

**MINUTES of the THORVERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday January 8th 2019,
7.30pm, at the Thorverton Memorial Hall**

Present: Cllr N Bright (Chairman), Cllr S Crang (Vice Chairman), Cllr N Lane, Cllr J Spivey, Cllr R Turner, Cllr G Sims and Cllr H Lawson.

In Attendance: the Clerk, D/Cllr Deed and two members of the public.

Standing Orders suspended.

Public Open Session:

One member of the public wished to air his views regarding the publishing of documents, the spending of funds, and the Dark Lane wall matter. Another member of the public enquired as to the Clerks contact regarding the proposed footpath from Silver Street to the Millennium Green and it was agreed that the Clerk would supply this information.

External Reports:

i) D/Cllr Deed reported that Cllr Jenny Roach, Ward Cllr for Silverton, had passed away and that he would be covering any related duties until the May Election. MDDC had agreed to lend 2.1 million to the NHS and this decision had been called in for questioning and D/Cllr Deed would be attending the meeting.

ii) C/Cllr Squires – no report.

iii) Police statistics – 3 crimes had been reported in November being the latest figures available. ‘Other Miscellaneous Crime’ at or near Cleaves Close – formal action is not in the public interest and the case has been closed. ‘Anti-Social Behaviour’ at or near Silver Street – investigation complete and no suspect identified. ‘Criminal Damage and Arson’ at or near Silver Street – no detail provided to the public for this type of crime.

Standing Orders resumed.

18/148 Representative reports:

i) TMGT – fence repairs are ongoing and the working party would meet on the 4th Saturday in January.

ii) Memorial Hall – no report. **iii) School** – no report. **iv) Focus** – no report. **v) Saturday Market** – no Market in January. A photograph of Parish Councillors and a document stating the roles and responsibilities of a Council had been laminated and made available for future Markets together with a handout detailing ‘headline news’ and how the Council spends the Precept. The latest Minutes would also be available showing current projects. Cllr Spivey volunteered to make a new sign for the table and Cllr Lane volunteered to attend the February meeting.

18/149 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Waldron, holiday, Cllr Reygate, family matters, Cllr Hodge, illness, and C/Cllr Squires, previous commitment.

18/150 Declarations of Interest: none made.

18/151 Confirmation of Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 11th December 2018: it was RESOLVED to sign the Minutes as a correct record of the meeting (Cllrs Spivey and Sims).

18/152 Budget and Precept for the 2019/2020 tax year: following a review of the circulated draft Budget document the following amendments were agreed -

a) It was RESOLVED to add £2000 to the play/gym equipment sinking fund (Cllrs Crang and Lawson)

b) It was RESOLVED to remove the £4000 allocated for the Dark Lane wall re-build (Cllr Bright and Lawson)

c) It was RESOLVED to amend £3000 to £2000 regarding the contribution towards a new ride-on-mower (Cllrs Spivey and Lane) **d)** It was RESOLVED to remove the £2000 miscellaneous fund (Cllrs Lawson and Crang)

The overall result of these amendments reduced the draft Budget by £5,000. It was RESOLVED to accept the amended Budget and to submit a Precept demand of £16,650 gross / £15,602 net after deduction of anticipated income for the year (Cllrs Bright and Crang). It was noted that the MDDC grant is no longer available.

18/153 Highways:

a) Lamp post cobble work – the Contractors had agreed to re-do the cobble work which was now pending. Cllr Lawson had been contacted by the Contractors regarding the collection of cobbles.

b) Hulk Lane – dedication of Public Bridleway – a response from DCC was read out. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Mr Vaughan of DCC inviting him to the February meeting to gain clarification due to ongoing concerns that public access to the Lane could be lost (Cllrs Crang and Lane).

c) School Lane/Bullen Street junction safety – no response to date.

d) Raddon sign post quote – DCC Highways was unable to provide a quote for an official sign and suggested that one be obtained from an independent source. It was RESOLVED to obtain an official quote (Cllrs Lawson and Crang).

e) Clearing of the Brook at Stonebridge – Cllr Crang had spoken to local Contractors in order to obtain a quote for submission to Devon County Council as it had agreed to cover the cost of dredging the stream on this occasion.

f) Dark Lane width – no update from C/Cllr Squires.

18/154 Dark Lane Wall: no update was available as the planned meeting with the MDDC Conservation Officer was still pending. A discussion around steps being incorporated into the re-building of the wall, to aid access to the new Cemetery and existing Churchyard, would be considered at the meeting.

