

THURGARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Annual Parish Council meeting held at 8.30 pm on
Monday 26th January 2023 in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors; Tina Tsoukatos (TT/Chairman), David Lewis (DL), Denise Bryant (DB), Austin Brady (AB), Natalie Robinson (NR).

In Attendance: Lisa-Jayne Campbell (LJ/Clerk), Cllr Roger Jackson and two members of public.

Year/minute item	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS
099/22	To receive and note public representation: there was no representation from the public.
100/22	To receive and accept apologies for absence: received and accepted from Cllrs Chan and Foster.
101/22	To note declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest.
102/22	To accept the Minutes from the previous meeting: The Minutes from the meeting held on 24 th November 2022 were accepted as a true representation of the meeting and signed by the chairman.
103/22	To receive reports from District and County Councillors: (RJ arrived at 19h40) the Community Grant is open again, the deadline is 1 st February 2023 – the Clerk will apply for a grant to cover a new dog bin. RJ informed the PC that Highways have £4.3M set aside for road repairs, and they have doubled the number of hotbox teams. Consultations are out for Kerb side glass collection and combined authorities. RJ is holding a Sunday lunch for his annual charity on 26 th March 2023. (RJ left at 20h50).
104/22	<p>Planning</p> <p>A. Planning Applications for consideration: 22/01992/FUL Far Barn Farm, new grain storage building. 22/02024/FUL Far Barn Farm, workshop and equipment store – the PC received notification that this application has been approved so no decision was needed from the PC. 22/02296/FUL Hoveringham Activity Centre, replacement Scout building – SUPPORTED.</p> <p>B Update on planning matters including recent and extant applications.</p> <p>C. Any other items notified to Thurgarton Parish Council prior to the meeting and requiring submission of comments before the following scheduled Parish Council Meeting.</p>
105/22	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a. Payments for authorisation: Payments totalling £665.67 were authorised plus.</p> <p>b. Balance of Accounts: NatWest Business Current Account balance as of 31st December 2022 is £28501.80 and the Reserve Account balance is £13269.15</p> <p>c. To agree 2023-24 Budget – the Budget was approved.</p> <p>d. To set the Precept for 2023-24 – the Precept was set for £13275.00</p> <p>e. To appoint an internal auditor for year 2022-23</p> <p>f. To agree Clerk’s new pay scale – Deferred to the February meeting.</p> <p>g. VAT Claims: A vote was taken to write to HMRC.</p> <p><i>The following VAT statement was made:</i> <i>Work was undertaken to refurbish Thurgarton Village Hall (leased from Trinity College, Cambridge) in 2020 at a cost of around £93,000, using a variety of grants. Thurgarton</i></p>

	<p><i>Parish Council (TPC) is the sole managing trustee of the hall charity (no. 522313) and reclaimed VAT on all of this expenditure, believing that it was non-business expenditure in assistance of the charity.</i></p> <p><i>In 2017 TPC appointed the Thurgarton Community Association (TCA) to oversee the general management of the village hall premises. At the time, TPC believed that the TCA was a working group of the council. Recently, we have taken both legal and VAT advice that indicates that the TCA appears to be set up as a separate organisation, not part of TPC.</i></p> <p><i>TPC may have reclaimed VAT where it wasn't entitled to. In particular, £8,185 was reclaimed on an FCC Communities Action Fund grant, that appears to have been applied for in the name of TCA and £6,324 was also reclaimed on the use of Newark & Sherwood District Council funds that were awarded in the TCA's name. The original aim was for TPC to carry out the refurbishment entirely from local authority and landfill tax credit sources as a gift to the charity, believing that TCA was part of this council and acting on its behalf. This information is being sent to HMRC to agree actions forward.</i></p> <p><i>The Parish Council, as a Trust Corporation, voted unanimously to be the sole Trustee of the Thurgarton Village Hall Charity and that matters relating to the Charity will in future be dealt with at meetings of the Trustees.</i></p> <p><i>The Standing Orders for the Charity were adopted by TPC</i></p>
106/22	STRATEGY ROLES: To receive updates and note any actions required
A	<p>Emergency Measures: NR reported that the defib has been moved and installed at the Red Lion with thanks to James Cook and the defib guide has been updated accordingly; the agreement in writing with who owns what and who is responsible for what needs to be clarified. Head torches have been purchased, they just need to be charged up and batteries for the outside lights have been ordered. The database needs updating. TT suggested that all of the newly funded flood gear should be included on the database as well as resident's permission to access it. Clerk to check all outstanding beck monitor payments and send out a chaser email.</p> <p>TT reported: Flood Mitigation solution for the village progress report - Internal Drainage Board (IDB) has held workshops with chosen contractor Balfour. Beatty, report with costs expected Feb 23. Report to local planning authority to be sent end Feb. Tree survey has been commissioned and an archaeology survey through Notts County Council is planned. The project is still planned to be completed by Oct 2023.</p>
B	<p>Highways: AB thanked M. Edkins for her efforts with the speedwatch team. The interactive speed sign still needs to be moved to a more suitable location; it was agreed that this could be decided in the meeting with the speedwatch team and the Community Police Officer. Clerk to update the Village website that Cllr Austin Brady is the highways, drainage and speeding contact.</p>
C	<p>Communications: TT reported that:</p> <p>Strategy Meeting - VAT claim for village hall refurbishment was discussed, also the levels for the precept for the following year All details of the Methodist Chapel have been removed from the village web site Forterra - have been asked if they would fund or donate towards the 2nd Defibrillator for the village Web site update to be undertaken. Village Fete is scheduled for the Monday 8th May 2023.</p>

D	Environment: DB reported that she has written an article for Thurgarton People, requesting residents to cut back their hedges and borders. DB has asked the Scouts if they would be agreeable to the PC installing a dog bin there, with the PC paying for it to be emptied. DB and the Clerk are investigating the lengthsman scheme – ongoing. DB and the Clerk are obtaining quotes for the repainting of the white posts. There is a green verge opposite the Red Lion which visitors are parking on and requests for the PC to prevent parking on it have been received; AB will enquire with Highways what can be done.
E	Village Hall: Complaints were received regarding a recent event at the village hall that was very noisy; this was dealt with at the time. It was agreed for the VH to use £1600 CIL monies for the new doors. The VHMC will apply for a grant through the Community fund for an extra defibrillator at the VH. The PC thanked Mr & Mrs Durnin who very kindly cleared out all the leaves and debris from the VH gutters.
107/22	Playground update: ongoing.
108/22	To receive update and agree action for the village plan: nothing new to update.
109/22	To note Correspondence received and subsequent action: Correspondence was received from a parishioner with a bequeath, another email was received enquiring if the seat outside of the vicarage could be moved. All other correspondence was circulated to Cllrs electronically, nothing required action from the PC. Forward email re bus stop to Denise
110/22	To note future Agenda items: PC annual VAT return, clerk's hours/pay scale, strategic documents,
111/22	Private and Confidential <i>In accordance with Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 section 1(2), the Council exclude the public and press from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</i>
112/22	Next meetings: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 23 rd February 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20h58