

THURGARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Tina Tsoukatos

Lynda Ogilvie
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MINUTES of Thurgarton Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall on Thursday, 28 March 2024

Present: Cllrs T Tsoukatos (In the Chair), D Bryant, K Chan, R Foster, N Robinson and J Ross

In Attendance: Lynda Ogilvie, Locum Clerk, Cllr Roger Jackson, and 2 Members of the Public

2024/22 To hear public representations

Speedwatch volunteers had carried out four sessions, but two were rained off. The Speedwatch coordinator is stepping down, and other members will meet in April to consider how to continue operating.

The retiring Speedwatch coordinator was warmly thanked for all her hard work over a sustained period of time.

2024/23 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Lewis gave apologies, which were accepted.

2024/24 To note Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

2024/25 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 February 2024

Cllr Tsoukatos proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2024 be approved as a correct record, seconded by Cllr Bryant, all members in favour.

2024/26 To receive reports from District and County Councillor

Cllr Jackson updated members as follows:

- There are still drain blockages, and photos of the worst affected areas have been forwarded to Highways.
- Highways programme for next year shows work will be undertaken on drains on Main Road

Council members raised the following concerns:

- Cllr Jackson was asked about the open green space in front of Corner Croft bungalows, as a resident had been challenged by a person living in one of the bungalows and told that it was private land and residents were not permitted to use it. Cllr Jackson advised contacting NSDC housing department for clarification.

Action: Cllr Chan/Clerk

- There remains the ongoing issue of parking adjacent to this area along Bleasby Road. A previous proposal to create parking spaces had been rejected by Highways on safety grounds. This could be revisited to consider if a workable alternative scheme could be developed.

Action: Cllr Ross to investigate

- Cllr Jackson will chase NSDC officer re attenuation tank at Priory Mews
- Cllrs Robinson and Tsoukatos have found it difficult to get in touch with Severn Trent to finalise arrangements for ST to meet and talk to residents. Agreed that relevant emails will be forwarded to Cllr Jackson and he will endeavour to intervene.

2024/27 To consider Planning Applications as follows:

- a) **Planning Applications for consideration**
 - i) 23/02008/HOUSE 13 Priory Park, Thurgarton
All members in favour supporting this application
 - ii) 24/00366/LBC Maley Cottage, Bleasby Road, Thurgarton
All members in favour of supporting this application
- b) **General update on planning matters including recent and extant applications**
Nothing to report.
- c) **Any other items notified to Thurgarton Parish Council prior to the meeting and requiring submission of comments before the next scheduled Parish Council meeting**

Planning Consultation 24/00311/S73

NSDC Planning Department has sent further information on this application which confirms that NSDC Ecology officer has raised no concerns about the arrangements to protect bats at this site. This being the case, members felt that they could now support the application, and the Clerk will confirm this to the planning officer.

The following information was noted:

Cedar Lodge – the application for new gates having been rejected, the applicant has now re-submitted amended plans and applied for a Certificate for Lawful Development. The Parish Council has not been asked to comment.

NSDC will in future permit members of the public to speak during planning committee meetings.

NSDC are also making changes to the manner in which parish councils can request that a planning application is 'called in'.

Appleacre – the revised application for a garage has now been approved.

A resident has been in touch regarding the removal of trees near his property. It was noted that little can be done about this unless it is in a conservation area, or the trees are subject to Tree Preservation Orders – neither of which is the case in this instance. Cllr Jackson has asked that NSDC look at this to ensure that correct process is being followed. Cllr Foster will contact the resident with this information.

2024/28 Finance

- a) **Approve payments per schedule**
The payments list, as circulated, was approved, proposed Cllr Bryant, seconded Cllr Ross, all in favour.
- b) **To review and approve the All Banks bank reconciliation as at 16th March 2024**
Noted.
- c) **To review as to value, safety and functionality the fixed asset register as at 3rd March 2024**
This will be reviewed during the month, and added to next Agenda for approval.
- d) **To review and approve the Insurance “Pre Renewal Questionnaire” to be used for the basis of the insurance renewal in May 2024**
To be reviewed by Cllrs Tsoukatos and Bryant and added to next month's Agenda for approval.
- e) **To consider the need for a professional valuation of the likely rebuild costs for the Thurgarton Village Hall for insurance purposes, noting the possibility that VAT paid on building costs *may* not be recoverable**
Cllrs Lewis will action.

f) Review the summary of Receipts and Payments year to date

Noted

g) Update on bank signatories

Cllr Tsoukatos now has bank card. All other matters have been resolved, save for removing previous Clerk. This will be actioned during the month.