18/155 Devon Air Ambulance Trust: Cllr Lawson had completed the planning application for the lighting pole and the fee of £117 would be placed on the next agenda for reimbursement together with a cost of £30.43 for the required Ordinance Survey map. The ‘Stay Lucky’ fund raising event, 2nd March 2019, would be discussed further at the February meeting - posters for this event had been put on the website and both notice boards.

18/156 New Cemetery: the planned meeting with John Valentin had been postponed due to illness and so the completed draft funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund remained pending. Letters of support for the project had been received from Tiverton Museum and Thorverton School, to date, and the Leonard Trust had indicated grant funding availability. An application to The Norman Trust had been invited and would be submitted. A resident from Silverton, training to be a commercial drone pilot, had offered his services. DCC Archaeological Department funding towards the bid to the HLF for this, and the next tax year, were yet to be confirmed. It was noted that 30 volunteers had shown an interest in being part of the pending archaeological dig on the proposed Dark Lane site so far.

18/157 S106 Court Barton funding:

a) Sheep Dip purchase – a local Land Agent had confirmed that he would be prepared to act on behalf of the PC regarding the purchase of the Sheep Dip site. The hourly rate for this would be £175 plus VAT which it was hoped could be re-claimed from S106 monies. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the Agent be asked to provide a quote for preparing an offer letter to the Church Commissioners, on behalf of the PC, for the proposed purchase of the Sheep Dip site at a nominal cost (Cllrs Crang and Turner).

b) Silver Street to Millennium Green land purchase – nothing further to report at this time.

18/158 Allotment renewals: Cllr Sims declared a pecuniary interest due to being a tenant giving up a plot and so left the room. Cllr Lane declared a personal interest due to being an allotment holder. The Chairman reported that in total there are 28 allotments and that 19 existing tenants had already renewed their Agreement for a further year. Two plots had been given up and re-let. It was RESOLVED to refund the £25 deposit to previous tenants of plots 4 and 29 (Cllrs Crang and Bright). Outstanding renewals would be chased. Cllr Sims re-joined the meeting.

18/159 Community Together Grant Funding Application: it was RESOLVED to apply for grant funding towards a new ride-on-mower for the Recreation Ground (Cllrs Bright and Spivey). The draft application would be considered in February.

18/160 Christmas tree: the lights had been switched off and the tree would be taken down tomorrow. It was agreed that additional lights should be purchased, in accordance with the resent resolution, and that the Handyman should purchase these. Thank you messages were agreed for R.Ayres and P.Marshall (Cllrs Turner and Bright).

18/161 Recreation Ground: there was no update regarding grant funding for a new mower. The PC was sad to hear of the recent death of Mrs D May and it was RESOLVED to send a message of sympathy to her family (Cllrs Crang and Bright). The Clerk would liaise with the family regarding the rented store and it was agreed to use the new shed at the Recreation Ground for future tool storage as and when required.

16/162 Finance:

1) The bank balance as at 01/01/2019 was noted as being £54,669.88 prior to deduction of earmarked and ring-fenced funding.

2) It was RESOLVED to make the following payments (Cllrs Bright and Turner):

A Marshall - Clerk salary	January pay gross £358.29 Less any tax due -£ 11.20	£347.09
HMRC (A Marshall)	Tax due Clerk	£11.20
A Marshall - Clerk expenses	Heating/stamps/ink/card	£29.78 (VAT n/a)

	D May	Secure store quarterly rent	£65.00 (VAT n/a)
	G Sims	Allotment deposit refunds	£25.00 (VAT n/a)
	D Barker	Plots 4 and 29	£25.00 (VAT n/a)
	Royal British Legion	Donation (agreed December meeting)	£20.00 (VAT n/a)

3) Banked Receipts December: MDDC DAAT grant funding £1459.00, Allotments £105.00, Openreach – one-off Wayleave £25.00, Stackhouse Poland – mower insurance refund £107.69, Bank Interest £20.07

18/163 Grant Funding – Mid Devon Mobility: it was RESOLVED to grant £200. (Cllrs Spivey and Crang).

18/164 Speedwatch: the first annual meeting of Speedwatch, a public open meeting, would take place on 30th January at the Memorial Hall at 7pm. Cllr Lane volunteered to attend on behalf of the PC.

