

**THORPE-LE-SOKEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**7.00 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Land Chairman, Powell Vice-Chairman, Carpenter, Coulter, Ewart, Fielder, Raftery, Roe, Starling

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Blandford

**Confirmation of Minutes:** Minutes of the January 2017 meeting, having previously been circulated, were agreed as a True Record and Signed by the Chairman after the following amendments were made.

**PAGE 2 of 5 Chairman's Report:** First paragraph - proposed development at Lifehouse and not Frinton Road.

**Second Paragraph 6<sup>th</sup> line** – again Lifehouse and not Frinton Road.

**Page 4 of 5 Cllr Erskine's report:** Local Highways Panel and not Housing

**Village Signs:** Nicoli Alexander

**Declaration of Members Interest:** There were none

The Chairman said with Councillors permission he would like to bring **item 14 LED Lights** on the agenda forward for discussion now and passed over to Cllr Fielder to give a report on a recent meeting that was arranged by the Clerk and held at Harry's Bar on Tuesday 31st January, in attendance Cllrs Ewart, Fielder, the Clerk and Andy Bouttell - A & J Lighting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss & clarify options that were available to the PC with regards to renewing all the PC owned lights in Thorpe. Cllr Fielder said the exact amount was to be confirmed but for the purposes of the report we will work on 70.

**The following 3 Options were discussed:**

- To continue replacing the existing Sodium (orange light) Lamps
- To replace the Sodium Lamps with new LED Lamps
- Replace the existing Lanterns & Lamps with new units.

**Terminology:** Lamps = Bulbs. Lanterns = Bulb Housings.

UMSUG Code = Unmetered Suppliers User Group (Also known as a Charge Code)

**Option 1:** The Sodium lamps that are currently being used have become obsolete. They were manufactured by Phillips, who are the world's leader in LED technology and it is expected that the unit cost per lamp will rise dramatically to force a change to LED. Currently each Sodium Lamp costs the PC £35.50. The new price is not known but expected to double. **Point of note:** The Sodium Lamps are rated at 35w, but with their ageing internal wiring and components, draw 65w. Monthly electricity bill for lights on average is £135 per month. **This is not a preferred option and should be discarded.**

**Option 2:** Replace all the existing Sodium Lamps with new LED Lamps. This involves removal of the existing Lamp, sensor, capacitor, ballast and ignitor (all potential failure points). A replacement LED Lamp and Driver would be installed. The New Lamp is supplied with a 4 year guarantee and has an expected 10 year estimated life span. Price quoted by A & J is £90 (+ vat) per light therefore £90 x 70 = £6300 - For the purposes of this report we will round up to £6500

**Point of note:** the new lamps run at 17w. this is a 73% saving which would equate to approx. our annual light electricity bill reducing from £1620 to £435. A saving of £1182 per annum.

**Option 3:** To replace the existing Lamp and Lantern with new units. The rationale behind this option is that although changing just the lamps, the existing lanterns are in some cases corroded, cracked and will need continual maintenance to ensure operation. The complete new units are supplied with a 10 year guarantee and have a 100,000 hour (approx. 30 year life span) The price quoted by A & J is £349 (+vat) per light therefore **£349 x 70 = £24,430. For the purposes of this report we will round up to £25,000.**

**After a discussion All Cllr's at this evenings meeting unanimously agreed that option 3 was the preferred option.**

**Considerations:** The existing lanterns and any new ones would have to use the existing pole brackets, these are in good order, but some are in a poor condition. As such, we should budget £500 for the replace of damaged units. A & J have quoted £89 per light for a new bracket. Note: The same cost saving on electricity would apply with option 3.

In terms of overall pricing, there may be a small discount of the quoted prices based on an order for all the lights to be modified.

Set up of the three lights at the Memorial Triangle was discussed by Andy A & J Lighting, Cllrs: Ewart, Fielder and The Clerk at a recent meeting **LED Lights continued:**

Andy was asked if there were other PC's looking to change their lights and with whom Thorpe could partner up with to improve our buying power. Andy has agreed to write to those customers looking to change.

As and when the lights are changed, it was suggested that a road/street will be done completely so as not to have differing lights.

