

THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Approved Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: 6th November 2023	Venue & Time: Thurlestone Parish Hall, 19.30 hrs	
Present: Cllr Rosa Lewis (in the Chair) Cllr Adam Ryan Carter Cllr Gill Stone Cllr Eric Palmer Cllr David Smyth	In Attendance: Helen Leather (Parish Clerk) SHDC Cllr Mark Long SHDC Cllr Sam Dennis Parishioners/guests: 13	Apologies: Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Mike Hodges Cllr Nigel Hadaway

203. OPEN FORUM

Cllr Lewis welcomed everyone and reminded those in attendance that in Open forum members of the public have two minutes each in which to make comments. If possible, please let the Clerk have details of any questions you would like to raise ahead of the meeting so that they can either be placed on the agenda or councillors can consider and/or discuss prior to the meeting.

Howard Martin commented on the flooding on the access roads in and out of the village and wondered if there was anything that could be done to alleviate the problem. Cllr Lewis responded that in last two weeks there had been an excessive amount of rainfall and flooding. The majority of these situations have been dealt with recently, with the help of Cllr Palmer.

Cllr Palmer explained he had cleared some of the culverts and pipes that were causing the problem, but that some of the problems were in Churchstow Parish as well as there being damaged pipes and drains that were Devon Highways responsibility. Cllr Lewis responded that this item would be discussed in the formal meeting and the council were taking measures to try and alleviate as many problems as possible.

A member of the public asked if the vegetation that had been cut down along the raised footpath in Thurlestone could be taken away and not left lying on the road. Cllr Lewis assured him that the council will be taking action to ensure this is done in future.

Another member of the public drew attention to an overhanging tree at the top of Court Park Road, and an overgrowth of ivy on the pavement which was a hazard. Cllr Lewis responded that the council had heard the tree had been trimmed a couple of days ago and that the Clerk would ask if the person who undertakes strimming and grass cutting for the parish to go and clear the ivy.

A member of the public asked if there was any news about the blue bins outside the Thurlestone Hotel Staff quarters. The Clerk responded to say she had been in touch with Tim Hassell from Thurlestone Hotel who is responsible for the building. He is currently waiting for his builder to come and undertake the work of screening of the bins.

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204. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk

Email Cllr Mark Long: cldr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk

Cllr Mark Long:

There is a public space protection order consultation regarding the control of dogs across the district. This takes place every three years, the consultation is open until 14th November. There is a review of enforcement underway at present, it's a review of the existing policy, the handling of complaints and the resources that are required for the service. Both Cllr Dennis and Cllr Long are on the group reviewing enforcement and the aim is to produce a report for the 30th of November Executive. If there are frustrations, issues or problems with enforcement, then do let Cllr Dennis or Cllr Long know.

Regarding the roll out of the new recycling and waste collections, most people have received the new bins and the new collections will begin on the 20th November. The changes are taking place so that everybody will receive a full recycling service. For some it will mean a change of collection day. The issue has been with some of the rounds there were over 1300 properties where the recycling lorries couldn't get to them. There will be an adapted collection for these properties and their collections will be commingled and sorted at the depot. A letter has been sent to all residents informing them of the changes.

Cllr Dennis.

A reminder that the draft corporate strategy is still out for consultation. Residents have until 30th November to respond and Cllr Long would encourage everybody to look at it and participate if they can. a look. District Councillors have arranged a visit with South West Water at the South Milton Treatment Works. Cllr Hodges will also attend.

The Meeting Convened

205. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES.

Apologies were received from Cllr Gilbert, Cllr Hadaway and Cllr Hodges.

206. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (3rd October 2023)

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd October 2023. They were signed by the Chair.

207. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Stone declared that she would not take part in the planning discussions about Morstones on the agenda as she lives next door to the property.

208. CLERK'S REPORT.

Dog Control Consultation: South Hams District Council have a live consultation regarding Dog Control Public Space Protection Orders Public Space Protection Orders which are otherwise known as (PSPOs). PSPO's is a tool available to Councils under the Anti-Social

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Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and are intended to be used to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a specific area that is having a detrimental effect to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which will apply to everyone. Officers can issue fixed penalty notices up to £100.00 for those who don't follow the Orders. The current PSPO's are due to expire March 2024 and so SHDC need to consult to see if the current ones should be extended or any additional areas to be included. Anyone can give their views during the consultation period which runs from 10th October 2023 – 14th November 2023. A poster has been put on the website and on Facebook.