18/165 A) Planning Applications:

- i) **18/01589/HOUSE** change of description and revised drawing – erection of a 2 storey side extension, single storey side and rear extensions and front porch after demolition of existing garage and conservatory, including works to access, at Laburnum Cottage, Thorverton. Cllr Bright proposed that ‘no further comment’ be submitted, seconded Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED.
- ii) **18/02018/FULL** revised scheme - conversion of barn to dwelling at Pitt Farm, Thorverton. It was RESOLVED to submit ‘no comment’ on this application (Cllrs Crang and Lawson).

B) Planning Decisions:

- i) **18/01620/PNCOU** prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to dwelling under Class Q at Thatchers Lane, Thorverton. Approved.
- ii) **18/01851/NMA & LBC** non material amendment for 17/00467/HOUSE to allow addition of railings and balustrade to outside stone steps at Court Barton, Thorverton. Granted.
- iii) **18/01647/CLP** certificate of lawful use for a proposed use or development - siting of a caravan to provide additional accommodation to the main house at Stone Bungalow, Thorverton. Approved.
- iv) **18/01654/HOUSE & LBC** erection of 2 storey side and rear extension after demolition of existing 2 storey side extension at Berribrige House, Thorverton. Approved.

18/166 SWW – Installation of Event Date Monitoring (Quarry Car Park): the work, consisting of a trench from Bullen Street, through the car park to the box to the left of the Post Office to lay a cable to monitor sewage flow, would take place between 18–22 February 2019. Disruption to traffic flow at the top of Bullen Street and to access to the car park was to be expected. A local Land Agent had offered his services to act on behalf of the PC in the claiming of compensation from SWW for any loss or damage caused by the works. It was RESOLVED to appoint Terra Nova Land Management to cover any work that may arise in this regard on the understanding that any fees will be recoverable from SWW (Cllrs Crang and Spivey). Cllr Crang agreed to oversee this matter.

18/167 Communications:

- a) Mid Devon Local Plan Review – hearings to take place during February. Noted.
- b) MDDC – Elections 2019 press release. Noted.
- c) CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) – Newsletter and invitation to join. Noted.
- d) Devon Highways – Newsletter. Noted.
- e) DALC invitation to the Royal Garden Party. It was agreed that the previous resolution should apply.
- f) Further e-mail from a resident regarding PC spending – it was RESOLVED that the PC had nothing further to add to its previous response (Cllrs Lane and Crang).

18/168 Memorial Hall notice board in the Quarry Car Park: the Memorial Hall Committee had requested permission to put a new notice board, at no cost to the Parish Council, at the entrance of the car park to advertise future Hall events. It was RESOLVED to grant permission for this (Cllrs Turner and Lawson).

18/169 Meetings

- i) **Meeting Venue:** it was RESOLVED to book the Memorial Hall for future PC meetings until further notice (Cllrs Crang and Lawson) due to the availability of WiFi. Cllr Bright declared a personal interest due to his wife being President of the Womens Institute.
- ii) **Annual Parish Meeting:** It was agreed by all present to postpone this matter until the February agenda.

iii) September meeting: It was RESOLVED to hold the September meeting a week early, on September 3rd, to accommodate the Clerks holiday request (Cllrs Turner and Lawson).

18/170 Assets of Community Value: Cllr Lane reported on this matter and it was noted that The Thorverton Arms is currently listed with MDDC under this heading and that the listing expires in May this year. The PC was asked to consider whether a request to have the building re-listed was felt appropriate and whether any other local buildings should also be listed. It was agreed by all present to continue these discussions at the February meeting.

18/171 Welcome Pack: it was agreed by all present to postpone this agenda item until the February meeting.

18/172 Court Barton Deed of Variation: the document had now been engrossed, LiveWest had signed it and it had now been sent to Westhaven Homes for execution. The process is, therefore, nearing completion.

18/173 Business at the Chairman's discretion:

- 1) Western Power Distribution are to cut back overhanging branches at Barliabins to avoid contact with power lines.
- 2) Cllr Spivey asked for the matter of paying £35 to the Website Manager to oversee the recommended process upon the death of HRH The Queen to be put on the next agenda which was agreed.
- 3) Cllr Sims reported that a manhole cover at the top of Bullen Street had sunk and asked for this to be put on the next agenda for comment from C/Cllr Squires which was agreed.

18/174 The next meeting of the Parish Council: February 12th 2019, 7.30pm, at the Thorverton Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 22.18

Chairman 12/02/2019