

Thurlestone Parish Council

Minutes of the Zoom meeting of the Parish Council which was held on May 11, 2020 at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors Rhymes (Chair), Munn, Crowther, Williams, Marshall, Mitchelmore and Hurrell
In Attendance: Helen Nathanson (Parish Clerk), District Councillors Pearce and Long, 8 members of the public

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 points were raised:

Planning application 0735/20/HHO The Chase, Warren Rd, Thurlestone: neighbours commented that the plans improve the look of the house but that they have concerns that the new house will be significantly taller and the roof level wider and more square which will have an impact on their view. They do not mind the design or the building works but questioned whether it was necessary to build such a big property.

Community housing:

Q Does the Parish Council believe that progressing the Community Housing Project whilst no "proper" public consultation is permissible due to Covid-19, is acceptable and/or an honourable action under the circumstances, in respect of Planning in an area of AONB?

Q Can the PC confirm that rather than waiting and having a proper Forum for public consultation (as normal), you will be progressing the Community Housing scheme via tonight's Zoom meeting and an email vote for some residents' who have computers, leaving the remainder who don't, voiceless? If so, why does the Parish Council's decision-making process differ from recent changes made by SHDC's Development Management Committee?

Q Given the fact that the Community Housing Project is under the umbrella of the Parish Council, can you confirm that everyone who filled in their email addresses at the original Community Housing Meeting held at Thurlestone Parish Hall were made aware of tonight's agenda?

Q If there are 2 other potential options why are they not being presented to the community?

The Chair explained that the PC would ideally like to have a full public meeting as soon as possible but that this is unlikely to be possible. Those people who gave their email addresses before would be contacted. The item on tonight's meeting was an update and to inform councillors so no decisions would be made.

SHDC was yet to write to the PC to confirm why the other 2 sites were not acceptable. Cllr Crowther had requested this from officers and District Cllr Pearce agreed to follow that up. The other 2 sites were problematic from a construction point of view because they are steep sites and would cost more to develop. The whole point of community housing is that it should be affordable and it is therefore important to consider the budget.

Councillors discussed whether or not it would be possible to hold a public consultation online and decided that they needed more information. They were anxious that we do not miss out on the funding available for housing projects but didn't want to rush it through in the wrong way. They

were also conscious that there are families who need housing and they are strongly committed to delivering it.

Councillors agreed to submit an article to the Village Voice which would outline the different sites and allow residents to comment either online or by handing in their comments via the village shops. Councillor Crowther will lead on producing this.

The Bantham Estate had been approached to ask if the allotments site was available and it is not.

1. To receive apologies.

There were no apologies.

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

Councillor Williams declared that she had a personal interest in planning application 1093/20/FUL because she had already submitted a letter of support.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 2nd March 2020. The Minutes will be signed once the Coronavirus restrictions allow.

The Minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and will be signed. The record of decisions made in April, before the new Coronavirus legislation was put in place, will also be put up on the website.

4. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

5. Planning

- The following planning applications were discussed in outline and a decision and final comments will be made at the meeting on 1st June.

1035/20/HHO Old Chapel, West Buckland

0735/20/HHO The Chase, Warren Road, Thurlestone

A request had been sent to SHDC for more detailed information such as a Design and Access Statement, roof heights, garage height etc

1081/20/HHO 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone

1085/20/HHO 20 Court Park Thurlestone TQ7 3LX

1093/20/FUL The Yard, Land At Sx 699 454 Aunemouth Cross To Bantham Cross Bantham Devon
This application is in Churchstow Parish but is adjoining Thurlestone Parish and therefore the PC will comment.

- To note the update about Community Housing

This was noted.

6. To note the reports from District and County Councillors and to ask questions arising.

The reports were noted and councillors thanked for submitting them in advance.

7. To adopt the Thurlestone Parish Council Code of Conduct.

It was resolved to adopt the Thurlestone Parish Council Code of Conduct.

8. To receive updates about Parish matters, including but not restricted to: Highways, Parish Hall, Trees and Litter Bins

Highways

The road between West Buckland and Bantham is due to be swept and cleaned.

A request has also been made for Highways to look at the area at the bottom of Brook Hill in West Buckland where there has been flooding.

The road in Thurlestone down from the war memorial has been swept.

A request has been made for hedge trimming along the path between Court Park and the garage site in Thurlestone.

The footpath at Coronation Slipway has been closed by DCC until 20th May for urgent repairs.

The damage to the coastal path between Bantham and Yarmer has been reported to DCC.

The increase in cyclists along the coastal path has been reported to DCC.

The edging stones on the road in Thurlestone past the war memorial have come loose and need fixing.

The Parish helpline has been running well and a huge thank you was given to all the helpers. It will continue for as long as necessary.

9. To note that the Thurlestone public toilets, which are now within the remit of the Parish Council, have been closed until further notice and will be opened as soon as Government guidelines allow. In the meantime, the Parish Council has arranged for the entrance to be kept clear of vegetation. This was noted and the PC will respond to any forthcoming changes when appropriate.

10. Accounts

- Audit update

The Parish Council is exempt from a limited assurance review for the 2019/20 accounts because income and expenditure were below £25,000. The PC will approve the End of Year accounts and the Exemption Certificate at the June meeting.

An independent internal audit will still take place.

This was noted.

- Accounts

To note the Receipts and Payments for the year 2019/20 and to note the current bank account balance of £23,718.45 to date 6th May 2020.

This was noted and it was agreed that, under remote meeting arrangements, Councillors Marshall and Munn would oversee finance. The Clerk will present them with the bank statements on a monthly basis for them to check and approve.

- To approve the following payments:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Helen Nathanson | Parish Clerk pay | £478.80 |
| | Zoom Pro licence May | £14.39 |
| | Printing | £3.49 |
| Paul Martin | Plants and mowing | £59.75 |
| | Annual website hosting fee | £132 |
| WPS Insurance | Parish Council Annual Insurance 2020 | £372.20 |
| Total | | £1060.63 |

The payments were approved to a total of £1060.63.

11. To note the following items of correspondence:

SHDC Parking Permit Consultation – the public consultation has been postponed until further notice
DCC Consultation on the new bus service – responses are invited until 26th June
These were noted.

12. To note the date of the next Council Meeting which will be held remotely on Monday 1st June 2020 at 7.30pm.

This was noted and the meeting ended at 8.35pm.

Councillor Rhymes
Chairman