

**THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2010**

Present: Cllr C Milner-Williams Chairman, Cllr J Davis, Cllr R Bradbury, Cllr D Foynes,
& Cllr J Saunders.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bourner -Clerk
HCC Cllr Mrs Pat West
Mr J McKenzie -Thruyton Times and Village Correspondent.
One member of the public.

Apologies for Absence

408 Apologies for absence were received from, Cllr Mrs K Philipson, TVBC's Cllrs Mrs E Charnley and P Lashbrook. Cllr Milner-Williams informed all in attendance that Cllr R Pennells had tendered his resignation. He paid tribute to Cllr Pennells service over the years, starting in 1966 on several Parish Councils. All present wished to pass thanks for his many years of service and wish him well for the future.

Public Participation

409 None.

Declarations of Interest

410 Cllr Mrs Foynes and Cllr Mrs Saunders declared an interest in the newly formed village group organising children's activities in the village.

MINUTES

411 **Resolved:** that the minutes of the meetings held on 2 December 2009 and 5 January 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Acting Vice Chairman and Chairman respectively.

Stream Bank Repairs

412 Cllr Milner-Williams reported that he had stopped the contractors who had arrived unannounced from beginning work as they clearly had not been briefed with the agreed plans for repair. HCC Cllr Pat West recommended an e-mail to the relevant TVBC department which she would pursue.

Adoption of Telephone kiosk

413 The clerk reported she had written to BT for more information but had not yet received a reply. HCC Cllr Pat West recommended contacting the clerk for Shipton Bellinger as the Parish Council there were also considering an adoption and had reportedly elicited information on paint colours and recurring charges..

Parish Plan

414 TVBC had offered to assist the Parish if they wished to create a Parish Plan. After some debate, and given consideration to the recently completed Village Appraisal and Village Design statement, which had been adopted by TVBC in 2006 it was agreed not to follow this route at present.

Children's activities

415 A request had been received from this newly formed group for a grant to help with costs of organising future events. The recent party held in the village had been an enormous success and the Councillors present all agreed that supporting the children of the village was essential. The Chairman proposed a grant of £100 was agreed which would be met from S137 funds if this was established by the Clerk to be permissible. Proposed events include an "Its a Knockout" type event, Halloween storytelling and a Christmas Party.

Anne Gerrish Memorial Tree

416 The subject of the tree planting was discussed at length. All Councillors had received a copy of a letter from Mrs Lawrence. Due to a genuine misunderstanding, questions had arisen as to whether the tree had been planted in the most appropriate place.

The consensus of opinion was that the tree had been planted in the wrong place, although Cllr Davis only marginally inclined to this view. The Chairman agreed to have further discussions with those involved and seek the advice of a tree specialist before any further action is taken.

Grit Bins

417 All present agreed the grit bins recently installed had been of real value to the village in the recent bad weather. The Chairman asked HCC Cllr Mrs West to convey the Parish's thanks to the County. It was agreed that the village could use more grit bins and it was agreed that Cllr Mrs Foynes would establish preferred locations; The junction of Halcyon Drive and Beech Close was one possibility.

Sports field Car Park & Plans for Pavillion.

418 There was no progress news regarding either the car park or sports pavillion. It is unlikely anything will happen until the spring. The Chairman agreed to write to the Chairman of Kimpton School Governors to establish ways the school could act in conjunction with the Parish Council to the benefit of the community. The Clerk reported that nothing further had been received from the Sports Trust and the awaited revised plans had still to be presented. She undertook to pursue the matter.

Village Hand Bells

419 Cllr Davis reported on an initiative organised by Hampshire Learning who wished to hold hand bell ringing sessions in the village hall. The custodian of the bells Sue McPartlan was to be involved. All Councillors agreed the use of the village hand bells was a splendid idea.

Post Office

420 The Chairman reported that contrary to previous reports he had established directly from Mr Hardy that there would be no closure of the Post Office at Weyhill while building work on the new garden centre was in progress.

