

Thurlby Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlby Parish Council (Min 21-04) held
on Wednesday the 7 July 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park
Hall Social Room

Present: **Councillors:** R Bill, N Bradley, S Broadbent, H Edwards, (Presiding) P Haley, L Lowe, E Lunn, M Owen, A Thomas and D White
Residents: J Wallace
Others: Bernard Champness – Clerk, and District Cllr B Dobson

Open Forum	
James Wallace wanted to talk about two matters. The first was the problem of the overgrown footpath as mentioned in Item 61.2. Cllr White explained that he had been in correspondence with Countryside Access at LCC on another problem and happened to mention this problem. He was hoping that the matter would be resolved, and he would continue to press for the vegetation to be cut back and the grass to be cut on this footpath The second matter related to the flooding issue at the pumping station. He had attended a meeting some months back and complained about the flooding and was told this was being investigated. He had heard nothing and assumed nothing had happened. He was told this issue was in the hands of County Cllr Reid and he was working with a number of agencies to get this matter resolved. The Clerk had also written to Anglian Water who were willing to become involved with getting the matter resolved.	
The meeting was formally opened at 19.32	
51. Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies & noting of resignations received	
51.1	Apologies were received from, Cllr M Reece (personal) Resolved: that the apology be accepted, Apologies had also been received from County Cllr R Reid
52. 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	
52.1	No one declared an interest in any item on the agenda.
53. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23 June 2021 (Min21-03)	
53.1	Resolved: That the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23 June 2021 were signed by the Chair as a correct record
54. To receive a report from the County and District Councillors on matters relating to Thurlby	
54.1	County Cllr Robert Reid sent his apologies but no report
54.2	District Cllr Barry Dobson had submitted a report which is below. 1. Georgian Festival, Stamford It is with regret that we have made the decision to cancel the Georgian Festival this year due to COVID restrictions. This decision was made prior to the announcement from Downing St that restrictions will be lifted on 19th July. We believe that the time to organise and set up all the procedures are really now too tight to achieve.

	<p>2. Invest SK Tea Break I've discussed this with the manager of ISK, Jon Hinde. We have decided to bring these back starting in September when we believe the struggle to restart will have calmed and business owners will have more time to take part in the sessions. These sessions are very informal and they have been really successful since I changed the format. We now have a panel of professional people who listen and give advice completely free of charge.</p> <p>3. Invest SK Visits We have a great team of advisors who will visit business of all sorts on request. They will offer information completely free of charge. We know how important it is for local businesses to be able to access professional advice. These businesses include all trades from pubs to publishers and markets to manufacturers.</p> <p>4. Leisure SK and NHS Our leisure service has re-opened for our residents. Leisure services are now beginning to work with the NHS on a national level. At SKDC, we at Leisure SK Ltd are creating the possibility of encouraging a link-up between leisure and health, i.e., between Leisure SK and the local NHS. This is not limited to our leisure service but needs to be incorporated into the planning and highway sectors of councils throughout the country. The need for better leisure facilities, not only for those high-flyers, but for normal people. The statistics show that around 50% of all school-aged do not get the recommended 60 minutes of exercise each day and around the same percentage of adults do not even manage 25 minutes of exercise each day. Partaking in exercise has been proven to reduce the likelihood of serious illness. It becomes especially important the older we all get.</p> <p>Cllr Dobson was asked if there was any update on the issue of the land at the bottom of the park. He said he was looking into this matter, and it was ongoing.</p>
55.	Clerk's Report and correspondence received
55.1	The Clerks Report was circulated, after he explained that he had kept the report to only what was important. If any Councillor wished to see the e-mails from NALC and various playground equipment companies they should ask the clerk and he would forward them on. The Clerk pointed out that we had received an email from the Tiny Steps Petting Farm about the problems they were having with their neighbours. Cllr White said that he had been in contact with Countryside Access about footpath 7 as a huge mound of soil had been placed by the footpath which was blocking access to it. Countryside Access had been very helpful and had given notice to the farmer in Parkwood Road to remove the soil. He had also mentioned the problems of the petting farm as they had been told that the road was private, and people could not use it. They had placed a notice up saying Private Road No Access. It appears that the road is not private and is a public highway with restricted access. In view of the fact that Cllr White had already been in discussion with Countryside Access on the matter and about footpath 9 it was resolved that he had permission from the Council to continue with this in his capacity as a Parish Councillor, but he would always copy in the Clerk.
56.	Planning applications: To consider any Planning Applications received
56.1	There were none to note
56.2	To note Planning Applications approved: S21/0774 - For a dropped kerb to allow for off-road parking for two cars at 80 High Street Thurlby

