

Thurlby Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlby Parish Council (Min 16-04) held
on Wednesday the 7th September 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance
Park Social Room, Thurlby

Present: **Councillors:** N Bradley, E Lunn, M Reece, B Sadler, S Samara, Y Scott and A Thomas
 Residents: Mrs E Sharman
 Others: Bernard Champness – Clerk, County Councillor Helen Powell

Open Forum

Prior to the meeting opening there was a minutes silence in memory of the late Peter Wade who recently died and who had been a Parish Councillor for many years as well as the Treasurer.

Mrs Sharman attended to explain that there was a problem with drainage and this was one reason why the application at 23 The Green was refused. There was a question of verges around the village and who was responsible for the upkeep as many thought it was the Highways and some thought it was the house owners responsibility. The Clerk confirmed no email had been received from Mrs Naylor. Cllr Lunn said that he had had a similar problem and was told that the responsibility was Highways 15 feet from the middle of the road. He was told that he had to remove some paving he had placed on the verge in front of his house.

She was also interested in the bench being offered by Mr Gadd and was told that we were waiting for a decision from Mr Brumfield.

The meeting was formally opened at 19.42

68. Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies & noting of resignations received

68.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Dobson (personal) Cllr Rose (personal) Cllr Roulstone (personal) Cllr Derbyshire (ill health)

68.2 Resolved that the apologies be accepted.

69. Declaration of Interest – To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, as set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and the nature of those interests relating to any Agenda item

69.1 No one declared an interest in any matter on the agenda.

70. Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlby Parish Council held on the 6th July 2016 (Min16-03)

70.1 Resolved: That the minutes were signed by the Chair as a correct record

71. Report from the District and County Councillors

71.1 District Councillor Dobson had sent his apologies and had sent his report which is copied below. As you can expect, not too much has been going on at SKDC during the summer but one or two items might be of interest:

1. The following planning applications were dealt with:
 - a. S15/1627 Proposals for 5 dwellings at 23 The Green was refused
 - b. S16/1362 Proposed erection of summerhouse at 9, Tudor Close, was

- approved conditionally by the case officer under delegated powers.
- c. S16/1385 Proposed erection of link of existing dwelling to garages/stores and conversion of garages/stores to living accommodation was approved conditionally by the case officer under delegated powers.
 - d. S16/1419 Proposed extensions to dwelling and erection of garage at 53 Swallow Hill was approved conditionally by the case officer under delegated powers.
 - e. S16/1429 Proposed change of use to domestic garden from agriculture was refused by the case officer under delegated powers.
 - f. S16/1437 Proposed demolition of stable and erection of agricultural storage building at 23 Church Street was approved conditionally by the case officer under delegated powers.
 - g. S16/1440 Proposed removal of an ash tree at 23 Obthorpe Lane was approved conditionally by the case officer under delegated powers.
2. Of general interest, Bourne Grammar School with Academy Status was given permission to erect a new science block and additional parking space. This has been funded by a massive £4million grant; one of the largest ever received for this type of development.
 3. The Local Plan, which was available for discussion at the Bourne Corn Exchange, showed possible developments in the District. In our Parish, development was listed for an area behind the lower part of High Street, the County Council Yard and 23 The Green (14 houses). As proposals for 23 The Green were turned down due to circumstances that cannot be dealt with at this time, the other proposals maybe affected. This is mainly traffic and drainage. However, it is certain that development of the County Council Yard would be a blessing for those parishioners who suffer when spreader trucks are in operation during the night hours in winter. It does, however, show how important the Neighbourhood Plan is to the future of the village. The suggestion that nothing is going to happen in Thurlby is unfounded and current experiences show that we should continue to support the Neighbourhood Plan in order to get this approved and adopted as soon as possible.
 4. SKDC is planning to buy back ex-authority homes as they become available to increase the housing stock. This may result in several alternative outcomes, depending on the size of the property and land around it. It has been determined that part of the housing shortage is for rented accommodation and large houses that can be converted or land that could be redeveloped to increase the number of homes on the same area are of interest. This, I believe, is also part of the preparation phase to increase income as central government funds start to dwindle. SKDC is one of the few councils in a good financial position and they want to build on this.
 5. Preparation for Gravity Fields in Grantham is underway and promises to be an even greater success than last time. Dates for the festival are 21 – 25 September.
 6. Devolution is a major topic being debated. The results on the consultation for a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire have been collated, resulting in a virtual split decision as to the election of a Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire. In essence, this would be another tier of government. The survey showed a split decision of 47% to 49%. The majority were not in favour, but most were in favour of devolution. 73% agreed that councils should prioritise economic growth. Most residents were against the Police & Crime

Commissioner concurrently occupying the role of elected Mayor (source: Evolve, August 2016).

