

**MINUTES of the THORVERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018,**  
**7.30pm, at the W.I. Hut, Thorverton**

**Present:** Cllr N Bright (Chairman), Cllr S Crang (Vice Chairman), Cllr Hodge, Cllr Spivey, Cllr Lane, Cllr Turner, Cllr Sims and Cllr Reygate.

**In attendance:** the Clerk and C/Cllr Squires.

Standing Orders suspended

**Presentation** by Toby Russell of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust – see item below.

**Presentation** by John Valentin of AC Archaeology – see item below.

**Public Open Session:** No members of the public present.

**Reports:**

**i) D/Cllr Deed** – no report **ii) PCSO Roberts** – no report

**iii) C/Cllr Squires** reported that due to recent BT Phase 1 improvements nearly 300,000 businesses and homes can now access superfast broadband speeds. BT Phase 2 will provide services for harder to reach areas meaning that a further 56,000 homes will get access to a superfast service by 2019/2020.

The Pothole gangs are out and about and more potholes are now being filled than are being reported through the DCC Highways website which members of the public are encouraged to use. February saw 16,000 potholes reported in this way across Devon compared to 15,000 in March. Priority is given to repairing safety defects on the A and B Road network and the potential severity of the consequences of an incident and likelihood.

Apprenticeships are in the news and are being marketed by DCC with 10 additional business admin posts and 4 civil engineering posts currently available.

Children's Services have had another eventful period and neighbouring partner authorities have agreed to bring together individual adoption services to form a Regional Adoption Agency. Schools have moved into brand new buildings and celebrations have taken place with Children in Care. Positive outcomes for children are key and the Children's Services continue to bring together a wide range of integrated support, from those that support children in our care, to early years and childcare, to specialist support for children with disabilities, and our schools.

Adult Services – work has been taking place across Devon to create a sustainable health and care system that will improve the health, wellbeing and care of the adult population. Devon has been leading the way and collaborating with system partners on many pieces of work. The Promoting Independence Policy and Doing What Matters work is supporting more people to be independent, reducing their need for services. There has been notable success with older people where providing the right care means that people can be more independent.

On Highways Cllr Hodge advised of the broken barrier outside of the Memorial Hall, which he had reported, and C/Cllr Squires confirmed that she would follow this upon safety grounds.

**iv) TMGT** – Cllr Spivey reported that a bridge is being constructed across the stream. Any volunteer help would be appreciated and the next working group will meet on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**v) Memorial Hall** – Cllr Hodge reported that the Beach Party will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> June and the Fun Day will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> July. There would be no Saturday Market in July.

**vi) Thorverton School** – Cllr Lane had nothing to report.

**vii) Focus** – Cllr Turner had nothing to report. Cllr Lane advised that Focus has given funding to the village WW1 Commemoration Group and also to the Baptist Church.

**viii) Saturday Markets** – in May Cllr Spivey had received complaints about rubbish in School Lane, although on investigation nothing was found, and a large pot hole outside of Lynch Farm which had since been reported on the DCC Highways website. At the June Market Cllr Bright received enquiries about the School Lane planning application and a request for the footpath from Dark Lane to Lynch Road to be strimmed which had now been done by the Handyman. Cllr Lane volunteered to cover the next Market in August.

Standing Orders resumed

**18/27 Apologies** for absence were received from Cllr Waldron, holiday, Cllr Lawson, family matters.

**18/28 Declarations of Interest** were received from Cllr Bright regarding a) DAAT Night Landing Site, regarding the use of the WI Hut for electricity, due to Mrs Bright being the President of the WI and b) Handyman report, regarding the Holly Trees at the Church, due to being a member of the PCC.

**18/29 Confirmation of Minutes** of the meeting of Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018: It was RESOLVED to sign the Minutes as a correct record of the meeting (Cllrs Turner and Reygate).

**18/30 Devon Air Ambulance Trust (DAAT):** following the earlier presentation it was RESOLVED that a letter should be sent to the WI to ask whether it would support the use of electricity at the WI Hut should the PC go forward with the night landing site project (Cllrs Spivey and Hodge). C/Cllr Squires had pledged £1,000. towards funding and it was suggested that monies could also be vired from the 'earmarked' defibrillator fund. It was considered important to obtain public opinion and feedback on the matter, especially from those living near to the Recreation Ground, and it was RESOLVED to put a notice in Focus, on the PC website, at the Doctors Surgery, in the Post Office, the WI Hut, on Next Door and the Thorverton Face Book (Cllrs Bright and Turner, 7 votes in favour, 1 vote against). Cllr Turner volunteered to post the notice on Facebook and Next Door on behalf of the PC.

