

Thurston Parish Council Meeting
5th September 2007
THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 5th September 2007 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Church Road, Thurston

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

In Attendance : County Cllr Mrs Otton, District Cllr Haley, PCSO Myall

1 member of the public was present for item 10a 3

The meeting opened at 7.33pm

The Chairman presented a Commendation Award for Community Achievement from Suffolk ACRE to Cllr Robinson, who received it on behalf of the Community First Responder Team.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -

REPORT FROM COUNTY CLLR MRS OTTON -

- a Cllr Mrs Otton thanked Council for a warm welcome.
- b Cllr Otton has around £10,000 left in her Locality Budget
- c she has raised the issue of the general condition of footpaths, i.e. not well maintained with Suffolk CC.
- d Suffolk CC has agreed not to close any of Glastonbury Court -no-one will have to move.
- e Cllr Otton confirmed that she will be keeping a close watch on the progress of the School Review.
- f **The Clerk will ensure Cllr Otton's details are publicised around the village.**

POLICE REPORT - PCSO Simon Myall reported there had been four recorded crimes last month - 2 thefts and 2 criminal damages. Further to this, he reported there had been two burglaries the previous evening, 1 in Barton Road and 1 in Heath Road. He further reported that he had met with residents of Woodlands, who have requested MSDC to install security lighting. The names of some youths probably causing some of the nuisance have been added to the Youth Nuisance Register held in the Anti Social Behaviour Unit. A new office for Police to share with other agencies has been provided at Thurston College. Carol Milward from Mid Suffolk DC has been appointed to the Safer Neighbourhood Panel.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT CLLR HALEY -

- a Mid Suffolk DC, along with other District Councils have produced a strategy for dealing with Gypsies and Travellers.
- b A working party has been set up to consider the results of the recent Polling places and stations review.

1. Apologies - Cllr Sprake - Unwell

2. Declarations of personal/prejudicial interest from Councillors - Cllr Sadler declared an interest in item 9b(ii); Cllr Pattle declared an interest in item 9a ii application number 2102; Cllr Robinson declared an interest in item 9a ii application number 1936.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1st August 2007 were considered.

4. Approval of Signature of Minutes - The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed Cllr Monk seconded Cllr Robinson.

5. Statutory Business -

- a Co-option of New Councillor - the CV of Elizabeth Fleet had been circulated amongst Councillors. She was invited to join the Council, all in favour, and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- b To consider Risk Assessment - examples of Risk Assessments had been circulated by the Clerk. Cllrs Campbell and Robinson will consider them and the matter will be discussed again at the next meeting.

6. Business Remaining -

- a To discuss the provision of facilities for older young people – the Chairman and, hopefully, Cllr Miss Fleet, will attend a meeting of the Youth Forum at Thurston College on 11th September. The Clerk read aloud an e-mail from a resident opposing the provision of facilities at New Green.
- b To discuss further information on proposed Traffic Calming measures in Ixworth Road – after discussion, it was unanimously agreed to object to these proposals, and to suggest to the County Council that the money could be better spent elsewhere in the village.

7. **Chairman’s Communications** – There were none

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

9. **Reports from Committees and Groups**

a PLANNING –

i To consider the proposals for a Children’s Centre next to the Library – it was noted that the Under-5’s group has been fund-raising for this project for some time it was further noted that space for such a building has also been offered at New Green. Council noted problems with parking and other traffic issues at the library site, which the Chairman will relay to the relevant parties.

ii Planning Applications received :-

1936/07	Retention of Fencing Panels & Posts, 13 Blackbird Close – update, further objections according to the Local Plan had been submitted to MSDC.	
1435/07	1 new dwelling, 1-3 Old Norton Road – update, further objections had been submitted to MSDC based on Planning Policies contained within the Local Plan.	
1538/07	Alter dwelling + 2 storey ext to gge & conservatory, 54 Barton Road	REF
0309/07	Front entrance Porch, 28 Oakeyfield Road	APP
2102/07	Roadside Boundary Fence, 13 Ryefields	APP
2282/07	Games Room over Gge, 3 Hazelwood Close	APP

iii Planning Decisions received :-

1783/07	Parking spaces + cycle shelter, Primary School	GRANTED
0759/07	Ext to outbuildings, 7 Rectory Gdns	GRANTED
1277/07	Gge in front garden, 53 Barton Road	GRANTED
1473/07	Replace existing walls with new, 31 Oakeyfield Road	GRANTED

iv To discuss Local Development Framework Consultation Documents previously circulated – this months Planning Group will meet to finalise Council’s stance on this consultation, and the **Clerk will submit Council’s comments before the deadline of the 17th September.**

b RECREATION GROUND –

i A quotation for replacing the Pavilion roof had been received, and further quotes will be sought for discussion at a later meeting.

ii 1 written application had been received for the post of Caretaker/Cleaner at the Pavilion. It was unanimously agreed to re-advertise the position in the next issue of the Thurston Newsletter.

iii Issues regarding the impact trees and shrubs behind Cavendish Hall are having on Jasmine Cottage were received from the householder. **The Clerk will determine ownership of fences, trees etc, and report back to Council.**

c ACTION PLAN –

This group had met and reviewed what issues the Council had committed to address. **The Clerk will attempt to ascertain when brown litter bins are to be issued in the village.** It was agreed that some village organisations might be willing to assist in litter-picking. It was further agreed to offer assistance to the village conservationists. **The Clerk will contact them and ask if there is anything the Council can do.** The Chairman will oversee the revision of the current Footpaths leaflet. Proposed Cllr Sadler, seconded Cllr Robinson.

d COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS –

i The Chairman will attend two meetings at Thurston Community College in the next two weeks. It was agreed to arrange a meeting between the College staff and the Parish Council in the near future.

