

MINUTES of the THORVERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 11th September 2018
at 7.30pm in the Thorverton W.I.Hut

Present: Cllr S Crang, Cllr R Turner, Cllr D Reygate, Cllr G Sims, Cllr J Spivey, Cllr H Lawson, Cllr N Lane and Cllr J Hodge. Cllr Crang took the chair.

In attendance: the Clerk and one member of the public.

Standing Orders suspended.

Public Open Session:

One member of the public wished to speak regarding the development of old barns, Fortescue Farm, and he explained how the barns in question are no longer fit for purpose and so alternative usage was being sought. The application, reference EDDC 18/1661/FUL, consists of business units with parking. A Traffic Consultant has been used to assess the impact of traffic along the road between Brampford Speke and Thorverton and the findings are pending. Phase 1 would consist of 3 units, phase 2 of 6 units, which would offer affordable office space. Cllr Sims, as a member of Speedwatch, commented that the volume of traffic coming through Thorverton is ever increasing, with many vehicles speeding, and that this development would only increase this. Cllr Crang pointed out the square footage of the plan, at 800 square meters of office space, and how this may accommodate in the region of 70 working people which, in turn, could equate to around 120 more vehicle journeys through Fortescue Cross than currently being seen just for the daily commute. It was agreed that two roads through Thorverton would see increased traffic as a result of this development which was cause for concern. Cllr Lawson enquired about a preferred route from Exeter to the Farm and this was confirmed as being from Cowley. The Devon Highways commercial route is through Upton Pyne and around Nomans Chapel.

Reports:

- 1) **D/Cllr Deed** had e-mailed a report – at a recent Environment Policy Development Group an Officer Report was presented and D/Cllr Deed proposed a motion that a recommendation be made to the MDDC Cabinet that it engages in the process for the Exe Valley to be classed as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This matter was first raised in 2013 and supported by D/Cllr Deed.
- 2) **C/Cllr Squires** joined the meeting at 20.30 and reported that she had spent the summer meeting with young people and their carers with focus on social care and working closer with children approaching adult hood. This area has been problematical in the past but improved processes are now in place which are beginning to make a difference.
- 3) **Police Statistics** for the month of June, being the most recent information available, indicated no reported crimes.

Standing Orders resumed.

Representative reports:

- 1) **TMGT** – Cllr Spivey reported that the Millennium Green has benefitted from a new foot bridge and that a new strimmer had been purchased to keep paths clear. A brass plaque, in memory of Dame Margaret, had been placed under a new Lime Tree. The Green was recently used as part of the Fun Day for the car show and archery.
- 2) **Memorial Hall** – Cllr Hodge reported that the Fun Day was a success and that two weddings will shortly take place.
- 3) **School** – nothing to report 4) **Focus** – nothing to report.

18/68 **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Bright, holiday, and Cllr Waldron, pre-arranged appointment.

18/69 **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Reygate declared an interest in planning application ref: 18/01063/HOUSE this being on his own residential property. Cllr Lawson declared an interest regarding the Cleaves Close and Fortescue Farm planning applications due to being the Agent.

18/70 **Confirmation of Minutes** of the meeting of Tuesday 10th July 2018: it was RESOLVED that these were a correct record of the meeting (Cllrs Turner and Lawson).

1871 **Devon Air Ambulance Trust – helicopter night landing site for Thorverton:**

1) **Public Meeting** - Cllr Lane reported that the public meeting of 5th September, which 35 members of the public had attended, had been a positive event with 100% of attendees voting in favour of the project. Toby Russell, DAAT, had given a professional presentation and had answered all questions raised. Funding matters were discussed in full to ensure transparency.

2) **DAAT project** - after discussion it was RESOLVED that the PC would go forward with the project and that planning permission for the lighting pole should now be applied for (Cllrs Spivey and Hodge).

3) **Communities Together Grant Funding** – it was RESOLVED to submit the grant funding application for £1.300. (Cllrs Spivey and Hodge). Cllr Reygate reported that a local band had offered to play, free of charge, at the Memorial Hall, which would also not charge, in order to raise funds for this project.

