

THORNER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 07 June 2022.

Present;

Cllrs; M.Harrison (Chair), A.Scott (Vice Chair), D.Gibbins, S.Llewellyn, A.Lobley, S.Marshall, T.Mycock and A.Walmsley.

Others; District Councillor S.Firth.
Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.

1.Apologies.

Full attendance.

2.Ethical Code.

Cllr A.Scott declared an interest in agenda item 17.

3.Representations.

a) No public in attendance

b) There was no person wishing to record the meeting.

c) Cllr S.Firth thanked the Parish Council for supporting the Platinum Jubilee events and those individuals who contributed to delivering the event.

He provided members with an update on matters previously discussed;

Works to improve the Ford had commenced.

Bins would be installed at the bus stop near the Beehive Public House and at Millennium Green in October.

He would request that the public bins be emptied.

Ward Councillors were seeking a meeting to further discussions on the introduction of a 20mph zone.

There would be further road closures on Bramham Road to enable the completion of the road surfacing.

The recent speed checks would continue, these were being carried out on the 'A' roads.

There was no confirmed date for the opening of the ELOR. It had been noted that there had been reports of some cars not adhering to the layout of the traffic cones, which could lead to incidents.

Cllr S.Marshall commented that the misuse of motor/quad bikes around the Ward had been discussed at the PACT meeting, the Police were reluctant to pursue them due to the possibility of legal claims (see minute 5.).

4.Confidentiality.

Excluding agenda item 17; there were no agenda items requiring exclusion of the public or press.

5.Police.

Link for the Police web site-

<https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/west-yorkshire-police/leeds-north-east/>

Comment was made about numerous reports on social media, about anti-social behaviour involving motorbikes.

6.Minutes.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting, were approved and signed by the Chair Cllr M.Harrison.

7.Planning applications received.

Members duly noted the applications received.

8.Financial Matters.

8.1 Members were circulated with a list of payments for June 2022;

Resolved: that the following be approved and passed for payment:

<u>Method;</u>	<u>Payee;</u>	<u>Details;</u>	<u>£ Amount;</u>
SO	B.Riley	Salary	667.60
DD	Nest	Pension	29.59
DD	Octopus	Electric	8.67
TOTAL			<u>£ 705.86</u>

8.2 Members were in agreement with the content of the monthly budget monitor and bank reconciliation report for appropriate governance.

9. To receive reports from the following Working Party Playground and Fitness Equipment –

No report received.

The Clerk confirmed that an order had now been placed with Kompan (see minute 12. May 2022). Following problems experienced with the installation of the previous playground, enquiries would be made to appoint a Project Manager/ Surveyor, to oversee the work in consultation with Cllrs Harrison, Mycock, Lobley and the Clerk.

Maintenance -

Members had received the document prepared for them and discussed the content. Members were required to decide on the following;

Approval to appoint and accept (due to the lack of interest from other contractors (see minute 12. May 2022)), the quote received from the contractor Joshua Johnston-Coates for the grass cutting contract and approval to offer a probationary 12 month contract. Having been asked by Cllr D.Gibbins to confirm if the Financial Regulations concerning the issuing of a contract for the supply of goods, materials or the execution of works, had been adhered to, the Clerk read out to members the specific extract from the regulations that they had been adhered to. Cllr D.Gibbins enquired if sufficient effort had been undertaken to obtain quotes, Cllr S.Llewellyn, confirmed that they had and accused Cllr D.Gibbins of bullying her over this subject. Cllr D.Gibbins stated that she was simply seeking further clarification on contractual matters before being able to make a considered decision. Following a vote it was agreed as follows; For 7; Against;1, to accept the quote.

The buying of 6 plants as replacement Lavateira for the end border near the playground at a cost £8.95. Total £53.70. It was agreed.

To consider clearing the site and re-siting the bench on Milner Lane as the bench base has cracked completely into two pieces and is in a precarious position. It was agreed.

The Parish Council placed on record, their thanks to resident David Ramsay for his continued work to cut a path to the beck and for planting the wild flowers at Ramsey's Fold.

It was agreed that following the recent use of the cones to service the flagpole, that four cones be made available for use by the Over 60's Bungalow during the post office weekly visit. This was on the strict understanding that the Council can continue to have use, intermittently, as needed in this area.

