

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st JULY 2024

Present: Cllr P Christie (Chairman), Cllr R Munday (vice chairman) Cllr S Cotterill & Cllr R Sherlock.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bournier – Clerk
TVBC Phil Lashbrook
4 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Will Odling.

Public Participation

2) A member of public present asked if it was possible to arrange for the bramble hedging on the verge by the slip road at the east end of the village to be cut back. Clerk to report to Hampshire Highways.

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:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd June were confirmed as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Cotterill, seconded Cllr Christie. All in favour.

Specific Reports

5) Cllr Munday- (Flooding & Biodiversity) – reported that water levels are now falling but will need to drop further before the weed in the stream can be cleared. It is hoped this can be done in August. Cllr Munday will monitor this and request volunteers for a work party when the time is right.

Cllr Christie (Roads & footpaths) – had nothing to report.

Cllr Cotterill – Environment & Village Green & Mandy Garden – Asked if there was a need to place enhanced signage at the stream bank on fete day, after some discussion it was agreed that the signage already in place was sufficient.

She raised some concerns regarding events at Thruxton Circuit and the resulting noise from live bands into the evening, which while it stopped at 11.00pm it was so loud the full lyrics of the music could be easily heard in the village. In addition she said, despite comments by Alex Thistlethwaite, the new owner of Thruxton Circuit at the Village Meeting an article in the local paper suggested several extensive changes were planned, including an extension to the runway and attracting very much larger crowds to events. This led to concerns being raised about flight paths taken by aircraft which were not the permitted routes. (The debate continued at agenda item 7)

Cllr Odling (Play area safety checks) – was absent but had circulated his recent report. He had also circulated a quote to carry out the work to the slide tower materials £130 with 2/3 days labour. Expenditure up to £800 for this work was agreed.

Speed awareness – The Clerk will obtain data download at end of August.

Clerks report- The Clerk confirmed she had purchased the necessary lottery licence for the fete committee at £40.00. She confirmed she had set up a separate set of accounts to monitor the spending on the fete and would contact Councillors by email regarding anything significant before the fete takes place in August.

Green Space by electricity sub-station

6) Cllr Cotterill reported that work to register the green space as a Village Green continues.

She is obtaining statements from long term residents which will accompany the application form but noted that the process once submitted was a lengthy one.

A parishioner had written to the Parish Council regarding the removal of the dangerous conifer trees in front of the electricity substation. Some dogwood plants have been planted but at this point these are not very large. The parishioner has offered to purchase mature native laurels to be planted to provide instant screening. The Clerk suggested the Parish Council needed to consider who would plant these and the commitment to maintain these in the future.

Several concerns were raised about the maintenance that laurels require and the associated costs. After some discussion it was agreed that laurel was too maintenance heavy and would be a burden on the Parish Council in the future. The suggestion was that the area already planted should be weeded and the soil treated with some fertilizer to encourage growth of the plants already in situ. Cllr Christie will seek advice from a local garden centre regarding treatments.

7) Airfield proposals

Councillor Christie reported on an email he had received from Alex Thistlethwaite regarding some plans he has for the circuit and surrounding lands. These include tidying up some of the current bunds and possibly building new bunds where none are built at present, possibly applying for planning permission to allow camping on the land currently used as a dog walking field, clearing some derelict buildings on land to the west of the circuit, offering grazing for villagers for horses and the possibility of creating a footpath from the west of the village linking up with footpaths on the other side of the circuit. He asked for the thoughts of the Parish Council on these suggestions.

Cllr Munday would like to understand which area of land he was describing at the west end of the circuit. Cllr Cotterill wished to understand what affect changing the bunds would have on noise created on race days and noted there is a financial benefit from building additional funds.

It was proposed that Cllr Christie will respond saying the Parish Council would like to learn more including specific details as above and in particular what additional events might be planned and the impact that may have on the community.

8) Housing Needs Survey

Councillor Christie confirmed the housing needs survey was delivered to all households with the June newsletter. A letter box was placed on the railings of the village hall for parishioners to return these. Forty four percent of those delivered have been returned and the data is now being analysed. A reminder to return any outstanding surveys will be placed in the newsletter and on social media and in the coming days volunteers will be calling at household to offer to collect any form not yet returned.

