

THORNHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council
held at 7.00 pm on 8th January 2018 in St Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh

PRESENT

Chris Smith (Chairman)
Liam Higgins
Ashley Kewney
Martin Lewis
Louise Molesworth
Adrian Rodgers
Lucy Sharpley

IN ATTENDANCE

Two Members of the Public
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

The Chairman welcomed Martin Lewis who is the new Parish Councillor replacing the late Brian Watts and Adrian Rodgers and Lucy Sharpley who are joining the Parish Council as co-opted members with no voting rights.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Penny Lewin-Watts.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

A discussion was conducted relating to the need for consideration for village residents in general. This related to littering, speeding and residents controlling their dogs and clearing up any dog foul around the village and on the footpaths. It was agreed that, most of the time, consideration was shown but perhaps a general reminder via these minutes will be helpful.

4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present.

5. MINUTES of the Fourth Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council held on 22nd November 2017 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by:- Louise Molesworth **Seconded by:-** Chris Smith

6. MATTERS ARISING

i) **RAF Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch**

The Clerk reported that four residents had attended and enjoyed the RAF Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch on 6th December 2017.

ii) **Dog Foul Bin**

The Dog Foul Bin had been installed by Amey shortly before Christmas. However, it had been installed on private property, was very bright and not in keeping with the village environment. After discussion, it was agreed to ask Amey to remove the Dog Foul Bin also asking Amey to donate this to another Parish Council that can make use of it.

iii) **Repair of the stone wall at the top of Russell Hill**

Despite numerous attempts to contact the contractor, the Clerk had not received any response from him. The Member of the Public will give details of a potential contractor that she had used and would recommend to the Chairman so that another quotation can be obtained.

iv) **Hanging Baskets**

Louise Molesworth will print out and distribute the watering instructions to the residents who have agreed to look after the hanging baskets. She will draw up a list of the location of the hanging baskets and the residents who had agreed to take care of them. Lucy Sharpley stated that there is an outside tap near her house that can be used.

v) **Christmas Activities**

It was noted that there had been a good turn-out for the Carol Singing and around £93 had been raised for charity. The Christmas Party had been enjoyed by those who had attend it. Thanks were expressed to everyone who contributed to these two events. Thanks were expressed to Peter Sharpley for removing the Christmas Tree.

7. **OUTSTANDING ISSUES**

i) **Noticeboard at Home Farm**

Ashleigh Kewney hopes to have an update on this matter by the next meeting.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk had no further correspondence to add to the correspondence that has already been e-mailed to the Parish Councillors.

9. **FINANCE**

i) Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31st December 2017 was reviewed and approved as presented
Proposed by:- Chris Smith **Seconded by:-** Louise Molesworth

ii) Precept 2018-2019

After 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 2017-2018.

iii) Flower Festival

Brenda Warren has not yet submitted a formal request in writing for a donation towards the Flower Festival so no decision could be made as to whether or not to donate.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i) **40 mph Repeater Signs**

It was agreed to await a response from Wittering Parish Council before taking any further action on this matter.

ii) **Peterborough Local Plan (Proposed Submission) January 2018**

The Clerk will send the link to the Parish Councillors. As comments have to be made by 20th February 2018, it was agreed that Parish Councillors will read the document and send comments to each other via e-mail. The Clerk will also send the link to Bunny Guinness to see if she has any comments to make.

iii) **Parish Councillor Elections 2018**

The normal round of Parish Council Elections will become due in May and appropriate notices will be put on the noticeboard and on the website relating to the process. At that stage the current Parish Councillors will need to re-apply for election along with any other village residents who may wish to stand. It was noted that if there are more than five candidates wishing to sit on Thornhaugh Parish Council, an Election will need to be held on 3rd May 2018.

iv) **Summer Tea Party**

Louise Molesworth suggested that it might be nice to organise a Summer Tea Party to mark the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. Alternatively, we could organise a village BBQ or party in the summer which may be better attended since the scheduled wedding is around the May Bank Holiday. This item will be added to a future agenda for further debate.

v) **Street Lighting**

Louise Molesworth expressed her displeasure with the bright white light bulbs that are being used in village (within the conservation area). The Parish Councillors did not feel that they are in keeping with the village environment and the Clerk will contact Peterborough City Council to enquire whether they can be replaced with 'softer' light bulbs, even if the Parish Council has to pay for this.

vi) **Blocked Drain**

Martin Lewis reported that there is a blocked drain at the corner of Russell Hill/Meadow Lane. The Clerk will report this to Peterborough City Council. Martin Lewis has the contact details of the Principal Drainage Engineer and he will pass on this information to the Clerk for future reference.

vii) **Chicken Farm Footpath**

Liam Higgins asked for an update on the current situation. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council is not involved with this matter and it is being dealt with by the Footpath Committee.

viii) **Plaque on Bench in Memory of Brian Watts**

Penny Lewin-Watts had sent the following message that was read out: "We would like to thank the Parish Council for organising the wonderful plaque on Brian's bench, '*Always look on the bright side of life, remembering Brian Watts*' is so perfect and describes Brian wonderfully, with many thanks Penny, Suze, Steven, Rebecca & Josh".

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Sixth Meeting of the 2017/2018 Parish Council will take place **at 7.00 pm on 19th March 2018 in St Andrew's Church.**

12. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 8.10 pm

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

19/03/18