	<p>S21/0802 - Erection of single storey side extension and rear bay window at 5 Chapel Lane Thurlby</p> <p>S21/0445 - Change of use from agricultural to residential garden at Land At 68 Swallow Hill Thurlby</p> <p>S21/1053 - Discharge of condition 7 (joinery details) of planning application S17/2282.at The Barns 8A Church Street Thurlby</p>
56.3	<p>To note any Planning Applications refused or withdrawn: Notification of Withdrawal S21/0849 For Section 73 application for the variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) of planning approval S18/0948 (construction of detached house and double garage) to reposition the garage and alterations at Land to the East of Lintre House, Water Lane, Thurlby</p>
56.4	<p>To note any Application appealed or any decision made regarding an appeal: there was none to note</p>
57.	<p>To confirm Expenditure for June/July £40.00 – B M Champness (use of home as office) £447.33 – B M Champness (salary) £93.80 – Lorraine Cole (salary and expenses) £411.60 – HMRC (PAYE) £39.99 – BT (broadband charges) DD £225.00 – Thurlby PCC (Village Link entry) £23.44 – B M Champness (rubbish bags and bag hoop) £17.95 – B M Champness (4 litter pickers) £60.00 – Precision Workwear Ltd (Hi viz vest and jacket) [] 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</p>
57.1	<p>Resolved that the payments be approved.. The Clerk pointed out that there were 3 more invoices to approve and wondered if they could be dealt with tonight. The payments were: £80.00 – Trevor Hill (cleaning 4 bus shelters) £120.00 – C S Harris (grass cutting in cemetery x 3) £12.97 – D White (plants and compost) Resolved: that these payments be approved as well to include the invoice for hedge cutting in the cemetery once it has been received.</p>
58.	<p>To discuss matters raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.</p>
58.1	<p>At The Annual Parish Meeting mention was made of the Youth Hostel and what was going to happen to the building as it was empty and neglected. It was suggested by Cllr Thomas that we write to the Youth Hostel Association and ask them what their intentions were with the premises and what they saw for its future. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to the Youth Hostel Association.</p>
59.	<p>To discuss the Village Map outside the Post Office (Cllr Lunn)</p>
59.1	<p>Cllr Lunn had requested this matter to be on the agenda as he had been asked by the owner of the Post Office if the Village Map could be moved. They wanted to use the area where the map was as a parking space, The map could then be placed on the wall of the house where there appears to have already been a notice installed. We did not have to move the legs as they would do that.</p>

		<p>In addition, the map needed to be renovated as the back was falling apart. He was told that this was on the list of work to be done by the handyman. He would remove the map repair the back and then place it on the wall of the house.</p> <p>Cllr Bradley said that she had been approached by the WI as they had heard that the map was going to be moved but they had no further information. She was asked to tell them what had been discussed above.</p>
60.	To discuss how we can spend the balance of the grant from District Cllr Barry Dobson	
60.1		<p>As there was no rush to spend this money it was agreed that the Clerk would ascertain what money had been spent on the planters and the plants. He would produce this evidence at the September meeting and if anyone had any suggestions on how that money could be spent they could advise the Council</p>
61.	To discuss further the request from a resident that grass verges are cut	
61.1		<p>An email had been received from a resident about the state of the grass verges in front of his house. This had been mentioned earlier in the year and Cllr Reid was going to see if there was anything that could be done. The e-mail received is below</p> <p><i>It is now some time since we exchanged emails on the grass verge's outside of our house and as you will see from the picture below, it is getting a little out of hand now. I noted with interest the comment in the Village Link, that residents of Thurlby are being encouraged to make sure everything is at its best in time for the Best Kept Village competition (again highlighted below). To that end, would it be too much to ask for the Parish Council to pay the grass cutters who last week did around the phone box and sign area, to do the verges? Whilst I accept it is not your responsibility I rather think the PC is being a little stingy with it's £5 that it would cost. Why don't you pay them I hear you think, well after 14 years with no thanks from anyone until recently, and for health reasons previously mentioned, I am not paying another thing toward the cost.</i></p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk would contact a local grass cutting company to see how much it would cost to cut the verges once a year on the 1 July, which was before the judging of the Best Kept Village Competition. The areas of concern were</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In front of the Youth Hostel 2. In front of 1 High Street 3. Outside the Council Offices on Swallow Hill 4. Wood Lane triangle 5. The footpath from Northorpe to Beck Way need clearing of weeds. <p>If the work could be done it should not take more than 3 hours. If it proved a good service we could include the cost in the Precept next year.</p>
61.2		<p>An e-mail had also been received from another resident as set out below</p> <p><i>It is the time of year when I ask you for help to get the Environment Agency or whoever is responsible to cut the grass footpath alongside Car Dyke between Thurlby Manor and the Grange.</i></p> <p><i>They cut up to the electricity poles near the Grange but cannot take their large tractor mounted kit under the wires so it needs to be done manually. The grass, nettles, etc have now grown taller than my wife.</i></p> <p>Cllr White was already in correspondence with Countryside Access, and he would continue to liaise with them about this matter.</p>
62.	To consider the data received from the reactive sign	

