

THORPE-LE-SOKEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Monday 14th November 2016

7.00 pm at the Baptist Church Schoolroom

PRESENT: Cllrs: Land Chairman, Powell Vice Chairman, Blandford, Carpenter, Raftery, Rich, Roe, Cty Cllr Andrew Erskine, Roger Hawes Tree Warden & 6 Members of Public.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs: Ewart and Fielder

Confirmation of Minutes: Minutes of the November 2016 meeting, having previously been circulated, were agreed as a True Record and Signed by The Chairman.

The Chairman said he was going to use his discretion and bring item 15 (Thorpe Christmas Festival) on the agenda forward for discussion. Under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 an application was submitted by Gill Cullum on behalf of the Thorpe Festival Trust for a Grant to purchase 2 Gazebo's, leg weights a wind brace, postage etc., for £184.97. The Gazebos will offer weatherproof and safe shelters and would be used not only for the Christmas Festival but to also promote and support other local community organisations.

After a discussion Cllr Land proposed, seconded Cllr Roe all in favour that a grant for the full amount of £184.97 be given from the Parish Council and it was unanimously agreed that a cheque be presented for signature at this evenings meeting.

Declaration of Members Interest: None

Public Participation: Gill Cullum asked if there was any update regarding replacement of the light on unit 18 Colchester Road and The Clerk was pleased to report that she had spoken to Lizzie Campion at ECC Highways and she confirmed the contractors have programmed for the connection to be completed on the 20th December.

Chairman's Report:

Development update/Local Plan: At a recent planning committee meeting held at The Town Hall Clacton a lot of residents from Thorpe were present and expressed their views and recommendations for refusal of a 49 home housing scheme through chosen representatives who spoke on their behalf. The reasons for rec. refusal were that the site lies outside the settlement boundary with part also sitting within the village's conservation area. The proposed housing would also be harmful to the wildlife including some protected species, the heritage assets, and would also be very detrimental to the road infrastructure with access onto a dangerous bend.

Although the application was rejected by TDC the Chairman said that it was recognised that an appeal would be lodged with possibly both TDC and Mr Ryan engaging ecologists, Highway and Heritage Consultants.

There are three types of appeals 1) The Inspector visits the site and will by prior arrangement speak to public and officers, a written response or an informal or public enquiry.

The Lifehouse Spa proposal is still ongoing and will be coming up for discussion 19th January 2017.

Landermere Road application is currently going to committee and again there will be an opportunity for councillors to speak as an independent voice but remember to register your voice to speak at the meeting.

2016 Christmas Festivals Lights:

Footpath 3 has now been cleared thanks to the hard work of Cllrs Fielder/Land and the new hedge trimmer.

Remembrance Service: The Remembrance Service was well attended and everything went to plan.

Monthly Update: Refer to sheet included with Agenda/Minutes

Correspondence: For more in depth information please refer to November Agenda

The Local Government Boundary Commission – on the 25th October (ending on 9th Jan 2017) The Commission formally started an eleven-week public consultation inviting proposals for new warding arrangements. The review will recommend new electoral arrangements for TDC and will propose

- The total number of councillors elected to the council in the future
- The number of wards
- The number of councillors representing each ward
- Ward Boundaries
- Names of Wards

For some parishes, the review may recommend changes to the electoral arrangements and boundaries of parish wards including the number of parish councillors for each parish ward. It is inevitable that this will happen and could mean a change for both Cllrs Land & Erskine.

David Bain re St. Michael's Churchyard Annual Grant - each councillor received a copy of the Churchyard accounts to peruse in preparation for discussion at this evenings meeting. After a discussion Cllr Land proposed, seconded Cllr Carpenter, all in favour that St. Michael's Church received the traditional grant of £500.00. A cheque will be presented for signature at the December meeting.

7a e-mails For more in depth information please refer to November Agenda

Chairman received e-mail from Tina Starling reference vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Tina is a Communications Manager by profession and although she has only lived in Station Road for the past 18 months, she has had local connections for at least 15 years with her mother and sister living in Landermere Road. Tina says she has a good understanding of the village and is keen to support other councillors in helping deliver a great service to the village and getting involved in the proposed Lifehouse Spa development has given her a real interest in local politics and is very keen to become a councillor for Thorpe.