Cllr Lewis asked if there was a possibility of putting signs up around the parish highlighting the fixed fee penalties. The Clerk will investigate costs and possible locations.

Lengthsman/Groundsman update: Councillors and the Clerk had met with Julian Lee, who has agreed to undertake some extra duties for the council. He will help clear gullies and coverts with Cllr Palmer's help. Mr Lee is prepared to undertake more work around the parish as and when it needs doing, so if anybody spots a problem in the parish regarding overgrowth or branches down or flooding, let the clerk know and she can hopefully arrange for Me Lee to help clear the problem as soon as possible.

Update on Blue Bins outside Thurlestone Staff accommodation: The Clerk had been in touch with Tim Hassell who is responsible for the building to see when the screening for the bins would be erected. Mr Hassell is currently waiting for his builder to come and undertake the work. The Clerk will chase up again if nothing is done in next week or so.

Flash Flood Resilience Information: The environment agency has written asking local communities to share materials on flash flooding and to raise awareness of flash flooding and what to do if it occurs. Cllr Palmer stated that the majority of problems were caused by Devon Highways not undertaking repairs to drains and roads and the matter should be drawn to Cllr Gilbert's attention, as often when a flood occurs SHDC just put-up signs warning of flooding but do not repair anything. Cllr Lewis stated that if we could keep on top of clearing the gullies and culverts we are responsible for with the help of Mr Lee and Cllr Palmer then maybe the problems would be alleviated to some extent.

Thurlestone Public Toilet closedown: South Hams District Council, who undertake the cleaning of the public toilets in Thurlestone, closed the toilets on the 1st November and will carry out deep cleans between the 5th- 8th November. Following the deep clean Cllr Hodges will turn off the stopcock. The toilets are scheduled to be re-opened at beginning of March.

Tree Preservation Order: The Parish have had notification from SHDC of a Tree Preservation Order for 3 areas of West Buckland which means that nobody can cut down, top, lop, uproot, wilfully damage or wilfully destroy; or cause or permit the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of any trees specified in these areas.

Fire Service Consultation: Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue are asking for the views of local communities on the level of precept (council tax contribution) for the fire and rescue service. This consultation is open now until midday on 30 November. There is an online survey and the link for this has been put on the parish website and Facebook.

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Extension to temporary closure of Footpath 13: An extension of the temporary closure of Thurlestone Footpath 13 has been approved. The closure would have expired on 18 December 2023 and has now been extended until 18 June 2024 or until the works are complete, whichever is the sooner. The closure is necessary to allow safe access during building works.

D-Day 80th Anniversary – 6th June 2024: Devon Association are asking Local Councils if they are commemorating the 80th Anniversary of D-Day on 6th June 2024. This item will be considered by Councillors and discussed at the next meeting.

New Auditor: Kathy Harrod had advertised for a new internal auditor, and an application was received from Deborah O'Brien. She has been a Parish Clerk for over 10 years and been conducting internal audits for 3. She is a Principal Member of SLCC and also a member of the Internal Audit Forum (IAF). Her fees would be around £180 in total, similar to the £175 for the internal audit last year.

Road Closure: Notice of Temporary prohibition of traffic for one day on 25.01.24 from Whitley Cross to Huxton Cross, Thurlestone for Pole Replacement.

209. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Stone:

Regarding possible upgrading of the public toilets and the Community Ownership Fund, councillors must decide what, if any, improvements are needed and get some quotes in. If the process is started then the council will have an idea of how much might need spending on them in the future even if the decision is not to proceed at this present time. Cllr Hodges will have a look at the building when he turns the stopcock off. Jack Rhymes, a Member of the Public, suggested that as part of a quote the council ask a contractor to look at the drainage system as well, as he suspected they do not drain properly and probably need to be lowered as they should be 1 in 10.

Proposals for the modification of the neighbourhood plan.

The council put in a proposed nonmaterial amendment which unfortunately had been turned down. The reason it was turned down is that the SHDCI think this was covered in Dev Policy 10.5 of the JLP. In order to understand this better Cllr Stone has printed off the development policies covering the JLP and circulated to the councillors. At the moment there won't be any changes going through on the neighbourhood plan at present, but councillors will continue to assess.