- 71.2** County Councillor Powell said that following a recent meeting with a member of LCC who was rather shocked at the size of the Garden Centre.
The Boundary commission have made their decisions for the new boundaries. Obviously this is creating havoc with some divisions.
The Tree programme is going well and Kevin Brumfield is managing to get some of the farmers to sort out the unsafe trees and tidy up. Both woods at Bourne and Thurlby on the A15. Elsea wood and Griffins wood. Also on the Stamford and Edenham road out of Bourne.

72. Clerks Report and correspondence received

- 72.1** The Clerks report had been circulated in advance. He reported that since the last meeting he had sent a letter to McDonald's asking if they would adopt the milestone and or manage the grass around it for us. He was pleased to report that they would be more than happy to adopt the milestone and to make sure the grass was cut around it whenever they cut the grass in front of the restaurant. He seemed to be keen to help.
Cllr Sadler said that after the heavy rain on the 27th August he had reported the flooding at the crossroads at Thurlby to Highways. Mr Brumfield said that he would have the drains flushed out to make sure the water flowed away without flooding.
Someone had crashed and demolished the lamppost in front of 36 Chapel Lane. The County Council had come out to remove it and make safe the wiring. The Clerk was asked to contact LCC and confirm when the lamppost would be replaced.
The Clerk was asked if the accounts were ready which they were not. He would try and make sure they were completed and the spreadsheet sent round.

73. Planning applications:

- 73.1** No plans had been received to consider although during the summer recess a number of applications had been received of which Councillors were given notice. No comments were sent from the Parish Council to SKDC during the recess.

74. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Planning process (Stephen Holland)

- 74.1** Mr Holland was not able to attend but his report which he had prepared had been circulated in advance. It was pointed out that what he wanted was approval of the Parish council to apply for the second tranche of the grant from Locality and take the necessary actions to extend the existing grant. **Resolved** that this was in order and both the Chair and the Clerk could support Mr Holland in that aspect.

75. To receive an update on the offer of a bench from Mr Gadd.

- 75.1** Mr Brumfield was asked if we needed permission for a bench to be placed either on the land at the side of the house of Mr Gadd on the A15 or on the land opposite High Street by the bus stop on the west side of the A15. He had replied asking for a map showing the location Mr Brumfield was able to produce from his computer the map required. A copy had been sent to the Clerk and he had returned it showing both locations agreed by the Council in July and asking if either needed permission. Cllr Bradley pointed out that Mr Gadd preferred the site by his house and -which the council agreed would be the preferred site. Once we heard from Mr Brumfield we could then move forward.

76. To decide whether we wish to obtain The Really Useful Stuff handbook and pay for the postage.

76.1 LALC had sent notice that there were a limited number of copies of the Really Useful Stuff handbook and if we wanted a copy we needed to get in touch with someone from the County Council. This the clerk did and received a reply saying that we could collect a copy from LALC or have them send a copy if we paid the postage. We were told to deal direct with LALC. **Resolved** that we ask for a copy to be posted to us.

77. To receive an update regarding the request for a reactive sign from Lincolnshire Road safety Partnership.

77.1 Cllr Sadler said that he had been corresponding with the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership to try and see if the outstanding 9 site approval matters could be resolved. 3 sites on the A15 having already been approved. Sadly this had proved harder as the officer concerned had since retired and the officer taking over needed to be identified. Safety partnership has now agreed the 6 village lampposts sites are owned by the County and not the District Council and safety partnership will now take action to approve. Highways/Safety Partnership are reviewing potential alternative solutions at the remaining 3 sites. He explained that were wanted to order 1 reactive sign at this meeting but has not received formal approval for all 12 different sites in and around the village. **Resolved:** that Cllr Sadler and the Clerk continue with the site approval exercise and that arrangements be made to purchase the sign so we can at least put this up on the sites that had been agreed.

78. To discuss possible training in line with the Training Policy and to decide if we agree to subscribe to the LALC Annual Training scheme at a cost of £100 per annum.

78.1 Cllr Sadler asked if he had been booked onto the course he wanted to attend on the 4²⁸th September. The Clerk said that as far as he was aware he was booked in.

