

Thurlestone Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th January 2013 at 7.30pm in Thurlestone Parish Hall Thurlestone

Present: Cllr Rhymes (Chairman)
Cllr Came
Cllr P Hurrell
Cllr N Hurrell
Cllr Munn
Cllr Mitchelmore

In Attendance: Phil Millard (Clerk), Dist Cllr Bramble and 19 members of public.

Declaration of Interest: Cllr Rhymes School (Sec3d)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone. It was explained that we would have an **open forum** at the beginning of meeting for any matters that public wished to raise. This section is not minuted.

Open Forum

1. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Cllr Goddard not available due to family commitments.

2.The minutes to confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Monday 5th November 2012. LGA19721972, Sch 12 para 41(1).

Resolved – that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th November 2012 were signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising:

a) Parish Hall – Cllr Munn

Nothing to report.

b. Highways – Parking

Roads are getting progressively worse throughout the Villages – Very slippery in West Buckland – Whitley to Elston also very bad. Need to keep on to Highways!.

Resolved to Email Adam Keay.

c. Footpaths & Heritage Coast/Thurlestone Sands

Two sections of the coastal footpath taped off at present – one by Yarmer beach is to repair pipes. The other further along towards Bantham looks like a badger set hole which has opened up and large crack now apparent.

Thurlestone Sands

No report as Cllr Goddard not present.

d. School – Cllr Rhymes

Play area –inspection report has condemned the climbing apparatus which has now been taped off – so cannot be used by the children. However they are hoping to try and repair for say 6 months until the new playing area is put in place.

First Day back today after Xmas break.

e.Trees – Cllr Mitchelmore

Island View – trees on the childrens playing green will be cut down today – been a bit of a delay due to weather and Xmas.

Len Hubbards Xmas tree was finally planted in time for Xmas!

f. Parish Plan – Cllr Came

Broadband – Nothing much to report since last meeting – should know something hopefully this month re our application for funding.

Would prefer to wait until we have a decision before pushing on with mobile phone mast but Chris White has a meeting shortly and can get answers to technical matters as to whether we need to tie in with broadband or not.

g. Parish Clerk Report

Precept/Budget – Will provide break down of expenditure so far this year plus Projection to end of year 31st March.

No cap this year on increase we can ask for – but 2% seems to be the maximum without questions being asked!

We will also receive a grant amount = £589 for us which needs to be deducted from precept.

Need further meeting to discuss this and agree precept before end of month – agreed 21st January at 7.30 pm.

Resolved Clerk to book room.

Draft letters have been prepared regarding

Complaint to SHDC Planning Department re Summer Cottage West Buckland.

2. Cobbled road – expense of repair – to Church/Evans Estates/Yarmer Estate.

Resolved -Ok now for these to be posted.

Change of address to Lloyds Bank re Clerk change of address needs 3 signatures!!! - signed at meeting.

Xmas Tree – thanks to Cllrs Hurrell – Nigel and Peter and Cllr Mitchelmore for planting the tree and Jack for getting it. Gives us a focal point (together with the Phone Box) in the Village which was great over Xmas period – as we sang carols and lit up phone box – which I am sure will now be an annual event!

4. District Councillor's Report

Discussions are continuing on Budget for 2013/2014 – have to decide whether to have small annual increases or accept a grant in return council tax is frozen but then could be faced with a large increase when freeze finishes. Looking for feedback from parishioners which they can E mail to him.

Chairman thanked Ian and said it was nice to see him back!

5. Police Business

Not present.

6. Business by Direction of Chairman

Trees on Memorial – Council has a duty of care to ensure they are all safe and hence the discussion regarding a possible survey. This has not been taken forward as yet as no decision made. May be discussed at a later date.

TAP Funding – need to decide what funds are spent on which we have received as part of the South Milton Bid – will need to identify work around the village that needs attention.

Debbie Horne (West Buckland) has kindly agreed to monitor planning applications – especially amendments to make sure these are not slipped through without us knowing.

