

THURGARTON PARISH COUNCIL

OPEN PARISH MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 26th May 2022 at 6 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors; Tina Tsoukatos, David Lewis, Denise Bryant, Katie Chan and Roger Foster.

Officer: Lisa-Jayne Campbell

In Attendance: 19 members of the public present and Cllr. Roger Jackson

Agenda	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS
001/22	Welcome from the Chair
002/22	Apologies for the absence: Cllr Robinson
003/22	Chairman's Report – Cllr Tina Tsoukatos See Addendum 1/22
004/22	Update on the Village Hall – Cllr David Lewis, Annie and Hania. The Parish Council (PC) received a grant, on behalf of the Village Hall, of £46K in 2020 which allowed the refurbishment the Village Hall to a high standard; the wall and roof cladding was stripped and replaced with insulated walls and a new roof, all the windows have been replaced and Wi-Fi, a hive heating system installed. The Village Hall now also have a wedding licence. The floor has been sanded, the foyer and toilets revamped, and a new emergency storage room has been built. The access path has been upgraded to include a ramp; the PC and the TCA thanked Forterra for the donated paving and gravel for the path. The TCA thanked everyone for their contributions with time and effort, the Village Hall, with all the planters etc., is looking lovely. They are now looking for ideas on how to promote the hiring out of the hall.
005/22	Update on Playground and Sustainability – Cllr Katie Chan Cllr Chan is investigating the possibility of introducing a community space, possibly as an extension to the green space at the Village Hall. Ideally, it will be something for both adults and children and will include play equipment and a sensory garden; this is very much in its infancy and is fluid and open to ideas from residents.
006/22	Update on the Platinum Jubilee – Cllr David Lewis Cllr Lewis gave a rundown of the activities planned for the Platinum Jubilee.
007/22	Introduction to The Mammoth Project – David Yates Erected in 1965 in Hoveringham, the Mammoth statue was donated to Nottingham Trent University in the early '90s. Volunteers have negotiated its return to the area and is presently being restored to its former glory before being resited. Highways have permitted the location and groundworks will start on 30 th May 2022 and all being well, it will be installed mid to end June with a small Grand Opening in July. David Yates took the opportunity to thank all the volunteers that have helped to make this happen.
008/22	Update on The Red Lion – Gemma Carey The Red Lion was closed for nine months during Covid, but they were fortunate to obtain several grants which kept them going, as did selling take-aways. They have refurbished the terrace, and toilets installed a log burner and built the car park. Since opening, they are going from strength to strength, consistently busy with all events well supported. Three members of staff are First Aid trained and know how to use the defibrillator. Gemma gave an overview of their events over the Jubilee weekend. The PC congratulated Gemma and the team for all their efforts in keeping The Red Lion going during such challenging times.

009/22	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>A Parishioner asked if the PC plan to conduct another village survey; this is something that the PC will consider as the last survey was done in 2016 for the Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed to conduct a survey which would also include the possible uses for the Village Hall and how Parishioners would like to make use of the space. Potholes were discussed as they continue to be a problem within the Parish. The website was discussed and the TCA are working with the Web Master to update it. The on-going maintenance for the Mammoth was discussed and it was suggested that the map board will need to be amended to include the Mammoth once it is erected and to add the Mammoth to the website.</p>
010/22	The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 18h52

Meeting Closed: 8.00pm

Lisa-Jayne Campbell

Clerk to Thurgarton Parish Council, 30th May 2019

Addendum 1/22

APM Chairman's Report 2022

In my report this year I would like to focus on what the Parish Council have achieved in 2021/22 in the hope that this will provide some transparency, for all parishioners, in establishing what the Parish Council do and how your local tax, the precept, is put to good use.

I think it's important that all parishioners understand what the Parish Council does, what it can do, and that all parishioners are given the opportunity to influence the annual objectives and work of the Parish Council.

As you know all Parish Councillors are volunteers, and they are dedicated to getting the best outcome for the parish in their given area of focus which is currently one of - Environment, Emergency Measures, Village Hall, Highways, Communications and Planning.

Environment- the ongoing maintenance of the village takes a high proportion of Parish Council spend. Hedges verges, and footpaths are kept in trim in the communal areas of the village so that our village looks attractive but moreover is safe to walk and drive around. The maintenance is a combination of paid work and Village Clean-ups. Councillor Denise Bryant organises this work on a month-to-month basis as it is required.

Emergency Measures- Councillor Natalie Robinson has continued to keep the Thurgarton Emergency Plan 'alive', this year refreshing by finding new parishioners for the roles of Base, Deputy Base, and other Volunteers, and by arranging Road Closure and Pump training for Flood Wardens. In addition, this year the emergency resource shed was successfully relocated to a secure area of the Village Hall, this was partially paid for by applying for and arranging grant funding of £1800. The defibrillator in the village was maintained and a new cabinet fitted as required.

Village Hall- has been extensively refurbished, both the interior and exterior of the building. Much of this expense has been found through applying for and arranging grant funding. This essential village asset is now almost entirely new and is being well used by a variety of organisations. Councillor David Lewis is Chair of the Thurgarton Community Association (TCA), a working party set up to manage the day-to-day running of the Hall. The TCA has been successful in bringing in suitable groups to use the Hall and thereby provide regular income. Much of this income has also been spent on the refurbishment of the Hall.

Highways- All matters pertaining to drainage, highways and speeding has been overseen by Councillor Mike Frettsome in liaison with VIA East Midlands and the Thurgarton Community Speed Watch.

Communications- Councillors Tina Tsoukatos and Katie Chan have worked to ensure that all relevant information from the Parish Council is published and made available to parishioners via the Village Email Service, the Village Web site and within Thurgarton People. In addition, contact is maintained with local businesses to support the best interests of all parishioners.

Planning- Councillor Roger Foster ensured that all planning applications, this year numbering 18, were reviewed in a timely manner and considered against the Neighbourhood Plan, with all relevant details presented to Councillors and the public at each Parish Council meeting. Throughout the year the Parish Council has worked hard to strike a fair balance between homeowners' wishes to improve their own properties, permitting the village to evolve and gently expand, while maintaining the character that makes Thurgarton the lovely Conservation Village that we all enjoy. In addition, the Neighbourhood Plan was reviewed as part of the standard 5-year review requirement.

In the coming year I plan to continue to keep lines of communication open with all parishioners and I hope that everyone, who wants to, is able to influence, and hopefully support, the work of the Parish Council.