

Thurlby Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlby Parish Council

(Min 23-03) held on Wednesday the 5th July 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room

Present: **Councillors:** R Bill, N Bradley, S Broadbent, H Daines, L Day, P Haley, M Harrison M Keene, L Lowe, and A Thomas (presiding)

Residents:

Others: Bernard Champness – Clerk, and District Cllr B Dobson

	Open Forum	
	There were no members of the public present and there was no Open Forum. The meeting was formally opened at 19.30. The Chair explained that to ensure that the meeting was running without any problems each Councillor should in accordance with the Standing Orders always speak through the Chair and if they wanted to contribute to the discussion they must raise their hand. He would ensure that everyone had an opportunity of putting their point of view across.	
46.	Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies & noting of resignations received	
	46.1	Apologies were received from M Owen (personal), Resolved that the apologies be accepted.
47.	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	
	47.1	Cllr Day declared an interest in Item 51.1 relating to planning application S23/1069 as the telephone mast was on land owned by her family.
48.	Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 7th June 2023 (Min23.02)	
	48.1	Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 7 June 2023 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.
49.	To receive a report from the County and District Councillors on matters relating to Thurlby	
	49.1	County Cllr Robert Reid has sent a report as follows: A15 Speed Reduction I have informed our Traffic Regulation Order team, that a review of the existing 50mph speed limit between Northorpe and Thurlby is required. This is currently awaiting assessment, and the TRO team will provide an update on this assessment when possible. A15 Thurlby Crossing. See above statement, from the team delivering the package of works county-wide. I can confirm that yellow box hatch markings will be considered as part of the works but may be installed post works within a reasonable time frame, to justify the presence of such markings. High Street/A15 Junction flooding.

	<p>The Senior Highways Officer has a meeting planned with our contractor imminently, to discuss the practicalities of improving the system. Methodology has now been sought and an additional overflow /diversion drain into the ditch running along the A15, for excessive water volumes situations as a backup has been programmed, and a road closure on September 18th is forthcoming. This is aimed at improving capacity.</p> <p>Church Street Pumping Station I can confirm that grips have been cut to alleviate the road flooding and works have been instructed to improve the parking situation for tankers serving the pumping station. We are awaiting a programme date for these works, but it will be programmed against other priorities across the network.</p> <p>High Street Drainage (Obthorpe Lane Junction) Replacement of side entry gully at the junction is provisionally programmed for July 2023 and it is likely that the following works will also be programmed concurrently: We have also just issued another to deal with a blocked pipe suspected to have been damaged, restricting surface water flow at the location, but it is in the verge and therefore should not prevent resurfacing.</p> <p>Footpaths Repairs Pre-patching works are due to commence in Thurlby, w/c 10th July weather permitting, these works will include removing any structural irregularities in advance of the footway micro asphalt resurfacing due to start w/c 21st August-weather permitting. The footway micro resurfacing works will overlay the existing footways, creating a protective layer to prolong the condition of the footway preventing deterioration and defects forming.</p> <p>Early Initial details are as follows starting on July3rd.</p> <p>Cappitt Drive, Northorpe, Elsea Drive, Woodside Close, Wilsthorpe Road Obthorpe Almond Court, Beck Way, Crown Lane, Obthorpe Lane, Park View, Priory Close Pinfold Close, The Causeway, The Green, The Kippings and Viking Way</p> <p>Park View Flooding. Further investigation has been undertaken and has determined that Crown Lane, Chapel Lane and the Parkview situation are all connected in so far as the flood team have determined. Manholes have been identified for Jet system clearance, so that when the riparian ownership infrastructure issues are addressed, connecting drains are fully clear as they discharge into</p> <p>A15 Overgrown Hedges (Northorpe to Bourne) Flailing works now complete, I have asked the area officer to investigate the extent of remaining debris, and action as required.</p> <p>OBTHORPE LANE Job Job No 5710461 Estimated Start Date 03/07/2023 09:17:00 Notes Please replace bent post, finger signs reusable.</p> <p>Grass Cutting. Parish Criteria has now been issued to your Clerk.</p> <p>Youth Hostel Clarity's and Legal Position of LCC. This has been given to your Clerk in readiness for your agenda later.</p>
--	--