Large Rocks now obtained (Special thanks to Cllr Nigel Hurrell) to be placed just behind the Thurlestone sign to stop the grass verge being used as a parking area! Will need a digger (will hire) and will try and get this done asap.

7. Planning to be discussed:

55/2808/12/F – Demolition of existing property and construction of replacement house at Sea Breeze, Eddystone Road, Thurlestone TQ7 3NU by Mr & Mrs Barron. **Strongly Object.**

55/2805/12/LB – listed building consent for alterations and improvements to Rock Cottage, West Buckland TQ7 3AQ by Mr Joseph Arafa. **No Objections.**

Planning Granted

55/2385/12/F - Proposed new garage at Peckwater, Eddystone Road, Thurlestone TQ7 3NU by Mr & Mrs Thorne

55/2406/12/F – Installation of ground mounted 18 panel solar pv array at Swallows, Thurlestone TQ7 3NS by C W M Grose

55/2385/12/F – retrospective application for erection of outbuilding at Burnt House, West Buckland TQ7 3AF by Mr M Alexander

55/2543/12/F – Non Material amendment to 55/2005/12/f for existing front door relocated to West Elevation. Minor alteration to balcony arrangement at Langmans Quarry, West Buckland by Mr J Cross.

55/1652/12/MIN - Non Material amendment to 55/2921/10/F for demolition of existing 2 storey house and replacement with new 2 storey house at Dormers, Ilbert Road, Thurlestone TQ7 3NY

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Cllr Munn
Cllr P Hurrell
Cllr Mitchelmore
Cllr Came

In Attendance: Phil Millard (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllr Nigel Hurrell – could not get back in time/work commitments.

Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

Short Meeting was called to discuss the budget for the coming year which starts 1st April 2013 and agree the amount for precept upon South Hams District Council.

Spread sheet of expenditure for current year and comparison against budget provided at Council Meeting held on the 7th January – to give time for councillors to look at and give some thought to budget for next year.

Precepts will not be capped this year – but this could well happen next year onwards. There is a complication in that there is a grant amount given to DC by government to compensate for the reduction in the tax base. In our case this amounts to £589 however it is by no means that this will be passed on to us – even though we are supposed to deduct it from the precept !

As a council we should be looking 2/3 years ahead and currently our expenditure is about £1k more than our precept – most of our costs are fixed – insurance, Clerks salary, audit etc. In reality we only have control over approx £3k for repairs and renewals/miscellaneous. This year we had extra costs due to trees falling down (by Monument), island View trees had to be cut down for safety reasons, cleaning of monument and a Broadband application donation. None of which was budgeted for at a cost of £2k – luckily we had some monies carried over from last year which covered it.

We do have money on Deposit which is earmarked for various projects going forward – we have to sort out the cobbled road by the church – which PC owns and at present is responsible for maintaining it . This is being damaged by construction lorries going on to Yarmer Estate – If this has to be relaid – cost could be £4/5K. We are also committed to improving our Broadband and Mobile Phone reception – this again will require funds and we have earmarked £3/4k. We may also be asked for funds towards play equipment at the school – which is available to Parishoners after school hours. Maintenance of our assets such as the War Memorial, Pump House and bus shelter also needs extra funds kept on one side.

It was considered very important that we must ensure that our income exceeds our expenditure and not the other way round as it is at the moment – and we may have no control over what can be claimed going forward.

After discussion it was agreed that we would apply an increase of 4% in respect of our precept (3% last year).

Clerk has spoken to Angela Endean (Principal Accountant SHDC) WHO HAS CONFIRMED THAT WE WILL DEFINITELY GET THE GRANT OF £589 so needs to be deducted from the Precept amount on form.

**Resolved Council agreed to a 4% increase in Precept.
Chairman and Parish Clerk have signed precept form and will now be sent to DC.**

Chairman.....

Dated.....