

## **Thornley with Wheatley Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13 November 2023 at**

**7.00 pm at Thornley Old School, Thornley with Wheatley**

**Present:** Mr M Hayhurst (Chairman)  
Mrs C Ansbro (Vice-Chairman/Clerk)  
Mrs G Airey (Responsible Financial Officer)  
Mr H Roper  
Mr P Hallett

**In Attendance:** Two Members of the Parish

The Chairman proposed that the attending Members of the Parish could discuss their initiative at the end of the PC meeting.

### **23.11.01 Apologies for Absence**

There were no Apologies for absence.

### **23.11.02 Declarations of Interest**

Mr Roper declared interest in Agenda Item 11 a) – Planning Application in respect of Lyme House Farm – proposed agricultural general purpose building and 11 d) – Planning Application in respect of proposed roof to cover part-existing fodder store at Lyme House Farm.

### **23.11.03 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 August 2023**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### **23.11.04 Clerk's Report**

The information provided in the Clerk's Report was noted and would be referred to again in two other items on the Agenda.

### **23.11.05 Accounts**

#### **a) Reimbursement from Bowland with Leagram PC**

Mrs Airey reminded Council that, as reported at the last meeting, a meeting had taken place in the Summer with representatives of Chipping PC and Bowland with Leagram PC to clarify the way the cost of the upkeep of the War Memorial was apportioned between the 3 PCs. As a result of the agreement that no Caretaker fees would be payable, Bowland with Leagram has reimbursed the £83.33 which our PC had contributed this year.

**b) Transaction Statement as at 6 November 2023 and Excel Spreadsheet from 14 August to 6 November 2023 showing details**

The Transaction Statement and Spreadsheet were reviewed and agreed as correct. The Chairman signed the appropriate section of the Statement and Mr Hallett signed the supporting Spreadsheet.

As the next meeting of the PC is scheduled to be held in February 2024 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 next meeting.

**c) Invoices for signature**

The Chairman checked and signed off one invoice that had been paid prior to the meeting relating to the hire charge for the School for the August PC meeting and signed and approved payment of the invoice in respect of the hire charge of the School for this evening's meeting.

**d) Payments as Per Budget**

Mrs Airey provided an update of payments made and income received as per the Budget for 2023/2024. It was agreed that the payment in respect of Clerk's expenses could now be made. The Clerk reported that she had arranged for the Planters to be refreshed and the PC would receive an invoice when this had been done. It was agreed that an outdoor Christmas Tree could be ordered again this year to be sited at the School as last year.

**RESOLVED** Payment in respect of Clerk's expenses to be made; payment in respect of refreshing the planters to be made when the invoice is received; an outdoor Christmas Tree to be ordered and paid for which would be sited at the School.

**Action - RFO/Parish Clerk**

Discussion took place with regards to a contribution from the PC towards renovation at the School. Council agreed that they would like an update from Community Space regarding plans for further development work/purchases so that an informed decision could be made regarding a funding contribution.

**RESOLVED** Community Space be asked to provide an email update regarding plans for further development work/purchases in respect of the School renovation project for Councillors to consider before the end of the year. Representatives from Community Space be asked to come to the next PC meeting to talk about their initiatives and future plans.

**Action - Parish Clerk**

**e) Precept**

**RESOLVED** It was agreed to request the same amount of Precept as in previous years (£1,500)

**Action - Parish Clerk**

### **23.11.06 Collapsed wall near the top of Jeffrey Hill**

Mrs Ansbro referred to item 1 in the Clerk's Report which explained the response she had received from Lancashire County Council Highways Department following her report to them on this issue. LCC had indicated that "this is not part of the Lancashire Council Highway so no further action will be undertaken". Council was concerned that this problem could become more of a hazard over time.

A member of the public in attendance subsequently suggested that she could make some enquiries with her contacts at LCC to see if she could find out more information which may be of help to the PC in their concern on this issue.

### **23.11.07 White Railings at the Bottom of Dodd Hill**

Mrs Airey informed Council that, following the previous meeting, she had emailed LCC Highways, on behalf of the Council, expressing further concern about the hedge which had overgrown and was now covering the white railings situated at the bottom of Dodd Hill. This was dangerous as it greatly restricted visibility at this junction. Action had been taken and the hedge has now been cut back with visibility restored.

### **23.11.08 The Slow Ways national walking network**

The Council had received an invite to contribute to the creation of Slow Ways, an ambitious crowd-sourced, community verified national walking network that connects Britain's towns, cities and national parks. Mrs Airey had shown an interest in being involved in reviewing appropriate routes. She had done some research and found that a route existed from Longridge to Slaidburn which was established but had already been reviewed. She felt that there was nothing more she could contribute to at this time.

### **23.11.09 Change to Practitioners' Guide – mandatory for 2023/2024 period relating to e-mail management**

Mrs Ansbro referred to Item 5 of the Clerk's Report which outlined the requirements on PCs in relation to Assertion 3 and email management. Discussion took place on the potential for setting up PC specific email addresses for Councillors. It was noted that the PC has an email address that relates to the Council, details of which are posted on the Council's website and the Council has the ability to access it.

### **23.11.10 Parish Councils' Liaison Committee**

Council had had the opportunity to review the draft Minutes of the PCLC meeting held on 14 September and the Agenda for the meeting held on 9 November. Mr Hallett had attended the meeting on 9 November and brought Council up-to-date with items that had been discussed which included The Little Green Bus and the service provided by the local Citizens' Advice Bureau.

### **23.11.11 Planning Applications**

- a) Lyme House Farm Application No. 3/2023/0638 Proposed agricultural general purpose storage building
- b) Wood Top Farm Application No. 3/2023/0620 Proposed demolition of redundant barn and erection of farm worker's dwelling

- c) Brook House Barn - Land south of Rock Brow Application No. 3/2023/0666  
Proposed stable for private use

The above applications have been considered by the PC and comments sent to the Clerk via email in order to meet the consultation timescales. No objections were raised in respect of these applications and RVBC was notified within the required periods. Mr Roper had declared an interest in application a) and was therefore excluded from commenting. Applications have been put on the Agenda in order to record the action taken.

- d) Lyme House Farm Application No 3/2023/0804 Proposed roof to cover part-existing fodder store (email of 5 November refers)

Due to his interest in this application Mr Roper withdrew whilst it was discussed. Councillors confirmed they had no issues with this application.

**RESOLVED** no objections were raised in respect of this planning application and RVBC would be notified accordingly.

**Action - Parish Clerk**

**23.11.12 Date and Time of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 19 February 2024 commencing at 7 pm at Thornley Old School.

At this point the Chairman invited the two attending Members of the Parish to speak to the Council.

The two Members of the Parish (MOPs) outlined their proposal to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the Parish. By setting up a WhatsApp group they felt an early alert system could operate to make people aware of any suspicious activity and share information in the neighbourhood. The intention would be for one of them to join the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and set up a scheme for the local area. Leaflets could then be printed to advertise the Scheme to distribute to local residents. Councillors volunteered to help with the distribution of leaflets and a leaflet could be posted on the Council website and noticeboard.

The Council supported this initiative which could prove of benefit to residents in and around the Parish and thanked the two Parishioners for sharing their proposal with the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_