

**THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 MARCH 2010**

Present: Cllr C Milner-Williams Chairman, Cllr J Davis, Cllr Mrs K Phillipson & Cllr Mrs D Foynes.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bourner -Clerk

HCC Cllr Mrs Pat West

TVBC Cllr P Lashbrook

Mr J McKenzie -Thruyton Times and Village Correspondent.

Nine members of the public.

Apologies for Absence

432 Apologies for absence were received from, Cllr R Bradbury, Cllr Mrs J Saunders, & TVBC Cllr Mrs E Charnley.

Public Participation

433 Mr Alan Leslie from Thruyton Down asked the Parish Council to reconsider their decision not to create a parish plan as he felt that Thruyton Down was not sufficiently represented in either the village design statement or village appraisal and afforded inadequate protection from opportunistic development. Councillors were generally sympathetic that the village design statement should be revised if possible to include more data regarding Thruyton Down. Cllr Davis pointed out that the VDS had statutory authority as Supplementary Planning Guidance and to change it could necessitate starting from the beginning. He undertook to investigate with TVBC what would be involved in a change.

John McKenzie asked if some maintenance could be carried out of the footpath by the substation. He suggested the use of bark chippings which were in plentiful supply in the churchyard. The Chairman mentioned that the footpath between Village Street and Beech Close also needed similar attention. Wood chippings were considered to be an inadequate answer but it was agreed to try some in the expectation that the weather would improve slightly. Laying of scalplings would undoubtedly be the best repair method but no provision for that had been made in the budget.

It was noted that staples had been used to attach plastic folders for notices to boards in the village. Whilst this had been done with the best of intentions this was deemed unacceptable. Only drawing pins should be used.

Declarations of Interest

434 Cllr Mrs Foynes and Cllr Mrs Phillipson declared an interest in the newly formed group organising childrens' activities in the village.

MINUTES

435 **Resolved:** that the minutes of the meetings held on 3 February 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Stream Bank Repairs

436 Cllr Milner-Williams reported that the work on repairs was due to commence on 22 March 2010. He thanked HCC Mrs Pat West for her intervention on this matter.

Adoption of Telephone kiosk

437 The clerk reported she had still to receive confirmation from TVBC that they were happy for the adoption to proceed. Cllr Lashbrook undertook to establish why TVBC had to be involved. She agreed to pursue in time for the Parish Assembly when the school children would hopefully provide their ideas as to how the box could be used. Parish Councillors agreed that lighting from the mains supply would be unnecessary and the Clerk was asked to arrange for its disconnection at no cost as was indicated in the BT correspondence.

Children's activities

438 The clerk reported that S137 was a competent tool by which a grant could be made to the village group organising children's activities in the village. It was resolved that a grant of £100 would be made, payable to Thruyton Village Association The clerk agreed to contact the current insurers to establish if the proposed use of the village green for a picnic and games would be covered by the policy in place.

Councillors present agreed that the childrens' group could use the Village Green for their "It's a Knockout" competition

Anne Gerrish Memorial Tree

439 The Chairman was able to report the tree had now been replanted in a new site to the satisfaction of all concerned parties.

Grit Bins

440 Proposed sites for new grit bins were discussed. HCC Mrs Pat West asked that a map of the village be annotated with the proposed sites and sent to her before May. Cllr Mrs Foynes would continue to investigate suitable sites in Lambourne Close, Halcyon Drive and Dauntsey Lane. Cllr Mrs West would then ask a TVBC representative to assess the sites for suitability.

Play Area

441 Cllr Mrs Foynes advised that some work was required to fill dangerous rabbit holes around the play area. It was agreed a working party would tackle the job meeting at 11am, Sunday 22 March. Helpers were asked to bring wheelbarrows and shovels. She also advised that the broken swing seat needed to be replaced and that she would bring a firm proposal to the next meeting.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

442 The clerk confirmed the necessary notices had been posted in the parish and she expected to receive details from TVBC regarding any election needed by 12 March 2010. Mr Alan Leslie from Thruxton Down who was present asked that he be considered for the position.

County and Borough Councillor Reports

443 HCC Mrs Pat West provided a detailed report on the different levels of precept gained by parishes in Hampshire. The report will be circulated to all parish councillors. TVBC Phil Lashbrook confirmed that the traffic plan for this seasons circuit events had been finalised. He is confident that there will be no major problems but asked that any problems in the village be highlighted as soon as they occur, in order that remedial action can be taken. He also reported some serious cases of fly tipping in the area, and the enormous costs incurred in clearing up rubbish, over £100,000 for the TVBC stretch of A303 alone. He asked residents to be vigilant and take vehicle registration numbers of any incidents seen, and report them to TVBC. Finally he confirmed that work was continuing regarding the sewer problems in the village and hoped these would be resolved soon, so ending the continual procession of tanker lorries through the village, from the pumping station at Fyfield to the one in East Cholderton.

