

Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14 November 2022 at 7.00 pm at Thornley School, Thornley with Wheatley

Present: Mr M Hayhurst (Chairman)
Mrs C Ansbro (Vice-Chairperson/Clerk)
Mr P Hallett (Representative on Parish Councils' Liaison Cttee)
Mrs G Airey (Responsible Financial Officer) joined at 7.30 pm

There were no questions from Members of the Public

22.11.01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Mrs J Faraday.

22.11.02 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

22.11.03 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 August 2022

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 August 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

22.11.04 Clerk's Report

The updates provided in the Clerk's Report were noted.

22.11.05 Accounts (Item deferred until the RFO was present)

a) Transaction Statement 1 April to 17 October 2022 and Excel Spreadsheet as at 7 November showing details

Councillors reviewed the Statement and the Spreadsheet showing details. Both documents were accepted as correct. The Chairman signed the Spreadsheet. Mr Hallett checked the Statement against the details provided in the Spreadsheet and signed the Statement as correct.

As the next meeting of the PC is scheduled to be held in February 2023 Councillors have an agreement to allow delegated powers to the RFO/Clerk to approve any urgent payments and to the Chairman to deal with any urgent items of business, all of which would be reported at the November meeting.

b) Planting at War Memorial

The PC had been asked by Bowland with Leagram PC if it could donate towards the cost of winter planting at the War Memorial. The Clerk had asked what amount was being considered but to date no reply had been received.

c) Replanting of bulbs at Tile Kiln Corner

As a consequence of the repair work undertaken at the bridge at Tile Kiln Corner it was unclear whether the Daffodil bulbs previously planted by the Parish Council were still in situ. It was agreed that the Clerk could purchase more bulbs so that there would continue to be a display in the Spring.

RESOLVED To purchase Daffodil bulbs so that there would continue to be a display in the Spring.

Action - Parish Clerk

d) Precept

Councillors agreed to request the same Precept as in previous years.

RESOLVED To request the same Precept from RVBC as in previous years.

Action - Parish Clerk

e) Request from Thornley Community Space

Councillors considered a request from Thornley Community Space regarding the PC paying rent for the nights the School was used for PC meetings. Councillors agreed that this was a reasonable request and would pay a rental fee from this meeting and going forward.

RESOLVED The PC to pay a rental fee for the nights it used the School for PC meetings.

Action - RFO/Parish Clerk

22.11.06 Lease of Land surrounding Thornley School

Arrangements have been in place prior to 1986 with a local Farmer to pay an annual rent to the Parish Council to use the land surrounding Thornley School.

The Chairman had made enquiries with a Solicitor with regard to setting up a more formal agreement regarding this arrangement. He had been informed to refer his enquiry to Land Agents who had more experience in this area. He had subsequently contacted a Land Agent who was able to arrange a document which would serve the purpose. The Chairman had also spoken with the Farmer who understood and agreed with the PC's approach.

Councillors supported the proposal and the Chairman agreed to discuss the request further with the Land Agent with a view to drafting a document for the PC's approval.

RESOLVED The Chairman to discuss further with the Land Agents with a view to them drafting a document for the PCs approval.

Action - Chairman

22.11.07 Speed Management

The Parish Council had been disappointed when they had been informed the Slow Down Save Lives stickers could only be applied to wheelie bins and, in addition, in order to keep the Slow Down Save Lives Banner in situ would require advertisement consent at a cost of £462. Recognising that traffic speed on some of the roads in Thornley was a concern, Councillors agreed to apply the stickers to their wheelie bins which were located at the roadside during the refuse collection period.

Councillors had received the notes from the Road Safety meeting held in September where the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner had explained that there was a change in the strategy regarding road safety to be more proactive rather than reactive. The Director of Highways LCC had also explained that if Parishes could collect data regarding speeding the Highways Team could complete a safety audit assessing the speed in the area.

Mr Hallett reported on the Lancashire Talking initiative (In the Know) which had been discussed at the recent Parish Councils' Liaison Committee meeting. He explained that Parish Councillors were being encouraged to complete the on-line Lancashire Talking Survey and sign-up to the "In the Know" free messaging service provided by Lancashire Police and supported by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and Lancashire County Council. The service allows members to receive regular crime updates, information on road closures, information about fires and other emergencies and learn about what the local neighbourhood policing team is doing. Councillors present agreed they would consider signing up for the service.

