

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

<b>Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023</b>		<b>Venue &amp; Time: Thurlestone Parish Hall, 19.30 hrs</b>	
<b>Present:</b> Cllr Rosa Lewis (in the Chair) Cllr Eric Palmer Cllr Adam Ryan Carter Cllr Gill Stone		<b>In Attendance:</b> Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk) SHDC Cllr Mark Long SHDC Cllr Samantha Dennis DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/guests: 2	
		<b>Apologies:</b>	

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

### 164 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:

**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. Footpath 13 closure has been extended.
2. The Bantham road was repaired during June.
3. Regarding the Road Warden scheme Cllr Gilbert advised that it is increasing in popularity around the county. It is to the advantage of each parish to be involved and has proven beneficial to many.

#### DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: [samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk)

Email Cllr Mark Long: [cldr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk)

1. Cllr Mark Long and Cllr Samantha Dennis have been nominated to serve for the next four years on the Salcombe Harbour Board with Cllr Mark Long taking the role of Salcombe Harbour Board Chairman.
2. The new administration at the District Council Executive Committee have outlined the approach to be taken in setting the priorities for the new Council for the next four years. These will be developed over the summer and a formal consultation will follow with residents, businesses and key partners. There will I understand be online forums with Town and Parish Councils to seek thoughts on the broad principles.
3. There will be a Town & Parish Council forum online 6pm, 26<sup>th</sup> July, this will be the start of conversations with focus being on the next four year plan, it is hoped representatives from each parish will attend.
4. The Executive agreed to give a sizeable grant of £40k to support the work of Sustainable South Hams. Plus it was agreed to form a new council advisory panel for climate matters. Sustainable South Hams support grass roots projects as well as sharing knowledge and inspiration. Website resources are particularly valuable, please see <https://www.sussh.org/> for full information.
5. The Active Travel project is being funded from UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This will identify the most effective initiatives to help people make more short journeys on foot/wheels. There is a survey online, details of which will be forwarded to Thurlestone Parish Council. An online session (open to all) regarding the project is due to take place on 11<sup>th</sup> July. A separate meeting can be arranged by Parish Councils if required.
6. Since the last meeting Cllr Dennis has continued with training attending sessions on Audit as well as Licensing and has been speaking with a number of parishioners in the Ward regarding the increased cost of taxi fares. There is a maximum fare set by South Hams District Council (<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/9087/Hackney-Carriage-Fares-2022>) and it has recently come to light that some taxis have exceeded this. If anyone has been charged more than the maximum amounts stated please contact Cllr Dennis.

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

---

7. The Executive have been approached to tackle poor quality rented housing across the South Hams covering both social and private lets. Residents now have the ability to report issues of disrepair i.e. works not being dealt with, mould, condensation. There is an online form to report issues with the facility to upload photographs. When an enquiry is received South Hams District Council guarantees a response within two weeks however, each received report is triaged and if it is a problem deemed to require more urgent attention it will be dealt with as a priority. If affected parishioners are not available to access the internet they have the ability to phone in to make a report. <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/report-disrepair>
  8. A planning training session is due to be organised to provide training for newer Councillors and a refresher for those who have been in office some time. This is due to be set up early September. Questions/queries should be forwarded to Cllr Long prior to the event to ensure the session is as current and relevant as possible.
- 

The Meeting Convened

---

### 165 Welcome & Apologies

---

### 166 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023, they were then signed by the Chairman.

---

### 167 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received. No updates to the Registers of Interest were received.

---

### 168 Planning, Enforcement & Neighbourhood Plan:

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

1. Reg 16 Consultation for modification to South Milton Neighbourhood Plan. Councillors support the modification to ensure that a S106 Principal Residence agreement is in place for all new builds in the parish of South Milton.

#### b) South Hams District Council Decisions:

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. 3013/22/FUL, Aune Cliff. **No Decision Yet.**
4. 4118/22/FUL, Edgecombe House, West Buckland. **No Decision Yet.**
5. 0401/23/HHO, 2 Leonards Close, Thurlestone, 13/4 **Conditional Approval.**
6. 0856/23/FUL, Summerstrand, Eddystone Rd, 20/4 **No Decision Yet.**
7. 1607/23/COM, 4 Avonside, Bantham. **Permitted Development.**
8. 0793/23/HHO, The Paddocks, Thurlestone. **Conditional Approved.**
9. 1580/23/ARC, West Buckland Farm. **No Decision Yet.**
10. 1608/23/HHO, 16 Meadcombe Rd, Thurlestone. **Withdrawn.**

#### c) ENFORCEMENT

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.

