

Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 22 May 2017 at 7 pm

at the Derby Arms, Thornley

Present:	Mr M Hayhurst (Chairperson)
	Mrs C Ansbro (Vice-Chairperson/Clerk)
	Mrs G Airey (Responsible Finance Officer)
	Mr P Hallett
Apologies	Mrs J Faraday

17.5.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Faraday.

17.5.2 Declaration of Interests

To avoid any potential conflict of interest Mr Hayhurst was not involved in the discussion on the Agenda Items relating to the planning application for Barn 1 and Barn 2, Wheatley Farm. Mrs Airey had also been excluded from comment on Agenda Item 6.

17.5.3 Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2017 were approved and signed.

17.5.4 Matters Arising from the meeting held on 21 March 2017

a) Purchase of Planters

The planters had been ordered. The verges where they would be situated had become overgrown and Members would address this. The planters would also need to be secured in place once sited.

RESOLVED To remove the overgrown vegetation in preparation for the planters and to secure them in place once sited.

Action – Members as appropriate

b) Visit to see improvements at Thornley School

An email had been sent to Thornley Community Space suggesting a visit to the School but so far no date had been proposed. Members were aware that people in the community were asking about the development of the School and how it was progressing. It was therefore proposed to ask Thornley Community Space if it would be possible to arrange an “open event” when the public and Members could be invited to have a look around the School.

RESOLVED Thornley Community Space be asked if it would be possible to arrange an “open event” for the public and Members to have a look around the School.

Action – C Ansbro

c) Development of website

Mrs Ansbro reported that she had contacted a recognised organisation which provided websites for community groups free of charge. A Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council website had subsequently been created. It was now the responsibility of the Parish Council to set up, develop and operate the web site. As Mrs Ansbro was not familiar with website development she asked Members to consider whether she could ask her Son, who had recently completed a degree in IT systems and software development, for assistance and advice in a paid consultancy capacity. Members agreed this would provide the expertise and the ability for the work to be undertaken when it was convenient and as quickly as possible. Mrs Ansbro would thereafter administer the website.

RESOLVED Mrs Ansbro to work with her Son to set up and develop the website.

Action - C Ansbro

17.5.5 Accounts

Mrs Airey, in her role as Responsible Finance Officer, had prepared the Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2017 which included the Annual Governance statement 2016/17. Members reviewed and approved the Annual return. The Parish Council Annual Balance Statement for year end March 2017 was also approved and signed. The details would be transferred to an electronic spreadsheet for ease of display on the website.

RESOLVED Annual return for year ended 31 March 2017 and the Annual Balance Statement were approved. Annual Balance Statement details to be transferred to an electronic spreadsheet.

Action – G Airey

17.5.6 Draft School Place Strategy 2017/18

As the closing date for response on this strategy was 28 April 2017, the document had been emailed to Members on 30 March 2017 for comment. No comments had been made.

17.5.7 Electoral Review of Ribble Valley: Draft recommendations

The Draft recommendations had been emailed to Members on 13 April for consideration prior to the meeting. Members were pleased to note that the Council was proposing that the following wards be retained, Alston and Hothersall, Derby & Thornley, Dilworth and Ribchester and Chipping.

17.5.8 Consultation on Publication of the Ribble Valley Housing and Economic Development Plan (DPD)

The consultation document represents the Council’s preferred land allocations for the Borough up to 2028. The document primarily allocates land for housing and for economic development

but also updates other development constraints and designations and incorporates work that had been undertaken on retail/town centre boundaries, existing open space designations and revised settlement boundaries. Members' attention was drawn to the proposed development of land at Higher College Farm, Longridge, for employment purposes. It was understood that local people had raised concern regarding this development which was close to Hillside School.

17.5.9 Planning Applications

a) Old House Farm – erection of an agricultural livestock building (No. 3/2017/0230)

Due to the timescale for responding to the consultation on this application Members had been requested for their comments via email prior to the meeting. No objections had been raised in respect of this planning application.

b) Barn 1, Wheatley Farm – conversion of brick barn to one dwelling, creation of curtilage with access and parking and installation of a package treatment plant (No. 3/2017/0292)

c) Barn 2, Wheatley Farm – conversion of stone barn to one dwelling, creation of curtilage with access and parking and installation of package treatment plant (No. 3/2017/0293).

The request for comment on the planning application in respect of Barn 2 had been received after the agenda had been circulated so this has been added to the agenda as an additional item in order to meet the response timescale.

Mr Hayhurst withdrew from discussion on the Barn 1 and Barn 2 planning applications.

Members present considered the two applications in detail. In respect of Barn 1 the proposed conversion would secure the future of the building which is a non-designated heritage asset. It represents the optimal viable use of the building and the design ensures that its heritage significance is not diminished. There was no clear evidence of roosting bats or barn owls.

In respect of Barn 2 the conversion to residential use represents the optimal viable use of the building. The removal of the large modern lean to on the rear of the building would enhance the heritage significance. The conversion has been sensitively designed and has taken account of heritage significance. A protected species survey had concluded that the building has relatively low conservation significance for protected species.

RESOLVED Members concluded that the barns were suitable for conversion and had no objections to the planning applications. RVBC Planning would be notified accordingly.

Action C Ansbro

17.5.10 Any Other Business

There were no other items of business.

17.5.11 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 18 September 2017

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm