

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

<b>Date:</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2021		<b>Venue &amp; Time:</b> Zoom, 19.30 hrs
<b>Present:</b> Cllr Sue Crowther Cllr Kit Marshall Cllr Charlie Mitchelmore Cllr Jill Munn Cllr Jack Rhymes (in the chair) Cllr Sian Williams	<b>In Attendance:</b> Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk)  SHDC Cllr Judy Pearce DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert  Parishioners/guests 9	<b>Apologies:</b>  Cllr Nigel Hurrell SHDC Cllr Mark Long

REF 2021/22 MINUTES

### OPEN FORUM

There was an open forum of 15 minutes at the beginning of the meeting to allow members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Council or other items which affect the Parish. The following matters arose:

Prior to the commencement of the session the Chairman advised those present that a number of communications had been received that reiterated previous comments made during open session. For example, issues regarding bins are the responsibility of SHDC and should be raised with them accordingly, as a Parish Council we are unable to deal with these problems. Unless new and relevant information is received further comments on previously raised subjects will not be accepted.

- When will the roads in/out of Thurlestone be dealt with to enable parishioners to drive around the parish without having to drive through deep water? This will be raised with Cllr Gilbert.
- The recent roadworks at the entrance to the Parish Hall car park were due to a fault in the main power supply which affected the distribution board and wiring. Western Power installed a new power supply and electricians then spent two days trying to fix the problem with a further two days of work being required in coming months.
- Airband update, planned completion of works by end of quarter two of 2022, which properties are due to be connected? The parishioner was advised to contact Cllr Gilbert for full details.

It was further noted that Airband want to site a connection box on Memorial Green. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

- Bantham Shoot Communications.

Prior to this element of the discussion commencing it was again stated that our position was given at the last meeting. The Parish Council have no legal standing on this matter and communications should be routed to the correct authorities, the police, District Council etc.

Since the last meeting more communications from parishioners have been received. Shot continues to fall onto both people and their properties and the noise that the valley shoot makes continues, the Estate have not taken any action to prevent further incident.

Parishioners look to protest on the basis of noise and the amount of shot that comes down on people and their properties, they will request once again for the shoot direction to be adjusted which would prevent the issues.

Again, the Chairman advised that the parish council have no legal standing in this matter, however, if we can help, we will.

A second parishioner spoke on the same matter and was also advised that all communications received have been circulated and should be directed to SHDC. The parishioner read a document detailing the issues and how those complaining have now had access to moorings/car park removed. Ultimately, this is a situation involving firearms and potential harm to people, those people have a right under the Human Rights Act to live in security, peace and dignity and the actions of the Estate are breaching this fundamental right.

A formal request was made to the Parish Council and SHDC to state in an open letter that it is unacceptable for residents to have to deal with this. A further request was made for Ward Councillors to talk to those affected.

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

- e. Thank you from Philip Millard to the parish councillors for all their work over the years, the council always tried to act in the best interest of the people of Thurlestone and seemingly continues to do so.

At the end of the session, the Chairman confirmed that all comments made were noted and on record.

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### The Meeting Convened

#### 1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

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#### 2 To receive any amendments necessary to Members' Registers of Interests.

There were no amendments.

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#### 3 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

It was resolved to confirm the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

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#### 4 To consider any matters arising from the minutes.

No matters were brought forward.

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#### 5 To introduce the new clerk Mrs Katharine Harrod

Further to the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 the position of Clerk had been offered to, and accepted by, Mrs Katharine Harrod. Mrs Harrod is currently liaising with the outgoing Clerk with regards to the handover of files etc and commenced the role with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

The contact email remains the same but the telephone number has changed to 07704 941150.

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### 6 Planning

- a. To note that comments on the following planning applications were agreed by email and can be viewed on the SHDC website:

#### **4254/21/VAR Plot 29 Highfield, Eddystone Road, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NU**

Application for variation of conditions 1 (approved plans) 5 (approved PV panels) and 8 (stonework sample) of planning consent 3632/19/ARM (following outline approval under 3203/16/OPA)

Thurlestone Parish Council objected to this application.

#### **3727/21/LBC Clanacombe, West Buckland, TQ7 3AF**

Listed Building Consent to remove simulated roof slates and replace with Spanish natural roof slates. Replace 2 existing damaged fixed roof windows with new conservation style roof lights.

Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application.

- b. To comment on the following application:

#### **4342/21/ARC, Thurlestone Hotel, Eddystone Road to Kerse Cross, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NN**

Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of Planning Permission 1720/19/FUL. The Parish Council were not consulted as this application relates to the approval of technical information.