Cllr Stone read out a report by Cllr Hodges on flooding. He had marked four areas that are at risk of flooding in the parish (appendix A) The reason for the flooding is blocked culverts and broken pipes. Cllr Palmer stated that one of the causes was a drainage pipe that have been smashed because of lorries and tractors driving over it close to the roadside edge.

Cllr Stone recommended that Cllr Hodges put his observations to County Cllr Rufus Gilbert as the matter is one for Devon Highways and ask for his comments. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Hodges and send through his research.

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Cllr Hodges had also sent in a paper about overgrown hedging on Court Park which had already been discussed in the Open Forum. Councillors will be asking the owners of the overhanging tree and Mr Lee to see if they can solve the problem of the ivy.

Cllr Hodges had also produced a report about the land slip on the road by Thurlestone Golf Course. Graeme Fairley from the Golf Club explained that it was the Golf Club's responsibility to solve the landslip and they have selected a contractor to undertake the work, but he is still waiting for the contractor to give him an actual date of when he can do the work.

Cllr Stone then reported on a meeting she attended at Marlborough Village Hall on 9th October with Cllr Julian Brazil. Cllr Brazil spoke about the new corporate strategy which aims to concentrate on building the right kind of houses, not just affordable ones, but also social housing. The strategy is to build an economy that supports not just tourism, but looks at buildings and trying to invest in things that are going to enhance the area and create proper jobs. Climate and biodiversity very high on the strategy list as SHDC strive to achieve 12% per year reduction in CO2 emissions and a target of 5.5% per year increase in biodiversity in the South Hams.

Cllr Stone then talked about cases where the council have notification of a planning application and only have a few days to consider it and arrange a site visit before discussing at the next meeting, as there have been quite a few recently. She wondered if there was any way to change the 21-day response.

District Cllr Long replied that the response time was 21 days and District Council is 28 days. He said the Council recognises the monthly cycle of parish councils. He explained there is a time constraint to turn them around if. If you ask sometimes there is some level of lenience and the agent will allow an extension, but this cannot happen with every application. There is still a backlog of applications, but hopefully this will change.

Cllr Stone has signed up to the National Association of Local Councils sub committee of Coastal Parishes. This is a separate committee that deals with coastal areas, coastal villages and villages that have high proportions of second homes. The council are not against second homes, but as a lot are now rented out via Airbnb there is a large proportion of visitors arriving in the middle of the night to houses, people doing changeovers at all hours of the day, and lots of noise generated in the gardens. The holidays makers are having fun and enjoying themselves, which is fine, but we live in a very quiet area, and that's one of the reasons why those of us who do live here choose to live here, because we love the peace and quiet. Cllr Stone wondered whether there was any way it could be drawn to holiday makers notice that they should respect the local people and the fact they are holidaying in a quiet area.

Cllr Lewis suggested that perhaps holiday companies could be encouraged to circulate a sort of code of conduct to their clients, which would depersonalise the connection between the holiday makers and their neighbours.

Cllr David Smyth

Cllr Smyth and Karen Barker from the Parish Hall committee informed the meeting that they had agreed that the parish hall could be used as a police hub as and when required.

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Cllr Smyth said the police would use the hall for three purposes. Firstly, for a drop in venue as and when needed in the parish, secondly for organised meetings and thirdly for emergencies. Peter Shotton, the Sergeant at Kingsbridge, will inform the Parish Hall committee and the council ahead of time when he's going to run a surgery and give local people the opportunity to pop up if they have any concerns so he can address them.

