

Thurlestone Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Council, which was held in the Parish Hall, Thurlestone on Monday 3rd February 2020 at 7.30pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:

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 matters were raised:

The Openreach cables along the lane between Bantham and West Buckland are swaying in high winds and leaning on the adjacent house. This will be reported again.

Councillor Pearce was thanked for her recent article in the Village Voice about dark skies and its place in the NP. A question was then asked about how much people know about this policy and it was explained that it was up to residents to speak to neighbours and highlight the policy on an individual basis.

The flooding along the Bantham-West Buckland lane has been reported to the Highways Officer, who will look into it.

The planning application for the new Bantham Estate Office was commented upon. In particular the fact was raised that, although it claims in the application that there has been community consultation about the application, the meetings to which this refers are not open to all members of the public: those people present are not there in an official representative capacity and there are no minutes of the meetings. It was also pointed out that there are a number of empty buildings belonging to the Estate and the need for a new building was questioned, especially as it is outside the settlement boundary and in the AONB.

The meeting convened.

Present: Councillors Rhymes (Chair), Mitchelmore, Munn, Marshall, Hurrell, Williams and Crowther
In Attendance: Helen Nathanson (Parish Clerk), County Councillor Gilbert, District Councillors Pearce and Long, 20 members of the public

1. To receive apologies.

There were no apologies.

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

There were no amendments.

3. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 6th January 2020.

4. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes.

The following matters arose:

Item 4

The two defibrillators located in the Thurlestone Hotel and The Sloop have been under a maintenance contract with the South West Ambulance Trust. The Trust has written to Councillor Marshall and explained that, if the Parish Council does not wish to continue with the contract, we can keep the defibrillators but will need to make arrangements ourselves for ongoing maintenance and monthly reporting.

The Thurlestone Hotel has agreed to take on the monthly checks and reporting. Councillor Williams will ask The Sloop if they would be willing to do the same for their unit. Councillor Marshall will inform the Ambulance Trust that we will take on the units ourselves. The Hotel and The Sloop were thanked for all their help to date in looking after them.

Item 6

Traffic calming measures in Bantham

Councillor Crowther has been approached by a landowner about the problems with accessing his property because so many drivers use his access as a passing place. He is offering land to create a new passing place to help alleviate the problem. Councillor Crowther will email Councillor Gilbert in the first instance.

Item 8

The Budget Meeting was held on Tuesday 28th January and the following precept amount was agreed for 2020/21: £25,151 which equates to an average Band D contribution of £33.08 which is an increase of £6.54. Councillor Rhymes explained that this increase was largely due to the Thurlestone public toilets which are now in the remit of the Parish Council.

Item 11

We have received confirmation from Beers Solicitors that the paperwork for the transfer of the public toilets has been received from SHDC. Councillors Rhymes and Munn will sign on behalf of the Parish Council.

5. Planning

- To consider the following planning applications:

3967/19/VAR Mr Ian Axe

Application for variation of condition 2 of planning permission 0507/19/HHO

Higher Cross Park, Cross Park, Thurlestone, TQ7 3LP
Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application. Councillors considered that this variation for windows and a door to be installed in the existing structure (BBQ area) will not have an unacceptable impact on the residential amenity of neighbouring properties (NP Policy TP1.1); that the design and building materials are appropriate (NP Policy TP1.2); and that there will not be a harmful impact on the AONB (NP Policy TP22.1).

3869/19/HHO Mrs Daphne Wallis

Householder application for construction of garage
Mandalay, Glebe Field, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NA

Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application. Aside from moving the new garage away from the boundary wall, this is a like-for-like replacement of the original single-storey detached garage, which has been demolished as it was in disrepair. Councillors considered that the proposed building will not have a harmful impact on the residential amenity of neighbouring properties (NP Policy TP1.1) and that the design and building materials are appropriate for its location (NP Policy TP1.2).

0151/20/FUL Thurlestone Golf Club

Retention of 1 pay and display machine in the public beach car park (Resubmission of 0426/19/FUL)
Thurlestone Golf Club, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NZ

Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application. Councillors considered that since a Certificate of Lawfulness for public car parking on the upper field had now been granted (2522/19/CLE), this application for the retention of one pay and display machine to collect revenue to help with the management of the site as a car park should be approved.

