



THURSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2019 following the Annual Parish Meeting which started at 7.00pm in the Methodist Chapel.

Present: Cllr S Yerby (Chairman), Cllrs V Cushing, K Drake, S Eckworth, K Plumbly, Pointer. Parish Clerk.

Councillors had signed their declaration forms before the start of **the** meeting.

1. Election of Chairman, declaration of acceptance of office.

On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Pointer, Cllr Yerby elected Chairman. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form.

2. Election of Vice Chairman

On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Pointer, Cllr Eckworth was elected Vice Chairman

3. Welcome and to consider apologies and reasons for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllr Ross had sent apologies (personal) which were accepted. Apologies had also been received from NCC Cllr Aquerone and NNDC Cllr Kershaw.

4. Declarations of interest, requests for dispensations by Councillors

Cllr Yerby Item 10.1

5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th March 2019 be approved

On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Eckworth these were **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman

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

Item 10 (Page 81) WW1 project – receive update

Cllr Plumbly had not yet received a quotation from his engineer for the archway and the matter would be considered at the next meeting. The Clerk advised that a parishioner would be repairing the Station Road Noticeboard and the bench on the Green – the wood would need to be sourced.

7. Public Participation

7.1 NCC Cllr Aquerone had sent a report (as he was attending other meetings) in which he spoke of the Lib/Dem motion to declare a county wide Climate Emergency. The matter had been voted down by the Conservatives. However a similar motion had been declared in North Norfolk District Council. He welcomed the new District Councillors to North Norfolk.

7.2 NNDC Cllr Kershaw was the newly elected District Councillor and he had sent a report as he was having to attend an induction event at NNDC. The report advised about his business background prior to retiring in 2016 to take up the role of Vice Chairman of the North Norfolk and Great Yarmouth Lib Dems

7.3 An opportunity for members of the public to raise questions or concerns
There was no public attending

7.4 Police report. There was no police attending.

8. To discuss any planning matters

8.1 It was noted that the planning application at 18 Station Road had been withdrawn.

8.2 Equestrian Centre. No reports of noise had been received.

8.3 The Local Plan consultation period was noted and also local exhibitions about the plan. Cllr Plumby and Eckworth expressed an interest in attending. Clerk to make contact with councilors before the end of the consultation period to see if a corporate response would be given to the Local Plan proposals.

9. Correspondence

9.1 A correspondence list had been circulated and was noted.

9.2 Other matters received since close of agenda:

9.2.1 Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Spring Newsletter

9.2.2 Merchant Navy Day Noted as 3rd September 2019 "Fly the Red Ensign"

9.2.3 Norfolk Record Office Confirmation of Thursford Parish Council books now archived at the NRO (Minute books 1974 – 1985; 1985-1995; 1996 – 2015. Receipts and Payments Books 1933 – 1974; 1975 – 2005

10. Financial and Governance Matters

10.1. Financial Statement 26th March – 13th May 2019 (as attached)

Payments noted: £40.00 Cheque 530 SA Internal Audit 2018/19 £40.00

Receipts NNDC Half Year Precept £1750.00 and government grant £38.00

Bal at 1st April £497.23 Community Account and NSI Account £7172.12

Insurance Renewal. The Clerk had obtained a quote from Came & Co (3 year contract) for £337.71 but an alternative quote had been received from CAM Suffolk for £260.88. She had returned to Came & Co to ask for a reduction and was awaiting their reply. Council gave authorization to the Clerk to pay for the insurance ahead of the renewal date. This would be based on the final best offer.

Donation to the St Andrews Project. Members **AGREED** a donation of £1000 as budgeted. This would be a grant towards the Church Project (the new loo) work due to start September.

10.2 It was noted that the Internal Audit for y/e 31st March 2019 had taken place with nothing to report from the Auditor.

10.3 AGAR Exemption Certificate for 2018/19. On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Cushing it was **AGREED** that the Council should exempt itself for 2018/19 as neither receipts or payments were over £25,000

10.4 Governance Statement for 2018/19 (AGAR Part 2). On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Eckworth the Governance Statement was signed by the Chairman and RFO. It was noted that all boxes were completed with a YES response.

10.5 Accounting Statement for 2018/19 (AGAR Part 2). On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Drake the Accounting Statements were signed by the Chairman and RFO.

10.6 General Power of Competence (GPC). It was noted that the Council had at least a 2/3rd elected council and a qualified Clerk and was therefore in a position to reaffirm its eligibility for GPC thus enabling it to support the Church Project. This was done following a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Drake.

11. Update on St Andrews re-development project

Cllr Yerby advised that the faculty for Phase 3 had been obtained and work was due to start in September beginning with the loo. This would be built in the vestry. There was £30,000 in the project account which would pay half of the total project.

12. To note the date of the next meetings: 9th September and 11th November (Budget meeting).

13. Close the meeting for a confidential item (Personnel matter)

No public were in attendance. The Clerk advised her intention of retiring. A Job Description had been written and posters for the vacancy would be displayed in Thursford, Fulmodeston and Barney. Closing date 3rd June applications to the Clerk. Hours to be paid would be more than paid to retiring Clerk but as budgeted. The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m. there being no further business.

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