18/72 Development:

New Cemetery

a) HLF Funding - agreement had been gained from both the Church Commissioners and the tenant farmer of the chosen site, off Dark Lane, to go ahead with the further archaeological dig. It was agreed that the Clerk should now liaise with the HLF in order that the funding bid could move forward.

b) DALC Cemetery Management training course - it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should attend this course on Sept 13th at a cost of £80 plus VAT (Cllrs Crang and Turner).

Court Barton

MDDC had confirmed that the amended Deed of Variation was now nearing completion.

18/73 S106 Court Barton funding: the Church Commissioners had confirmed that it was not in a position to sell any land off Silver Street, opposite Court Barton Close, to the Parish Council for recreational purposes. It would, however, be willing to enter into negotiations regarding the transfer of the Sheep Dip to the Parish Council and further information had been requested. Cllr Turner suggested talking to private land owners along Silver Street about the possible purchase of land for recreational purposes and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Crang would contact three land owners in this regard (Cllrs Spivey and Lawson).

It was agreed at this point to postpone agenda items relating to Highways matters until the arrival of C/Cllr Squires.

18/74 Recreation Ground:

i) Mower – Cllr Sims reported on the state of the ride-on-mower which he felt would need replacing in the near future. It was RESOLVED that a working group should be formed to look into the cost of replacing the mower and also contract hire. Cllrs Sims, Turner and Spivey volunteered to form the working group (Cllrs Turner and Spivey).

ii) Eligible drivers of the ride-on-mower – this matter was discussed following advice from the insurers and Cllr Lane proposed that the football club be asked to provide assurance that any driver it uses is deemed competent prior to driving the machine. This was seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED.

iii) Insurance of the ride-on-mower - it was RESOLVED that as the mower was now situated on the Rec the Insurance should be amended, as recommended by the Insurers, saving the Parish Council funds on the annual Insurance premium and that a SORN should be obtained by the Clerk (Cllrs Crang and Hodge).

iv) Grass Cutting Agreement – it was RESOLVED that after the addition of ii) above the draft Agreement, created by Cllr Crang, should be sent to the Chairman of Thorverton Football Club for review prior to signature by both sides (Cllrs Lawson and Sims).

v) Play Equipment - following an email from a resident regarding the current state of the multi play equipment Cllr Sims confirmed that he had now made good the rough wood area with wood filler. It was RESOLVED that reimbursement of costs, totalling £29.98, should be made to Cllr Sims (Cllrs Crang and Turner).

vi) Sport England – a bag of children's sport equipment had been received, at no cost, from Sport England and it was RESOLVED that this should be given to the School (Cllrs Turner and Hodge).

18/75 Highways:

a) Dark Lane wall – Cllr Lawson reported that the agreed planning application had been submitted and that the fee of £137.00 was now due. It was RESOLVED that, as the invoice had arrived too late to appear on the agenda, the Clerk would pay and re-claim the fee, as per Standing Orders, so as to enable the process to continue (Cllrs Lawson and Crang). It was reported that tenders for the wall repair work would be sent out shortly.

b) Lamp post cobble work – no response had been received and so the Clerk would contact MDDC again.

c) Zig zag lines in School Lane – after consideration of the DCC Traffic Regulation Amendment Order document, together with an e-mail received from a member of the public, it was RESOLVED to submit a comment to DCC in that 'Thorverton Parish Council welcomes the proposal and considers it to be a good move towards trying to alleviate the parking problem and improve safety along School Lane (Cllrs Lane and Lawson).

d) Hulk Lane – dedication of Public Bridleway – correspondence from DCC, together with queries from members of the public regarding whether the Highway was now 'lost', were reviewed and it was reported that clarification on several points was pending from DCC. It was agreed to review the matter further next month. Cllr Spivey enquired as to whether the diversion signs around the village could be removed as Hulk Lane was now open and it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate this. It was noted that no 'stopping up order' had been issued and should this happen the Parish Council has a right to object to it in order to keep the Highway open.

e) Salt Bins - Cllr Sims reported that the salt bin by the Sheep Dip was damaged and the Clerk agreed to look into this and to forward details regarding replacement bins.

