

# Thurlestone Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlestone Parish Council on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 at 7.30pm in the Thurlestone Parish Hall

Present: Councillors Rhymes (Chairman), Mitchelmore, Munn, Zaffiro, Hurrell and Marshall

Apologies: Councillor Goddard

In Attendance: Helen Nathanson (Parish Clerk), County Councillor Gilbert, District Councillor Pearce and 7 members of the public

There was an open forum 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 comments were made:

- Community WiFi update – A back up station has been agreed but details of the relay station are still to be confirmed. All customers that have submitted requests have been connected.
- Closure of public toilets – A member of the Parish expressed an opinion that SHDC is playing politics with the parishes by passing on costs which can only be met by a raise on the precept. He felt that SHDC is too worried about costs rather than retaining and supporting tourism in the area. He also raised the issue of the Kingsbridge High St toilets, which are to be made pay as you go, and he wondered if the PC would be interested in this option. District Councillor Pearce replied and explained that Cornwall Council no longer runs any public toilets and has passed them all on to parishes. Running public toilets is not a statutory service for District Councils.
- School parking is becoming untenable and parents are regularly blocking residents' driveways (for long periods of time) such that they are sometimes prevented from getting out. They are also parking on pavements and blocking pedestrian access. The School has said that this is not its problem. Parents say that they are only allowed to park in the Village Hall Car Park if they have older children so this is a problem for early years. SHDC has put up No Parking signs but these are being ignored. Discussion was held about this and the Chairman agreed that the PC will contact our local police to ask about this first and find out what can be done.

*The meeting convened.*

1. Apologies were given by Councillor Goddard.

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

Councillor Rhymes declared an interest in matters relating to the Golf Club as his wife works there.

3. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018. It was agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting.

4. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes.

The following matters arose:

Dog litter bins

- SHDC has been approached about placing a new bin in West Buckland but has said that this is not possible because the rounds are full. If there are any dog bins in the parish which aren't being used enough then they can be moved to West Buckland but they are not

otherwise prepared to take on a new one, even if the Parish pays for the bin. This might change once the new waste contract is in place but that will not be for a year or more. The Chairman asked that this be placed on the agenda for the November meeting for further discussion.

- Planning Application 2541/18/VAR Trehearn has received 48 letters of support which are all on the SHDC website however they do not address the drainage issues. Councillor Pearce is following up the drainage report with the planning department.
- DAAT Landing Site – planning permission has been granted and works can now be planned.
- A meeting was held about the Golf Club barrier. The Secretary has agreed that it will not be locked but will confirm this after a meeting with his Committee.
- Ownership of the school-side hedge has been confirmed.

5. To discuss the SHDC proposal to close or hand over responsibility for the Thurlestone public toilets. Cathy Aubertin, SHDC, attended the meeting to answer questions and discuss this with councillors. The following points were made:

The Chairman welcomed Cathy to the meeting. Councillors had already had some discussion about this and welcomed the opportunity to find out more detail.

The site – the building is owned freehold by SHDC and will be handed over to the PC for £1. SHDC has a right of access across the land (which is owned by the Golf Club) so this will be transferred.

Type of Cost	Reason	Applicable if transferred to PC
Repairs and Maintenance £864	Cathy agreed to produce a list of all the R & M for the last 18 months to give an idea of what works take place. No further historic data is available.	Yes
Water £463.92	The annual water usage is calculated on a very rough basis and does not give an indication of footfall. However, it is one of the lower usage rates in the District.	Yes
Rates £629.20	The Parish Council may be entitled to rate relief	Tbc – might be full or partial rebate
Electricity £154.01		Yes
Salary costs £1668.37		Yes
R&M recharge £365.03	Costs incurred by SHDC maintenance team	Yes
Depot recharge £481.83		No
Premises Insurance recharge £45.47		Yes
Transport & Vehicle Costs £482.66		No
Purchase & repairs of equipment £533.72	Relates to R & M	Yes
Clothes, uniform £19.12		No
Case manager, specialist & localities staff £1318.60	They inspect the buildings and report back on R & M required; payments of invoices and admin.	Yes

	Cathy agreed to provide a list of statutory inspections.	
Central overheads £45.89		No
Staff travel & transport £85.90		No
Support Service Recharge £838.69		Yes
Manual Workers £1471.52	Cleaning staff	Yes
<b>TOTAL COSTS £9467.93</b>		

An update report will be presented to the SHDC Executive in November. Cathy will get the extra information to us next week for consideration and decision at the November PC Meeting. If the PC decides not to take on the running of the toilets, they will close at the end of the FY.

The Chairman asked why SHDC is passing the cuts on to parishes. Councillor Gilbert explained the political backdrop to the decision, which is that SHDC spends £740k pa on public loos, which are not a statutory service and which many other authorities no longer support. There will still be 35 up and running at the end of the FY but it has become increasingly difficult to continue to support them all. The PC must decide if the toilets are really necessary and he thanked the PC for considering the option to keep them open.

It was agreed that the WG would meet again on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in the Yeo Room to discuss this in more detail. Cathy was thanked for attending.

**6.** To receive a report from County Councillor Rufus Gilbert.

Gigaclear – they were part of Carillion and that has caused the delays in rollout. The maximum that a community will have to wait should be no longer than 18 months. Thurlestone should be started in February 2019.

**7.** To receive reports from District Councillors Judy Pearce and Simon Wright.

Councillor Wright sent his apologies.

Councillor Pearce

Consultation on the AONB Management Plan has begun.

Civil penalties for breaching housing standards can now be imposed on landlords. If they ignore enforcement notices then SHDC can now impose civil penalties from £15000 upwards.

Public toilet entry charging mechanism contract – SHDC is trialling a new system which prevent people holding the door open for other people to avoid the charge.

Councillor Munn asked a question about local authorities selling off buildings. There are no plans at the moment for SHDC to do so because empty space in Follaton has been let but this may not be a long term arrangement.

**8.** To discuss the following planning applications:

2983/18/ARC and 2974/18/ARC

The Parish Council noted them and made no comment.

9. To note that Kingsbridge, West Alvington and Churchstow have submitted an application to designate a Neighbourhood Plan. This adjoins the Thurlestone Parish Boundary and the Parish Council is therefore invited to make comments if appropriate.

This was noted.

10. To receive updates about the following Parish matters: Parish Hall; Trees; and Highways.

Parish Hall

Autumn fair - £529 raised and the raffle made £71 and councillors were thanked for the prizes.

Trees

No reports.

Highways

Some gravel has been kicked off into the gutter in the main road past Swallows and needs to be watched in case it blocks the drains.

Highways to be requested to send the gulley sucker out to clean the manholes at the Highfield entrance and back from Mallards on the RHS of the hill.

11. To formalise a request made by councillors at the September Parish Council meeting to ask DCC to remove the yellow lines on the road outside The Village Inn, Thurlestone.

Councillor Mitchelmore has spoken to one of the managers at the Thurlestone Hotel and they would like them to remain as it deters people from parking there. The Parish Council noted this and therefore will not request removal.

12. To note the accounts to date for 2018/19 and to approve payment of the following invoices:

South Hams District Council, Annual insurance and inspection fee	£240
South Hams District Council, NP Assets Map production	£75
<b>Total</b>	<b>£315</b>

Before paying the Annual inspection and insurance fee, a copy of the report will be requested. The payment of £75 was approved.

13. To note that a VAT reclaim form has been submitted for the period 30/11/2015 – 10/09/2018 for a total of £2,407.76.

This was noted.

14. To note the date of the next Council Meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.30pm.

This was noted. The meeting ended at 9pm.

Andrew Rhymes  
Chairman