

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd JULY 2023

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

In attendance:

Mrs H Bournier – Clerk
HCC Chris Donnelly
1 member of the public

1) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr P Christie & Cllr S Cotterill.

Public Participation

2) There were no points raised by the member 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:** Subject to two small amendments the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th June were confirmed as a correct record and will be signed by the Vice Chairman. Proposer Cllr Odling, seconded Cllr Harris. All in favour.

Specific Reports

5)

Cllr Munday- (environment) reported the Pilhill Brook continues to flow although the flow has diminished. Weed growth has been huge and he proposed a working party to clear this sometime in August. A call for volunteers would be made in the newsletter.

He further reported that Southern Water are still planning to reline the sewers in Village Street in August, provided the water levels are low enough. He also reported that Southern Water are in communication with the Environment Agency regarding water extraction from bore holes on Thruxton Down.

He confirmed he had attended a meeting facilitated by Hampshire County Council regarding A Greening Campaign. While this was felt to be an interesting initiative it was aimed at much larger towns and parishes than Thruxton.

He said that as part of the biodiversity project bat surveys are being considered. There is specialist machinery which can record species and numbers and research will be carried out to establish if purchase of this is possible. Finally, he said the newly opened Bury Meadow site was awash with wildflowers and he had approached TVBC to establish if it would be possible to have some seed from this area for planting in the parish.

Cllr Christie (Roads & footpaths) had sent apologies

Cllr Harris (social concerns) said she had discussed the possibilities of a memorial for the late Cllr John Davis with his family. They said they would like a copper beech tree planted on the village green in his memory. Cllr Odling will speak to a tree expert regarding suitability and report back to the Parish Council.

Village Green & Mandy Garden – The Clerk reported that Cllr Cotterill had visited the Village Green and reported concerns that the stream bank is extremely overgrown and the signs asking users to stay away from the stream bank edge needs to be renewed. She also pointed out that some repairs are required to the benches on the village green, in particular one table top needs to have a slat replaced. There is a fallen branch that needs to be removed and she suggested a volunteer party could be asked to tidy the Mandy Garden. Finally, she commented that the tree on the triangle on Village Street looks very sick.

The Clerk will replace the signs, review the fallen branch and ask a handy man to quote to repair the benches. Tidying the garden can be included in the work party day in August. A tree expert will be asked to look at the tree on the triangle.

Play area safety checks – Cllr Odling had circulated the latest play area play report. He said he will be meeting with a contractor soon regarding some of the repairs required.

The Clerk will try to source a 'Do not climb do not hang on basketball hoop' sign, pass the report to the Three Village Sports Trust and ask them to cut the grass in the play area and around the table tennis table, and finally she will arrange for the removal of the old matting.

Speed awareness-see item 7 below

Green area by electricity substation.

6) The Clerk reported the tree stumps had been ground out and the area given a good cut and tidy. The proposal to turn the area in a wildlife garden will be an agenda item for September.

Speed awareness signs

7) Two speed awareness signs had been purchased and erected by a group of volunteers. Putting these in place had proved to be a huge task. The machines were extremely heavy and not all the required fittings were provided. Moving these to different locations as recommended will be a very difficult task. A discussion took place as to how this could be simpler. Fitting each post permanently with its own solar panel would help in that only the machine would need to be moved although this would still be a job requiring two strong people. The alternative was to purchase a third smaller machine which could be moved around the three other posts which have been erected. After some discussion it was agreed that allowing some time for data to be gathered from the installed machines was sensible and the issue should be revisited in September.

St Johns Lane ground work

8) Cllr Odling confirmed Andover Ground Works have recently started the work in St Johns Lane, to grade the lane and fit a drain. It is hoped the work will be completed in four to five days.

Replacing matting at play area

9) The Clerk confirmed new safety matting has now been fitted.

County and Borough Councillors' Report

10) HCC Cllr Chris had provided a report which can be seen at appendix 1. He reported that he has asked Hampshire Highways to provide a date when the repair to the wall alongside the stream will take place. Cllr Odling said this was of real concern and that a large lorry could easily fall into the stream if the damaged wall crumbled, a diesel spill into the chalk stream would be catastrophic.

Cllr Odling also asked if he could chase up the repair of the damaged drain cover in Lambourne Way which had recently been decorated with a one-year-old banner! The Clerk confirmed she had reported this again the Hampshire Highways and he asked for details to pursue this.

Cllr Munday asked if he could establish when the traffic calming measures on Thruxton Down would be provided. He pointed out the urgency of these in light of the potential traffic increase should planning permission be granted at the Thruxton Down Farm site.

Finally, Cllr Odling asked if there were any firm dates for the 20mph proposal to become live. Cllr Donnelly said he had no firm details but believes this will be in the next couple of months. It is envisaged that Parishes will request what they want so he suggested drawing up a plan now could be useful.

TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook was not present

11) Finance

To note the bank balances as at 29/06/2023

Lloyds £30386.21

United Trust Reserve £14082.63

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

H Bournier salary	£600.00
H Bournier exp.	£23.50
H Bournier additional pay	£120.00
Southern Electric DD	£54.36
Thrupton Memorial Hall	£28.00
Taits	£52.00
Ray Welch	£178.00
Energieo	£121.30
Ray Welch	£385.00
Wilts & Hants tree care	£768.00

Retrospective

Screwfix £15.99
C&M DIY £28.98
Ray Welch £68.00

iii) The investment with the United Trust has matured and £249.01 interest has been added to the sum reinvested for a further year.

Planning

12) The following decisions by TVBC were noted: None

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

23/01492/FULLN- convert chalet bungalow to two storey dwelling- The Haven, Dauntsey Lane- no objection

23/01602/FULLN-single storey extension, raising roof and windows, create porch and relocate entrance- The Laurels, Dauntsey lane -no objection

23/01583/FULLN-extension, 10 Stanbury Close-no objections

23/00957/FULLN Thrupton Down Farm -this application had been withdrawn. Concerns regarding the use of this site and how it fitted with a previously agreed planning application have been raised. It was agreed Cllr Munday will write to TVBC planning enforcement highlighting these concerns.

Attendance at Events

13) Cllr Munday had attended the Greening Campaign meeting.

Community Thanks

14) Thanks were expressed to Geoff Bournier, Sue & Martin King, Alison & Simon Hopkins and Joan Jackson for the enormous time spent erecting speed awareness signs.

Correspondence

17) The Clerk highlighted correspondence as follows: -

An email about an unsafe tree. The Clerk will write to the householder.

An email regarding funds from the Community Club and the purchase of a bench. All present agreed the Clerk should proceed with the purchase.

Items for next agenda

18) New auditor required -Clerk to obtain a quote

Community News

19) None

Date of next meeting

20) The next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 4th September 2023

Appendix 1

Insert report here when received in word!