Finance –

No report received.

10. Matters arising from previous minutes.

Following discussion, it was agreed that two dog bag dispensers be purchased (see minute 17. May 2022).

In response to comments made outside the Council meeting, members discussed the following items;

1.The size and placement of the pollinators and that they are a waste of money.

The pollinators were owned and placed by Leeds CC on their land, they had asked the Parish Council to support the initiative which they had. If they were not liked or appreciated by residents, then a request to remove them could be made. However, the fact that a democratic decision had been made by the Parish Council should then not be criticised by any member who was part of the decision process.

2. The money being spent on the Millennium Green.

If standards were to be maintained on the Parish Council's prime asset, it would require much funding to do so.

3.Nothing is being done at the top end of the village.

Cllr S.Marshall had given considerable effort to engage with the Residents Association and the Leeds CC Tenant Officer, but there seemed to be a lack of interest on their part. Any perceived thought that the Parish Council was doing nothing was not justified.

It was suggested that an attempt be made to organise a meeting with all parties and to include the Ward Councillors, to seek a solution on how membership of the Association could be increased which would assist in more liaison with the Parish Council.

4.The provision of a “second hand bench” to the residents of the Kirkfield estate.

The resident had been invited to attend a Parish Council meeting for an explanation to be provided, but had declined.

In response to the above, Cllr A.Scott questioned the functioning of the Parish Council and that it appeared to residents that members were not united in their decision making, Cllr M.Harrison reiterated that there should be no further need to keep providing explanations for decisions agreed (which had also occurred at the Annual Parish meeting), at a Parish Council meeting, a member must accept the decision irrespective of whether they agreed or not.

11.Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr T.Mycock had asked that he be informed of any updates to the document to enable him to provide a report to members.

12.To consider any new correspondence received and decide action where necessary.

Members duly noted the content of the information received.

Following an enquiry from a resident members gave consideration to splitting garden plots when they become available. It was agreed that as each plot became available the Clerk would inform members for a decision to be made at a Council meeting.

In response to the letter received from the Tennis Club, who wished to use the land adjacent to the Victory Hall for a tennis court, Cllr T.Mycock provided members with information on the background to why the land became leased to the Parish Council and, the agreement made with the Victory Hall. He further commented that the initial approach should have been made to the Victory Hall and not the Parish Council. Cllr S.Marshall commented that within the terms of the lease, the land was for use as an open space for the use of the public. Having considered the above comments it was agreed that the Tennis Club be informed that the land would remain as it was intended an open space for the use of the public.

13.To receive reports from outside bodies.

Following discussion it was agreed that any Parish Councillor should be able to attend/ represent the Parish Council at PACT meetings.

Following his attendance at a Leeds Festival Working Group in May, Cllr S.Marshall asked that a decision be reached concerning the following;

A request from their Licensing Assistant Grace Nuttgens, on the provision of content from them, for the Parish Council's next newsletter, he was asked to inform them that content was required by 22 July.

With regard to have an option to route the shuttlebuses leaving the festival on Sunday night and Monday morning through Thorner village, it was agreed that he state that this only be allowed if needed and not an option, the criteria for the need would be requested.

14.To receive a report from the Clerk or Councillors, on any new or ongoing minor matters.

Following discussion, it was agreed that due to the footpath volunteer group now being independent of the Parish Council, they were not covered by Thorner Parish Council's insurance policy. It was proposed that they become a constituted group which would enable them to apply for grants from the Parish Council.

Members were informed that there was little evidence that garden plot 8A was being worked and it was not considered suitable for dividing (see minute 12.), the Clerk confirmed that there was an established procedure to deal with such a situation and the appropriate letter would be sent to the tenant.

15.To notify the Clerk of matters for inclusion on the next Agenda.

To consider the installation of a kissing gate at a cost of £235.

Date of the next newsletter.

Gala review.

Thorner produce show.

16.Date of next meeting.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 05 July 2022 in the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

17.Matters to be discussed at the exclusion of the public and press.

The Clerk was asked to further advertise the vacancy for co-option in the noticeboard. Subject to the response, if there were no further candidates, than co-option could take place at the start of the next meeting.

Signed

Chair Thorner Parish Council

Date.....