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

---

Concerns regarding traffic routing were raised. Ideally the situation needs to ensure heavy vehicles only use the local roads in the winter months and lighter vehicles in the peak summer months, furthermore they should enter the parish from one direction and leave via the other to enable residents to know which way the traffic will be travelling and how to best access the parish.

It must also be considered that other building works will also take place during the period of the above works and it will cause untold issues unless it is all integrated into one approved traffic management plan.

Cllr Gilbert, appreciates and understands all points raised. The Parish Council were advised to write to Richard Jackson and Cllr Gilbert will attach a supporting comment for a one-way system. Cllr Gilbert and Adam Keay of Highways are willing to speak with contractors to voluntarily aid the situation.

Cllr Pearce stated that it is quite usual to have instruction notices to construction traffic re direction of travel. It may be possible to incorporate informal notices depending on the chosen routes in/out.

It was further noted that due to the size and length of time that the works are due to take place, South Milton Parish would need to be included in the agreement.

### Decisions

- 3011/21/HHO, 1 Avonside, Bantham, Renovation and single storey side extension. **SHDC Conditional Approval.**
- 3723/21/HHO, 11 Old Rectory Gardens, Thurlestone, Loft conversion & alterations. **SHDC Refused.**
- 1218/21/HHO, 18 Meadcombe Road, Extension & alterations. **SHDC Conditional Approval.**
- 3727/21/LBC, Clanacombe, West Buckland, Replacement roof slates and roof windows. **SHDC Conditional Approval.**

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### 7 To receive updates about general parish matters, including:

- To receive an update about the Thurlestone public toilets:** Cllr Rhymes recently met the Chief Engineer, the angle of the drain is incorrect and requires adjustment. Cllr Rhymes has resolved this issue, however we still require the tank to be assessed as it is getting a lot of use and the ratio of solid/liquid is not correct. In respect of the upgrade, the painting, sinks, basins etc can all be completed at a reasonable cost. This, along with other maintenance requirements needs to be agreed. A rolling maintenance document (including toilets, fencing, hedging etc) for 2022/23 should be considered, including how to raise the capital to achieve the works required. This will be discussed in the budget meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm, via Zoom. Consideration also needs to be given to the length of time the toilets are open for, if SHDC will continue to support us as per last year and what level of support will the golf club provide?
- To discuss the location for a new Parish Noticeboard in Thurlestone village:** The Council preference is to keep using the existing board, Cllr Crowther will discuss with the relevant parties.
- To note the Pump House in Thurlestone village needs to be cleared of ivy:** It was resolved to ask Julian Lee to undertake the relevant works, he will also be asked to look at the overhanging tree boughs.
- To receive an update about the DCC 20mph speed limit trial:** At the DCC Cabinet meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December it was resolved that Members will put forward requests on behalf of their communities for new 20mph limits with priority to those who meet given criteria including (but not limited to) schools in the zone and/or areas with a history of speed related casualties. Cllr Williams will collate a dossier of actions taken to date to support our request for a speed reduction.

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

---

- e. **Len Hubbard's Tree:** The planter requires changing or an alternate solution approved. Councillors will provide their thoughts to the Chairman by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January.
- f. **Housing Needs Survey results:** With full Council support, Cllr Crowther has invited the SHDC officer working on the results to talk at the February meeting.
- g. **Climate Change:** Cllr Williams noted that DCC have resolved to be carbon neutral by 2030 including suppliers and partners, which presumably includes the Parish Council.
- h. **Team Devon:** DCC are seeking an initial investment package of £56m to support the hardest-hit communities and sustain 6,500 local jobs, deliver 5,000 training opportunities and support 7,500 enterprises. Full details can be found here: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/team-devon-covid-19-economy-and-business-recovery-prospectus/>
- i. **2022 Jubilee Celebration:** All present agreed that a Parish Committee should be created to organise a community event for everyone. Various suggestions were made including provision of a mug for the children of the parish, closing the road to host a street party and a beacon lighting.  
Cllr Marshall will ensure details are included in the forthcoming edition of Village Voice.  
This event will have the full support of the Parish Council but will not be a Council led event. If people would like to be involved, they should contact us in the first instance and we will arrange the initial meeting.

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### 8. To receive reports from County and District Councillors and to ask any questions arising

#### DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: [Rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk](mailto:Rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk)

#### Waste

2020 statistics for the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in Plymouth which processes some 65,000 tonnes of our waste each year from the South and West of the County.