		The dropped kerb request at Beck way connection to Northorpe Is listed to be installed this summer
	49.2	<p>District Cllr Dobson had sent a report as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mobile food hubs will be set up in several towns to encourage healthy eating and reduce food waste. The Bread-and-Butter Thing will run affordable food clubs in Bourne. They will be paid for using funds from the Shared Prosperity Funding handed out by South Kesteven District Council. 2. The supply and siting of the defibrillator at Almond Court was organised by me in conjunction with the team at SKDC not LCC. This will have been automatically registered as was the device on the wall of the Lawrance Park Hall. 3. This week, Councillor Thomas and I visited the site of issue with flooding that stems from the drain at the eastern end of Lawrance Park and runs from the parking area at the hall south along the eastern end (the rear of the gardens) of the bungalows in Crown Lane. At the southern border of Lawrance Park the drain enters a junction accessed by a manhole before it continues at 90° in an easterly direction towards Chapel Lane. From that manhole the pipe doesn't run along the boundary but continues to run at 90° so that at is approaches Chapel Lane, it would appear to run underground closer and closer to the houses until it reaches Chapel Lane. The main issue is that this causes flooding in the gardens of the houses in Park View and eventually creates a hazard on Chapel Lane. On inspection of houses on the eastern side of Chapel Lane there were no reports of flooding or even excess water. This appears to indicate that there may be a blockage in the pipe that passes underground through the gardens of the houses in Park View. We believe that a camera inspection of the drain from the manhole through to Chapel Lane would highlight the problem. I have mailed this report to SKDC and requested their assistance. Just for information: This is not within the remit of either Welland and Deepings IDB nor of the Black Sluice IDB, but SKDC may authorise one or the other to act on their behalf. 4. Continuing along the theme of flooding, I was invited to inspect the overgrown dyke that runs on the west side and parallel to the A15. Just for information, this is now called Bourne Road and not Peterborough Road. SKDC has now corrected this on the Electoral Role. This dyke is owned by someone outside of the area and it has flooded in previous years causing flooding of houses close by and the road. I have reported this to SKDC, and they are looking into it. I hope to report a result on this before the onset of winter. 5. Together with Councillor Bradley, I visited the Math and Bourne woods to see the extent of deforestation by what would appear to be the Woodland Trust as owner of these woods. However, the latter needs further investigation. I witnessed the result of many trees having been felled lying in the wood. It appeared excessive and furthermore the trees were mainly healthy whereas several diseased and dead trees had been left standing. It would also appear that there was no way to remove the trees without more felling of trees in order to create a pathway to the road for haulage. It is widely known how important trees are in the pursuit of decarbonisation. 6. During the visit to the woods, it was also noted that one of the bridges leading into the meadows that border the bypass had collapsed and is a hazard to walkers who attempt to cross it. I have reported this as well. <p>Cllr Dobson was asked to confirm that the defibrillator in Almond Court was registered and that it was being checked regularly. We did not want someone to use it only to find the battery was not working or the pads were out of date. He would make enquiries.</p> <p>Cllr Dobson confirmed that Welland and Deepings IDB and the Black Sluice IDB were not responsible for any works this side of the A15, but they were on the other side (east side)</p>

50.	Clerk's Report and correspondence received	
	50.1	<p>The Clerks Report had been circulated and explained that he had received various emails from NALC, ICCM and various playground equipment providers but if anyone wished to see copies they can be forwarded on. The following correspondence has been received.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A letter from the ICCM asking us to select a nomination for the office of Deputy President. It was agreed we would not make a nomination. 2. A letter from HMRC stating that we have been awarded Employment Allowance (EA) for the 2023/24 tax year up to an annual maximum of £5000.00. The Clerk had been in touch with David Thornburn asking what this meant and if we needed to do anything. He advised we did not have to do anything, but it was the claim not to pay any employers NIC. 3. A letter from the Mallard Pass Solar Farm with a poster which they wanted the Clerk to place in the noticeboard. He was unable to do so as the noticeboard was full of audit papers. He handed out the papers he had received for Councillors to read. 4. A letter from Yvonne Scott giving details of the Open Gardens. The money given by the Parish Council was appreciated. She was proud to announce that the final sum raised was £3121.02. Both she and Ros Bennett were stepping down from organising future events so if anyone wanted to take over then that would be appreciated 5. A reminder was sent to Maltby's the Bookbinders to see how the binding of the minutes was progressing. They replied that they have sewn the minutes and will be binding them in Black Buckram within the next 10 days. 6. Cllr Bill was able to report that he had moved the bin in Chapel Lane to the corner of the Methodist Chapel carpark with the permission of Mr C Barber
51.	Planning applications:	
	51.1	<p>To consider any Planning Applications received – S23/1031 - Proposal: Erection of front porch, demolition and re-construction of garage with parapet walls, flat warm roof installed over with solar heating panels, and forming of Utility and bathroom to rear of garage, installation of external wall insulation (EWI) with rendered finish to existing walls, alterations to external facades to suit EWI system (extending roof, eaves, replacing rwp/gutters), replacement of windows/doors, enlargement of first floor windows to rear elevation, installation of new cladding to dormers and addition of solar panels to existing dormers, including alterations and refurbishments. at 59 Swallow Hill, Thurlby. Response by 7 July 2023. Resolved: no comments</p> <p>S23/1060 - Remove existing screed finish on second floor accommodation, remove existing serving hatch from dining room wall to reinstate to solid wall at 8 Park House Church Street Thurlby. Response by 7 July 2023. Resolved: no comments</p> <p>S23/1069 - Notification under Regulation 5 of the Electronic Communications Code - Intention to install telecommunications apparatus.at: Park Wood Lodge Park Wood Road Thurlby (see item 51.2 below)</p>
	51.2	<p>To note Planning Applications approved: S23/0168 - Proposal: Use of land for dog exercising/training/activities and formation of associated parking areas and fencing/landscaping at Park Wood Road Thurlby</p> <p>S23/0809 - Lawful residential use of the property without compliance with condition 3 - (the dwellinghouse shall be used in connection with the adjacent piggeries only) - of Planning Permission SK/6767 at Northorpe Fen Farm Fen Road</p> <p>S23/0810 - Lawful residential use of the property without compliance with condition 1 (the occupation of the dwellinghouse shall be limited to persons employed in connection with the adjacent piggery or the dependents of such persons) of</p>

