



THURSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th September 2021 starting at 7.00pm at St Andrew's Church

Present: Cllr S. Eckworth (Chair), Cllrs, K. Drake, G. Pointer, C. Ross, NCC Cllr S. Aquarone, NNDC Cllr R. Kershaw, Parish Clerk – K. Harris.

There were 0 residents present at all or part of the meeting.

1. Welcome and to consider apologies and reasons for absence.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were unanimously accepted for absence for Cllrs V, Cushing, K. Plumbly, S. Yerby

2. Declarations of Interest, requests for dispensation by Councillors.

There were none.

3. Open Forum for Public Participation

Cllr Kershaw reported the current covid statistics for Norfolk. NNDC were recommending that masks were worn by pupils on School Transport and by parents at the School Gate.

Exception Housing Scheme – Cllr Kershaw had no new information.

Planning – NP/21/12204 – Proposal prior notification of proposed erection of building for agricultural use: Fertiliser tank: Cllr Kershaw informed the PC that this was 1 of 7 being installed across the area to increase the use of more environmentally friendly fertiliser.

Cllr Aquarone thanked the residents for voting for him. He informed the PC that his priorities for this term are: tackling the climate emergency and growing the local economy. He has two portfolios: 1) footpaths (the most common issue he came across when canvassing were residents who would like to do circular walks – he asked any Cllr to contact him if they would like him to accompany them on a local walk); 2) Public Transport – promoting greater rural public transport.

He updated the Council on Holt Hall.

He informed the PC that the annual Highways Allowance now includes Environmental Assets and if there is a local appropriate project to get in touch.

There were no members of the public present but the Chair informed the meeting of incidents of speeding while walking along Heath Lane. The Clerk will add a warning in the Tablet asking road users to be aware of residents throughout the Village, particularly on the narrower lanes.

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DRAFT until AGREED at following meeting.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th May to be approved.

Cllr Ross' name had been missed from the attendance list. This was amended and all councillors agreed that the minutes were a fair representation of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

5. Matters arising on the Minutes (for information only), not included on the agenda.

The PC agreed that it was important for the Memorial Arch to be fixed in place and the Clerk will email a suggested date of 16th October for this to take place.

The PC agreed to ensure that the diseased Chestnut Tree on The Green was sprayed.

6. Planning Matters

6.1 To receive an update on the Exception Housing Scheme

Cllr Eckworth reported that Cllr Yerby had received an email from the Developer telling him that the Lifetime Tenant of the land had been informed of the prospective purchase and that plans were progressing.

6.2 NP/21/2204 – See above. The PC agreed they had no comment to make on the application.

7. Highways Matters

7.1 To note new Highways signs on the A148 junction near to the Crawfish

The PC were very pleased with the new signs but were concerned that they hadn't been informed before they were installed.

7.2 To agree any application for the Parish Partnership Fund

The PC agreed not to apply this year.

7.3 To agree any action regarding dog fouling in the Parish

NNDC are unable to help.

Reminders to clear up dog mess will be put in the Tablet and notices will be placed on the Noticeboards.

The Clerk will draft a letter to be sent to the Air B&Bs and Holiday Cottages asking owners to provide "pooh bags".

8. Financial and Governance Matters

8.1 To approve the Cashbook and Payments List

Summary of Payments since the last meeting until September 6th 2021

2.06.21 - £1,000.00 Thursford PCC (Grant for Community Facilities at St Andrews); 9.06.21 - £46.80 Community Heartbeat Trust (Defibrillator Electrodes); 5.07.21 £208.84 - C Harris (Clerk's pay – April to June); 5.07.21 - £52.20, HMRC (Tax on Clerk's pay – April to June) 13.7.21 - £39.60, Fakenham Press Solutions (Printing of the Tablet); 6.09.21 - £208.84 - C Harris (Clerk's pay – July to September); 6.09.21 - £52.20, HMRC (Tax on Clerk's pay – July to September); 6.09.21 - £61.29, C Harris (Clerk's Expenses – April to September)

These were agreed on a Proposal by Cllr Ross and Seconded by Cllr Pointer.

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9. Correspondence

9.1 To agree any action regarding the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.
The resident will be asked to fly the flag on the Village Flagpole.
Cllr Eckworth will be a point of contact for the event at this stage for anyone who has any ideas to mark the event or who would like to be involved.

Cllr Drake remembered a beacon at the allotments previously – the Clerk will contact a resident for further information.

9.2. To agree any action regarding the Armed Forces Covenant.
After a discussion, the PC unanimously agreed that, although they support the sentiments of the Covenant, they did not think that Thursford was big enough to warrant signing up to the Covenant at this time.

9.3. To agree any action regarding the Perfect Storm email
The PC asked the Clerk to email the PC’s support to the Norfolk Parish Movement for an OTN. Proposed Cllr Drake, Seconded Cllr Ross – unanimous.

10. To agree options and Funding for a Noticeboard on Station Road

It was agreed that the current Noticeboard was in a very dilapidated state and needed to be replaced.

Cllrs will contact the Fakenham Forum to see if there is someone locally who could make a new Noticeboard at a reasonable price.

11. Commemorative Gift

The Clerk explained that the Commemorative Gift was being presented to all communities in North Norfolk to note community support during the covid pandemic.

The PC considered the final location for the Gift, and unanimously considered the Village Green to be the best location

12. To request any contributions for the Autumn Tablet to be sent to the Clerk before 15th September

13. Any Other Business (for information only)

There was none.

14. To note Meeting Dates

Next meeting – Monday 8th November

Dates for meetings for 2022 will be finalised at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.56pm

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Chairman
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Date