County and Borough Councillors' Report

9) HCC Chris Donnelly was not present.

TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook reported changes to the recycling strategy are now on hold due to a central government policy withdrawal. This means at present there will be no changes to household collections.

He expressed thanks to the Parish Council for clearing the footpath off Dauntsey Lane. Finally, he said his term as Mayor has now ended which had been both enlightening and very enjoyable.

10) Village Green

The Clerk reported she had obtained a quote for £45.00 to remove the waste bin in the middle of the Village Green. This was agreed. The Clerk will arrange for the work to be carried out.

The Parish Council are still holding funds raised by the Jubilee celebrations which are to pay for a replacement gate at the entrance to the Village green. Cllr Christie will establish what needs to be done to progress this project.

11) Site Mirror-entrance to sports field car park

The Clerk reported the costs for a replacement mirror to be erected on the post opposite the sports field car park entrance was £92.25 plus VAT (£123.00). A volunteer has offered to fit

the new mirror. The quote was agreed and the Clerk was asked to purchase the mirror.

12) **Waterproof Padlocks**

The Clerk provided a quote of £19.98 to purchase two waterproof padlocks for the speed awareness machines. This was agreed. The Clerk will organise purchase of the items.

13) **Bus Shelter**

The Clerk provided a quote of £46.00 to remove the ivy from the bus shelter. This was agreed. The Clerk will arrange for the work to be carried out.

14) **Weedkilling**

The volunteer carrying out weedkilling around the village has asked for more chemicals at a cost of £62.40. This was agreed. In addition, the same volunteer is renovating the notice board and requires some Osm oil at a cost of £38.08. Both quotes were agreed and the Clerk was asked to purchase these.

15) **Recruitment of new Clerk**

Cllr Munday reported he had received two expressions of interest in the role. He proposed an informal interview process be carried out. Cllr's Christie and Munday will organise this. The Clerk will assist and a recommendation will be made to full council in due course.

16) **Finance**

i) To note the bank balances as at 25/06/2024

Lloyds £20778.52

United Trust Reserve £14083.63

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

H Bournier salary	£630.00
HMRC	0
H Bournier exp.	£31.29
Thrupton Mem Hall	£28.00
Taits	£52.00
Ray Welch(Village Green)	£200.00
Ray Welch (Sports Field)	£165.00
SSE	£110.00
TVBC Lottery Licence (fete)	£40.00

iii) Reinvestment of reserves-The Clerk said the reserves were set to mature on 3rd of July attracting £677.87 in interest. It was possible to reinvest the total in the account along with the interest in a one-year bond with the United Trust Bank which will attract 5.11% interest. This was the best rate the Clerk had been able to find. After a short discussion it was agreed the total should be reinvested with United Trust. The Clerk will action.

Planning

17) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/01012/TREEN- Crown lift Yew-The Old Rectory-no objection

24/01013/TREEN- fell holly- Manor Cottage-No objection

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed: 24/01348/TREEN- tree works, Clovelly, Village Street-Application has been prepared by a layman not a tree specialist- ask TVBC tree officer engage with the applicant and ask they ensure professional services are engaged particularly in relation to traffic management. No objection but with a condition.

Thrupton Down Farm- The public enquiry will now be held at the Guildhall in September and is expected to take four days. The Parish Council will book three slots to speak to ensure all areas of concerns are covered.

Cllr Christie highlighted a new application for a solar farm at land at Lains Farm. The previous application attracted a community benefit payment and it is hoped that any new application will also include this.

Attendance at Events

18) Cllrs Christie and Monday attended the PPPF meeting where it was reported that the work to line sewers and private laterals is complete and the result is a significant reduction in tankers which equates to a reduction in spending by Southern Water.

Steve Counsell attended a HALC event where they talked about other events which will be arranged to specifically engage with member councils.

Community Thanks

19) Thanks were expressed to Richard Thorne for strimming back vegetation from the stream bank and Roger Oliver for renovating the notice board.

Correspondence

20) The Clerk highlighted correspondence as follows: - None other than that already discussed.

Items for next agenda

21) Setting up a speed watch team.

Community News

22) None

Date of next meeting

23) The next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 2nd September