- ii Cllr Monk had attended the Ixworth Surgery Patient Group meeting – nothing to report except that a Village Health Meeting will be held on 13th October.
 - iii Cllr Pattle reported that he had contacted Network Rail re the shelter that has been vandalised, and was advised to report this to the Station Steward in future.
- e VILLAGE REPORTS –
- i Cllr Monk reported cycling on pavements still a problem. **The Clerk will arrange for a notice to be put in the Thurston Newsletter reminding residents not to do this.**
 - ii Cllr Sadler reported that a hedge in Heath Road on cycle route 51 had not been cut back this year, and a resident had done some of this work himself. He further reported that a roof repair on Railway Cottages was underway. It was agreed that **the Clerk will ascertain whether or not these cottages are listed.**
 - iii Cllr Pattle reported that a television has been dumped halfway down Oak Road in the entrance to a field. **The Clerk will report this as flytipping.** Cllr Pattle suggested that the Parish Council supply a wreath for Remembrance Day service. This was agreed on the proposal of Cllr Pattle seconded Cllr Sadler, all in favour.
 - iv Cllr Campbell reported the Station shelter vandalised again, and that he had received a letter from a station user suggesting CCTV be installed..
 - v Cllr Button reported that there is still a hole in the fence between Howes Avenue and Station Hill. **The Clerk will report this again.**
 - vi The Chairman reported that the residents at Heath Road/Barton Road had not cut back the hedge, as requested, but had simply cut down their hollyhocks.
 - vii Cllr Robinson reported overgrown hedges in Station Hill and Barton Road. **The Clerk will report these to MSDC.**
- f EMERGENCY RESPONDERS & EMERGENCY PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT – Cllr Robinson reported there had been 9 call-outs to the Emergency Responder Group during August.

10. Reports from Officers of the Council

a CLERK'S REPORT –

- 1 The rate relief pertaining to the Pavilion had been granted
- 2 The fixture list from the under 10 team has been received
- 3 Overgrown trees had been reported at the rear of Cavendish Hall and in Church Road. **The Clerk will obtain quotations for this work.**
- 4 Graffiti had been found on the windows of the Parish Office and reported to the Police.
- 5 A bill for over £13,000 for electricity in respect of the Pavilion had been received. **The Clerk will arrange for the meters to be read, since this figure is not accurate.**
- 6 The Clerk will attend a course on budget-setting at the SALC office. She and the Chairman will also attend a reception held by SALC for the Clerks who have recently attained their qualification.
- 7 The appeal in regard to the planning application at 25 Barton Road had been dismissed.
- 8 A suggestion had been received from a resident to install a sign at the entrance to Lapwing Close indicating that it is a No Through Road.
- 9 Details of grants available through the Suffolk Strategic Partnership were announced.
- 10 Problems of cyclists riding along the footpath in Victoria Close – School Road are still ongoing. The Clerk has arranged for Anthony Smith from Suffolk CC to visit the site, and hopefully consult the resident who brought the matter to the attention of the Council.
- 11 With regard to further improvements at the entrance to the Recreation Ground car park, the contractor will meet with a representative from the Council to determine what measures need to be taken.
- 12 MSDC will be conducting a Housing Needs Survey amongst a random 10,000 homes in its district, between 27th August and 4th October.
- 13 The caravan site road sign on the fingerpost at the bottom of Station Hill which has fallen to the bottom, and the fingerpost at the junction of Barrells Road and Church Road, which had been turned to point in the wrong directions, have been reported to Suffolk CC Highways.

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	62.80	
Ray Austin	322.87	
R Cook (Rec Grd)	100.00	
Ray Austin (Positioning 2 Litter Bins)	30.00	
Powergen (Office Electricity)	80.61	3.84
M J Nunn (Car Park entrance refurb)	1,071.95	159.55
M&TJ's Garden Services	82.25	12.25
RBS Software (Accounts software licence)	58.75	8.75
Thurston newsletter (Balance of donation)	80.00	

These accounts were approved for payment, on the proposal of Cllr Sadler and seconded by Cllr Campbell

b) Receipts

Mrs K Savage (repayment 4 of 6) 53.25

c) Annual Return - this matter was deferred to the next meeting. The Finance Committee will meet to discuss, and report to Full Council.

13. Any Other Specified Business -

a To consider providing a representative to the School Organisation Review Local Stakeholder Forum - It was agreed not to send a representative.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10.55pm

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 3rd October 2007

Signed..... Chairman Date 3rd October 2007