

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

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| Date: 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2023   |   | Venue & Time: Thurlestone Parish Hall, 19.30 hrs |
| <b>Present:</b><br>Cllr Sue Crowther<br>Cllr Paul Gunning<br>Cllr Rosa Lewis<br>Cllr Jill Munn (Chairman)<br>Cllr Adam Ryan-Carter<br>Cllr Gill Stone<br>Cllr Sian Williams | <b>In Attendance:</b><br>Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk)<br><br>SHDC Cllr Mark Long<br>SHDC Cllr Judy Pearce<br><br>Parishioners/guests 9 | <b>Apologies:</b><br><br>DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert  |

REF 2022/23 MINUTES

### 106 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:

- a. Re the old plot at end of Eddystone Road, people staying on the plot, should they be there?
- b. The road sweeper is required to come through the parish. A request will be made of SHDC.
- c. It has recently been stated that the local bus company is going to stop the regular service that runs through the parish. Could a car share scheme or something similar be set up to help people get into Kingsbridge. Cllr Adam-Carter advised that there has been talk of a similar scheme. The Parish Council hope that an alternate bus service will be approved.
- d. The ford at West Buckland is currently deeper than it's ever been before. Highways are aware of the situation and have potential works in hand but they are not anticipated to commence until 2024.
- e. The road on the way to Kingsbridge is in a dire state and requires urgent attention. One parishioner reported over £800 of damage to his car. Again, Highways are aware of this, parishioners are required to report every single issue.

**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)

1. The scheduled road closure of Main Street in Modbury for three months beginning January 9<sup>th</sup> has now been now deferred until January 2024.
2. Subject to Council, DCC looks to be setting a balanced budget for 2023/24 and therefore the immediate threat to its survival is receding.
3. DCC are not currently in position to repair the potholes as they are full of water and the repairs would not last. PLEASE KEEP REPORTING POTHOLES.
4. Roundabout at Kitterford Cross – this has been installed by Highways England (NOT Devon County Council) as it was listed as one of the 150 most dangerous roads in England.

#### REPORT IT:

Members of the public are requested to report all Highways issues 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)

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1. South Hams District Council passed a resolution in council to implement an extra 100% council tax on second homes, and empty properties after one year (currently two), but not until the legislation permits, which is unlikely to be until 2024-5 earliest, and more likely to be 2025-6.
2. The Kingsbridge, Churchstow and West Alvington Neighbourhood Plan was officially 'made' effective 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
3. At the December Executive meeting a report was received on the Waste Service. This confirms that the service has been stabilised, but the timetable for the new rounds and extending improved recycling is not yet firmed up. The great majority of people are getting a much-improved service and the crews on the vehicles are in a much better frame of mind, but there is much still to sort out.
4. If parishioners are intending to start using the new garden waste service in March they must apply by not later than 22<sup>nd</sup> January to ensure inclusion on the collection rounds.
5. There was also a report received on the new Devon Carbon Plan. South Hams District Council will be revising its Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan to align with the Devon Carbon Plan.
6. **Photo ID will be required for the May 4<sup>th</sup> Elections for anyone intending on voting at a polling station. No ID is required for postal votes. If a parishioner does not have the required ID they can either apply for a postal vote or to SHDC for a Voter Authority Certificate. More details can be found at <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/voter-ID>**

**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...

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### The Meeting Convened

#### 107 Welcome & Apologies

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#### 108 Declarations of Interests and amendments to Members' Registers of Interests.

Cllr Stone declared a personal interest in respect of 4118/22/FUL (Edgecombe) and did not take part or vote in the discussion.

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#### 109 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

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

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#### 110 Clerks Report:

- a. Appeal Notification 1017/22/HHO 24 Court Park: We have been advised that this has been referred to the Secretary of State on Appeal, we await further information.
- b. Procedural Clarification & Collective Responsibility, further to the recent meetings it was felt pertinent to reiterate the following:
  - 1) The Parish Council is bound by collective responsibility, Councillors may only act on an issue following documented approval at a full council meeting.
  - 2) Prior to a meeting, all Councillors have a duty to keep an open mind about planning applications until they have heard all the arguments for and against at a meeting. Predetermination is contrary to our duty to act fairly.
  - 3) A resolution shall not be reversed within six months except by a special motion, which requires written notice by at least three (3) councillors to be given to the Proper Officer in accordance with standing order 9, the written motion must be clear in meaning and the decision of the Proper Officer as to whether or not to include the motion on the agenda shall be final.
  - 4) The Freedom of Information Act gives anyone the right to request any recorded information held by a Town or Parish Council. This includes letters, emails, reports, faxes, file notes, notes of phone calls, videos, digital recordings etc. Section 77 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI) makes it a criminal offence for a

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person to do anything with the intention of preventing the disclosure of information pursuant to an FOI request.