210. PLANNING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Full details of all applications and Parish Council responses can be found by entering the reference number on the South Hams District Council planning portal

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

- a) RATIFICATION 2900/23/HHO – Apple Trees, Thurlestone, TQ7 3LZ. Householder application for alterations, extension & construction of detached garage (resubmission of 3045/22/HHO). **Thurlestone Parish Council OBJECT to this Application**
- b) 4258/22/HHO – Morstones, Bantham, TQ7 3AP. Householder application for proposed alterations & extension to include demolition & replacement of conservatory. **Conditional support with comments**
- c) 3468/23/CLE – Certificate for Lawfulness for works commenced within the time limit of three years as per condition 1 under planning permission number 1720/19/FUL & 2643/22/VAR. Thurlestone Hotel, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NN. **No Comments.**
- d) 3588/23/HHO – West Seacombe, Ilbert Road, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NY. Householder application for two storey front extension, remodelling of rear terrace, new windows & internal alterations to existing dwelling. **No Decision – site visit planned.**
- e) 3336/23/VAR. Outside Land At Sx 699 454 Bantham. Application for variation of condition 3 (opening hours) of planning consent 1093/20/FUL. **Thurlestone Parish Support.**

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL DECISIONS:

3117/23/HHO – Land Cottage, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NE. Householder application for erection of proposed detached garage including the reuse of the existing redundant Piggery/outbuilding to form new greenhouse. **Conditional Approval**

2900/23/HHO – Apple Trees, Thurlestone, TQ7 3LZ. Householder application for alterations, extension & construction of detached garage (resubmission of 3045/22/HHO). **Conditional Approval**

2458/23/FUL – Thurlestone Golf Club, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NZ. Conversion of two grass tennis courts to all-weather surface including replacement court edge fencing & external groundworks. **Conditional Approval**

2786/20/FUL, West Buckland Barn, TQ7 3AJ. **No Decision Yet.**

3013/22/FUL, Aune Cliff. **Conditional Approval**

4118/22/FUL, Edgecombe House, West Buckland. **Application awaiting finalisation of legal agreement.**

2451/23/HHO - West Wing, Warren Road, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NT. **Conditional Approval**

2198/23/VAR – 5 Sea Haven, Old Rectory Gardens, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PD. **Conditional Approval.**

211. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE Receipts & Payments

Councillors agreed to pay Clerks Salary & HMRC, PWLB repayment loan £3107.55. £42 for clerk to attend SLCC training on setting up gov.uk emails. £30 to DALC for course Budgeting for new clerks and finance staff. The clerk reminded councillors of Precept budgeting – please consider any requirements for extra funding.

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30 October 2023 (2023-2024)

Thurlestone Parish Council PAYMENTS (AWAITING AUTHORISATION) LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
47	17/10/2023		Current Account		Loan Repayment	PWLB Lending Facility	E	3,107.55		3,107.55
48	30/10/2023	Nov 23	Current Account	OP	Training	SLCC Enterprises	S	42.00	8.40	50.40
49	30/10/2023	Nov 23	Current Account	OP	Training	Devon Association of Local C	E	30.00		30.00
50	31/10/2023	Nov 23	Current Account	DD	Salary Payment	Helen Leather, Parish Clerk	E	455.61		455.61
Total								3,645.16	8.40	3,653.56

30 October 2023 (2023-20)

Thurlestone Parish Council

Prepared by: _____
Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Date: _____

Approved by: _____
Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

Date: _____

Bank Reconciliation at 30/10/2023			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023		27,944.32
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 30/10/2023		36,425.41
			64,369.73
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 30/10/2023		17,764.06
A	Cash in Hand 30/10/2023 (per Cash Book)		46,605.67
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 04/10/2023	0.00	
	Deposit Account 30/10/2023	24,535.15	
	Current Account 30/10/2023	25,715.68	
			50,250.83
	Less unrepresented payments		3,645.16
			46,605.67
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		46,605.67
	A = B Checks out OK		

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212. CLOSE OF MEETING:

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

213. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS – 4th December, 8th January 2024.

Signed as a true record:

Print Name & Date:

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk one week prior to the meeting 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: Thurlestone Parish Councillors. For Information to: County Cllr R Gilbert, South Hams District Council Salcombe & Thurlestone Ward Councillors, Thurlestone Parish Website: <https://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/>

Appendix A – Key Flooding Areas

Key Flooding locations

Devon County Council
Roads and transport
Devon County Council

Council updates > Pinpoint > A to Z > Help > Search devon.gov.uk

Report a different problem Help with using the map Privacy

Location search

1 – Culvert Blocks – DCC fixed with Ruffus Help
2 – Culvert Blocks – Eric fixed
3 - Crushed Culvert Needs repair – Needs DCC
4 – Cause Unclear – Not too bad at moment

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