Parish Assembly

444 This will be held on 12th May 2010 in the main hall at Thruxton beginning at 8pm. The May ordinary parish council meeting will be at 7pm before this. A list of those to be invited was reviewed; the clerk will issue invitations shortly.

Planning

445 The following decisions by TVBC were noted: none

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

10/00152/CAWN- demolish barn Hamble House- support

10/00126/FULLN – erection of two story extension Hamble House- support

10/00119/TREEN – tree works Hamble House – see below.

The Chairman temporarily adjourned proceedings of Parish council meeting in order that the public present could express their views regarding this application.

Mr. Milligan, the applicant began. He said that the structural survey carried out recently when he had purchased the property had highlighted the main yew tree (T1 subject of the application) was causing material damage to the property, in particular the annual fall of berries, and the size of the tree also caused darkness to the house.

He confirmed he had sought the advice of a professional arboricultural advisor regarding the work required. He said he wanted the work to be carried out sympathetically and that the wildlife and aesthetics of the area were very important to him.

Mr. & Mrs. Paviour confirmed that the tree bordered their garden and that they had grave concerns regarding the proposal to lift the crown of the tree by 3.5m. Mr. Paviour said this would decimate a tree that was probably the oldest tree in the village but in his view not materially effect the berry fall most of which he felt ended up in his garden. Mrs. Paviour produced some photographs of the tree on which markings had been made to show what the proposed lift would produce. She went on to express her concerns that privacy would be invaded, and that the impact on wildlife would be great.

Mrs. Barton said she was very concerned about the impact on the bird life if a large part of the tree was removed. She also added her view that if the large tree was to be severely lopped it was completely unnecessary to remove any of the smaller tree (T2) also included in the application to be reduced in size.

Mr. Brockman pointed out that the yew was a very slow growing tree and in his view to remove so much as suggested by the application would damage the tree to a point where it was unlikely to recover. He added that several other trees in the area had been lost, a large beech tree and several limes and the effect of further removal would have an impact on the privacy of all the houses in Lambourne Way that backed on to the land at Hamble House.

In response Mr. Milligan reiterated his desire to retain as much of the tree as possible while increasing the light to the house, minimizing damage to the property, and retaining as aesthetically pleasing an area as possible. He also said he would be happy to raise fencing in the area to reduce the impact on privacy.

The Parish council meeting resumed and the Parish Councillors present then discussed the case given the details presented to them. Cllr Davis confirmed the rules regarding trees in a conservation area and how these differed from trees subject to preservation orders. Cllr Milner-Williams asked the parties present if they would be prepared to meet and discuss the matter and reach an amicable agreement. He said he would ask TVBC to extend their deadline if this was needed. There was no desire to meet by any party. Parish Councillors voted by three votes to one to support the application with very strong reservations to be expressed to TVBC stating their views that a 3.5m lift to T1 was wholly out of keeping with the area, and a reduction of 2m to T2 was excessive.

Cllr Davis confirmed that all necessary detail regarding the satisfaction of the conditions for the car park on the sports field was now in place. Revised plans regarding the sports pavilion will be reviewed.

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Bradbury to the planning subcommittee.

FINANCE

447

The bank balances as at 12 February 2010 were as follows:

Lloyds TSB £3529.09

Bank of Ireland £10,286.61

Payments

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

Anton DO Supp £19.20

Thrupton WMH £16.00

H Bourner Feb £231.89

H Bourner Feb exp. £69.41

Village association £100.00

Cllr Davis asked that a payment of £85.00 made out of committee regarding the car park planning be minuted.

The clerk confirmed the bank mandate form was partially completed and that she would continue with the process.

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

449 Cllr Davis and Cllr Milner-Williams would attend the meeting of TVAPC on 4 March 2010.

Correspondence

450. A notice to confirm the imminent review of the play area had been received from ROSPA.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

451 It was noted with dismay that the Trevor Barrett bench on the sports field had been vandalised.

A member of the public had noted that general rubbish and dog mess appeared to be a problem. In particular a dog owner using blue bags was clearing their dogs mess but then dumping the bags under hedgerows. The public were to be asked through the Thrupton Times to be responsible and place all rubbish in bins.

A bin used on the sports field had disappeared after it had been left for the dustmen to empty. Anyone with information was asked to contact the clerk.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

452 The next meeting would take place at 7.30 pm on Wednesday April 7th 2010.