

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th MAY 2022

Present: Cllr P Christie (Chairman), Cllr R Munday & Cllr Mrs P Harris.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bournier – Clerk

3 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr W Odling.

Election of Chairman

2) Cllr Munday nominated Cllr Christie to be Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Cllr Harris. All Agreed. Cllr Christie signed an acceptance of office form.

Election of Vice Chairman

3) Cllr Harris nominated Cllr Munday to be Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Cllr Christie. All agreed. Cllr Munday signed an acceptance of office form.

Review and agree standing orders, financial regulations & code of conduct

4) All documents had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. These were all based on NALC model documents and the Clerk confirmed no amendments had been published. All documents were re adopted for 2023-24.

All Councillors were given Register of Interest forms which need to be completed in this year following an election.

All Councillors present completed an acceptance of office form.

Mileage rates for claims for travel for all Councillors and the Clerk was agreed at .45p per mile

Declarations of Interest

4) There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

5) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 5th April were confirmed as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Harris seconded Cllr Munday. All in favour.

Update on St Johns Lane

The Clerk reported that Andover Groundworks were still on course to carry out repairs to the lane but were waiting for some drier weather.

First Aid

Cllr Christie reported that he had not had any responses from other Parish Councils regarding possible attendees and will follow this up before the next meeting.

Play area matting

The Clerk reported she had ordered the required matting, pegs and ties and these had just arrived. Ray Welch will fit the new matting as soon as possible. The Sports Trust are aware this work will be carried out.

Speed Awareness Signs

The Clerk had circulated details of available signs and costs. After a short discussion it was agreed that two Evolis Vision machines with solar panels will be purchased at a cost of £2250(net) per machine. The Clerk will action.

6) Specific Reports

Environment - Cllr Munday is progressing the biodiversity plan and now hopes to include the village stream. He is liaising with Georgie Thorn who has experience in protecting chalk streams and Janet Wright who is the secretary of the PPF working with Southern Water.

Biodiversity- He also reported on a successful re wilding presentation. Areas in the parish are now being considered for wild flower planting.

Roads- Cllr Christie said he continues to work with HCC to ensure roads are repaired, in particular the wall onto the stream in Village Street that was first reported for repair many months ago.

Finance

7) The bank balance as 30/04/23 was as follows:

Lloyds £33804.28

United Trust Reserve £13723.83

Payments

Resolved: that the following payments be approved, and online transactions authorised:

H Bournier salary	£600.00
H Bournier exp.	£23.40
Thruxton Memorial Hall	£54.00
Thruxton Memorial Hall	£54.00
Taits	£52.00
Southern Electric DD	£59.39
Ray Welch	£178.00
Ray Welch	£140.00
HALC	£292.40
D Eaglesham	£247.50
TVBC election fee	£24.00
Agrichem weedkiller	£78.40
Chairman's allowance	£61.09
Grassmats	£419.50

Retrospective

Kimpton School	£100.00
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The Clerk confirmed the first half of precept had been received.

The Clerk noted the increase in Village Hall hire charges.

Details of insurance quotes received were discussed. The best value quote came from BHIB and the Clerk was asked to proceed with purchase of the policy.

Planning

12) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

23/00632/TPON -tree works to trees subject to TPO-Thruxton Manor -consent

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

23/01127/FULLN-side, rear and first floor extensions to The Haven, Amesbury Road- Cllr Harris will consider this and discuss with Cllr Odling and provide a response for the Clerk to submit to TVBC before the deadline.

Cllr Christie asked those present to consider re adopting the Village Design Statement. While this had been created some years ago it was still relevant and can inform part of any planning decision by TVBC. After a short discussion it was unanimously agreed to readopt this document.

Meeting followed by annual Parish Assembly minutes below

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 10th MAY 2022

Present: Cllr P Christie (Chairman), Cllr R Munday & Cllr Mrs P Harris.

In attendance:

Mrs H Bournier – Clerk
HCC C Donnelly
TVBC Phil Lashbrook
41 members of the public

Apologies were received from Cllr Will Odling.