0227/20/FUL The Bantham Estate

Erection of new Estate & Harbour office; and granting of temporary 18 month consent for continued use of land for siting of portacabins and associated parking of vehicles for use as temporary estate office

Bantham Estate Yard, Bantham

Councillors agreed to hold a site meeting and to discuss this in more detail before submitting a response by the statutory deadline.

1720/19/FUL Mr T Hassell - Thurlestone Estates Ltd

Proposed erection of 10 self-contained holiday lets, the re-siting of the Badminton Court and the creation of an additional restaurant and associated parking and landscaping

Thurlestone Hotel, Eddystone Road, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NN

Councillors agreed to hold a site meeting and to discuss this in more detail before submitting a response by the statutory deadline.

- To receive an update about Community Housing.

Councillors Crowther and Munn attended a meeting with SHDC community housing and planning officers Rob Ellis, Alex Whish and Wendy Ormsby. District Councillor Pearce attended but Councillor Long and Pat Whymer (Head of Planning) were not able to attend.

At the meeting, Councillors informed officers that the Buckland Park Farm site had recently been withdrawn and that they are now considering the land that has been offered in Bantham opposite the shop. They are also approaching other landowners in the parish to ensure a level playing field and will be reviewing the number of eligible households.

The day-to-day work will continue to be carried out by the Neighbourhood Plan Committee and Community Housing Group.

6. To receive reports from County and District Councillors.

Councillor Gilbert gave the following updates:

Glebe Field resurfacing will take place later this month. The pothole at Whitley Cross has also been repaired.

Concessionary travel costs DCC £9.5m per year just within Devon.

Public transport support (ie the cost of subsidising public transport) is £5.6m per year.

DCC owns 65 farms which are all tenanted out to young farmers to help and promote rural development and agriculture.

Councillor Gilbert was asked for his help in contacting Openreach about the unstable telegraph pole by the entrance into The Watch in Bantham. He agreed to speak to the Highways Officer to see if they can help.

District Councillor Pearce gave the following updates:

SHDC's Chief Executive is leaving soon and they will be recruiting a new one.

A new policy for planning pre-applications will soon be available on the website.

SHDC is procuring a new information management platform which will improve the service available to customers.

The Kingsbridge Questionnaire is live and people are encouraged to respond, which can be done online. Councillor Munn commented on the fact the high street is in difficulty and that this needs attention. There is now a 50% discount on retail business rates to help out local shops.

7. To receive updates about Parish matters, including but not restricted to: Highways, Parish Hall, Trees and Defibrillators

Councillor Williams gave an update about the new traffic signs for the villages which will be placed around key areas over the next few weeks. There is a task force looking into a 20mph speed limit for all villages in Devon and DCC has endorsed this work, which is ongoing.

The Parish Hall has installed a new mirror for use when exiting the car park.

Councillor Hurrell raised an issue of shooting on the Bantham Estate and the impact on local properties where pellets have been falling into nearby gardens during the shoot. Residents were told to report this to the Police in future so that it was logged.

8. To note that there is a public consultation about *Coastal Access - Improvements to public access along the Devon coast between Cremyll and Kingswear - Report to Secretary of State.*

The next meeting of the Avon Estuary Forum will be on Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm in Thurlestone Parish Hall.

These were noted.

Councillors also discussed the issue of moorings' allocations on the Estuary and whether there should be a system in place like elsewhere in the South Hams, which prioritises residents who live in the Parish full-time. A letter will be sent to the Bantham Estate to raise this issue.

9. To note the current account balance of £16,613.08 to date 2/2/2020 and to approve the following payments:

Helen Nathanson	Parish Clerk pay and expenses for January	£310.25
EDF Energy	DAAT Landing Site electricity	£35.81
Paul Martin	Flowers for roundabout	£10
Total		£356.06

The current account balance of £16,613.08 was noted and the payments were approved to the value of £356.06.

10. To note the date of the next Council Meeting: Monday 2nd March 2020 at 7.30pm.

Councillor Rhymes
Chairman