

THORNTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the 2015/2016 Parish Council
held at 7.00 pm on Monday 11th January 2016
in St Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh

PRESENT

Brian Watts (Vice Chairman)
Liam Higgins
Ashleigh Kewney
Louise Molesworth

IN ATTENDANCE

One Member of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from John Holdich and Diane Lamb.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one members of the public present but she had no issues to raise.

4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present. The police had sent a report stating that there had been one reported crime in the village 1st – 8th January 2016 which was of a black bull which had escaped from his field but had been re-captured by the police and the farmer.

5. MINUTES of the Third Meeting of the 2015/2016 Parish Council held on 18th November 2015 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by:- Brian Watts **Seconded by:-** Liam Higgins

6. MATTERS ARISING

i) **Home Farm Matters**

Ashleigh Kewney reported a pothole at the entrance to Home Farm. The Parish Councillors were unsure as to whether the entrance is owned by the Highways Division as they are aware that the road into Home Farm is an unadopted road. The Clerk will contact the Highways Division. Brian Watts agreed to replace the broken post which supports the noticeboard.

ii) **Chairman Vacancy**

Brian Watts was elected Chairman as proposed by Louise Molesworth and seconded by Ashleigh Kewney. It was agreed to appoint a Vice Chairman at the Annual General Meeting.

iii) **Parish Councillor Vacancy**

Chris Smith was co-opted onto the Parish Council to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William Rogers.

iv) **Christie Hall**

Brian Watts reported that the Royal British Legion had agreed to extend the Christie Hall Lease for a further 10 years although there may be a possible rent increase.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence had already been e-mailed to the Parish Councillors.

8. **FINANCE**

i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31st December 2015 was reviewed and approved as presented

Proposed by:- Brian Watts **Seconded by:-** Louise Molesworth

ii) Precept 2016-2017

Following a short discussion about the predicted expenditure in the next financial year, it was agreed to set the Precept at £6,200 which is unchanged from the Precept 2015-2016.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Brian Watts had brought along some Dog Foul Posters which he will put on the gates along the footpaths to deter irresponsible dog owners from leaving bags of dog foul on the footpaths. The Dog Foul Posters will also be put up on the Village Website.

Nicky Rogers had suggested that the village put up a Christmas tree in December 2016. The Parish Councillors discussed this and were very enthusiastic about her suggestion. They felt the best place for the Christmas tree would be next to the telephone box in order to access an electricity supply for the lights. They plan to arrange a small social event such as drinking mulled wine and singing a few carols/Christmas songs and an "official" switch on of the lights. This will be discussed again nearer the time.

Louise Molesworth suggested a Street Party is held in the village to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. This would probably take place in June 2016. A discussion took place as to the most suitable venue. The Clerk will find out how to get Meadow Lane officially closed for the event.

Brian Watts confirmed he had contacted the Footpaths Officer and was waiting for him to return his telephone call. He will discuss various concerns about the local footpaths including whether the A1 Footpath from Wansford to Carpenter's Lodge is a designated cycle route.

Chris Smith described a serious problem with rats at the back of Meadow Lane. This will be monitored over the next couple of months.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Fifth Meeting of the 2015/2016 Parish Council will take place **at 7.00 pm on 14th March 2016 in St Andrew's Church.**

11. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 8.00 pm

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

14/03/16