

Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held virtually via Zoom on

Monday 14 December 2020 at 7.00 pm

Present: Mr M Hayhurst (Chairperson)
Mrs C Ansbro (Vice-Chairperson/Clerk)
Mrs G Airey (Responsible Finance Officer)
Mr P Hallett (Representative on Parish Councils' Liaison Ctte)
Mrs J Faraday

20.12.01 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

20.12.02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

20.12.03 Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2020

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2020 were approved and a copy would be signed by the Chairman and forwarded to the Clerk.

20.12.04 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

20.12.05 Accounts

a) Income and Expenditure Statement to 2 December 2020

Councillors noted the Income and Expenditure Statement to 2 December 2020. Mrs Ansbro informed Members that all expenditure had been agreed with Mrs Airey, Responsible Finance Officer. The Chairman would sign off the Statement and forward to the Clerk.

b) Request for Precept 2021/2022

Councillors confirmed their agreement to requesting £1,500 precept as in previous years.

20.12.06 ICO Model Publication Scheme

The Freedom of Information Scheme requires Parish Councils to have a publication scheme in place. Councillors considered the Model Publication Scheme produced by the Information Commissioner's Office and agreed that it should be adopted by the Parish Council. A document indicating how information can be obtained would be drawn up and published on the PC's Website.

RESOLVED to adopt the Model Publication Scheme produced by the Information Commissioner's Office. A document indicating how information can be obtained to be drawn up and published on the PC's Website.

Action - Parish Clerk

20.12.07 Standing Orders

Councillors considered the proposed draft Standing Orders document and a number of points were clarified. In conclusion it was agreed to adopt the document with the minor changes discussed. The Standing Orders would be brought into immediate effect.

RESOLVED with the minor changes discussed, to adopt the Standing Orders document which will be brought into immediate effect. The minor changes would be incorporated and the final document would be emailed to Councillors as soon as possible.

Action - Parish Clerk

20.12.08 Financial Regulations

Mrs Airey explained that the document presented to Councillors was the model Financial Regulations document produced by the National Association of Local Councils. Mrs Airey and Mrs Ansbro had previously worked together to review the document and had suggested some amendments to make it appropriate for the Parish Council. Councillors attention was drawn to the suggested changes and these were discussed. In conclusion Councillors agreed that the PC should adopt the proposed Financial Regulations document which would be reviewed annually to ensure it continued to be appropriate.

RESOLVED the document presented to Councillors to be adopted and brought into use with immediate effect. The agreed changes would be made and the final document emailed to Councillors as soon as possible. The Financial Regulations would be reviewed annually to ensure appropriateness.

Action - Parish Clerk

20.12.09 Brabin's Trust Report for year end 31 March 2020

Councillors had received a copy of Trustee's Report forwarded by Brabin's Trust which was noted. The Report did not include a copy of the Trust's accounts but it was noted that these could be viewed via the Charity Commission's website.

20.12.10 Path Improvement Funding from Peak and Northern Footpaths Society

Councillors had seen the letter from the Peak and Northern Footpaths Society which offered financial donations towards Rights of Way improvement projects within the Parish. As the PC did not have any ongoing improvement projects it was agreed to note the work of the Society and what it was able to offer should the need arise.

20.12.11 Planning Applications

- a) Banks Cottage, Chipping Road – Formation of new vehicular drive, stone garden wall and (vehicular and pedestrian) gates to replace the existing drive. Formation of new detached garage workshop and garden store, Remodel and resurfacing of the existing site to improve vehicle access, parking and manoeuvring. Resubmission of 3/2020/0246 No 3/2020/0689
- b) Good Heys Barn, UpBedlam Road – Proposed conversion, extension and internal alteration to an existing garage to store and holiday let No 3/2020/0739
- c) Birks Farm, Birks Brow – Conversion of garage to annexe to include raising the roof No 3/2020/0847

Due to consultation timescales Councillors comments on these applications had been requested by email. Applications had been put on the Agenda to note Councillors comments.

In respect of applications a) and c) Councillors had had no objections.

In respect of the planning application regarding b) Good Heys Barn, Councillors had had no objections but had mentioned that as the sewage was discharged to a septic tank would the new regulations regarding septic tanks that discharge to surface water need to be considered.

The PCs responses to the above planning applications had been submitted to RVBC Planning Department.

20.12.12 Any Other Business

20.12.13 Field opposite Meg Hall, Forty Acre Lane, Thornley

A Councillor informed the meeting that she had noticed some clearing of land to form terraces had been undertaken in the field opposite the property Meg Hall on Forty Acre Lane in Thornley. It appeared that the levelling of the land had undermined the stone wall on the roadside above which had collapsed. Barriers had now been placed on the roadside to warn of the hazard. The Parish Council was not aware of any reason for this work and the Councillor suggested that other Councillors take a look at the site. Subsequently Mrs Ansbro had visited the site and also noted that the terracing of the land had resulted in a section of the stone wall on Dodd Lane collapsing into the dig and potentially there could be further slippage.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should contact Ribble Valley Borough Council to ask if any planning application had been received which may relate to this work.

RESOLVED the Parish Council to contact Ribble Valley Borough Council to ask if any planning application had been received which may relate to this work.

Action - Parish Clerk

20.12.14 Thornley School

Mr Hallett reported that the School had recently been broken into. Community Space had been informed and a report had been made to the Police. It did not appear that anything had been taken. The local Police Officer would increase checks on the site.

20.12.15 Date and Time of next meeting

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 8 February 2021 commencing at 7 pm

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed _____ Date _____