

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2023

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

In attendance:

Mrs H Bourner – Clerk
2 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC Phil Lashbrook.

Public Participation

2) One member of public present asked for the data from the speed cameras to be shared with villagers. Cllr Christie agreed details will be posted to the Parish Council Website. The other member of public joined in discussions regarding the stream clearance.

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 4th September were confirmed as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Munday, seconded Cllr Harris. All in favour.

Specific Reports

5)

Cllr Munday- (Environment) - reported a work party had cleared the stream bed alongside the Village Green. The Clerk has asked Ray Welch to clear the green waste. A suggestion made to improve the area included clearing the vegetation from the bank which was considered but this contravenes advice given to the Parish Council in 2015 by TVBC Environmental Dept, it was also felt that leaving the bank undisturbed help to protect the bank from further erosion, provide protection to wildlife and act as a flood management tool. Concerns were raised that the bank was deteriorating exposing cables and potentially posing a risk to anyone getting close to the edge. It was noted that the environment agency had recently cleared a portion of the stream bed and had simply trimmed all vegetation. Cllr Cotterill said the HCC riparian owner leaflet delivered to all householders with such responsibility suggested the stream bed should be kept clear. The Clerk said she had contacted the EA to ask them for advice as to how clearance should be undertaken. A reply is awaited. In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to contact TVBC environmental department for their up-to-date advice and obtain some warning signs asking users of the green to stay away from the edge. The area planted with wildflowers should now be cut, the Clerk will ask the contractor to do this next time he mows the grass. Cllr Christie also asked if the contractor could be asked not to leave benches under trees once mowing was complete.

Cllr Munday (Biodiversity)- had circulated a draft letter regarding dark skies. All Councillors agreed it would be a good idea to distribute this with the newsletter. Cllr Munday will also deliver a copy to all local businesses.

Cllr Christie (Roads & footpaths) confirmed work by Southern Water continues but is mainly in Monxton

Concerns were raised that drains by Mullins Pond were once again blocked. The Clerk will report this to HCC and ask the lengthsman to clear out the drainage channel which should run into Mullins Pond.

Cllr Munday said a resident of Thruxton Down had raised concerns regarding the increased frequency of tank carriers using Thruxton Down Road rather than the main A303. This seemed to be occurring approximately twice a week and was causing great disturbance. Cllr Christies said he will try and contact the MOD and ask them to use the main trunk roads.

Cllr Harris (social concerns) had nothing to report

Village Green & Mandy Garden –see environmental

Cllr Odling (Play area safety checks) – confirmed the repair to the play slide including replacing the rotten posts has now been carried out, along with all other minor repairs.

The Clerk confirmed she had contacted the Sports Trust to ask them to get the grass cut in the play area, they had agreed to look into this but it had not yet been cut. She said The Sports Trust have confirmed the Parish Council can move the table tennis table to a more suitable location.

Concerns were raised regarding the general untidiness around the field and the difficulty in getting work carried out. It was agreed The Clerk will try to arrange a meeting between The Sports Trust and Parish Council to discuss a way forward.

Speed awareness- data continues to be monitored and the possibilities of moving signs will be discussed at the November meeting.

The Clerk reported a grant has been received from Hampshire Countryside Access for the purchase of a brush cutter and training. Martin King will be attending the training and will then voluntarily use the brush cutter around the village. There are also funds available for some loppers and secateurs

The bin at the west end of the village by the industrial estate road is damaged in that the lid is missing. This has been reported to TVBC. Two of the dragons' teeth are broken, the Clerk was asked to obtain quotes to repair. Finally, the hedge needs to be trimmed. The Clerk will arrange for the work to be carried out.

An in-year VAT claim has been made and the funds received.

Pension re enrolment has now been dealt with.

Green area by electricity substation.

6) Cllr Cotterill has agreed to take responsibility for this area. It was agreed The Clerk would ask the contractor to cut back the whole site and now obtain advice on the planting of some new screening.

This area of land is currently adopted by the Parish Council by not registered to them with Land Registry, neither is it listed as a green space in the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Cotterill will research whether registering the land under adverse possession rules would be possible.