- c. Councillor training has been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> February. It has also been agreed that Cllr Crowther will provide an overview of the Neighbourhood Plan for all Councillors.
- d. We have received advice that footpath 7 to Coronation Quay has closed for a period of six months, this closure is necessary in the interest of public safety. Cllr Gunning is in regular contact with the Public Right of Way Team and Cllr Gilbert is also aware of the situation. We shall continue to lobby Devon County Council to ensure that this path is reopened, or an alternate path made available, at the earliest possible opportunity to prevent the inconvenience that this closure is causing to locals and tourists alike.
- e. Our thanks to Cllr Gilbert who has provided £100 from his localities allowance to enable us to purchase hedge cutting road signs for use by a local farmer.

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### 111 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a. To resolve to make a correction to 1251/22/HHO in the October 2022 Minutes.  
It was resolved to correct the minutes to show the correct reference number and that Thurlestone Parish Council objected to the application.
- b. Proposal to plant wild flowers on the Cobble Road verge (church side).  
The verge of the Cobble Road on the Church side, right under the ancient cross, has been taken over by weed and totally eliminated the grass. This will have to be reseeded in spring, a suggestion has been made for it to be seeded with wild flowers. Councillors resolved to seed wildflowers in this area, a sum of £100 was approved. Cllr Ryan-Carter will take responsibility for this.
- c. Request from South Hams CVS for a donation: Councillors resolved to defer this item until details relating directly to their work in the parish has been determined.
- d. To agree an event budget for the May Coronation of King Charles III:  
An amount of £5,000 was agreed in principle, as was the provision of cotton sports bags as a commemorative gift for primary school aged children in the parish.  
Jack Rhymes has agreed to organise the parish event.
- e. To discuss the future of the public toilets including potential closure.  
Thurlestone Golf Club are due to pay a first payment of £500 this week. They will be approached again by Cllrs Munn & Lewis for an additional level of support. It was resolved to ensure the toilets are open for the 2023/24 period.

### COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

- f. **Cllr Crowther** - Parish Website it is important for more relevant material to be added to the website. Cllr Crowther will add details to the Neighbourhood Plan page. Parish improvements/repairs will be removed as it is out of date. The archiving of the minutes will be improved. The Climate related documents will be given a higher profile. Other parish information i.e. the closure of footpath 7 will be added to the site by the clerk/website operators as required.
- g. **Cllr Gunning** – Public Rights of Way:
  - A P3 meeting with Ros Davies (Public Rights of Way – Parish Paths Liaison Officer) took place Tuesday 20th December 1100hrs (in person).
  - All Parish foot paths will be audited, and report submitted mid-February (P3)
  - During the meeting we discussed the P3 grant allocation for the coming year. Providing no further significant projects arise we anticipate a grant of £650. This sum will consist of the basic maintenance grant and a contribution of £400 to assist with the projects that are required. Thurlestone Parish annual accounts shows approximately £400 being carried over from previous years.
  - Dixon's Quay Schedule 14, an application has been lodged for this path. Ros Davies will speak to Emily Spurway (Definitive Map) for updates.
  - Foot path 7 (to Coronation Quay) has been closed with a temporary notice for a period of six months until 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in the interest of public safety. DCC will continue discussions with the Bantham Estate in the NY to resolve opening the path.