RESOLVED Councillors present at the meeting agreed they would consider signing up for the service

Action - Councillors present at the meeting

22.11.08 Review of Parish Council Standing Orders

Councillors reviewed the Standing Orders and agreed the two proposed minor amendments.

RESOLVED The two proposed minor amendments were approved. Amended policy to be circulated to Councillors.

Action - Parish Clerk

22.11.09 Membership of Lancashire Partnership Against Crime

Following consideration of the request from Lancashire Partnership Against Crime, Councillors decided they did not wish to become a member at this time.

22.11.10 Japanese Knotweed

The Parish Council had been contacted by local residents expressing their concern regarding the evidence of Japanese Knotweed in the Parish. The Chairman had contacted the Highways Authority regarding the Knotweed in the hedgerows along Four Acre Road. He had subsequently met with a Highways Technician at the site. Following further enquiry by the Technician it transpired that the hedges were not adopted and were considered to be the responsibility of the Landowner. The Chairman had discussed the matter with the Landowner who had agreed to treat the Knotweed to kill it and prevent further spread. The Parish Council would continue to monitor the situation.

22.11.11 Christmas Decorations

Councillors agreed to purchase a Christmas Tree and lights to be situated outdoors at Thornley School.

RESOLVED The PC to purchase a Christmas Tree and lights to be situated outdoors at Thornley School.

Action - Parish Clerk to organise

22.11.12 Parish Councils' Liaison Committee

Councillors noted the Agenda for the Parish Councils' Liaison Committee held on 10 November. Mr Hallett reported that discussion had taken place regarding the introduction of photo ID for voters in the elections due in May 2023.

22.11.13 Planning Applications/New Application

- a) Planning application 3/2022/0739 Lyme House Farm – proposed extension of an existing agricultural building for cattle housing
- b) Planning Application 3/2022/0710 Daisybrook Barn, Up Bedlam Road – proposed replacement windows and doors from timber to uPVC
- c) Planning Application 3/2022/0820 Knott Farm, Chipping Road – Change of use from former agricultural building to one new dwelling house, including part demolition of recent steel frame extension to north end, erection of replacement extension and raising roof ridge by one metre
- d) Planning Application 3/2022/0688 2 Beacon View, Chipping Road – proposed demolition of existing conservatory and construction of new two storey rear extension with extension to the existing garage

Councillors had commented via email on these applications in order to be able to submit comments within the consultation timescale. No objections had been raised in respect of any application. However, it had been noted that in relation to Application c) in respect of the question “can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or public land?”, the response had been given as No when in fact a public footpath runs between the farm buildings.

RVBC had been notified that the Parish Council had no objections to the Applications. The issue regarding the public footpath in respect of Application c) had also been mentioned to the Planning Authority.

e) Planning Application 3/2022/1009, Lyme House Farm, Thornley – Proposed extension of existing agricultural building for livestock

This application had been received after Agenda send out. In order to meet the consultation timescale it was being considered at this meeting and details had been circulated to Councillors within the period required for receipt of Agenda items.

Councillors noted that this was a further application for the extension of an agricultural building for livestock at Lyme House Farm but had no objections to it.

RESOLVED RVBC Planning Department to be informed that the PC had no objections to this application

Action - Parish Clerk

The following item had been received after the Agenda had been sent out. It was being considered at this meeting as details had been circulated to Councillors within the period required for receipt of Agenda items.

22.11.14 Open Letter about the Climate and Nature Emergency

Councillors noted the letter to Ribble Valley Borough Councillors, RVBC Climate Change Working Group, Lancashire County Councillors for the Ribble Valley and Nigel Evans MP from the Climate Action Group. A copy of the letter would be posted on the PCs website for local residents' information.

Action - Parish Clerk

22.11.15 Date and Time of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 27 February 2023 commencing at 7 pm at Little Town Farm Cafe.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed _____ Date _____