**18/31 Development:**

**a) New Cemetery** – following the earlier presentation by John Valentin, AC Archaeology, it was RESOLVED that the Cemetery working party should meet with John Valentin to put together an Action Plan, regarding the way forward for the project, to include a bid application to the HLF and liaison with the Church Commissioners (Cllrs Bright and Hodge).

**b) Court Barton** – MDDC and DCH had both been chased, regarding the Deed of Variation, but no update had been received. The Clerk would chase again.

**18/32 S106 Court Barton funding** – it was noted that the Church Commissioners (CC) had responded to the PC's request to purchase a strip of land, from Silver Street down to the stream, stating that it was not prepared to sell the said land at the present time. No response had been received regarding the transfer of the Sheep Dip or as to whether any other land could be made available for an alternative new Cemetery site. It was RESOLVE that the Clerk 'phone Victoria Jarrad, Agent to the CC, to ascertain the CC's current policy regarding the selling of land in the parish, whether any land is for sale in Silver St or elsewhere in the parish, and to gain feedback regarding an alternative site for the new Cemetery and the Sheep Dip (Cllrs Crang and Spivey).

**18/33 Highways:**

**a) Dark Lane wall** – the report from the Structural Engineer, StructureHaus, had been received and circulated. Cllr Bright summarised the suggested requirements and proposed that he and Cllr Lawson form a working group to review the implications of the report, to ask any technical questions of the Structural Engineer, and to report back to the PC at the next meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Crang and RESOLVED.

**b) Cobble work around the new lamp post bases** – no response had been received from the MDDC Conservation Officer, or Jenny Clifford, Head of MDDC Planning, to date.

**18/34 Recreation Ground:**

**i) Multiplay equipment** - Cllr Sims reported that the materials for the mending of the Multiplay equipment had been purchased and that work would begin this week after security fencing had been sourced. Cllr Crang volunteered to dispose of the old materials. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Sims be reimbursed £97.38 for materials (Cllrs Bright and Turner).

**ii) New shed for the ride-on-mower** - Cllr Hodge reported that the shed was being made and that a delivery date of 26<sup>th</sup> June was anticipated. Cllr Hodge would arrange a working group to erect the unit.

**iii) Football Club Agreement** – Cllr Sims had spoken to members of the Football Club but none could recall a written/official Agreement regarding the cutting of the grass/use of the Football Pitch being in place. Cllr Crang

proposed that a meeting between Cllr Bright and the Football Club Chairman takes place to discuss the matter. Seconded by Cllr Reigate and RESOLVED.

**18/35 Handyman:** the Handyman’s report was reviewed and it was RESOLVED to pay the hours worked at £275.00 gross (Cllrs Bright and Hodge). The leat outside the Church had been cleared by the Chairman and his wife, due to the Holly leaves, and it was noted that one tree will be removed shortly. It was agreed that the Handyman should continue clearing the leat periodically. The grass around the play equipment in the Rec was reported to be in need of a cut and Cllr Sims would advise the Football Club accordingly.

**18/36 Village Tidy Up Day July 7<sup>th</sup> 2018:** it was agreed that all those involved should meet at Leigh Gardens, at 10am, to receive a list of tasks to be completed. Soft refreshments would be provided by Cllr Spivey. Cllr Bright proposed that drinks should be provided, by the PC, after the event which was seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED. The Clerk would put a poster in Focus, on the website, and on the village noticeboards. It was agreed that the Handyman would oversee the event.

**18/37 Finance:**

- 1) After feedback from Cllr Tuner, on behalf of the Grant Funding working group, it was RESOLVED to give The Royal British Legion the sum of £200.00 (£400 requested) towards its WW1 Commemorative Event in November (Cllrs Turner and Spivey).
- 2) It was RESOLVED to pay the ride-on-mower annual invoice from T&D Garden Machinery at £672.69 gross and the repairs completed were noted (Cllrs Bright and Crang).
- 3) It was RESOLVED to pay the Clerk the tax rebate received from HMRC, relating to a previous employment, of £6,954.03 plus interest of £443.07 (Cllrs Bright and Crang).
- 4) The bank balance, as at 01/06/2018, was noted to be £56,658.62 (including the abovementioned tax rebate) prior to the deduction of current ‘earmarked funds’ of £34,057.00
- 5) It was RESOLVED to make the following payments (Cllrs Bright and Hodge):