Annual Report of the Parish Council

1) Cllr Christie opened by thanking all those present for attending.

The meeting began with a minute silence in respect of Cllr John Davis who had recently passed away. He continued by thanking those past and present for the work they do for the village. He reported on several projects undertaken by the Parish Council and highlighted the vacancies for Councillors plus the need for volunteers. His full report can be seen at appendix 1.

Report on Finance

2) The Clerk confirmed the year end accounts to 31/03/23 had been agreed and were available for inspection. She confirmed the requested funds from TVBC for the forthcoming year had not been increased. Finally, she confirmed many financial documents are available on the parish council website and all documents are available to review by application to the Clerk.

3) Reports from Local Organisations

Ben Taylor-Thruxton Circuit-lead of BARC reported that BARC have had some very successful events in the last year. There are 120 days of activity in each year. The race calendar for the current year has been slightly condensed in that many of the meetings are in a short space of time, the hope is that this will be better spread in the next year. A 15- year lease has recently been signed between BARC and the landowner which means racing can continue at the circuit. Supporter's passes are available to those who live in surrounding villages and anyone wanting one should contact the BARC offices. Finally, he said all staff working at the circuit are now vigilant regarding possible protestors if anyone sees anything suspicious, please report to either the circuit or the police.

Ian Hickman-Executive Head Teacher, Kimpton, Thruxton & Fyfield School confirmed that as an executive head he is in charge of two schools which make up the Skylark Federation. Lots of work has taken place to enable the two schools to work well together including work with the governing body on the strategic direction of both schools. He confirmed capacity for school places was 210 and currently 200 children attend. He said the school was blessed with fabulous school grounds including a great forest school. He hopes to engage with local organisations in the future and is currently working with Southern Water and the PPF project. Finally, he said if anyone is interested in helping as a school governor, community governors are sought and volunteers are always welcome. He encouraged anyone interested to arrange a visit to the school.

Thruxton Memorial Hall- Graham Harris -welcomed everyone to the hall. He confirmed there are eight trustees on the hall committee who work tirelessly. Their sole responsibility is to maintain the fabric of the building. Several clubs use the hall to hold meetings including Andover Ladies Choir and the very popular Thruxton Loves Cake which is held every Wednesday from 10am to 12.00 mid-day. A purchase of a large screen also allows a regular film night. Wifi has now been installed in the hall and full details of facilities and hire charges can be found on the dedicated Village Hall website. He encouraged anyone looking to hire a hall to consider using the local facilities.

County and Borough Councillors' Report

4) HCC Cllr Chris Donnelly introduced himself as the re elected Hampshire Councillor for the area. He confirmed the additional government funding to tackle pot holes has now been received and work will continue in earnest to bring the roads back to a reasonable standard.

TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook – expressed thanks to the Parish Council for the work carried out during the past year. He confirmed TVBC will be introducing a new recycling service at the end of 2023 which will allow road side collections from households of plastics and glass. New vehicles have been purchased for this operation which will be run on biofuels.

5) Planning matters to discuss the following application

23/01032/OUTN- access and erection of 14 residential units, land to rear Stanbury Close

Cllr Christie outlined details of the current application and made it clear that this application needs to be treated as if it were a full application. He encouraged as many people as possible to comment on the TVBC planning site. He said that all comments made on previous applications for this site would not be considered so new letters were vital. He said a dedicated team of volunteers had collated all these comments and drawn up a very useful document for reference. He expressed concerns that the application only asked for permission to create access, which sought to mislead as the application was also for 14 residential units.

A member of the dedicated volunteer team said it was important to make any comments relate to policy. He suggested looking at NPPF guidance on the planning framework, the TVBC local plan and the Thruxton Neighbourhood Plan. All of these documents contain policies which can be cross referenced to comments made. He offered help to any resident who may require it.

Questions asked were as follows-

Q-The national transport statement confirms a need for highway safety-planning officers must be aware of this, should an elected officer ensure this is reflected in their views.

A-Elected officers have to take advice from Hants Highways. This application does not appear to have considered highway safety in detail. Anyone with concerns about this should make representation to TVBC planning.

