mid Suffolk Action in Partnership Newsletter had been received - **to be circulated.**

6 Information had been received re the Village Fete and Car Boot which was to be held 28th August 2010.

7 SCC had sent a copy of their Annual surface Clearing Programme for 2010 which pertained to the clearing of Public Footpaths. A copy is held in the Parish Office and with the PC Footpaths Officer, Cllr Mrs Service.

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	110.00	
Ray Austin, Handyman	337.53	
T Savage, PC Medic, computer Maint Agreement	20.00	
R Sadler, Cleaner/Caretaker Salary (Rec Grd a/c)	104.00	
Cllr Monk, Cllr Expenses	. 4.81	
Thurston Village Hall, 2 x Hire of main Hall	47.00	

Suffolk Police Authority, Match fund PCSO	7,000.00	
Kallkwik, printing PCSO questionnaire	129.00	
Does Not compute, domain renewal and hosting fees	121.00	
P Callow, Decorator	4,784.00	
M Haldenby, Kitchen Installation	1,576.48	234.79
R Sadler, Pavilion Cleaner Expenses	8.00	

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

b) Accounts already paid -		
Plusnet, Broadband & Telephone	31.08	4.63
New Green Comm Trust	250.28	37.28

c) Receipts -

Zurich Municipal, Part settlement re Insurance Claim, Pavilion	688.86
Cllr S Oliver, Bury TC, attendance at POWB training	15.00

d) Donations - after consideration and in the light of current financial restrictions, it was agreed to make the following donations -

Thurston under 5's Group	£100.00
New Green Community Trust	£1500.00
Thurston Methodist Church	£100.00
St Peter's Church	£500.00
Thurston newsletter	£100.00
1 st Thurston Scouts	£100.00
Ixworth Patients Group	£100.00
Youth Forum	£150.00
Suffolk Accident Rescue Service	£100.00

Proposed Cllr Sadler, seconded Cllr Dashper, all in favour.

- e) Quotation for Handyman contract 2010 - 2011 - this had been submitted at a cost of £340.90 per month which was approved by the Council proposed Cllr Sadler, seconded Cllr Mrs Service, all in favour. **Clerk to notify**

13 Any Other Specified Business - There was none

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10.05pm

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 2nd June 2010

Signed..... Chairman Date 2nd June 2010