June 2018	Clerk salary – net payment	May basic pay gross £335.00 plus pay rise (w.e.f. 1/4/18) £6.38 plus Tax rebate interest £443.07 = Total £784.45 Less Tax and NI of £105.41	£ 679.04 net
	HMRC Clerk	Tax and NI due on gross salary	£ 105.41
	Clerk tax rebate lump sum	No Tax due	£6,954.03
	Handyman salary – net payment	May basic gross pay £275.00 Less Tax due - £23.80	£ 251.20 net
	HMRC Handyman	Tax due on gross salary	£ 23.80
	G Sims reimbursement	Multi-play equipment materials (Rec)	£ 97.38 (incl VAT)
	Countryside Tree Services	Tree work (Rec)	£ 300.00 (no VAT)
	T&D Garden Machinery	Mower service	£ 672.69 (incl VAT)
	Thorverton Memorial Hall	Room hire for TPC meetings	£ 300.00 (no VAT)
	GX Accountancy	Payroll (quarter ended 5 <sup>th</sup> July)	£ 18.75 (no VAT)
	The Royal British Legion	Grant Funding WW1 event	£ 200.00 (no VAT)
	D Jones	WW1 Com Event Grant Funding	(£ 200.00 paid May)

**Receipts in May:** a) HMRC £7,397.10 – Clerks tax rebate plus accrued interest from a previous employment b) Allotment rent/deposits £70.00. It was noted that all the Allotments are currently let.

**18/38 Communications:**

- a) **Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day** on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. It was agreed to consider the purchase of a new flag at the next meeting.
- b) **Thank You letter** – WW1 Commemoration Group regarding grant funding. Noted.
- c) **MDDC Fly a Flag for Armed Forces Day** on 30<sup>th</sup> June. Noted.
- d) **Zig zag lines in School Lane.** Cllr Bright he had received an e-mail from Thorverton School, in connection with a communication from DCC Highways, asking where the zig zag lines outside of the School should actually be. Cllr Bright contacted DCC Highways to advise of the position agreed back in 2017 being from the electric pole at the School Gates down to The Old Post Office at the junction. C/Cllr Squires had indicated that the work would take place within this tax year and it was agreed to put the matter on the July meeting Agenda.
- e) **DCC – Library Services for remote areas.** A copy of this document would appear on the PC noticeboard, website, and in Focus due to it inviting public response on the matter.

**18/39 Planning Applications:**

- a) **17/01716/FULL** widening of the existing access to agricultural land at School Lane, Thorverton. To note the Planning Committee meeting date of 13<sup>th</sup> June and to consider any PC representation or further action. Cllr Crang reported that a modified plan had been submitted today incorporating landscaping. No member of the PC was available to attend the meeting on behalf of the Council and there were no further comments to be submitted.
- b) **18/00656/House** erection of a 2 storey side extension plus single storey extensions to the front and rear at 4 Cleaves Close, Thorverton. It was RESOLVED to submit 'no comment' (Cllrs Turner and Spivey).
- c) **18/00704/FULL** retention of change of use from ancillary accommodation to holiday let at The Stables, Thorverton. It was RESOLVED to submit 'no comment' (Cllrs Bright and Turner).
- d) **18/00884/FULL** erection of a garage at The Tallet Barn, Heathfield, Thorverton. It was RESOLVED to submit 'no comment' (Cllrs Bright and Crang).

**18/40 Planning Decisions:**

- a) **18/00443/FULL** Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 16/00169/FULL to allow substitute plans at Tallet Barn, Heathfield Farm, Thorverton. Granted.

**18/41 Data Protection new rules – It was agreed to postpone this item until the July meeting.**

**18/42 Policies – it was agreed to postpone this item until the July meeting.**

**18/43 Business at the Chairman's discretion:**

- 1) Cllr Crang reported that the Jubilee Green registration had now been completed at the Land Registry. The Solicitors invoice would be considered at the July meeting.
- 2) Cllr Sims reported that a) the parish salt bins had been filled and b) Hulk Lane had not yet been given bridle path status and that the bollard lock, at the Yellowford Farm end of the lane, was broken.
- 3) Cllr Turner had received a complaint about a blackboard opposite the Baptist Church advertising 'fish and chips'. On investigation the board seems to have been removed for now.
- 4) Cllr Bright had received a complaint about the old 'Raddon sign' having been removed and reported that the said old sign is safe and sound in his garage in case of need.

**18/44 The next PC meeting: July 10th 2018, at 7.30pm, Thorverton WI Hut.**

The meeting closed at 22.01