79. To decide if any Councillor wishes to attend the Safeguarding Conference - 3rd November 2016

79.1 Details of the conference were circulated in advance but no one wished to attend.

80. To receive an update regarding the response from SKDC regarding the piece of land they own on Lawrance Park,

80.1 As Cllr Dobson was not present the matter was adjourned to the October meeting.

81. To receive an update on the various signs along the A15 at Northorpe and Katesbridge.

81.1 The Clerk explained that he had written to South Kesteven District Council asking for them to investigate the signs and this was acknowledged. A reminder was sent and an e-mail came back to say the person who was dealing with these matters was away until the 31st October and if it was urgent we should contact the enforcement team. This was done but they wanted to know the number of the house on Bourne Road. Those details were provided and letters had now been received indicating that they would investigate both matters and report back with their decision.

82. To discuss the survey result priorities and what action is necessary to deal with them.

82.1 Cllr Sadler explained that there were now only a few matters remaining on the list one of which was the need for residents to cut back trees that were blocking the street lights or road signs. He had sent the Clerk photographs of the 4 properties and letters had been delivered to the relevant house owners.

83. To receive an update on the Cemetery to include grass cutting and maintenance as well as a complaint from a resident that plastic vases have been broken.

83.1 Cllr Thomas said that the hedge had been cut and he thought the cemetery was looking in good condition.

83.2 A letter had been received from a resident complaining that the grass cutter had broken two plastic vases that were on the plot of her late husband. She wanted to know the name and address of the gardener. It was agreed that the council would advise the resident that they were responsible for the grass cutting in this part of the cemetery. The Clerk would ask for more details about the vase, and what it cost to replace. The council would then give further consideration to the matter.

84. To consider the cemetery charges and whether they need to be updated.

84.1 As was explained at the last meeting this was on the agenda because the Internal Auditor had asked if we had increased the charges or ever discussed this issue at the Annual Meeting. The Internal Auditor said that he was not saying the prices should be increased but we should at least have it minuted that we had discussed the matter. The Clerk explained that we still had a healthy balance in the cemetery account and whilst he did not like to discuss making a profit he was happy that the charges were reasonable and that we were able to maintain the cemetery. It was accepted that we were still not charging as much as other Authorities. It was pointed out that the west part of the cemetery was getting full but we still has the east side that we could use before we needed to take any action to put in place the remaining land we had purchased. **Resolved:** that we keep the charges as they are at the moment but reconsider this matter again in 12 months' time.

85. To receive an update on the position of a crossing at Thurlby and traffic around the village generally

85.1 There was no update and it was agreed that the matter be left on the agenda. .

86. To discuss the continued problem of litter picking at the end of Thurlby Fen.

86.1 The Clerk reported that a resident had been in touch to complain that he had reported the matter of the bin at the end of Thurlby Fen not being emptied. It was full again and the rubbish was being blown about by the wind. It transpired that the landlord of the Horseshoe had installed the bin being concerned about the amount of rubbish being left there. He had emptied the bin but it was not right for him to have to do this all the time. **Resolved** that the Clerk write to the District Council asking them to empty the bin and clean up the rubbish.

87. For any Councillor to produce a written report of any meeting that he/she has attended as representatives of the Parish Council

87.1 There were no written reports but Cllr Lunn explained that he had attended the local school and presented the Good Citizen award. He thought the evening was a success. The Council wanted to record their thanks to Cllr Lunn for doing this.

88. To confirm Expenditure

[£88.00 – C S Harris (grass cutting in cemetery)]
£88.00 - C S Harris (grass cutting in cemetery)
£36.00 – Advanced Payroll Services (payroll services)
£33.40 - Lawrance Park Community Association (Hall hire by TNPG)
£40.00 – B M Champness (use of home as office August)
£425.37 – B M Champness (salary August)
£40.00 – B M Champness (use of home as office)
£425.37 – B M Champness (salary)

£3.84 – B M Champness (postage stamps)

£50.01 Lawrance Park Community Association (hire of hall by TNPG)

£14.99 Chromasport & Trophies (Good Citizen shield and engraving)

£35.00 – Information Commissioner (Data Protection registration)

£58.35 - Lawrance Park Community Association (Hall hire by TNPG)

[] denotes those payments paid between meetings, which have been approved by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Parish Council or at a previous meeting but not listed

88.1 Resolved: that the above payments be made.

88.2 The Clerk was unable to circulate the spreadsheet in time for the meeting. He promised that once the spreadsheet was completed he would send everyone a copy.

89. Members Questions - reminder only questions given to the clerk a week in advance will be answered.

89.1 There were no question and there being no further business the meeting was formally closed at 21.09

90. The date of the next meeting – to be held on **Wednesday 5th October 2016** at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room, Thurlby.