Schedule of meetings 2010/11

421 Dates for the next year were discussed and agreed. It was agreed that the Parish Assembly should be deferred by a week in order to avoid a clash with a rumoured General Election. The Clerk would notify TVBC, HCC and other interested parties.

Hampshire Assoc of Local Councils

422 The proposal by HALC to withdraw from The National Association was discussed. Cllr Milner-Williams confirmed speakers from both associations had been asked to speak at the next meeting of Test Valley Borough Association of Parish Councils, but it was now apparent that neither the speaker from HALC nor that from NALC could attend on 4th March. HCC Cllr Mrs West suggested that as considerable interest was being taken in neighbouring parishes that expectations should be managed. The Chairman undertook to do this in his role as Chairman of the TVAPC

County and Borough Councillor Reports

423 HCC Mrs Pat West provided a detailed report on the work of the HCC highways team in particular the salting, gritting and snow clearance during the recent snow and ice. She confirmed a proposal to strengthen the work in the future, which included the provision for further grit bins in rural areas in exchange for local groups offering to help in their area, with clearing and gritting as necessary. She asked the Parish to consider if further bins would be beneficial, and to provide confirmation in due course.

Planning

424 The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

09/02373 erection of conservatory 11 Halcyon Drive- no objection

425 **Resolved:** that the planning advisory committee's recommendations on the following application be endorsed:-

09/02531/Treen- fell ash tree between Yew Tree Cottage and Manor cottages- no objection

09/02391/FULLN- application to change use of agricultural land to show persons site. This application had been subject to an extraordinary meeting and formal objection made. It had been further discussed by Northern Area Planning and permission refused.

Cllr Milner-Williams reported with dismay, that an application for stables at South Barn, reviewed by the Parish Council some 5 months ago, to which there had been no objection, would have to be resubmitted due to an administrative error at TVBC.

FINANCE

426

The bank balances as at 14 January 2010 were as follows:

Lloyds TSB £4243.62

Bank of Ireland £10,286.61

Payments

427 **Resolved:** that the following payments be approved and signing of cheques authorised:

Anton DO Supp	£19.20
Thrupton WMH	£16.00
Thrupton WMH extra	£45.00
H Bourner Jan	£231.89
H Bourner Jan exp.	£45.01
J Davis travel	£14.09
Audit Comm	£155.25
Southern Elec	£125.31
Southern elec cont	£104.58
Mr H Gill	£60.00

The clerk confirmed she had obtained a bank mandate form in order that cheque signatories could be updated. It was resolved that Cllr Bradbury and Cllr Mrs Saunders should be designated signatories and they agreed to complete the required document and procedures.

The clerk also reported the Audit return had now been approved by the Audit Commission with no recommendations.

The Chairman suggested that a future meeting should consider alternative and more beneficial interest rates than those available from the Bank of Ireland.

Attendance at Events

428 Cllr Davis had attended the recent TVAPC meeting and reported that the subject of unnecessary comments from auditors had been discussed. He also reported that a suggestion that Parish Councils had to pay the Standards Board for any items that came before them, relating to that parish, was firmly dismissed. He was about to become more fully engaged with Standard Board matters.

Correspondence

429. A notice to move the 30mph sign on the western end of Village Street had been received.

Cllrs present noted that this had been discussed and agreed at least two years previously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

430 A member of the public had approached the clerk and asked that "Take your rubbish home" signs be placed in the two gateways off the westbound A303 slip road to enter the village. West bound traffic pulled off the main road here for picnics and the volume and type of rubbish was astonishing! Cllr Milner-Williams confirmed this area was in the parish of Monxton. The clerk will pass on the request.

Cllr Mrs Philipson had asked that a plan be put into place to carry out maintenance of the play area as identified from the monthly checks. The Chairman and Cllr Mrs Foynes agreed to review the matter and suggest an action plan.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

431 The next meeting would take place at 7.30 pm on Wednesday March 3rd 2010.