2024/29 To consider Parish Council objectives 2024/25

This will be discussed during next strategy meeting.

2024/30 To consider applying for free portrait of HM The King

Agreed that one will be ordered.

2024/31 Strategy Roles

a) Emergency measures

Cllr Robinson updated members as follows:

- She arranged a meeting with all emergency plan volunteers to refresh roles and responsibilities.
- Communication is vital. Beck Street residents have a well-used WhatsApp group, and Priory Park has now set one up.
- New jackets have been delivered
- New signage has been ordered, including road closed signs for the A612
- The replaced defibrillator still needs a new home

Cllr Tsoukatos updated members as follows:

- She will continue to liaise with IDB to seek a flood mitigation solution.
- Questions posed to the Internal Drainage Board at the Village Meeting on 7th February were answered and published via the village email service
- New Beck Street monitor, including a 5 year service bundle, has been ordered, funded by Nottinghamshire County Council, and is expected to be installed in early April.
- Repairs to the white posts, and banks, along Beck Street are the responsibility of Highways, and are now scheduled for repair.

b) Highways

Cllr Chan updated members as follows:

- **The Hollows – parking/obstruction issues.** Junction protection to be considered for 24/25 financial year.
- **Pedestrians in Road Sign & Road narrow sign** - As above to be considered for 24/25 financial year. Scheme to be designed and agreed.

She also reiterated thanks to the Speedwatch coordinator for the work she has done on the project over many years.

Complaints continue to be received regarding the layby on Priory Road, Highways have confirmed that it has adopted a large section of the layby, and the remaining section is not registered with the land registry. Investigations will continue, and Cllr Jackson undertook to raise the issue with Highways.

c) Communications

- PC objectives for 2024/25 to be discussed at Strategy meeting, clerk was asked to arrange a suitable date in April
- Work on updating Council policies continues.
- Potential speakers for the Annual Parish Meeting will be approached.

d) Environment

Cllr Bryant reported on the work which has been undertaken in the last month, including

- clearing drains, verge cutting, and work on the footpath
- The planting scheme in front of the Red Lion is awaiting VIA approval.

- This work will continue through April.
- Lengthsman will be asked to quote for washing down bollards and white posts
- Litter is being kept under control

Cllr Bryant is in contact with VIA for authority for new dog bin along Priory Road

Members discussed the possibility of entering the Best Kept Village competition, but decided against doing so.

It was noted that new glass recycling bins had been delivered to properties in the village, but there were gaps in delivery. Some properties had not received a bin, and others had received two. The first collection is scheduled for 11 April.

e) Village Hall

Upcoming events include an Easter Breakfast, film night and wine tasting.

Cllr Bryant reported on difficulties which had resulted from the decision to permit two separate teenage parties. One had been particularly difficult because of inadequate parental supervision and had caused problems for neighbours. The second one resulted in the hall being damaged and it had needed a thorough clean up afterwards, including repainting some areas. As a result, the Trustees have decided not to accept bookings for teenage parties.

An apology to affected residents will be sent.

f) Projects (Playground, war memorial site, village survey)

Cllr Ross updated as follows:

- He is keeping in touch with the landowner of the land at the back of the village hall regarding a possible agreement as to its future use
- Parking on The Hollows has been discussed with VIA but this is not a priority for them
- Village green initiative – this is still progressing
- War Memorial and consideration of the village survey response will be discussed during next strategy meeting.

2024/32 Date of next meeting: Thursday 25 April 2024.

There being no further business, Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.25 pm

Approved as a Correct Record and Signed:

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Chair
25 April 2024