

**MINUTES of the THORVERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 7.30pm, at the Thorverton Memorial Hall**

**Present:** Cllr N. Bright, Cllr N. Lane, Cllr J. Spivey, Cllr D. Waldron, Cllr J. Hodge and Cllr G. Sims.  
**In attendance:** the Clerk, C/Cllr Squires.

**Standing Orders suspended.**

**Open Session:** One member of the public was present and wished to speak about planning application ref: 17/01716/FULL reinstatement of access and farm track to agricultural land at School Lane. He requested that the Parish Council (PC) ask MDDC to postpone the forthcoming Planning Committee Meeting, during which a decision on this application is due to be decided, due to several members of the Community considering that the current plans show inaccuracies. An alternative plan was circulated.

**17/132 Reports:**

- i) D/Cllr Deed – no report.
- ii) C/Cllr Squires reported that she is currently deeply involved with Children’s Services and that she has been visiting homes and looking at respite venues for children with disabilities. It was noted that there are currently some 700 children in care in the area. It was also reported that potholes continue to be high on the list of DCC Highways issues and she asked for the public to keep reporting any Highways matters on-line.
- iii) PCSO Roberts, who will be on maternity leave from the end of the year, advised of 2 calls and 1 crime reported in Thorverton during March with the crime being a domestic related communications incident.  
Cllr Sims, a member of Speedwatch, advised that only Silver Street can currently be monitored for speeding due to the location of the 30mph signs along, for example, Lynch Road.
- iv) TMGT – Cllr Spivey reported that the working party had been upgrading the hard core path and that a new footpath has been made alongside the stream for all to use. The green continues to be extremely wet and so mowing has been postponed. The TMGT AGM will take place next week and all are welcome to attend.
- v) Memorial Hall – Cllr Hodge reported a problem with moles on the lawn and that a mole catcher was now employed. A car boot sale would take place next Sunday and a Shakespeare and TADS production would follow later in April.
- vi) School – Cllr Lane had nothing to report.
- vii) Focus – Cllr Turner had nothing to report.
- viii) Saturday Market – Cllr Lane would attend the April Market and Cllr Spivey the May market.

**Standing Orders resumed.**

**17/133 Apologies** for absence were received from Cllr Lawson – holiday, Cllr Turner – previous appointment, Cllr Crang – work commitment and Cllr Reygate – illness.

**17/134 Declarations** of Interest: none.

**17/135 Confirmation of Minutes** of the meeting of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018: it was RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a correct record of the meeting (Cllrs Spivey and Hodge).

**17/136 Mid Devon Local Plan – Sustainability Appraisal:** On behalf of the Working Group Cllr Spivey reported that although concerns had been raised, with regards further housing developments in Thorverton along Lynch Road, Silver Street and on the Allotment site, all three sites had been excluded from the MDDC plan. As a result there were no recommendations from the Working Group regarding comments to MDDC. Cllr Waldron proposed that a comment stating that **no** evidence of need, beyond the proposed Broadlands development, had been identified within the parish for more new homes and so further development of Silver Street, the Lynch Road and at Broadlands, would not be warranted. Seconded by Cllr Bright and RESOLVED. Cllr Lane suggested a comment be submitted with regards to the Lynch Road site being a possibility for the new Cemetery but this was not taken forward.

**17/137 Development:**

- i) New Cemetery – as only a partly completed application had been received from AC Archaeology it was RESOLVED to await the fully completed version, due by the next meeting, prior to confirming submission to the HLF (Cllrs Bright and Waldron).
- ii) Court Barton – no update had been received from MDDC and the Clerk would chase this again.

**17/138 Highways:**

- a. Dark Lane – the Structural Engineers report had not yet been received.

b. Lamp posts – C/Cllr Squires had contacted Steve Tucker and was awaiting a response. She suggested that Steve Tucker be asked whether this was a matter for the Enforcement Officer. Cllr Bright proposed that a letter be sent to the MDDC Conservation Officer which was seconded by Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED.

c. Traffic calming – C/Cllr Squires advised of no update as yet. Cllr Sims had heard that Latchmore Green (Rewe Parish in East Devon) may be getting a flashing mobile speed sign and so Cllr Bright proposed that the Clerk make enquiries on the project. This was seconded Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED.

d. School Lane zig zag lines – C/Cllr Squires reported no update to date.

e. Refilling of village salt/grit bins – Cllr Sims reported that a lot of salt had been used during the recent bad weather and that the bins are now empty even though Cllr Crang had brought salt down from PC supplies at Bidwell Barton. Cllr Sims volunteered to contact DCC regarding the filling of the 4 salt bins and to request that the bin by the Sheep Dip be replaced due to it being broken.

f. Pipe under the footpath from The Glebe to School Lane - this pipe had not yet been repaired.

**It was agreed by all present to bring forward the Agenda Planning Matters to this point.**

**17/139 Planning meetings:**

**i) MDDC Planning Training:** Cllr Waldron had nothing to feedback to the PC regarding this course but he would circulate any information when received.

