

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 JULY 2011

Present: Cllr C Milner-Williams Chairman, Cllr J Davis Vice Chairman, Cllr M Windsor, Cllr Mrs J Saunders, & Cllr Mrs J Graham.

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner –Clerk
Mr J McKenzie -Thrupton Times and Village Correspondent

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

700 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R Bradbury.

Public Participation

701 None.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

702 Cllr Milner-Williams expressed an interest in both the Three Villages Sports Trust and the Thrupton War Memorial Hall.

MINUTES

703 **Resolved:** that the minutes of the meetings held on 1 June 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Stream Bed Clearance & General Weed Clearance

704 Cllr Milner-Williams expressed thanks to Cllr Windsor and Mr John McKenzie for the assistance they had given him in clearing the weeds from the stream bed. This had given him the opportunity to change task and using the village strimmer clear various verges around the village.

Litter Bin on Sports Field

705 The clerk reported she had yet to receive a reply from TVB Cllr Phil Lashbrook who had agreed to establish if a litter bin placed on the sports field would be emptied. Cllr Milner-Williams said he was attending a meeting with members of TVBC soon and would broach this subject with them.

Hedge Cutting & Footpath Clearance

706 The clerk reported that after an exchange of letters with the land owner the footpath from Old Amesbury Road to Fyfield church had now been cleared. She also reported that after delivering letters around the village to several households many hedges had been cut back.

Councillor Pack

707 The clerk provided packs to all councillors not already in possession of one. These contained the Parish Council's standing orders and financial regulations. Cllr Davis said that some of these may well be out of date. All present agreed to review over the summer break in order that any alterations required could be identified.

Sports Field Car Park Hedge.

708 Cllr Milner-Williams thanked Cllr Windsor for his efforts in cutting the hedge near the entrance to the sports field car park.

Village Green.

709 All present said they were most impressed with the work carried out by Mr Welch keeping the village green tidy the clerk agreed to write to him with thanks. Cllr Milner-Williams commented that the idea of a bonfire on the village green to remove rubbish had been put on hold while the weather was so dry. This will be revisited when the conditions are right.

Potholes

710 Cllr Davis said he was dismayed by the number of potholes in the roads around the village. Some of these had been filled before and the repair had not lasted very long at all. All present agreed to make a note of any potholes near them and pass to the clerk who will write to TVBC to ask for them to be repaired with a more long lasting material.

Damage to Verge

711 Cllr Milner-Williams said he had lodged a complaint with the company who had been laying telephone cables in the village regarding the sorry mess they had made of the grass verge next to Yew Tree Cottage. A response was awaited.

Cabling Work

712 Cllr Saunders said some work was to be carried out shortly to move electricity cables opposite Cedar View. These were currently very low and could pose a threat if caught by a passing vehicle. The cables are to be reinstalled higher up.

Sewer Repairs

713 Works at the lower end of the village near the allotments were to repair the sewers. It was hoped that this would be the final repair required.

Proposal by Leiston-Cum-Sizewell

714 A proposal to give greater powers to local councils to engage with contractors where large and often unwanted developments were planned was discussed. All present agreed to give full support to this.

Sports Field and Children's Play Area.

715 The clerk reported that a recent ROSPA review of the play equipment had not highlighted any serious areas for concern. Concerns were however expressed that the promised height barrier for the car park had still not been erected. A question was also asked about the football pitch which was currently rather overgrown. The clerk agreed to write to the sports trust regarding these matters and to obtain the current years rent.

Future of Parish Councils and Localism.

716 Cllr Milner-Williams reported from a meeting he had recently attended where the possibility of increased powers to local councils was discussed. It was suggested that only quality councils would be given these powers and a discussion as to whether Thruxton parish wished to apply for this status followed. It was clear that one of the requirements for application was the clerk must hold the CiLCA qualification. The clerk said she would be willing to undertake the training to gain this should the Parish Council desire it. Cllr Davis said there were other requirements and these should all be discussed before any decision was made. The clerk agreed to gather information for review which could then be discussed at the next meeting.

Decision Making Seminar

717 Cllr Milner-Williams highlighted a seminar on 10 August at Nursling & Rownhams Parish Hall. He would be unable to attend but urged others to attend as he felt it would be useful.

County and Borough Councillor Reports

718 There were no County or Borough Councillors present.

Planning

719 The following decisions by TVBC were noted: None

720 **Resolved:** that the Planning advisory committees recommendations on the following applications be endorsed: None

Cllr Davis said there had been an inordinate amount of correspondence regarding proposals for additional hard standing space for aircraft at Thruxton airfield. There were no objections locally to this and this was development of a permitted type.

It was noted that there had still been no decision regarding the outstanding retrospective application required for the gates erected at 24 Stanbury Road. The clerk agreed to contact TVBC planning department regarding this.

FINANCE

721 The bank balance as at 14 June 2011 was as follows:

Lloyds TSB £5400.71

Lloyds reserve £11000

Payments

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

Anton DO Supp July	£24.80
Thruxton WMH	£16.00
H Bourner June salary	£240.57
H Bourner June exp.	£23.85
Mr R Welch	£71.76
Cllr Davis	£15.31
H Bourner July Salary	£240.57
Mr D Eaglesham	£125.00
Playsafety Ltd	£75.60
Hants Air Ambulance	£300.00
Southern Electric	£126.73
Southern Elc Contracting	£118.02

The clerk had obtained the necessary form from the bank to enable newly appointed Cllr Mrs Janet Graham to become a cheque signatory. She will complete this adding Cllr Mrs Graham and deleting the two parish councillors who had resigned in April.

Attendance at Events

723 Cllr Milner-Williams had attended the HALC board meeting and reminded all present of the range of expertise within its members should advice be required.

Correspondence

724 The clerk noted several items of correspondence recently received:- an invitation to the TVBC Civic Service, a thank you letter from Thruxton War Memorial Hall Trustees, a pack regarding the digital switchover, and newsletters from Hampshire Playing Fields Association.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

725 Cllr Davis asked the clerk to contact the Post Office and ask them to arrange for all letter boxes in the parish to receive a coat of paint.

Cllr Saunders asked if it was really necessary for street lighting to remain on in the village overnight. After some discussion the clerk was asked to write to Southern Electric and request the street lights be switched off at midnight and back on at 5am.

Cllr Milner-Williams reminded everyone that the annual flower and produce show was scheduled to be held on Sunday 11th September, and the village service to be held on 8 October.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would take place at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 7 September 2011.