18/76 Handyman: this month's report was considered and it was RESOLVED to pay the gross salary of £325.00 and expenses of £147.11 (Cllrs Turner Lawson). It was noted that the public notice board in School Lane and the Council notice board at The Quarry Car Park had been refurbished. Cllr Spivey proposed that the mud in the stream by Jericho Street be removed by the Handyman which was seconded by Cllr Sims and RESOLVED.

18/77 Finance:

- 1) The bank balance as at 01/09/2018 was noted as being £47,528.15 and the latest bank reconciliation was signed by Cllr Turner on behalf of the Council.
- 2) The on-line banking forms were signed by all present to enable the process to move forward.
- 3) It was RESOLVED to make the following payments (Cllrs Reygate and Turner):

August & September 2018	Clerk salary	August & Sept basic pay gross £670.00 Less tax due £13.40 Net payment = £656.60	£656.60
	HMRC (Clerk)	Tax due on August & Sept salary	£ 13.40
	Clerk expenses	Refreshments, stationery, annual garden waste bin permit	£ 83.45 (VAT n/a)
	Handyman salary	August & Sept basic pay gross £325.00 Less tax due £33.60 Net payment = £291.40	£291.40
	HMRC (Handyman)	Tax due on August & Sept salary	£ 33.60
	Handyman expenses	Weedkiller, face mask, nylon wire for strimmer and new strimmer head	£147.11 (incl VAT)
	G Sims - expenses	Rec equipment - reimbursement	£ 29.98 (incl VAT)
	StructureHaus	Dark Lane wall – Engineers Report	£947.58 (incl VAT)
	Strutt & Parker	Allotment field half year rent	£ 90.00 (VAT n/a)
	GX Accountancy	Quarterly payroll invoice	£ 18.75 (VAT n/a)
	EDF Energy	Jubilee Green xmas tree lights bill	£ 56.33 (VAT incl)
	Thorverton Memorial Hall	Vodafone annual electricity funding	£ 20.00 (VAT n/a)

Banked Receipts July/August: Garage Rents £560.00, NSC PC £64.00, VAT £677.84, DCC Grant £158.40 noted.

18/78 Communication Process: Cllr Lane presented a draft document detailing a proposed communication process. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should refer the document to DALC for comment and in order that it could be confirmed that the proposals met the new General Data Protection Rules (May 2018). It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the next meeting (Cllrs Crang and Spivey).

18/79 Communications:

- a) **New bench for the Quarry Car Park** in memory of Sybil Tulloch dec'd. After discussion Cllr Turner proposed that this request be supported, seconded by Cllr Lawson and RESOLVED. The Clerk would inform the donors and advise that, once in situ, the bench would become the property of the Parish Council meaning that future maintenance, for example, would need to be overseen by the Parish Council. The Post Office would be advised accordingly.
- b) **Complaint regarding an allotment bonfire** – dealt with by the Clerk with no further intervention required.
- c) **DCC Eventbrite Crowdfund Devon launch.** Noted.
- d) **MDDC Consultation on Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy.** Noted.
- e) **Liverty.com / Court Barton shared ownership homes.** Noted.
- f) **D&C Police** – invitation to an informal meeting on 19th September. Noted.
- g) **MDDC – Tour of Britain route.** Noted.
- h) **MDDC – supplement environment PDG Agenda Item – Exe Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.** Noted. Cllr Lawson volunteered to research the proposal and to feed back to Council next month.
- i) **DALC – annual report.** Noted.
- j) **SWW – installation of Event Date Monitoring at Bullen Street CSO in the Quarry Car Park.** Following discussion it was RESOLVED that a prior to the work taking place a request for a dry sewer connection in the Quarry Car Park be made which could be input at the time of the work taking place (Cllrs Crang and Lawson).
- k) **Grant Giving** – return of £200 cheque from the Thorverton WW1 Commemoration Group. Noted.
- l) **MDDC S106 amendments (2015).** Noted.