Defibrillator

7) Cllr Christie reported that the lid of the defibrillator cabinet had been accidentally broken when the machine was required in an emergency. Cllr Odling has managed to secure the cabinet and while the lid has suffered a small breakage it still locks. He has noted the code to open the cabinet in two places at the site in order that entry can be gained easily in the event of an emergency in the future. At the last meeting it was suggested the machine should be moved to the Village Hall as this was the location where most people expected the machine to be sited. Cllr Odling said a meeting of the hall trustees was to discuss the issue as the building was listed so a formal application is required. A new lid will be purchased once a permanent site is agreed.

Finally, a group of parishioners were raising funds to buy another defibrillator to be sited at the Stanbury Road end of the village. The Clerk confirmed she had registered an interest in some government funding to help with the project which could be £750 if the PC were selected. The Clerk said she had researched the costs of a machine and cabinet and net of VAT just under £1600 was required. The Parish Council agreed to support this project and the Clerk was asked to liaise with the fund-raising group.

First Aid

8) Cllr Cotterill had contacted some first aid providers for quotes to deliver a course at Thruxton Village Hall. The Clerk will now approach the Hall and the provider for some dates to deliver this.

Website Provision.

9) The Clerk reported that Hugo Fox, the current website provider can no longer offer this service for free.

They offered three packages; the current service would become chargeable at £9.99 per month. The various packages were discussed and it was agreed the basic model fulfilled all the legal requirements of the parish council and should be continued.

County and Borough Councillors' Report

10) HCC Chris Donnelly was not present.

TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook had sent apologies

11) Finance

To note the bank balances as at 26/09/2023

Lloyds £24093.22

United Trust Reserve £14761.50

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

H Bournier salary	£600.00
H Bournier exp.	£51.26
Southern Electric DD	£56.02
Thrupton Memorial Hall	£28.00
Taits	£52.00
Ray Welch	£178.00
BDO LLP audit	£252.00
ICO	£35.00
Enerveo	£121.30

Retrospective

Ray Welch	£68.00
Andover Gaden Machinery	£960.00

iii) The Clerk reported that the second instalment of precept funds had been received from TVBC.

Planning

12) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

23/01855/TREEN- crown reductions-The Moorings, Stanbury Road- permission

23/01602/FULLN- demolish conservatory and erect single storey extension, The Laurels, Dautsey Lane-permission

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed: 23/02246/TREEN- tree works, Bridge Cottage, Village Street

See Attendance at meetings regarding 23/00957/FULLN Thrupton Down Farm

Cllr Christie reported on the outcome of Northern Area Planning committee meeting re-Lains Solar Farm. The application has been refused by TVBC based on a potential risk of yellow glare from the solar panels which might prove hazardous to trainee pilots flying circuits, and a concern about potential nesting sites of stone curlews, which the Officer felt needed a more comprehensive ground-nesting bird strategy before TVBC could conduct the necessary HRA assessment. An appeal is expected.

APPEAL DECISION - Planning Inspectorate APP/C1760/W/22/3311470: George Cottage, SP11 8LZ- it was noted that the appeal against refusal for the above numbered application has been dismissed.

The need for an up-to-date housing needs survey was discussed and it was unanimously

agreed to ask TVBC to organise a new survey. The Clerk will contact them to arrange.

Attendance at Events

13) The Clerk had attended the TVAPTC/TVBC conference on 30th September.
Cllr Christie, Cllr Munday and the Clerk will be meeting with the head of planning at TVBC on 5th October to discuss the enforcement action required regarding application number 23/00957/FULLN at Thruxton Down.

Community Thanks

14) Thanks were expressed to all the volunteers for work carried out clearing the stream bed.

Correspondence

17) The Clerk highlighted correspondence as follows: -
An email regarding a resilience event on 28th October
Riparian owners' leaflet
Letters to householders regarding hedge clearance

Items for next agenda

18)

Community News

19) None

Date of next meeting

20) The next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 6th November 2023