TDC Planning determinations: None received

New Planning Applications

**16/00935/FUL, 16//01638/FUL, 16/02659/FUL, 16/01672/FUL, 16/01725/FUL No Objections
16/01725/FUL, 16/01661/FUL No Objections.**

16/01652/OUT Proposed erection of 3 single storey detached dwellings, Land adjacent, Bradewick, Frinton Road, Thorpe. **Rec. Refusal** for the following reasons. Over Development of Site and Dangerous Access onto a blind bend

Information Only: Formal Revocation Notice to remove the legal protection from trees that were covered by a TPO. The Olive Branch previously The Maids Head, High Street, Thorpe-le-Soken. A Tree Preservation Order 1996 (TPO 96/54), made 30th October 1996 and confirmed 27th January 1997. This Revocation Order may be cited as 16/03 and is dated, sealed and made on 7th November 2016.

Permission was given by all Councillors at the meeting for the following cheques to be signed

002185/2190 incl. £1920.35 (**002191 cancelled**) 002192/2196 incl £664.69 = £2585.04

Standing/Orders: £327.35 Vat £54.56

Income: 2nd instalment of precept £20304.00 (listed on bank statement up to 27/10/16

Current A/C £23607.12 as at 27/10/16 **Business A/C** £30382.44 " 10/10/16

For more in depth information regarding accounts refer to November Agenda

Quarterly Accounts for period 1st July – 30th September 2016:

Prior to the meeting each councillor received a copy of the quarterly accounts for period 1st July – 30th September 2016 to peruse in preparation for discussion at this evenings meeting and after a short discussion Cllr Land formerly agreed and proposed that the quarterly accounts for July – September 2016 be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Powell and unanimously agreed. Permission was given for The Chairman & Clerk to sign them.

Tree Warden's Report: Report from Roger

County Councillor's Report: Cllr Andrew Erskine gave various reports throughout the meeting. The Chairman paid special thanks to Cllr Erskine for all the help and support that he has given during his term as Cty. Cllr.

Sub-Committee reports:

Street Lighting: The Clerk said she had carried out two checks during the last month and noticed the following 2 lights were not working: No 4 from Thorpe Cross adjacent the Bus Stop and one on The Memorial – pointing down towards Frinton. If anybody has noticed any other Lights that were not working, please let The Clerk know. Cllr Erskine said as he came along Landermere Road this evening he noticed there was a light not working.

Highways & Pavements: Cllr Roe removed an advertising board from one of the columns on his way down to the meeting.

Lockyers Wood: Nothing to report

Parish Footpaths: Nothing to report

Playing Field: Nothing to report

TDALC: Due to there being no meeting there was no report

Transport: Nothing to report

Thorpe in Bloom: With the exception of 2/3 outstanding invoices for the 2016 Floral Baskets the majority have been paid. When the baskets were ordered in Spring many residents/businesses offered payment then and to save all the embarrassment of Invoices, Statements and verbal reminders it was discussed and a formal proposal put to the Parish Council that for 2017 the baskets be paid for when ordering.

Village Greens: Reference Pond on the small section of 2nd Green. It was noticed prior to the October meeting that a section of the pond had been cleared out and nobody was aware who did it. After further enquiries and inspection of the section of clearance Roger said that it was not too drastic and would possibly restore to good condition.

LED Lighting: Chairman said he had spoken to Andy, A & J Lighting regarding LED lights and was of the understanding that all of the lights that have been replaced by Little Clacton Parish Council along Harwich Road were a cheaper range of lights with an approximate 10 year life span at a cost of £100

A smaller LED light like the new one put adjacent the Rose & Crown is approximately £400 and has a life span of approximately 30 years.

Items for discussion at November meeting: Please let The Clerk know of any items for discussion 3 clear working days (7th Dec) prior to meeting.

Cllr Carpenter gave her apologies for the December meeting.

Date/Time/Venue of next meeting:

Monday 12th December 2016 7 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom.