

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1st JANUARY 2023

Present: Cllr P Christie (Chairman), Cllr J Davis (Vice Chairman) Cllr Mrs P Harris, Cllr R Munday & Cllr W Odling.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bourner – Clerk
HCC Chris Donnelly
TVBC Phil Lashbrook
TVBC Linda Lashbrook
6 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mrs J Durant & Cllr Mrs J Graham.

Public Participation

2) There were no questions from the members of public present.

Declarations of Interest

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

Minutes

4) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th of December were confirmed as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Christie. All in favour.

Specific Reports

5)

Cllr Munday- (environment) confirmed he was now receiving flood alerts for the area from the environment agency. He also confirmed he had circulated a flood plan to all Cllrs and asked that they read this and provide feedback. He said that once complete flood wardens would be required. Any volunteers for this role should contact the Clerk.

He also reported on a draft biodiversity plan which has been prepared, once agreed an audit of flora and fauna within the parish needs to take place. All Cllrs were asked to review the document which will be revisited at the March Parish Council meeting and then highlighted in the village newsletter.

Cllr Christie (Roads & footpaths) highlighted both the damaged wall by the stream on Village Street and the missing drain cover in the entrance to Lambourne Close. The Clerk confirmed both had recently been reported again to HCC. Cllr Donnelly agreed to escalate these issues. He also said planned road closures in the Village by Southern Water have been postponed as high ground water levels mean the work cannot be carried out. This will be rescheduled for later in the year.

Finally, he reported a neighbouring Parish Council were pushing HCC for a 20mph limit in all rural areas. When asked for support Cllr Christie confirmed that when the matter had been discussed by Thruxton Parish Council the principle of 20mph zones in some areas was supported but a blanket measure was felt to be unworkable.

Cllr Durant – (speed awareness) was absent but the Clerk confirmed that HCC had been asked to fit the new posts required for the speed awareness signs and a date for the work to be completed was awaited.

Cllr Harris (social concerns) highlighted a scam purporting to be from DVLA threatening prosecution if payments are not made. Details will be highlighted in the next newsletter. She also said if any villagers are suffering hardship in the current economic climate, they can contact her and she will be happy to signpost them to available help.

Cllr Graham (Children & Mandy Garden) – was not present

Play area safety checks – Cllr Odling had circulated his report of the play area checks. He confirmed he had carried out most of the minor repairs identified but was still trying to obtain some spares required to complete the work. The Clerk will highlight areas of concern direct to the Sports Trust Committee which relate to matters for which they are responsible. The Clerk confirmed Ray Welch had agreed to quote to replace the matting in the spring.

Tree Removal Quotes

6) The Clerk provided details of two quotes she had obtained to remove the remaining conifer trees on the land near the substation. The Parish Council agreed to accept the best of two quotes and agreed Jon King should be asked to carry out the work. The Clerk will arrange.

St Johns Lane ground work

7) The Clerk confirmed she had contacted four contractors for quotes to carry out work to St Johns Lane however despite reminder calls had received no response. Cllr Odling agreed to try and obtain quotes to move this project forward.

Update on Southern Water project

8) Cllr Christie reported work to reline laterals in Fyfield is now taking place, work in Kimpton is complete and work to complete Thruxton will follow. Another project being considered to deal with surplus waste water, is to create a wetland area which will naturally filter waste to minimise tankering or pumping into other water courses. It is hoped further details will be available soon.

Street Light Replacement

9) The Clerk provided details of the lights the Parish Council were responsible for and those that had been upgraded. There had been no reports of faulty lights other than the one outside Cottage Croft which was in the process of replacement. After some discussion it was agreed the Clerk should obtain quotes for replacements of one, two or three units.