		planning permission SK/7606 at The Bungalow Northorpe Fen, Fen Road Following the posting of the agenda notice has been received that S23/1069 Proposal: Notification under Regulation 5 of the Electronic Communications Code - Intention to install telecommunications apparatus at Park Wood Lodge Park Wood Road Thurlby. This authority has no objection to the proposal
	51.3	To note any Planning Applications refused or withdrawn: none to note
	51.4	To note any Application appealed or any decision made regarding an appeal: none to note
52.	To confirm Expenditure £40.00 – B M Champness (use of home as office) £494.64 – B M Champness (salary) £40.00 – Elaine Reynolds (salary) £40.74 – BT (broadband charges) (DD) £1.15 – B M Champness (postage for sending papers to External Auditor) £5.00 – R Bill (cost of slab for litter bin) £232.80 – Bourne Skip Hire (4 weekly payments for bin collections in June) £14.40 – A D Harrison (contribution to website for Naturehood) £400.80 – HMRC (PAYE & NI) £75.00 – D T Accountancy (1 st Qtr. for processing payroll) <i>[] 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</i>	
	52.1	Resolved: that the payments be approved.
	52.2	After the agenda was posted other invoices had been received: £120.00 – C S Harris (cutting grass in cemetery and sweeping path & spraying) £104.00 – Thurlby PCC (Insert in July Village Link) £1110.00 – Royal British Legion Industries Ltd (3 Tommy & Women Silhouette) Resolved: that these payments be approved.
53.	To discuss the accounts for June and for the bank reconciliation to be signed as a correct record	
	53.1	The Clerk was able to circulate in advance various reports from Scribe for June 2023 which showed the items purchased, money received, and bank balances at the end of the month. The bank reconciliation was circulated, and this was approved and then signed by the Chair
54.	To note our compliance with the Pensions Regulator	
	54.1	The Clerk explained that he had received a letter from The Pensions Regulator stating that every 3 years we have a legal duty as an employer to put certain staff into a pension scheme. We had completed the declaration previously, but it needed to be re-declared. The Clerk pointed out that he had carried out the re-declaration and that nothing had changed, as there were two employees, and both did not qualify to be in a pension scheme as the Clerk was above the state pension age and was earning less than £10,000.00 per annum as was the other employee in relation to her salary
55.	To consider whether we wish to would like to become involved with the scheme whereby communities across Lincolnshire have the opportunity to take part in the County Council litter picking equipment scheme, with the aim to help tackle littering issues in the area.	