18/80 Planning Applications:

- a) **18/01063/HOUSE** (Cllr Reygate declared an interest) external alterations including erection of garden room, installation of additional window and erection of fence at Hillbrook, Jericho Street, Thorverton. Now granted.
- b) **18/01116/HOUSE** (Cllr Lawson declared an interest) erection of single storey extension to front, side, and rear following demolition of existing single storey side extension at 2 Cleaves Close, Thorverton. Now granted.
- c) **18/01099/HOUSE** installation of Synergy Wastewater P6 3000 litre septic tank and associated pipework at Raddon Cottage, Thorverton. Now granted.
- d) **EDDC 18/1661/FUL** (Cllr Lawson declared an interest and left the room) change of use of 2 barns to class B1 at Fortescue Farm, Netherexe. After discussion it was RESOLVED that an objection should be lodged against this application together with the comment 'while the Parish Council sees the re-use of old barns as positive it objects to this proposal on the grounds of increased traffic along the single lane roads within the parish of Thorverton especially along School Lane, Bullen Street, and The Bury. It should also be noted that School Lane passes the gate of Thorverton Primary School and any increased traffic along this road would be cause for concern' (Cllrs Lane and Turner, five votes in favour, no votes against, two abstentions). Cllr Lawson re-joined the meeting.
- e) **18/01291/FULL** erection of replacement bungalow, garage and workshop, following demolition of existing bungalow at Berrysbridge Lodge, Thorverton. It was RESOLVED to make no comment. (Cllrs Turner and Lawson).

18/81 Planning Decisions – noted:

- a) **17/01716/FULL** widening of the exiting access to agricultural land at School Lane, Thorverton. Refused.
- b) **18/00704/FULL** retention of change of use from ancillary accommodation to holiday let at The Stable, Thorverton. Approved.
- c) **18/00844/FULL** erection of a garage at Tallet Barn, Heathfield, Thorverton. Granted.
- d) **18/00986/CAT** notification of intention to fell 1 Spruce tree within a Conservation Area at Black Rod, Jericho Street, Thorverton. No objection.
- e) **18/00977/HOUSE** erection of a barn for ancillary domestic use and storage of tractor and garden machinery at Orchard House, Thorverton. Granted.
- f) **17/00878/MOUT** outline for the erection of up to 16 dwellings with associated access, landscaping and other ancillary development at land South of Broadlands, Thorverton. Granted.
- g) **18/01099/HOUSE** and LBC external alterations including erection of garden room, installation of additional window and erection of fence at Hillbrook, Jericho Street, Thorverton. Granted.
- h) **18/01116/HOUSE** erection of single storey extension to front, side, and rear following demolition of existing single storey side extension at 2 Cleaves Close, Thorverton. Granted.

18/82 Defibrillator Paediatric Electrodes: following an enquiry from a member of the public the need for separate paediatric electrodes was discussed. It was RESOLVED to take the advice of the South West Ambulance Service and the British Heart Foundation and to not proceed with the purchase of additional pads as it had been confirmed that the current pads were for use on both adults and children (Cllrs Spivey and Turner).

18/83 Business at the Chairman's discretion:

- 1) Cllr Lawson had received requests from members of the public for mirrors to be placed on the lamp post at the bus stop opposite the School Lane junction and asked for this matter, along with the general safety of School Lane, to be put on the October agenda. This was agreed.
- 2) Cllr Spivey had been asked by a member of the public whether the DAAT helicopter night landing site decision could ever be revoked and it was agreed to put this matter on the next agenda.
- 3) Cllr Spivey suggested that the working party responsible for putting up the new mower shed in the Rec, which took 3.5 hours, be thanked. Cllr Crang thanked all involved on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 4) Cllr Sims asked for the Christmas tree arrangements to be put on the next agenda which was agreed. It was noted that the current lights should be tested and may need replacing.
- 5) Cllr Reygate had thanked the resident for cutting back the brambles along Silver Street on behalf of the Parish Council and it was noted that the farmer had also contributed to the hedge trimming.

18/84 The next Parish Council meeting will take place on October 9th 2018 at the **Thorverton W.I.Hut**, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 22.06pm.

Chairman 09 October 2018