

Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday
2 December 2019
at 7.00 pm at the Derby Arms, Thornley

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

19.12.01 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

19.12.02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

19.12.03 Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019 were approved and signed.

19.12.04 Matters Arising from the meeting held on 9 September 2019

19.9.06 Progress on the Development of Thornley School

Councillors noted the update on the renovations at Thornley School emailed to them on 30 November and were pleased to read that a quote had been provided for the installation of the toilet, drainage pipes, hot and cold water to both sinks and the macerator.

19.9.07 Planning Applications d) Smithy Cottage Birks Brow – Erection of Log Cabin on agricultural land and associated site works No. 3/2019/0773

Councillors had been forwarded an email to RVBC from a resident of the Parish who had objected to the Application. She had raised concern about wording within the Planning Statement which indicated “The Smithy will be an open site which will accept both caravans and tents from non-affiliated visitors and in addition the pods and cabins will be available”. This is at variance with the Application title - “Erection of Log Cabin etc.” which was aimed at providing temporary accommodation to

allow for works to be undertaken at the Cottage, following which it would be used as a holiday let. Councillors shared this concern and awaited further clarification from RVBC regarding this Application.

19.12.05 Accounts

a) Statement of Accounts

Parish Councillors reviewed the Bank Statement showing the account balance up to 4 October 2019. The letter from Thornley Community Space thanking the Parish Council for its donation of £4,000 towards the cost of the installation of toilet facilities at Thornley School was also noted.

b) Brabin's Annual Return for 31 March 2018.

Members noted the Brabin's Trust Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 and the Chairman's Report for year October 2018.

c) Request for Precept 2020/21

Members considered the Request for Precept 2020/21 and agreed to request £1,500 as in previous years.

RESOLVED Return the proforma to RVBC requesting £1,500 precept for 2020/21.

Action – Parish Clerk

19.12.06 Notification of Planning Inspectorate Report into the Housing and Economic Development DPD and Adoption of Ribble Valley Housing and Economic Development Plan (HED DPD) 2008 – 2028 A Local Plan for Ribble Valley

These documents were noted.

19.12.07 Neighbour of the Year 2019/Community Spaces Champion

The email forwarded by RVBC inviting nominations for the Neighbour of the Year 2019/Community Spaces Champion was noted.

19.12.08 Consultation re BT Proposals to remove pay phones – phone box near to Banks Cottage

Due to the timescale for response, Councillors had been consulted on their views on this proposal via email. When consulted previously on this potential removal Members had agreed to object and the phone box had been retained. The PCs argument previously was based on the understanding that there was poor mobile coverage in the area and it was an accident blackspot. Recent research indicated that 4 mobile networks stated they provided good mobile coverage in the area. Councillors were not aware of any accidents having occurred in the area requiring emergency services in the last 12 months. The phone box was not well maintained and had only been used 6 times in the last 12 months. Based on this information Councillors did not object to the removal of this phone box and a therefore a request for it to be retained would not be made.

RESOLVED The Parish Council did not object to the removal of this phone box and therefore a request for it to be retained would not be made.

19.12.09 Invitation to comment on the RV Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment

Due to the timescale for responding (18 November) Councillors had received notification of this invitation to comment via email. Councillors confirmed at the meeting that they had not submitted any comments.

19.12.10 Planning Applications

a) Removal of condition 7 (lowering the tower) from planning permission 3/2016/0652 to enable the use of the mast by Raynet-UK for emergency radio communications No 3/2019/0967

Due to consultation timescale Members comments were provided via email on the above application. The Application has been put on the agenda to confirm Members comments. Members had no objections to the Application and RVBC had been notified accordingly.

b) Outline application for up to 10 self-build dwellings with all matters reserved save for access No 3/2018/0507 – Appeal to Secretary of State

Members noted that the Hearing for the Appeal in respect of this Planning Application would be held on 10th December.

19.12.11 Central Government Deadlines and Guidance on Website Accessibility

Councillors had had the opportunity to consider the email from RVBC which included a link to Central Government guidance on website accessibility and an accessibility statement. This had also been discussed at the Parish Councils' Liaison Committee on 21 November. Discussion took place and Members recognised that there was a requirement for the PC to evaluate how accessible its website was and to make a plan to fix any issues. Following evaluation the PC would need to publish an accessibility statement by 23 September 2020. A check of a representative sample that captures the variation in content and functionality that the website has would be required. Ideally the sample would be checked against the international WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility standard. Due to his technical skills it was agreed to ask Mrs Ansbro's Son to undertake this work on behalf of the PC. Meanwhile Martin Connor would be notified of the PC's web address so that it could be published on the RVBC website.

RESOLVED To ask Mr Ansbro to undertake an evaluation of the PC's website accessibility and to make a plan to fix any issues and to notify Martin Connor of the PC's web address so that it could be published on the RVBC website.

Action – Parish Clerk

19.12.12 Parish Councils' Liaison Committee Agenda for Meeting on 20 September (circulated with the Agenda) and 21 November (copies brought to the meeting)

The Agendas for the meetings held on 20 September 2019 and 21 November 2019 were noted. Mr Hallett informed Members that there had been extensive discussion at the November meeting regarding the requirements of the Central Government guidance on website accessibility and an accessibility statement and the work this would involve for Parish Councils.

19.12.13 Any Other Business

There were no items of other business

19.12.14 Date and Time of next meetings

Monday 2 March 2020

Monday 18 May 2020 (Parish Council and Annual Parish meetings)

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Signed

Date