Councillor Advocate (Police):

- Meeting Thursday 8th December 1400hrs & 13/01 1300hrs (Microsoft Teams)

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- The Neighbourhood Policing Team have been very busy in Ivybridge & the College following the death of a teenage boy. Lots of support being offered and the young community being monitored, and this will continue into the new year. The death has had a huge impact on the college and town and safeguarding has been key following the incident.
  - Organised crime – South Hams amongst other areas has been targeted by gangs from further afield for catalytic converter theft. 'FAKEMAKE' is the Police operation to counter/resolve the crime. 13/01 UPDATE: No new crimes, the gang possibly moved on.
  - South Hams has a low crime rate, which means when a crime is committed and recorded, there will be a large percentage increase recorded in the statistics.
  - It has been agreed that the South Hams will get provision for 1x PCSO for Kingsbridge/Salcombe area and 1x PCSO for Dartmouth/Kingswear. Recruitment will need to take place but it is hoped to have them in position for Summer 2023.
  - HIGH PRIORITY OP. LANGSTONE: Theft of live 33,000V overhead power lines for copper. 6 offences since December 2022 total approx. £5,000 worth of copper (very rural areas). The cost to the National Grid to replace the wiring is in the region of £250,000. The thefts left 746 South Hams Homes without power.
  - The new D&C Chief Constable has a strong focus on neighbourhood policing going forward.
- h. **Cllr Munn** – Snow Warden & Associated: Jack Rhymes is going to take over as the Snow Warden as he is Chapter 8 qualified. Thank you Jack!
- i. **Cllr Stone** – Avon Estuary Forum, no report on the forum at this time.  
Parish Hall Liaison: The committee are looking to refurbish the building/external areas. This will include covering the porch entrance, more shrubbery in the parking area, internal painting/decorating/new curtains etc. A Welcome to the parish evening has been arranged for 27<sup>th</sup> January – an opportunity for parishioners to see what happens in the parish. The event is free for anyone running classes etc to share what they can offer. Cllr Stone will attend on behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Ryan-Carter is attending on behalf of the sustainability group and Cllr Gunning may attend on behalf of the lifeboat. Information will be added to the website. The issue of parent parking during school drop offs/pickup/events continues.
- j. **Cllr Williams** - Friends of Thurlestone Church held their AGM at the end of November, this also marked the retirement of Martin Grose as Chairman after 26 years of service. Martin Beck was welcomed as the new Chairman, the refreshed committee includes Mike Hodges as Church Warden, Phil Millard remains the secretary and David Martin is the treasurer.  
Thanks were given to Thurlestone Hotel for hosting the AGM, over 30 friends attended and were invited to make a donation, the event raised over £3,000 which will be put towards the historic maintenance of the church. You do not have to attend church to be a friend of the church! The friends raise money for the bricks and mortar, structural maintenance etc. The next works due to be undertaken include the replacement of the minute hand which blew off in the high winds and the clasps which hold the flag have corroded and require replacement.

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### 112 Planning & Enforcement

#### a) LIST OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED/FOR DISCUSSION:

1. RATIFICATION: **3581/22/HHO, 2 Wingfield, Thurlestone**, proposed entrance porch extension, replacement garage roof & new garden studio. 5/1  
Thurlestone Parish Council supports this application. Councillors considered that the proposal would not impact on neighbouring residential amenity and would be in keeping with the local street scene (NP Policy TP1.1); that the proposed entrance porch extension and new storage room adjoining the garage are subordinate in scale and form to the existing dwelling (NP Policy TP7.2i); that the design of the proposed development is proportionate and appropriate to the location, using appropriate building materials (painted render walls and natural slate roofs) consistent with neighbouring dwellings (NP Policy TP1.2); that the new garden studio is proportionate and appropriate in scale and design, since the property benefits from a substantial plot and is bordered by mature hedging (NP Policy TP1.2); and that there would be no impact on the AONB since the site is located well within the built-up area (NP Policy TP1.5). They did, however, request the following conditions; (1) to ensure the garden store is occupied solely for purposes incidental to the residential use of the original dwelling and not as a separate unit of accommodation in the interest of neighbouring residential amenity (NP Policy TP7.2ii); and (2) to remove permitted development rights to prevent the over-development of the plot in the interest of neighbouring residential amenity (NP Policy TP1.1).

