

*THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL*  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th MARCH 2024**

Present: Cllr P Christie (Chairman), Cllr R Munday & Cllr W Odling.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bourner – Clerk  
Simon Bowder- Thruxton Circuit  
Greg Michalczyk & Judy Hart-Kimpton Parish Council  
Matthew Hinds- Fyfield Parish Council  
Tim Grimshaw-Ampport Parish Neighbourhood Plan Group  
18 members of the public

**1) Apologies for Absence.**

There were apologies for absence from HCC Chris Donnelly, TVBC Phil Lashbrook, Cllr Cotterill & Cllr Sherlock

**TVBC Draft local plan 2040/Simon Bowder -Thruxton Circuit.**

2) Cllr Christie explained to all present that the Draft Local Plan is now out for consultation and any member of the public can review and comment on this. The plan sets out the vision for planning regulations and proposed building in Test Valley from 2029 to 2040. Details of this will be circulated with the newsletter to all households along with details of public exhibitions.

The plan includes proposals for housing development in the borough although none of these are in Thruxton parish. The closest is between Little Shoddesden and Ludgershall, a total of 1500 houses which may increase traffic in both the village and the surrounding area.

The plans does however include a proposal to develop the industrial estate on Thruxton Airfield land. He also mentioned that the circuit is in the process of being sold and the new owner, a classic car racing enthusiast, has agreed to come to the Parish Assembly to talk about his plans for the future.

Simon Bowder addressed the meeting; he explained the sale of the circuit should be complete by the end of April and that the new owner is keen to continue the great work that already goes on at the airfield site at present.

He said the proposal included in the draft plan is to develop the current industrial estate which is now reaching the end of its viable life. He said representatives of the airfield have been in talks with TVBC over the last 4 years regarding this proposal. He said the plans are not of a large scale, the site is 15 hectares and currently a brown field site.

He explained that consultation was necessary and following this TVBC must agree to allocate the land for potential redevelopment before any firm plans can be made. The policy also contains several criteria which will have to be met.

If the land is allocated, plans as to what might be developed will be drawn up. He said this is highly unlikely to be large scale and will not be for residential properties. The current thinking is light industrial and small-scale units for small business making and or repairing things.

The possibility of road changes including a new road junction on the A303, the closure of Aerodrome Road to traffic and changes to extend and improve footpaths were all things to consider should planning permission eventually be agreed.

The public present were then given the opportunity to ask questions-

Q- The SHEELA (land allocation) report says this proposal included 63000sq m of usable office space- are there any plans on how to use these.

A-This is based on very approximate calculations based on the size of land, there is unlikely to be the need for so much office space

Q- There is a rumour a hotel is to be built, is this true?

A- This is a possible use of the site but it is not clear this will meet the policy criteria. The question of viability will also arise given the close proximity of other hotels.

Q- Can you provide a likely time frame for key stages in the process-

A- final plan is expected to be adopted following all consultations by the end of 2025/early 2026. This all depends on current legislation and this might change following a general election.

Q-What plans are there for the field next to The Moorings, there are several ramshackle sheds at present, could this be a possible site for housing.

A-this was considered but it does not meet the draft plan criteria for the village

Q-Pillhill Brook rises on land belonging to the circuit which flows through land at Thruxton Manor and into the village. This would need to be protected. Any development will need to ensure this is not affected.

A- All Parish Councils belonging to the pan parish forum have agreed to buy testing kits to test the water quality going forward which will help.

Q-what employment opportunities will arise?

A- Until firm plans are in place this cannot be ascertained but this should be significantly increased from the current level.

Q-Thruxton Neighbourhood Plan policy regarding the airfield says there will be support for development that supports Motor Racing and airfield

A-noted

To sum up the new owner is keen to see investment at Thruxton in line with other racing circuits in the country. Areas which might be addressed are improved catering and grandstand. Better use of the airfield site will also be considered, perhaps with an air flight training school. Racing will not be affected; this is still controlled by the rules as set out by the court order and monitored by Thruxton Protection Society.

### **Public Participation**

3) A member of public present highlighted concerns about overhanging hedges in particular over the footpath linking Village Street and Lambourne Close which is not now passable at night. A general request will be included in the newsletter.

Concern was raised regarding the numerous traffic signs and sand bags left around village. Cllr Christie said he has asked the project leader of the Southern Water works to remove these.

### **Declarations of Interest**

4) There were no declarations of interest. All councillors present confirmed that no changes to register of interest forms were required.

### **Minutes**

5) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> February were confirmed as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Odling, seconded Cllr Christie. All in favour.

### **Clerks Reports**

6) The Clerk reported

The speed awareness sign on Stanbury Road has been turned round to collect data from traffic heading up hill. Thanks were expressed to Greg Langfield and Graham Harris for carrying out the work.

All advertisers for the Thruxton Times had been invoiced for the coming year.

She confirmed the Globe Acer tree had been purchased and was ready for planting. Cllr Munday has agreed to plant the tree but a site has yet to be agreed.

The Parish Council agreed they need to seriously consider allowing further planting of commemorative trees on their land in future.

The vacancy for a Parish Councillor can now be filled by Co-Option.

### **Upkeep of Sports Field.**

7) The Clerk confirmed she had now set up a contract with Ray Welch to carry out grass maintenance at the Three Villages Sports Field in 2024. £500 had been committed to this

project by Kimpton Parish Council, Fyfield Parish Council, Thruxton Parish Council and the Three Villages Sports Trust. This provides funds for 12 complete cuts of the field with strimming of all areas including the play area.

### **County and Borough Councillors' Report**

8) HCC Chris Donnelly had sent apologies

TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook had sent apologies

### **9) Finance**

To note the bank balances as at 25/02/2024

Lloyds £15974.50

United Trust Reserve £14083.63

ii) To approve the following payments and authorise online transactions: -

H Bourner salary	£624.20
HMRC	£5.80
H Bourner exp.	£18.00
Thruxton Memorial Hall	£36.00
Taits	£52.00
SSE (DD)	£57.30
H Bourner salary	£624.20
TVBC dog waste bin	£133.94
HALC training	£57.60

### **Planning**

15) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/00094/FULLN-replace conservatory roof, 2 Lambourne Way-no objections

**Resolved:** that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

24/00218/FULLN- create additional hard standing, land east of Thruxton Down House- objections given permission in past is for agricultural purposes not commercial.

24/00301/TREEN- pollard Sycamore, fell ash-The Moorings-no objections

Cllr Christie confirmed the period for public comment on housing behind Stanbury Close has now closed. A decision from TVBC is awaited. The Clerk will ask TVBC for an updated decision date as this is not on the website.

Cllr Munday reported an enforcement letter has been issued by TVBC regarding the refused application at Thruxton Down Farm. This states the site should be returned to its original use. There is a 28-day window for the applicant to appeal, following this 3-4 months are allowed for work to be carried out.

### **Attendance at Events**

16) The Clerk and Cllr Munday will attend the TVAPTC meeting at Longstock Village Hall on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Community Thanks**

12) None this meeting.

### **Correspondence**

18) The Clerk highlighted correspondence as follows: -

An email regarding noise at the Race Circuit expressing concerns that there is non-compliance with the court order in place

### **Items for next agenda**

19) Presentation by TVBC officer Andrew Pilley regarding Thriving Communities Councillor responsibilities

Moving defibrillator

**Community News**

**20)** Cllr Christie reported following a successful village meeting a group had been formed to organise a Village Fete in 2024. A date for the fete has been set-17<sup>th</sup> August.  
All Councillors agreed The Parish Council could support with finance as required.

**Date of next meeting**

21) The next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.