- Overall Waste Processed 261,000 Tonnes.
- Electricity Generated 204,000 MWh.
- Steam Generated 57,000 MWh.
- Plant Availability 88.93% (target 91%);
- Co2 Savings 84,000 Tonnes.
- Landfill Diversion 99.9%
- Cash Savings (Vs Landfill) approx. £12million

#### Afghan Refugees

We now have about 150 refugees in the county temporarily housed in hotels in Exeter and Exmouth with a number of rescued cats and dogs from the well-publicised animal sanctuary in the Tiverton area. We should be paid back monetarily by the Home Office, but staff are becoming increasingly stretched by lack of resources.

#### DCC Finances

- In the year 2010/11 DCC employed 6,500 full time staff. It is now 4,500 full time staff.
- In 2013/14 The government revenue support grant was £140 Million and is now £1/2 Million.
- Required cost savings for 2022/23 are £387 Million.
- DCC's net revenue budget for 21/22 was £545 Million of which Council Tax contributed £440 Million with Adult Social Services taking 49%, Children's Services 27% and Highways 10%
- Government Covid support grant funding for DCC was £17 Million last year.

**REPORT IT:**

Members of the public are requested to report all Highways problems through the Highways Website, enabling faster assessment of problem areas which can then be added to the repair/maintenance schedules. You can report potholes, overgrown vegetation, defective signs/lighting and much more.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:**

**Email Cllr Judy Pearce:** [cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk)

**Email Cllr Mark Long:** [cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk)

1. Budget proposals have now been published with £200k set aside to initiate community composting schemes, several parishes already have these and they work very well. Any scheme of this nature would be run and managed by the parish.
2. With precept discussions coming up shortly it should be noted that the Government is proposing to have a consultation to consider limiting parishes precept increases in the same way that SHDC and DCC are limited.
3. SHDC Have been awarded monies for Omicron grants. The majority of businesses who qualify will receive a maximum payment of £3k with some large businesses receiving up to £6k. SHDC have already contacted previous grant recipients to advise if they qualify. Noted that holiday homes on business rates are included.
4. ARG monies have also been received - SHDC can allocate these themselves and are looking at those businesses who were in the supply chain (food/drink) for local hospitality businesses.
5. There is going to be a scheme set up by Devon authorities in respect of the housing crisis, further updates will be provided shortly.
6. The improvement plan that SHDC have been working on in respect of the planning team is moving on well, there should be a full team in place by the end of March following the recruitment of four additional planning officers and two lawyers. This will ensure less time delays and issues in respect of both planning and enforcement. Planning case numbers remain high with over 800 active cases in the South Hams.
7. The housing strategy including homeless strategy is in development, housing officers are actively pursuing 'rough sleepers' to help improve their housing situation. There has been a bigger issue with homelessness over the past year as more properties have been transferred into Airbnb or similar. Full details of housing strategy update are available online
8. Re the waste service, information is still awaited from FCC re the recommencement of the brown bin service. It is hoped they will be in position to start it again in March 2022.

**It takes two minutes to report a problem, please help keep our community beautiful.**

<https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged or Full Dog Bin, Damaged/Full Litter Bin, Damaged/Full Recycling Bank, Dead Animal, Dirty Beach, Fly Tipping, Litter/Dog Mess, Planning Breach, Stray Dogs, AND MORE...

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

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### Appendix A.

Payee	Total	VAT	Net	Details
H Nathanson	£482.29		£482.29	Salary, Printing
Jack Rhymes	£40.00		£40.00	Village Christmas Tree
SHDC	£792.00	£132.00	£660.00	November cleaning – Thurlestone public toilets
Timberjack	£73.98	£12.33	£61.65	Install permanent Christmas tree fitting
Kingsbridge RBL	£18.50		£18.50	Poppy Wreath
Thurlestone Parish Hall	£26.50		£26.50	Meeting Room Hire
	<b>£1,433.27</b>	<b>£144.33</b>	<b>£1,288.94</b>	

It was resolved to approve the above payments.

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**10** At 20.39 hrs the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed

Next Meeting Dates – These meetings will take place only if it is considered Covid safe:

- **Precept & budget discussion 18<sup>th</sup> January, 7.00pm, Zoom**
- **7<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm, Thurlestone Parish Hall.**

**Signed as a true record:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name & Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk by the last Monday in the month to ensure time for inclusion, circulation, and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

**Distribution List** : Cllrs Crowther, Hurrell, Marshall, Mitchelmore, Munn, Rhymes & Williams. **For Information to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce, Dist. Cllr Mark Long, 3 Parish Council Notice Boards