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2. **RATIFICATION: 3663/22/HHO, 21 Mead Lane, Thurlestone**, proposed infill extension, internal alterations & modifications to dwelling & garage, porch extension, replacement first floor balcony, installation of new roof lights, modifications to existing openings & installation of decked area. 5/1
- Thurlestone Parish Council supports this application. Councillors considered that this proposal is unlikely to impact on neighbouring residential amenity provided a privacy screen is provided at the SW extremity of the first floor balcony which has been extended so that it is wider and would be closer to the neighbouring bungalow (no 23) (NP Policy TP1.1); and that the porch extension on the front elevation and single-storey garage extension on the S elevation are subordinate in scale and form to the existing dwelling, using appropriate materials (NP Policies TP7.2i and TP1.2). They did, however, object to the roof lights on the N and S elevations, particularly on the garage rear extension, which they felt were excessive (contrary to NP Policy TP1.4), since there is already substantial glazing on both elevations including the garage extension.
3. **4421/22/TPO, T79: Grove Cottages, Ash & Alder** - Fell all marked trees due to being dead and dying, G78: Alder - a group of three trees fell all trees to minimise risk of failure, G77: Ash - Re-coppice & Coppice the two trees to the east due to poor condition, T76: Alder - Re-coppice due to poor condition and CPT1: Ash, Alder, Sycamore, Elm, Hawthorn, Willow & Silver Birch - Cutback basal epicormics, vegetation & sever Ivy
- Lee Marshall from SHDC is due to visit the site 17<sup>th</sup> January. **This application has been deferred.**
4. **4169/22/HHO, Byeways, Thurlestone**, Householder application to amend planning consent 3413/19/HHO to regularise works & revert back to existing features (Retrospective) 19/1 **Object.**
- Thurlestone Parish Council objects to this retrospective application which has arisen as a result of the dwelling presently under construction being in non-compliance with the consented scheme (3413/19/HHO). The original property was a 2-bedroom dormer bungalow in a sizeable plot. This was unusual for the Yarmer Estate where houses are generally large and unaffordable and 75% are second homes and/or holiday lets. For this reason, NP Policy TP7 Replacement Dwellings and Extensions controls such development in the parish in order to prevent overdevelopment, inappropriate development and adverse impact on the character and appearance of the AONB. It was in this context that the consented scheme was granted in 2019 and notwithstanding that the proposed side and subterranean extensions were not subordinate in scale to the existing dwelling (contrary to NP Policy TP7.2i), Councillors felt that in the planning balance the application should be approved. This was due to the novel and realistic approach taken to the redevelopment of the existing dwelling, which needed substantial renovation to bring it up to today's habitable standards. On the North elevation, the character, appearance and ridge height of the original bungalow was retained; while on the South elevation, a key element of the contemporary design was a central triangular gable end window on the first floor, directly over a bay window on the ground floor and below that, a subterranean extension to accommodate 3 bedrooms. Councillors were therefore dismayed to see that the present application has disregarded the consented plans for the South elevation resulting in a lopsided, asymmetrical and incongruous design with a subterranean extension which is aesthetically incompatible (contrary to NP Policies TP1.2 and TP7.2i). The reduction in building mass is negligible, particularly given the scale of the new replacement garage and store approved in June 2022 (1100/22/HHO).
- To grant approval for the proposed scheme would give applicants a green-light to build out only those parts of a consented scheme they wish to, then simply apply for retrospective permission (as here) which makes a mockery of the planning system and localism.
- The planning officer's attention is also drawn to a discrepancy between the dormer window that has been built on the South elevation and that shown on drawing no 2020-02 which has been submitted.
5. **4118/22/FUL, Edgcombe House, West Buckland**, new dwelling & site landscaping (Re-sub 3247/22/FUL) 12/1. **Object.**
- Thurlestone Parish Council objects to this application. Councillors considered that the proposed dwelling would have an unsympathetic, dominant and overbearing impact on the scenic quality of the valley and neighbouring properties and did not comply with the following policies in the Neighbourhood Plan and Joint Local Plan:
- (1) The proposed dwelling occupies a highly sensitive site in the wooded valley of the Buckland Stream and makes an important contribution to the natural beauty of West Buckland and the South Devon AONB. The proposed scale and design of the development will have a harmful impact on the landscape and scenic beauty of the area and would set a dangerous precedent for further development along the banks of the stream (contrary to NP Policy TP1.5 and JLP Policies SPT12, DEV23, DEV24 & DEV25 and NPPF paras 130 & 185).
  - (2) The proposed dwelling would be an incongruous addition to the village street scene being located to the rear of 18th century cob/stone farm cottages and barns, and adjacent to a row of 1960s bungalows. The scale and design of the proposed dwelling is not consistent with that of the neighbouring properties nor with the character of the area and the local pattern of ribbon development (contrary to NP Policy TP1.2 and JLP Policies SPT1, SPT2, SPT11, DEV20 & DEV25).
  - (3) The proposed dwelling will not meet clearly identified local housing needs nor help redress the general imbalance in the housing stock. The scale of the dwelling is excessive, having a floor area of 292.5m<sup>2</sup> which is three times in excess of the nationally described space standard floor area of a two storey 3-bedroom dwelling. To the contrary, it will exacerbate the existing imbalance of large unaffordable dwellings in the parish and will be outside the reach of young people on lower and middle incomes due to its scale and character (contrary to NP Policy TP4 and JLP Policies SPT2 & DEV8).