County and Borough Councillors' Report

10) HCC Cllr Chris Donnelly - highlighted an increase in potholes caused by the recent very wet weather. He said HCC are working to fix these but it will take some time. In the mean time potholes can be reported online at [Report a problem | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/report-a-problem) He highlighted a recent problem with theft of drain covers in the area. If anyone sees this the issue can also be reported to HCC by following this link [Report a problem | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/report-a-problem) He highlighted new legislation which means any item of soft furnishing with cushions now has to be disposed of separately, a separate bin has been provided at Hampshire Waste sites

Finally, he gave those present details of how HCC are approaching the government along with other Councils to secure a county deal. The hope was to persuade the government to help fill the large funding gap which the council is currently plugging with reserves while pointing out that the reserves are likely to expire by 2025. He said the government were in favour of unitary authorities but HCC and all the borough councils in the county are opposed to this model. Other schemes have been considered including appointing a mayor. HCC have proposed the formation of an accountable regional development group with the leader of each borough council and the leader of HCC involved. This is currently being considered but HCC do not have an alternative plan if this is rejected. Concerns were raised that those living in rural areas would be governed by the in urban conurbations which are very different and also that funding would primarily be spent in these areas. It was also suggested that rather than start a new scheme the areas which were currently not functioning well should be improved.

TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook said he had raised concerns that talks regarding the county deal had taken place in secret and this raised alarm bells however a change in leadership has meant that transparency now prevails. He voiced concerns that the new proposed model will see funds concentrated in areas of high population and said he believes all residents and parishes should have a voice.

TVBC P Lashbrook also reported on recent successes by Hampshire Police blitzing unwanted activity in rural areas during the night, targeting pickpockets, and successes combatting county lines operations. He confirmed new staff have been engaged in the area including a new Police Constable in the rural team.

Local Council Elections May 2023.

11) The Clerk confirmed that local elections will take place on May 4th 2023. Individuals will be responsible for completing nomination papers which have to be hand delivered to TVBC although delivery can be by a third party. Full details, including application forms have been provided by the Clerk. The Clerk agreed to deliver papers on behalf of any current Councillors who wish to stand for election.

Electricity & Water Supply on Village Green

12) Cllr Christie said a proposal had been made to the Jubilee Committee to install Electricity & Water Supply on the Village Green. This could be used for events held such as the Village Fete. Potential costs and possible covenant restrictions were discussed and it was agreed the scheme was unlikely to be of merit.

First Aid & Defibrillator training

13) The Clerk gave details of some defibrillator training packages she had found. It was possible to buy a defibrillator training package for up to 12 people which could be delivered at the Village Hall. While those present agreed some training on defibrillators was a good idea a whole first aid course would be of greater benefit. It was agreed The Clerk will approach the local St Johns Ambulance service to establish costs to run a course at Thruxton Village Hall.

14) Finance

To note the bank balances as at 25/01/2023

Lloyds £29679.91

United Trust Reserve £13723.83

HSBC -£16.20

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

H Bourner salary	£468.00
H Bourner exp.	£36.68
Thruxton Memorial Hall	£26.00
Taits	£52.00
Southern Electric DD	£59.39
Cllr Harris	£9.49
Ray Welch	£45.00

Retrospective

H Bourner Jan salary	£468.00
Taits newsletter printing costs	£52.00
Southern Electric	£54.36
Energieo	£101.69

iii) Change of bank account

The Clerk confirmed she had written a further letter of complaint to HSBC after receiving a statement showing continuing charges despite having sent a letter to close the account. An acknowledgment had been received and a full response is awaited.

Planning

15) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

22/02875/LBWN replace all windows and insulate attic- George Cottage- consent

22/03027/FULLN Erection of shed in rear garden -George House, Village Street, PERMISSION

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

23/00002/TREEN- fell apple tree, Veronica Cottage- no objection

Attendance at Events

16) The Clerk will be attending a Clerks Forum at TVBC on 22nd February 2023.

Community Thanks

17) None

Correspondence

18) The Clerk highlighted correspondence as follows: -
Posters received regarding school admission which had been posted to the notice board.

Items for next agenda

18)
Resilience Plan
Elections
Annual Parish Meeting

Community News

19) None

Date of next meeting

20) The next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 1st March 2023.