**ii) Site Meeting – Planning Application ref: 17/01716/FULL reinstatement of access and farm track to agricultural land at School Lane:** the Chairman had attended this meeting and had stated the view of the PC. He reported disappointment at so little being discussed and as the group did not walk along School Lane to see the wider picture. Cllr Bright had commented regarding the footpath from the Glebe and the pinch point on the drawings handed out both of which could cause road safety issues due to the narrowness of the road. It was noted that new drawings had now been uploaded to the MDDC Planning Portal and Cllr Spivey suggested that these included so many inconsistencies that it gave cause for concern as the elevations did not appear to meet, difficulties with the splays and sight lines did not appear to have been addressed and the need to build a pavement would narrow the existing road further.

C/Cllr Squires had volunteered to involve the County Highways Officer in this matter, so that he could meet with the Chairman to review the plans from a local prospective, and this was received positively by the PC. Cllr Waldron reported that as the new drawings seem to be at odds with the actual situation a meeting with the County Highways Officer, to review the two sets of drawings, would be a good idea so that the Planning Committee did not end up relying on inaccurate drawings.

Cllr Spivey proposed that a letter be written to Head of MDDC Planning, Jenny Clifford, stating that the PC is unhappy with the accuracy of the drawings on the MDDC Planning Portal and to request a postponement of the next Planning Committee Meeting and a deferment of the planning application decision. This was Seconded Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED.

Cllr Sims asked whether the pipe through the field had been considered within the planning application and the answer to this was unknown.

Cllr Spivey enquired as to why additional plans that he had requested be circulated had not been. The Chairman replied in that the PC had been asked to comment on the official documents, as listed on the MDDC Planning Portal, and not on additional documents sent in by members of the public. He added that he stood by his decision. The member of the public who had sent these additional plans to Cllr Spivey with a request that they be circulated to the PC had been invited to the meeting to circulate and discuss the documents in question which he had done.

**17/140 Planning Applications:**

**i) 18/00517/NHH** 17 Cleaves Close, Thorverton, Prior Notification for the erection of an extension extending to 4m to the rear, maximum height 3.55m, eaves height 2.5m. Noted.

**ii) 18/00433/FULL** Tallet Barn, Heathfield Farm, Thorverton, variation of condition 2 of planning permission 16/00169/FULL to allow substitute plans. It was RESOLVED to submit no comment (Cllrs Bright and Hodge).

**iii) 18/00228/HOUSE & LBC** The Old Post Office, School Lane, Thorverton, erection of an extension and conversion of existing outbuilding to storage use and demolition of lean-to storage buildings. Cllr Spivey proposed that this application be supported which was seconded by Cllr Hodge and RESOLVED.

**17/141 Planning Decisions:**

**i) 18/00069/FULL** Dipfield, Thorverton, retention of change of use from garage to studio holiday accommodation. Granted.

**ii) 18/00096/FULL** Pit Farm, Thorverton, conversion of barn to dwelling. Granted.

**17/142 Relations with our District and County Councillors:** the Chairman reported that he had been invited to meet with the MDDC Monitoring Officer, Kathryn Tebbey, to discuss this matter further following the e-mail to her from the PC. The Chairman had accepted the invitation on the proviso that this was not a private meeting and that he could report back to Council as he felt necessary. It was RESOLVED that the meeting be attended (Cllrs Waldron, Hodge).

**17/143 Recreation Ground:**

1) **Multiplay Tunnel** – Cllr Sims reported that Playline had supplied a quote to mend this equipment at £1,345.00 which seemed far too high as this was only to replace 4 timber posts at 3m long although only 3 need replacing. Cllr Bright proposed that the work be carried out locally and prior to the next annual playground inspection when the work could be inspected for safety. Cllr Sims volunteered to oversee the arrangements with Cllr Spivey. This was seconded by Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED.

2) **Tree work** – due to the bad weather the agreed work had been put on hold for the time being.

3) **Recreation Ground** in general is wet but in good order reported Cllr Sims. Cllr Waldron enquired about Thorverton AFC's relationship with the Rec and the PC and Cllr Sims advised of an agreement where the Football Club is responsible for mowing the grass in lieu of paying rent. Cllr Waldron proposed that the Clerk to look into any official Agreement with the Football Club so that Councillors could understand the situation better. Seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED.

4) **Annual ride on mower service** - Cllr Waldron proposed that two quotes be obtained from T&D and MST and that the Clerk arrange the service with the outlet supplying the lowest quote. This was seconded by Cllr Bright and RESOLVED.

**17/144 Handyman report:** Colin's report had been circulated and it was RESOLVED that payment for hours worked be made and that the expenses be reimbursed (Cllrs Bright and Spivey). The recommendations were considered and it was RESOLVED to i) ask DCC Highways to replace the broken 'to The Glebe' sign at the bottom of the footpath from The Glebe to School Lane and ii) to ask DCC to also replace the sign at 3 Lined Oak (past Berrysbridge) which should say 'Thorverton' and iii) that the rubbing down and re-varnishing of the benches on Leigh Gardens and Jubilee Green be added to the 'to do' list for the village tidy up day (Cllrs Lane and Spivey). It was agreed that the priority pot hole for filling should be the one on the entrance to the Quarry Car Park.