	62.1	<p>Cllr Bill had submitted before the meeting the data he had obtained from the Reactive Sign positioned on Thurlby High Street monitoring traffic travelling in a westerly direction during June 2021.</p> <p>The average daily volume, although up 6% on the previous data (September 2020) still remains below the pre Covid period; both AM and PM peak times and counts are similar to before indicating traffic growth is outside of the peak periods. The % of speeders above the speed limit has slightly increased to 16.14 % with an average speed of 32.5mph which is the same as before. It should be noted that speeding is always higher at weekends. Despite the increase in speeders the overall average speed is down slightly at 24.5mph. There were no questions. Full details can be found on the website.</p>
	63.	To consider what information should be placed in the Village Link
	63.1	It was agreed that Cllr White would prepare a draft insertion for the Village Link and would send that to all Councillors to approve.
	64.	To receive an update on the Cemetery to include grass cutting, maintenance and burial fees
	64.1	<p>An email had been sent from the Church Warden as follows: <i>We would like to ask the Parish Council if a sign, Thurlby Cemetery, could be put where the path enters the cemetery. Many people are not aware that they are not in the churchyard but in the cemetery.</i></p> <p>It was agreed that this matter be placed on the agenda for the September meeting, In the meantime the Clerk would contact Mrs Bailey to see what she would charge for making up a sign for us.</p>
	65.	To receive any update on the meeting with Cllr Bill, County Cllr Reid and the Highways Manager from LCC
	65.1	Cllr Bill said there was no update to report.
	66.	For any Councillor to produce a written report of any meeting that he/she has attended as representatives of the Parish Council
	66.1	<p>Cllrs Bradley and Lunn attended a recent Churchyard Committee of St Firmins Church. The report is below:</p> <p>We were advised that the churchyard committee will now be a sub-committee of the PCC Work had been carried out on the garden shed.</p> <p>Tree work had been undertaken by Woodcraft Tree Services at a cost of £396.</p> <p>Quotes had been received for repair of the footpath from S Ripley: Hot tar finish - £5200 Clear and resurface £3200 As footfall is not heavy it was decided to accept the cheaper quote. Help with the cost will be sought from the Causeway Charity.</p> <p>Precept. The committee will apply for a grant of £2000.</p> <p>Green Bin. It was decided that the church should purchase a green bin. Initial cost £26, then currently £39 annually.</p> <p>Christmas plastic flowers. It was decided that this type of decoration should be removed by 5 Jan each year.</p>

	Wildflower survey. A survey counting the number of different wildflower species in the churchyard had been carried out by Mary-Anne McCreedy a botanist and member of St Firmin's church. Well over a hundred different species were identified and need protecting. It is hoped that by reducing the number of cuts per year this would help to protect the species. However, people expect the churchyard to be regularly cut so that it looks neat and tidy, and any reduction would bring about complaints. Possible solution would be to advise people of our intention and fewer cuts would have a cost saving benefit. Carried forward to next meeting
67.	Members Questions - reminder only questions given to the clerk a week in advance will be answered.
67.1	There were no questions, but the Clerk pointed out that the Litter Picker had been appointed and it was understood she had already started work.
67.2	There being no other business the meeting was formally closed at 19.43
68.	The date of the next meeting – to be held on Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room, Thurlby.