

Thurlestone Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Council, which was held in the Parish Hall, Thurlestone on Monday 6th January 2020 at 7.30pm.

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 items were raised:

At the last meeting in December some points were raised by a member of the public about community housing regarding the latest developments around the Bantham site. He has written subsequently to the District Councillor, copied to the Parish Council, and does not feel that his concerns have yet been addressed.

Potholes continue to be a problem around the Parish and it was agreed to raise the issue again with the County Councillor.

There is still some flooding along the Bantham Lane and damage has been caused to vehicles. At the bottom of Grove Corner by the bridge and Brook Cottage there has been severe flooding and DCC will be asked to look at this with a view to reminding landowners of their responsibilities.

The recycling process has changed and a question was asked about how effective it is particularly in regard to glass recycling. The new contractors have asked for glass to be mixed. The new recycling regime will start later in the year when a wider range of items will be able to be recycled.

Present: Councillors Munn (Deputy Chair), Crowther, Mitchelmore, Marshall, Williams and Hurrell
Apologies: Councillor Rhymes

In Attendance: Helen Nathanson (Parish Clerk), County Councillor Gilbert, District Councillors Pearce and Long, 12 members of the public

1. To receive apologies.

Councillor Rhymes gave his apologies and these were accepted.

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 2nd December 2019.

The Minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed.

4. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes.

Councillor Marshall gave an update about the Parish defibrillators, two of which are held at present, one in The Sloop and one in Thurlestone Hotel. Just before Christmas the contract for servicing and maintaining them ended and the cost of renewing this is estimated to be in the region of £4,000 for a 3-year contract. Councillor Marshall has informed the 2 host sites and there is now concern about whether or not these can continue at that cost. Councillors were advised that the Sailing Club also

holds a defibrillator and a member of the club carries out the checks herself. The Parish Clerk was asked to find out more about what is required in terms of servicing and maintenance.

5. Planning

To consider the following application for works to trees:

4036/19/TPO T37: Sweet Chestnut, T24: Ash and T26: Ash - fell due to condition and proximity to hazards.
Oak Wood House, Buckland Park, Bantham, TQ7 3AB

Councillors were not able to carry out a site visit because they could not access the site. They support the application provided the Tree Officer has visited the site at the appropriate time of year with regard to the Ash Trees to determine whether or not felling should take place.

To note that the following applications have been considered and submitted to the planning authority:

3777/19/HHO Mr & Mrs Prowse
Householder application for extension to dwelling and replacement garage
Bolt View, Glebe Field, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NA

Councillors Rhymes and Mitchelmore declared an interest and did not vote on the decision. Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application. Accompanying comments are available to view on the South Hams District Council website.

3755/19/ARM Mr J Hart St Martins Properties Ltd
Application for approval of reserved matters following outline consent 3203/16/OPA for design and external appearance of the dwelling and attached garage, siting, materials, access, landscaping and all other works
Plot 29, Highfield, Eddystone Road, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NU

Thurlestone Parish Council objected to this application. Accompanying comments are available to view on the South Hams District Council website.

- To receive an update about Community Housing.

Councillor Crowther gave an update that a reply had been received from Rob Ellis, SHDC in which he offered to attend a Parish Council meeting. He also set out the steps that had been taken to date towards securing a site for the housing. He confirmed that the Bantham Estate has withdrawn the West Buckland site. Councillor Crowther would be replying to this email, drawing attention to the steps taken by the Parish Council to consult with the community about the sites.

The Parish Clerk was asked to request a meeting between councillors and the following SHDC Officers - Rob Ellis (Community Housing), Pat Whymer (Head of Planning), Wendy Ormsby (Planning Officer) and Alex Whish (Landscape Officer). District Councillor Long asked if he and District Councillor Pearce could also be included in the meeting. It was agreed that Councillor Crowther would attend for the Parish Council and another councillor would be nominated.

6. To receive reports from County and District Councillors.

Councillor Long reported that the issues with litter and dog bins over the Christmas period was due to a misunderstanding about the volume of visitors to the Parish over that period, which has now been noted.

Councillor Pearce spoke about a new SHDC initiative to incentivise owners of long-term empty homes to encourage them to let their properties and to prevent homes from lying empty when there are people locally in need of accommodation.

County Councillor Gilbert gave the following updates

He congratulated Thurlestone School for receiving a good inspection report.

He confirmed that rumble strips to slow down traffic cannot be renewed in Bantham as they should not have been installed in the first place. DCC could install 30mph roundels (which are put within the tarmac). Councillors discussed this and were concerned that the signs would a. encourage people to drive at 30mph instead of more slowly and b. not be in keeping with the village. This will be discussed at a future meeting and DCC will be informed about whether or not to install them.

The pothole at Whitley Cross has been reported but DCC has a backlog of repair. It is also not possible to repair a pothole which is flooded so it will be repaired as soon as possible. Councillor Gilbert acknowledged that the hole was in a dangerous location and agreed to ask for the repair to be moved up the list.

7. To receive updates about Parish matters, including: Highways, Parish Hall and Trees

It was agreed to invite the Environment Agency representative to attend a meeting to discuss the various issues around surface water flooding in the Parish.

8. To set a date for a Budget Meeting in January.

The Budget Meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th January at 7.30pm.

9. To discuss a response to the following Avon Estuary matters:

- the Estuary Ferry
Councillors noted the reports about the ferry and understand all the figures. Councillors considered that the ferry is a private enterprise and that they would not wish to contribute financially. In terms of the patrol, they agreed that this was a valuable service and felt that anything to do with preserving the estuary merits full support.
- the Environment Agency consultation on water quality in the Avon Estuary
The date of 11th Feb was noted, venue to be confirmed.

10. To agree the requirement for and cost of a Parish Lengthsman and to discuss budgetary implications and possible sources of funding.

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the budget meeting. The Parish Clerk was asked to find out about what levels of funding are available from DCC.

11. To note that Beers Solicitors have been instructed to undertake the transfer of the Thurlestone public toilets from SHDC.

This was noted.

12. To note the letter of thanks from All Saints Parish Church.

This was noted.

13. To note the current account balance of £17,049.19 to date 2/1/2020 and to approve the following payments:

Helen Nathanson	Parish Clerk pay and expenses December	£369.70
South Hams Arborists	Works to trees in Thurlestone	£350
Thurlestone Parish Hall	Hall hire for PC meetings	£66.50
Total		£786.20

The balance was noted and the payments were approved to the value of £786.20.

14. To note the date of the next Council Meeting: Monday 3rd February 2020 at 7.30pm.

This was noted and the Budget Meeting will be on 28th January. The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Councillor Munn
Deputy Chairman