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(4) The proposed development will not contribute to the vitality of West Buckland village. Whilst the new dwelling will be subject to a principal residence requirement, the applicant's existing property (Edgecombe House) will not be and may be used as holiday accommodation, thereby negating any benefit that the new principal residence would provide (contrary to NP Policies TP4 and TP6).

(5) The proposed development would have a harmful impact on protected species and would not enhance the biodiversity of the area. The Ecological Appraisal in support of the application refers to the likelihood of bats foraging along the shrub and tree habitats around the edge of the site and to light-averse bats, such as Long-eared, Horseshoe and Myotis bats using the boundaries that might be impacted by development, but there is no mitigation to address this potential harm (contrary to NP Policy TP22.2 and JLP Policies SPT1 & DEV25).

(6) The flooding of the Buckland Stream along the valley below the site and downstream on the road bridge at the bottom of the hill between Thurlestone and West Buckland is an ongoing local issue and the reduction in permeable surface and increased surface water run-off from the proposed development is likely to further exacerbate the problem. Attached are two photos showing the extent of the recent flooding: one is taken from the other side of the stream and shows flooding immediately below the site and the second is taken on the road bridge which is constantly flooded. No technical drainage details have been provided to address the management of flood risk and water quality impacts notwithstanding the existing issue and the detrimental impact of this flooding on local roads and neighbouring gardens (contrary to NP Policy TP1.3 and JLP Policies SPT1 & DEV35).

(7) Trees have already been felled in the wooded valley below the site and more trees may be removed in order to construct the soakaway. Drawing GA-001 identifies the indicative soakaway close to the Tree Protection Zone marked on drawing no 22.346.1. The 'C' category trees marked are defined in the Arboricultural Appraisal as trees that can be removed to facilitate development. This would be to the detriment of the natural environment (contrary to NP Policy TP1.5 and JLP Policies SPT12, DEV20, DEV23, DEV24, DEV25 & DEV26).

(8) There is an excessive amount of glazing on the South elevation and the large patio doors on the West elevation cover approximately 75% of the ground floor wall of that elevation. This would create new light pollution from artificial light at an elevated height upon the valley, the intrinsically dark landscape and the natural environment (contrary to NP Policies TP1.2, TP1.4 & TP1.5, JLP Policies DEV23 & DEV25 and NPPF para 185). The proposed curved stone wall on the West elevation has been designed to protect local amenity but being sited some distance away from the building is unlikely to be effective against light pollution.

(9) The site has a narrow access which is likely to be difficult for use by refuse trucks and deliveries as well as construction traffic (contrary to TP1.7 & TP1.1).

The planning officer's attention is also drawn to the Location/Block Plan drawing no GA-001 Rev PL6 which does not accurately show the correct extent of the neighbouring bungalow, Abbotscot. The extension and balcony/terrace of Abbotscot is in close proximity of the parking area for the proposed dwelling and is likely to suffer from the overbearing and dominant impact of the proposed dwelling and loss of outlook (contrary to NP Policy TP1.1 and SPD para 13.27).