**17/145 Finance:**

1) It was RESOLVED to make the following payments (Cllrs Waldron and Spivey):

April 2018	Clerks salary (net of tax)	Including overtime of £74.41 gross. March 2018	£382.83 (no VAT)
	HMRC Clerk	Tax due	£ 20.20 (no VAT)
	Handyman's salary (net of tax)	March 2018	£110.75 (no VAT)
	HMRC Handyman	Tax due	£ 8.00 (no VAT)
	Clerks expenses	Stamps, heating, stationery	£ 26.78 (no VAT)
	Information Commissioners Office	ICO Annual Renewal	£ 35.00 (no VAT)
	Handyman expenses	Cement and local tip fees	£ 14.70 (no VAT)
	S Luxton	Dark Lane wall – previous cheque destroyed due to VAT not being included.	£120.00 (incl VAT)
	Veitch Penny LLP	Land Registry fee – Jubilee Green	£ 40.00 (no VAT)
	Mrs D May	Secure store quarterly rent	£ 65.00 (no VAT)
	Cllr J Hodge	Reimbursement of further shed base materials	£ 51.76 (incl VAT)
	P Marshall	Shed base works <b>PAID (info only)</b>	£240.00 (no VAT)

2) The bank balance, as at 31/03/2018, was noted as being £44,004.56 this being the year-end balance. Earmarked funds currently stand at £32,557.00

3) The year-end Accounts, to 31/03/2018, were approved by full Council

4) The bank reconciliation, to 31/03/2018, was approved by full Council and signed by Cllr Hodge

5) It was RESOLVED to sign and submit a Certificate of Exemption regarding this year's new External Audit process (Cllrs Bright and Waldron)

6) Receipts: it was noted that in early April the first half of the Precept payment had been received (£9,835.13) and that an annual Wayleave payment of £40.53 had also been received.

**17/146 Section 106 Funding:**

**A) Court Barton Funding** – further public feedback had been received suggesting ideas for the spending of these funds including the purchase of the Sheep Dip, the purchase of land, building a tennis court and a skate park, more benches around the village, a trim trail around the Rec and footpaths in the Millennium Field. A decision on the spending of these funds will take place at the May PC meeting. Cllr Bright proposed that the Clerk contact Strutt & Parker to enquire as to whether the Church Commissioners would be in a position to transfer the Sheep Dip to the PC and this was seconded by Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED. Cllr Lane proposed that any further suggestions should include a rough estimate of costs which was seconded by Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED.

**B) Barliabins Project Funding** - MDDC had accepted the proposed Barliabins Project, for the direction of future S106 funding, and it was RESOLVED that project costs should be split in two on the recommendation of MDDC (Cllrs Waldron Spivey).

**C) Broadlands Development Funding** – MDDC had confirmed that funding expected from the proposed Broadlands Development is to be directed towards the Recreation Ground/Football Club facilities and it was agreed that the PC should liaise with the Football Club in the near future regarding projects for this funding.

**17/147 Communications:**

**a)** MDDC 'Any Bin Will Do' Scheme. Noted and the Clerk would again request the previously agreed dog bin for Jericho Street and the litter bin for the Berrysbridge Road bus shelter.

**b)** Western Power Distribution – tree cutting around the village (at no cost). Noted.

**c)** Annual Parish Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - 27 local organisations had been invited and 8 had taken up the offer of a table at the event, at no cost, to date. Noted.

**d)** Voluntary Voice Elections 2018 – voting is open. Noted

**e)** Kier - Notification of Road Closure - SWW utility works at Latchmoor Cottages from 23/04 – 28/04/2018. The PC had been advised that these road works will **not** now need to take place.

**f)** Wicksteed matched funding poster. Noted

**g)** Cllr Waldron fed back verbal disappointment and questioning from members of the public regarding the PC going back on its initial decision to take back the verge along School Lane. Noted.

**17/148 Devon Air Ambulance:** Cllr Spivey reported that a meeting had taken place with Toby Russell who had suggested that the Rec would be the most suitable area for a night landing site due to electricity already being available from either the WI Hut or Football Club. It had been estimated that the project would cost £3,000. and that in addition to local fund raising C/Cllr Squires had already pledged £1000 towards costs. It was RESOLVED that Toby be asked to attend the June PC meeting (Cllrs Spivey and Waldron).

**17/149 Business at the Chairman's discretion:**

1) It was confirmed to Cllr Hodge that the blockage along the leat in Dinneford Meadow had now been cleared, temporarily, by Cllr Spivey and the Handyman but that, longer term, a more permanent solution would be required.

2) Cllr Sims reported that the concrete bollard at the top of Bullen Street had been knocked down and he volunteered to report this to DCC Highways.

**17/150 Annual Parish Meeting:** The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm, at Thorverton Memorial Hall and all are welcome to attend. Cllr Lane volunteered to take notes at this meeting, due to the Clerk having a pre-existing appointment, and Cllr Bright volunteered to supply refreshments.

**17/151 The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup> 2018, at 7.30pm, in the Thorverton WI Hut. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and all are welcome to attend.**

The meeting closed at 21.40

Chairman ..... Date .....