

Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Virtual Meeting Wednesday 13th January 2021 5:30pm

In Attendance: C Popplewell (Chair) C Ellis, S Bush, I Capps, L Patterson, T Black.

Minutes: T Higlett (Parish Clerk)

1. Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To consider apologies for absence

None.

3. To receive disclosures of interests and dispensations.

None.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2020.

These were agreed as a true record of proceedings with no amendments.

5. Public Forum.

No public in attendance.

6. Report from County Councillor.

Parish Council in receipt of report from Cllr Stone and update on Covid -19 vaccination programme, which will be placed on the Parish Council website.

Report covered Norfolk County Council Highways arrangements during lockdown and staff are asked to reduce face to face meetings and minimise travel. Site meetings will generally be avoided, and site inspections will need to focus on high priority safety issues/ defects, but the usual channels of communication remain open.

The County Council will only increase the Council Tax precept by 4% for the coming year even though the Government would have allowed 5%. This is 1.99% normal increase plus a further 2% for Adult Social Care. Adult Social Care is increasing at an alarming rate. NCC are still awaiting a White Paper from government on how we can manage this ever-increasing budget cost nationally.

Cllr Stone will be looking at the issue of flooding and how we can improve a coordinated strategy for dealing with this problem.

Chair spoke of the need to review the emergency plan and look to appoint a co-ordinator.

Information on this role to be included in the next edition of the Thunderer. Clerk to speak to South Norfolk Council to see what assistance they can offer to the Parish Council.

7. Report from District Councillor.

Parish Council in receipt of report from Cllr Thomson.

Just before Christmas, significant rainfall occurred which caused flash floods across Norfolk, with areas in South Norfolk severely affected. South Norfolk Help Hub phone lines were open throughout the Christmas period, including Christmas Day, to provide support to those affected by the flooding. Temporary accommodation was provided for those in need and ensuring residents had essential supplies. Sandbags were provided to those properties requiring them. Support and assistance came from Earsham Gravels and Norfolk's 4x4 group to get these to those in need.

Chair.....

8. Matters arising from the Minutes.

- I. Mileage post refurbishment - Members proposed to leave cleaning until the weather gets better and to include on next agenda.
- II. WW2 commemorative tree - Decision was made to replace with like for like and to plant in the autumn. Previous tree was a silver birch which favour's sandy soil.

War memorial - C Ellis advised his curate has been looking into the inclusion of the soldier who is buried in the graveyard whose name is not included on the memorial. War memorials are listed however, TPC do not require permission to include and must keep with the same style of lettering. Next step is to contact a stonemason to advise on cost.
- III. Village Sign - A Rudd has been asked to quote on the cleaning.
- IV. Village Gateways - Clerk contacted NCC Highways and was informed we would need to advise them where we are thinking about installation. They will then carry out an inspection and confirm if the sites are suitable. One of the main criteria's is the width of the highway verge, as village gateways are quite large structures. There needs to be adequate width to install them and ensure that they are set back far enough from the edge of the carriageway to reduce the risk of them being struck by passing traffic. Gateways are installed at the 30mph terminals, to highlight to drivers that they are entering the core area of the village, and for them to be made more aware of the need to adhere to the speed limit. The average cost of a village gateways is around £2500.00, supplied and fitted. They qualify for Parish Partnership funding. The scheme has not been rolled out yet, but Highways are confident this will be available again for 2021/22. TPC will need to assess suitable area possibly Prospect Place which is village boundary and a 30mph terminal. Concerns around visibility as gates are quite large. Clerk asked to contact Highways to see if £2500.00 is for a pair of gateways.

9. Budget 2021/22.

The budget was reviewed, and the forthcoming expenditure was predicted. The budgetary need was agreed at £11,675.00.

Vote on 2021-22 budget.

All in favour.

10. Precept 2021/22

Consensus was that the precept should not be increased for 2021/22 and would remain at £9283 as in 2020/21.

Vote on Precept remaining as 2021/22

All in favour.

11. Renewal of subscription to Society of Local Council Clerks.

Members agreed to the annual renewal of £45.

12. Acknowledge resignation of K Calderwood from Parish Council.

Members unanimously agreed a formal letter of acknowledgement from TPC should be sent to K Calderwood and to thank her for time spent as a councillor. Clerk to draft letter.

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Council also proposed designing a poster advertising the vacancy to display on the Noticeboard. T Black quite happy to design. Clerk advised she may have a poster which has been used in the past and will forward on for review.

13. Management and frequency of Thurton Thunderer.

Various changes have happened within the management of the Thunderer with staff leaving and members of TPC now actively overseeing. The magazine will now be produced four times a year (seasonal) rather than six. Advertisers will need to be informed of changes to production. This will bring in a small drop in overheads. Talk of editorial changes which will be more creative as similar editorial is sometimes found in 'Eleven Says' particularly calendar of events.

All finance will also be overseen by the Clerk. L Patterson will continue to raise invoices to advertisers. All income will be incorporated into TPC bank account to off set printing and editorial charges.

14. Finance

I. Councils current financial standing on 31st December 2020:

Business Community account balance £9944.87

Savings account balance £3228.39

II. Payments for December/January 2021

Payee	Reference	Amount	Chq. no
• SLCC	• Subscription	• 45.00	• 101314
• T Higlett	• Clerks Dec. Salary	• 250.38	• 101315
• Roberts & Son	• Printing	• 196.00	• 101316
• T Higlett	• HMRC payment	• 176.40	• 101317
• T Higlett	• Software Support + stamps	• 70.19	• 101318
• Autela Payroll	• Payroll Services	• 51.25	• 101319
• T Higlett	• Clerks Jan. Salary	• 258.58	• 101320

III. To note receipt from Thurton Thunderer on closure of bank account of £1981.54

IV. It was suggested that council identify a fourth signatory on the bank account. T Black advised she would be willing to become a signatory.

Vote: on fourth signatory T Black.

Proposed by C Popplewell – seconded by – S Bush – all in favour.

Clerk to obtain relevant paperwork from Barclays.

15. Highways

Clerk to contact Cllr B Stone to see if there are any updates regarding highways problems as discussed at previous TPC meeting. NCC Highways had spent three days clearing out the pond in the Street to combat flooding. Owner of the land did not want the pond to be dug deeper, as it was felt that it would be a danger for children. Highways had hoped to deepen the pond to increase the capacity, but instead cleared the silt and vegetation from the pond and improved the

Chair.....

flow of water from the Highway into the pond. In addition, Highways also installed some new drainage grips at Hall Road to intercept some of the water that eventually flows along The Street, and into the pond. NCC Engineer also spoke to the owner of 36 the Street who has experienced water washing down his drive on more than one occasion. If water were still entering his drive from the highway they could install an asphalt rollover, only if he felt that this would be beneficial. Resident to be advised to contact Highways to discuss further.

There was a discussion over whether this area was previously allotment's, but T Black advised these were situated further up the road on a parcel of land near Hall Road and the crossroads.

16. Correspondence

NALC newsletter, NALC Wellbeing.

17. Items for the next edition of the Thunderer.

Precept, Flooding, Parish Council vacancy, investigation into village traffic calming, Emergency Co-Ordinator

18. Items for information but carrying forward to next meeting.

To review Village Welcome Pack and Standing Orders. Defibrillator Update

19. Date of next scheduled meeting March 25th, 2021 unless an earlier meeting is required.

Meeting closed at 19:10