6. **4175/22/HHO, Warren House, Thurlestone**, installation of 2no air source heat pumps. 2/2 **Support.**

### **b) SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING & TREE DECISIONS/OUTCOME:**

1. 2786/20/FUL, West Buckland Barn, TQ7 3AJ. **No Decision Yet.**
2. 0915/22/FUL, Land off Bantham Beach Road. **No Decision Yet.**
3. 2614/22/FUL, Summerstrand, Eddystone Rd. **Refused.**
4. 2605/22/FUL, Bantham Boathouse. **No Decision Yet.**
5. 2606/22/LBC, Bantham Boathouse. **No Decision Yet.**
6. 2643/22/VAR, Thurlestone Hotel. **No Decision Yet.**
7. 3550/22/VAR, 1 Avonside, Bantham. **Conditional Approval.**
8. 3013/22/FUL, Aune Cliff. **No Decision Yet.**
9. 3918/22/TCA, Kennedy, Thurlestone, Tree works requested. 6/12. **No Objections raised.**
10. 4047/22/HHO, Marshalls, Thurlestone. **No Decision Yet.**
11. 4075/22/HHO, 2 Valleyside, West Buckland. **Conditional Approval.**
12. 3954/22/FUL, Cowrie House, Ilbert Road. **No Decision Yet.**
13. 3366/22/CLP, Onnalea, Bantham. **No Decision Yet.**
14. 4101/22/NMM, 5 Meadcombe, Thurlestone. **Conditional Approval.**
15. 3581/22/HHO, 2 Wingfield, Thurlestone. **No Decision Yet.**
16. 3663/22/HHO, 21 Mead Lane, Thurlestone. **No Decision Yet.**

### **c) ENFORCEMENT**

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Please note that the Enforcement Lists are confidential and issues concerning Enforcement cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

South Hams District Council are responsible for the enforcement of all planning breaches, the Parish Council have no authority to deal with issues of this nature.

Please will all parishioners continue to report full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via

[www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach)

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### 113 Receipts & Payments – see Appendix A:

#### a. Receipts & Payments: Month 10

Accounts to pay – Clerk Salary & HMRC, Parish Hall Hire December £10 plus £6 underpayment, EDF Energy £8.55, Public Toilets Water £112, SCRIBE £565.20. **The Councillors resolved to accept the payments.**

#### b. Governance:

Financial Review & Setting of the annual precept:

1. The monthly accounts always show the Council's spend to date in the financial year. In December/January the Parish Council uses this information to estimate and assess the projected outturn spend for the year. This then gives the Council a likely carry forward figure for the next financial year and informs the precept discussions.
2. The meeting therefore reviewed the year-to-date financial position and worked through the modelling supplied by the Clerk to assure itself of the validity of the projected outturn.
3. The meeting then considered the commitments, inflationary pressures and the likely increase in services needing to be both provided and funded locally.
4. The base band D on which precept calculations are based has increased from 780.10 to 788.31.
5. The meeting noted that the Government has decided to defer the setting of council tax referendum principles to town and parish councils for 2023/24. However, it has again issued a challenge to those councils to demonstrate restraint when increasing precepts that are not a direct result of taking on additional responsibilities.
6. With proposed annual expenditure reaching £38,016 the Council concluded that they needed to increase the precept to £36,300 so the average household will pay £46.05 per year (i.e.: £0.89p per week). This will mean our budget increases by £3,300 allowing us to fund the costs of more benefits to the community and any services devolved from County or District etc.
7. A proposal was made to request a precept level of £36,300 as per the above information.

**Proposed by Cllr Ryan-Carter, seconded by Cllr Stone, approved unanimously.**

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**114 Close of Meeting:** At 21.08hrs the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

#### Post Meeting Note:

A meeting between Devon County Council Highways, Cllr Gilbert, Cllrs Lewis, Ryan-Carter, Williams and the Parish Clerk took place on 10<sup>th</sup> January. This was to discuss highways issues across the parish and potential options for reducing some of those problems. All attending felt to be a very positive meeting, an overview of the meeting will be provided by Cllr Williams.

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**115 Next Meeting Dates: 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, 6<sup>th</sup> Mar, 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 5<sup>th</sup> Jun, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jul, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct & 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm**

**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:** Cllrs Crowther, Gunning, Lewis, Munn, Ryan Carter, Stone & Williams. **For Information to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce, Dist. Cllr Mark Long, Thurlestone Parish Website: <https://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/>