

**THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 July 2009**

Present: Cllr C Milner-Williams Chairman, Cllr R Mallock, Cllr R Pennells, Cllr J Davis, Cllr D Foynes, & Cllr K Phillipson

In attendance: HCC Pat West.

TVB Cllr P Lashbrook

Mrs H Bourner -Clerk

Mr J McKenzie -Thruyton Times and Village Correspondent

Two members of the public.

**Apologies for Absence**

303 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R Bradbury.

**Public Participation**

304 It was questioned why the meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 30 June had not been advertised to the public. Cllr Milner-Williams confirmed this was not a Thruyton Parish Council meeting; it was a meeting of several parish councils called by Cllr Lashbrook and not a public parish meeting. Cllr Lashbrook said the meeting was to discuss a document not in the public domain therefore the public could not be invited. Cllr Pennells who had opened the discussion on this topic expressed disappointment that he had not been informed of the meeting and Cllr Milner-Williams apologised and accepted responsibility for this failure to pass on details.

**Declarations Of Interest**

305 Cllr Milner-Williams declared an interest in the Three Villages Sports Trust who had applied for a grant.

**MINUTES**

306 **Resolved:** that the minutes of the meetings held on 3 June 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Grit Bins**

307 Cllr Lashbrook reported that it was necessary for any grit bins installed to be of a required standard. He undertook to establish precisely what type was acceptable to TVBC. Those purchased via HCC are approved but somewhat more expensive than other providers. Cllr Pat West agreed to establish why.

**New Notice Board**

308 The Clerk was in the process of obtaining quotes to renovate and install the new notice board. The board currently held glass but all agreed this should be replaced with plastic. One quote had been received to date and the Clerk was asked to inform the bidder that there was a requirement to remove the glass and replace it with plastic which might increase the price he had quoted.

**Play Area**

309 The ROSPA safety report was noted, there were no matters requiring attention. Cllr Foynes confirmed she had completed the rural green space strategy template with regard to play area equipment. Her first priority had been for fencing around the play area. The Clerk would submit the report on line.

**Maintenance of Village Green**

310 Cllr Mallock and Cllr Pennells had met with the contractor and drawn up proposals for a contract to cover all maintenance of the village green, stream bank, vegetation around the walled boundaries of the green, and Mandy's garden. After discussion all agreed the approach. The contractor will be paid for all work carried out thus far and a figure placed on the likely costs for the rest of the year. Both the Chairman and Cllr Foynes would look for a formalised contract for ensuing years. Cllr Davis expressed concern that the contractor was not over-reaching himself.

Cllr Foynes expressed her view that the Parish Council should exercise caution if approached by private parties for memorial planting on the green in future as continuing maintenance costs fell to the Parish Council. Cllr Pennells volunteered to assume responsibility for managing the Green contract and would assume overall responsibility for the Green. This was readily agreed.

### **Working Party**

311 It was agreed to hold a village working party on the morning of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July to clear the stream and the surrounding area. Volunteers would meet at village hall 10.30am.

### **Grant request**

312 A letter requesting a grant had been received from the Three Villages Sports Trust. All agreed a grant of £400 in line with the budget forecast should be made.

### **County and Borough Councillor Reports**

313 Cllr Lashbrook confirmed the work to prevent flooding under the Quarley under pass was nearing completion. Two new sumps had been sunk and all drains repaired and rerouted. He also reported that permission had been granted for the new build at the Weyhill garden centre and that this would include a new post office and a convenience store. Finally he outlined several problems in surrounding villages with Southern Water. He asked that if any local residents have problems he be informed and the details would be added to his portfolio of complaints.

HCC Cllr Mrs West reported on a problem, reported to her by the Chairman, encountered by the Landlord of the George Inn when his sign of some years standing on the side of the A303 was removed and destroyed by the Highways Agency or their contractors without prior warning. The principle, the costs incurred and consequent loss of trade caused councillors great concern. Lack of trade could cause this vital village asset to close. The Chairman had contacted Sir George Young MP who had been asked to deal with the matter with urgency. The police had also been informed. HCC West said full support would be given to the landlord.

Details were also given of an initiative to support older drivers wishing to update their skills, anyone interested should contact Ernie Sage 01962 874601. Cllr Mrs West said she would be pushing for the inclusion of Thruxton in the village 30 scheme, and confirmed she had emailed details to Cllr Milner-Williams. Finally she confirmed a new policy regarding fire precautions for thatched properties was being formulated; once complete fire officers would talk to the Parish Council if required.

### **Planning**

314 The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

09/00719/FULLN & 09/00720/CAWN demolish old and build new double garage Harcourt Village Street permission granted.

Cllr Milner-Williams had written as agreed to John Winchcombe to ask whether Earthline would be prepared to pay for the trimming of the hedge and to arrange a meeting between Earthline, John Winchcombe and representatives from the Parish Council with regard to the commencement of work on the car park on the sports field.

Cllr Davis reviewed his report on the rural boundaries review. A copy of his report would be produced and delivered to every village household with the newsletter. The review will be closely monitored and further discussions will take place as and when appropriate, including public meetings if necessary.

### **FINANCE**

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The bank balances as at 13 May 2009 were as follows:

Lloyds TSB £4978.14

Bank of Ireland £10,286.61

## **Payments**

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

Anton DO supplies	£38.40
Thrupton WMH	£42.00
H Bourner June salary	£222.66
H Bourner June exp.	£14.67
H Bourner July salary	£225.10
Sports Trust grant	£400.00
Southern Electric	£104.58
R Vessey	£550.75

## **Correspondence**

317 Cllr Milner-Williams highlighted the document received relating to provision for gypsies, travellers and show people to which a response was required. In his view the fact that over 400 replies out of 1300 had been discounted rendered the document flawed and an unsuitable platform for the formulation of policy; all present agreed he should respond accordingly to the questionnaire. An invitation to the annual County Service at Winchester Cathedral had been received. Cllr Milner-Williams will attend.

Details of an older person's forum to be held in the Guildhall Andover on 15 September 2009 were noted.

A letter had been received from Victim Support requesting financial support. After some discussion it was agreed not to make any donation as it was not possible to be sure this would directly benefit anyone in the parish, furthermore it was impossible to support every charity that requested funds even though they may be worthy causes.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

318 Cllr Milner-Williams and Cllr Davis confirmed the new village appraisal was complete and ready to go to print. In order to secure permission from TVBC to utilise one of their maps it was necessary for the Parish Council formally to recognise and identify with the document. This was agreed. The document should be available to villagers shortly.

In an attempt to attract more use of the Village Green it was proposed that a picnic bench be installed in time for the school summer holidays. All agreed this could be dealt with as an emergency resolution and the clerk should proceed to obtain an installed bench to the value of £250 as soon as possible

Cllr Pennells proposed replanting of daffodil bulbs around the village in the autumn. All present agreed this was a sound idea.

Arrangements were made for the collection of Parish post from the Clerk's home and its delivery to the Chairman during her absence on holiday.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would take place at 7.30 pm on Wednesday September 2nd 2009.