**LED Lights continued:**

*It was recognised that the new lamps produce a white light which although will be at the same wattage, because of the way the human eye senses white over orange, people may comment and say they are brighter.*

*In Summary, Cllr's Fielder and Ewart consider Option 3 to be the most cost effective long term solution and investigations are being made with regards funding to have all the lights done in one go.*

*A & J Solutions advised that from issue of Purchase Order, all the village lights under the jurisdiction of the PC could be changed within 4 weeks.*

*After a period of questions and answers, Cllr Ewart said he would like to put a motion forward that the PC concentrate on doing the Memorial Lights once all the relevant information has been obtained.*

*The Chairman said before a vote was recorded and agreed, he would like to get a second opinion from ECC.*

*Cllr Ewart amended his proposal to read: Subject to a 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion being obtained from Shane Cooley ECC, The PC agree that the Memorial Lights be replaced first.*

*The amended proposal was seconded by The Chairman, and agreed by all Cllr's at this evenings meeting.*

**Public Participation:**

*A member of Public asked the following:*

- Was there any update on the parking problem in Landermere Road. Chairman said he had been in dialogue with the new Headmaster at TTC and the Tendring Parking Partnerships who were very complimentary and said that the Bus Drivers and Car Drivers were coping very well during drop off and pick up times and the conclusion at this stage was that they did not want to get involved with "Yellow Lines".*
- The Keep Left Bollard at the Landermere Road, High Street junction has been broken for some time and nothing seems to be done about it.*
- Cllr Erskine said unfortunately it all boils down to no funding being available but it is hoped that a lot of signage repairs all over the District will be carried out in the new financial year.*
- Why is the wall over Holland Brook being built higher? Chairman said due to many questions being asked he made enquiries and was told it was all a safety precaution.*

**Chairman's Report:** *Report was given by C/Man reference Development Update/Local Plan*

**Monthly Update:** *No further update.*

**Correspondence and e-mails:** For more in depth information please refer to February Agenda.

**TDC Planning Determinations:** None were received by time of going to print

**New Planning Applications:** None were received by time of going to print

**Cheques for Signature:** All cheques presented for signature were agreed by all Cllr's at this evenings meeting. For more in depth information, please refer to February Agenda.

Cheque 002213 was cancelled. Nos: 002214 – 002217 incl. £2002.51 VAT £160.60

**Standing Orders:** £322.22 VAT £53.70

**Current Account:** up to 31/12/16 £21627.18 **Business Account:** up to 9/12/16 £30383.69  
" 31/01/17 £19453.68 " " 9.01/17 £30386.23

**Tree Wardens Report:** Report from Cllr Roe on behalf of Roger Hawes

**County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Andrew Erskine gave reports throughout the meeting. The Chairman paid his commiserations to Cllr Erskine for his election loss in Oakley.

**Sub Committee Reports:**

**Street Lighting:** Lights reported by Clerk as not working - PC owned 1 in Spencer Road ECC owned 1<sup>st</sup> one in Station Road and one in Colchester Road.

**Highways & Pavements:** As Cllr Blandford gave her apologies, there was no report.

**Lockyer's Wood:** Cllr Raftery said he had nothing to report. Chairman said the long awaited Dog Bin had now been put up.

**Parish Footpaths:** Cllr Fielder said apart from being very wet and overgrown everything else appeared to be ok.

Cllr Roe reported that the fixings on the lid of the Dog Bin along Footpath 14 is very being rusty and was not closing properly. Cllr Roe was given permission to make arrangements to get it repaired.

**Playing Fielder:** Cllr Raftery said he recently carried out an inspection of the PF and said he saw no signs of flooding.

**Sub Committee Reports continued:**

**TDALC:** As Cllr Powell gave her apologies, there was no report.

**Transport:** Cllr Roe said the only piece of information he received was irrelevant to the Tendring District.

**Thorpe in Bloom:** An e-mail had been received from Parkers Nurseries to say that they would supply the Floral Baskets only, but would not be taking on the maintenance and watering.

**Village Greens:** In Roger Hawes absent Cllr Roe was asked to report that a work Party will be taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> Green Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February commencing at 9.am and anybody who would like to lend a helping hand would be welcome.

**Village Signs:** Cllr Coulter said she would continue making enquiries

**Superfast Broadband:** Cllr Ewart – nothing further to discuss at this stage

**Items for discussion at April 2017 meeting:** Please let The Clerk know of any item for discussion 3 clear working days (4<sup>th</sup> April) prior to the meeting.

**Date/Time/Venue of next meeting:**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017- 7 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom.

**Close of meeting:** There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.50 pm