Q- what consideration is given to traffic movement during the building process.

A-if this is given permission a traffic management plan will be put in place and any breach will be dealt with by enforcement officers. This can definitely be raised as an objection.

Point highlighted- the route through Stanbury Close onto a footpath which crosses open fields and leads to a chalk stream is a network for wildlife. Seven species of bat have been identified in the area including rare species, the stream and Mullins Pond into which the stream leads is listed by HBIC because of the rich biodiversity. Mullins Pond is also registered as a SINC.

Q-The application identifies reserved matters if building were permitted could more than 14 house be built?

A- No but the design and materials of the buildings would not be known.

Point highlighted-Concern that this building would set a precedent and once one set is built further and further additions would be added

Concern that additional housing would mean additional traffic which create fumes that will cause major concern to those with respiratory disease.

Public Participation

6) A question was raised as to when St Johns lane might be repaired. Cllr Christie confirmed the contractor was waiting for the weather to be drier but that work should be carried out soon.

Date of next meeting

7) The next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 5th June 2023

Appendix 1

THRUXTON PARISH COUNCIL**CHAIR'S REPORT – 10TH MAY 2023**

Welcome and thank you for coming to the Annual Village Assembly – and an especially warm welcome to our guest speakers. As you will have seen from the agenda we will be addressed later in the meeting by Ben Taylor, MD of BARC; Ian Hickman, Executive Head Teacher at Skylark Federation (the combination of Kimpton, Thruxton and Fyfield CofE Primary School and Appleshaw St Peters CofE Primary School) and Graham Harris who as many of you know is Treasurer of the Memorial Hall Trustees and who has generously agreed to stand in for Gill Odling who is away on vacation.

I must start this meeting by paying tribute to the late John Davis. John has been a resident of Thruxton for over 40 years and was an early occupant of the new houses in Lambourne Way soon after their development. During his time in the village, John was an ever-present participant in all sorts of activities – quiz and chip nights, afternoon teas, Produce Shows, Remembrance lunches.....I could go on! He was actively involved in the Parish Council for many years, most recently as Vice Chair but in the past as Chair and, at times, as just a plain Councillor. He had immense knowledge and insight into many aspects of our activities, most notably the history of planning applications in the village. We are so grateful for all that he and Margaret gave to the village over so many years. We will miss him and send our heartfelt and deep condolences to Margaret and his family.

I would like to thank my other colleagues on the Parish Council for their time and dedication. We have had a few changes in the last year culminating in the local election last week. Janet Graham has been on the Parish Council for more years than anyone can remember and has contributed a huge amount to the community over that time. We are immensely grateful for her contributions to the maintenance and enhancement of Mandy's Garden and the Village Green and I could always rely on Janet to participate in any voluntary activity and working party to help the community. Also standing down as Councillor is Jo Durant – she has not been on the Parish Council as long as Janet but in her time as Councillor has devoted her energy and experience, particularly on our work to place speed warning signs through the village. We also said a fond farewell to Leo McDevitt who had to stand down from the Council in June last year due to pressure of work. We thank all of them for their dedication, support and service to the community.

Over the last year, Tricia Harris, Richard Munday and, since September, Will Odling have given their time to being Councillors and have worked tirelessly on their respective portfolios as well contributing fully to the general business of the Parish Council. I truly appreciate their support and hard work and, on behalf of residents, I give them our thanks.

As I said last year, none of us could do our job without the unfailingly professional and truly wonderful Clerk, Heather Bournier, who has again steered us through the pitfalls and traps of executing our democratic responsibilities with great care and devotion to the people of Thruxton – a massive thank you. Thanks too to TVBC Cllr Phil Lashbrook and Hampshire County Cllr Chris Donnelly for their support of Thruxton and the Parish Council. Both Phil and Chris were re-elected at last week's elections and we look forward to continuing our relationships with them. It is appropriate to also offer our congratulations to Phil for his term as Deputy Mayor and to wish him well in his new role as Mayor-elect.

We had hoped that one of the PCSO's would be able to attend our meeting this evening but unfortunately they have other commitments to honour and send their apologies. However, we have had some information regarding the crime levels in Thruxton which I'm pleased to share.....thankfully, it remains relatively low and we continue to live in a safe environment. In the year between April 2022 and 2023 there were 4 cases of assault (1 with injury), 1 case of anti-social behaviour, 2 cases of criminal damage and 4 reports of theft. I have no additional information regarding the locations of these incidents so can't comment on whether the thefts

were mainly on the airfield, as last year, or were domestic.

Some of the key areas that the Parish Council – your Parish Council – is or has been engaged with include:

- Planning – probably the most visible of our responsibilities and one where former Cllr. John Davis has made an amazing contribution over the years. I'm pleased to announce that Cllr. Will Odling has agreed to step into John's shoes and share his experience and knowledge of the planning system. Cllr. Tricia Harris will continue her involvement in the Planning team. Generally, it has been a quiet year although last June we co-ordinated the village's response to the application to develop land at the end of Lambourne Close and, as you know, we're currently engaged in developing our response to the new application to build houses on land off Stanbury Close, of which more will be discussed later.
- Improvement of the water services – Southern Water continue to invest in the improvement of the sewage system through the village and are currently in the process of re-lining both the main sewage pipe and the laterals (the pipes between a house and the main drain). The plan is to prevent ground-water getting into the sewage system and thus reduce the amount of water that the system has to deal with – remember, the drainage system is largely late Victorian and the country is now reaping the results of years of under-investment by both government and the privatised water companies. The target is to reduce to a minimum the use of tankers, over-pumping and the need for CSOs – combined sewage outflows – into rivers and the sea but it will be some time before they are able to reach that goal.
- Speeding – with sterling work by our Clerk, Heather Bournier, we have finally had posts installed at agreed sites in the village on which we will place speed warning signs. The machines are on order and we hope installation will begin before the summer holidays. This is a major investment by the Parish Council but we believe it is a proper and worthwhile use of public money to reduce the risk of accident and worse on our roads. Unfortunately, we can't use the technology on Thruxton Down Road because it's a national speed limit area but we are hoping that we can improve the signage on the road to help reduce speeds along that road – mind you, the potholes seem to be doing a fairly effective job for us!.
- Finally, the Parish Council is responsible for the village green and Cllr. Janet Graham has led our work in this area, expertly guiding us on the upkeep of Mandy's Garden, the tables and chairs, waste bins, etc. Again, thanks are due to her for all her work in this regard.

Following the recent local elections, we are left with 4 Councillors – myself, Tricia Harris, Richard Munday and Will Odling. We would like to be able to co-opt 3 more Councillors to help with our responsibilities to the residents of Thruxton and I would welcome anyone who is interested to either speak to me after the meeting or to contact me in the coming days. The commitment is not onerous but you have the opportunity to make a difference to your community. In addition, we always welcome people to volunteer for various tasks around the Parish – whether that is keeping weeds under control along footpaths and verges (thank you Roger Oliver), upkeep of the library (thank you Les Mitchell), looking after the flag-pole (thank you Richard Thorne) or neighbourhood watch (thank you Martin King). All are vital aspects of keeping the village ticking along and we are always grateful for support.

Probably the most significant challenges that we face for the future centre around planning issues. We are committed to listening to the voice of the Thruxton community and ensuring we do all we can to represent your opinions and views on all proposals but it's also incredibly helpful – and powerful – when individuals take the time to make direct contact with TVBC Planning, as we are again seeing with the Stanbury Close application. A small group of dedicated residents has provided tremendous support to the Parish Council in collating responses to last year's major planning applications and researching the grounds on which we can continue to protect the nature and feel of this wonderful village. Our thanks go to Bill Brewer, Edward and Louisa Chamberlain, Steve Counsell, Hugh McPartlan and Mike Windsor.

I could go on but we'd be here an awfully long time and there is much to get through!! Thank you for your time in coming to this evening's meeting and on behalf of my fellow Councillors I wish you all a healthy and successful year ahead. Thank you.