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

---

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)

---

### 169 Clerks Report:

- a) Vehicle signage has been received and was handed over to Cllrs at the meeting.
  - b) Traffic Issues Update. Our sincere thanks to Jack Rhymes who has placed a number of large stones across the grassed area of the War Memorial to prevent vehicular access.
  - c) We recently received a notification that the public toilets were blocked. South Hams District Council sent their maintenance team to deal with the issues, we await their invoice for payment.
  - d) The Thurlestone Hotel have recently purchased a new battery and pads and the defibrillator at this site is now fully operational. They have also registered the defibrillator on the national defibrillator network.
  - e) The Housing Needs Survey team are having a joint meeting with South Huish, South Milton, Malborough and Thurlestone Council on 18<sup>th</sup> July 7pm at Malborough Village Hall Annex.
  - f) Councillors have been provided with details of a Town & Parish Forum meeting to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm via Teams, they will hear from Councillor Brazil (Leader of the Council) and fellow District Councillors about their ambitions as well as having an open discussion about how we can all work together to achieve our collective ambitions.
  - g) We have been contacted by the Parish Church about potentially using the Memorial Green to reinstate the annual BBQ fundraiser event that used to take place. We understand the event is likely to happen in August and have confirmed that we have no issue with this.
  - h) It was noted that the wildflower area by the church is looking stunning, our thanks to everyone who has worked to make this such a success.
  - i) We continue to have illegal parking on double yellow lines in the parish, if you are aware of illegal parking please report directly to Devon County Council Enforcement who have the authority to visit and ticket offenders. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>
- 

### 170 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) Vacancy Update:  
The Clerk Vacancy is due to be filled by 4<sup>th</sup> July after which there will be a handover period between the incoming/outgoing clerks. It was agreed to approve the purchase of the required technology including a laptop for the new clerk. The clerks will discuss requirements and come back with a recommendation.  
We have received a good amount of interest with respect to the Councillor Vacancies. The vacancies will be co-opted at the next meeting.
- b) It was resolved to approve a rolling maintenance contract for the parish. Councillors will provide the areas to be covered and in turn the clerk will create draft documentation for approval, this will include the dates that Devon County Council suggest for public rights of way.  
Areas to be considered include:  
The Memorial Green, play areas, paths and public footpaths, the bank/verge by the raised path, Shepherds Patch by Homefield and Brook Cottage overgrowth to Sudden Death.  
In respect of rebuilding the stone wall at Warren Hill along the supporting footpath it was resolved to award the contract to Simon Hurrell at a cost of £625 with a request that it be actioned at the very earliest opportunity.
- c) To consider the Devon County Council Road Warden Scheme. Further to the discussion at the June meeting it was agreed that in principle this is a good idea and Councillors resolved to sign up to the scheme. A request for volunteers will be made on the website and village Voice.

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

---

- d) Bantham Roundabout Signage – this will be left to self-police.  
Proposed road closure Avonside, Bantham 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> October National Grid have applied for a Road Closure at Bantham to undertake excavation for a new electricity supply.
- e) The temporary closure of footpath 13 was noted, this is to enable safe access during building works. An extension of the closure to footpath 7 has recently been received. The Secretary of State for Transport has approved the extension of the temporary closure of Thurlestone Footpath 7. The closure would have expired on 12 July 2023 and has now been extended until 12 January 2024 or until the works are complete, whichever is the sooner. Devon County Council do not have any further update, the Thurlestone Parish Council footpath warden, Paul Gunning has contacted the estate for an update but has yet to receive a response. All parties are aware that the recent planning application that for the conversion of the Boathouse, which included the cliff stability works above the footpath has now been refused.
- How long can the footpath be closed for?
  - Can this be enforced?
  - The footpath is being opened for reasons of work, why it is closed for safety reasons if it is still in use by the estate?
  - Noted that boats have been taken to their moorings via this route.
  - The path is part of the South West Coast Path.

Cllr Lewis will speak with the relevant parties regarding the continuing closure of path 7.

Recently cattle have been able to access the road on a number of occasions due to bridleway gates being left open. Cllr Palmer will discuss directly with the PROW officer and will invite them to walk the farm to view the problem points.

- f) To agree the Coronation/Memorial trees purchase and associated plaques: Two mulberry trees are being obtained by the church. It was resolved that Cllr Stone will submit the order to purchase two plaques at a cost of £140 each.
- g) Waste Bin Update - A revised list has been forwarded to Councillors. A meeting between Councillors and the South Hams District Council waste team will be arranged for their input.
- h) Councillor Updates:  
There will be a Sea shanty evening at the Parish Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

---

### 171 Receipts, Payments & Governance:

a. **Receipts & Payments:** Month 4.

Accounts to pay – Clerks Salary & HMRC, Parish Hall £24, Nick Walker Printing £69, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Gazette £172.80. The following payments were also agreed, they will be ratified at the next meeting: Julian Lee grass cutting £300, SLCC £53.01, Post Office £3.10

**The Councillors resolved to accept the payments.**

b. **Governance:**

- a) A new Internal Auditor is required, the Clerk will find one with the required experience.
- 

### 172 Close of Meeting: 21.34hrs

# THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

---

---

**173** 2023 Meeting Dates: **17<sup>th</sup> July, 4th Sept, 2nd Oct, 6th Nov, Dec TBC.**

**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/>