	55.1	An email had been received from the County Council who would like to give communities across Lincolnshire the opportunity to take part in our litter picking equipment scheme, with the aim to help tackle littering issues in the area. We will supply Parish and Town Councils with litter picking kits, which will give residents access to the necessary equipment that they will need to take part in their own voluntary litter picks. These kits will consist of a litter picking stick, a hi-visibility vest and clear plastic sacks. The litter picking kits will be available for collection at the Lincolnshire Energy from Waste Facility, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 3QW. This offer was noted, and we would consider it again if there was a problem in the village with littering.
56.	To consider the cutting of grass verges around the village and whether we wish to enter in a Parish Agreement with the County Council.	
	56.1	LCC had sent a copy of the Parish Agreement, and this has been circulated to all in advance of the meeting. This was discussed and the initial view was that we did not want to sign up to the agreement. LCC would cut the grass 3 times a year and if the areas looked untidy and the grass needed cutting we would ask the grounds person to cut the grass. We would in the meantime show him the maps we had showing where the grass was to be cut and ask him to quote for him doing the work. We could then discuss this matter further when we discussed the Precept in December.
57.	To discuss whether we wish to sign up to the Save a Life Sessions - Adult CPR and Defibrillator Free Training	
	57.1	<p>An email had been received from LeisureSK which stated the following: <i>LeisureSK is keen to engage and support our communities and with our team of trainers already in place at our leisure centres we've been able to help by delivering a number of sessions in the community based on the Royal Lifesaving Society "Save a Life" scheme. These are free 2.5-3hrs sessions that cover some basic first aid skills, resuscitation and using a defibrillator. The sessions are offered for awareness and practise/ experience and are not a qualification. The sessions have been well received though with feedback from those attending the sessions feeling more confident in how the devices work and how they can respond in an emergency.</i></p> <p><i>Following the trial sessions that we've run for Allington Parish Council we're now in a position, subject to availability, to offer this training across the district. If you think this will be of interest within your communities please get in touch.</i> <i>Sessions run for approx. 2.5-3hrs.</i> <i>Training equipment is provided.</i> <i>We would require a suitable training venue. E.g., village hall or similar where space is available for both a presentation and the practical element of the session.</i> <i>Maximum 12-14 individuals per session.</i> <i>The sessions are delivered free of charge but those taking part may like to make a voluntary donation to the RLSS.</i></p> <p>After discussing the offer, it was agreed that we would like to take up the offer and rather than advertising this so that residents could attend we would go ourselves and if it was a valuable training session we would see if we could then invite residents to another session. The Clerk would at this stage write back to say we are interested and see what the reply was. We could then see if we could all attend and where it would take place.</p>
58.	To receive an update on the crossing at Thurlby crossroads.	

	58.1	As Cllr Reid was not present we had no further update other than what was in his report above. It was agreed that the Clerk would send him an email asking him if he could give us a timeline as to when it was expected the crossing would be in place and what other work was required before then.
59.	To consider the future of the Youth Hostel in Thurlby	
	59.1	<p>Cllr Reid had sent a report as no one from the County Council were able to attend the meeting but had given him some advice.</p> <p>In 1979 the youth hostel was gifted to YHA by a local resident. In 2005 when at risk of closure, YHA sold the hostel to LCC for £325,000. SKDC offered £125,000 of investment. YHA invested the money in the property, and it appears that LCC agreed to pay for half of any costs over and above this amount too. It is not known whether there were additional costs.</p> <p>In July 2020 YHA approached Economic Infrastructure (EI) to request early surrender of their lease of Thurlby Youth Hostel, due to end in 2026. To understand the implications, EI instructed Legal to consider the management agreement set up between LCC, SKDC and YHA in 2005.</p> <p>Legal confirmed that the £125,000 investment made by SKDC in 2005 is due to be paid back by LCC if at any time the property stops being a youth hostel. As the property has not functioned as a youth hostel since lockdown and YHA have confirmed they have no interest in, or funds for, restarting the service, the £125k is owed to SKDC.</p> <p>By January 2021 there was interest in the property from Children's Services who were seeking sites for Children's Homes. LCC met with SKDC at this time and the District confirmed that they would not demand the £125k back from LCC were the property to be retained as a Children's Home, but they would if the property were sold.</p> <p>Economic Infrastructure declared the site surplus to allow Corporate Property to manage the review of Thurlby within the Children's Homes project. LCC confirmed to YHA that no decision could be taken on an early surrender until a decision could be made on its future use.</p> <p>Discussions continued with YHA throughout 2021 and 2022 on dilapidations or continued maintenance of the now closed site. As YHA have no local staff, general maintenance has often lapsed but YHA are fully responsible for all R&M at the site. There were large cracks to the front elevation which were caused by a tree which has since been removed. YHA involved their insurers for this work who have confirmed that the building is stable.</p> <p>Children's Services took a decision in 2022 not to proceed with Thurlby as a Children's Home and so discussions continued with YHA over early surrender to allow disposal. joAs no photographs were included in the original agreement between LCC and YHA, and we don't know the future use due to disposal, any dilaps negotiation has been difficult and YHA have repeatedly confirmed that they have no budget to contribute. They have now secured the site and are keeping the grounds tidy. LCC have insisted that YHA's lease (and their responsibility) remains in place until any sale is completed.</p> <p>Legal Services have not found any restrictive covenants which could hinder a sale. There is a covenant attached to the title which relates to private residential use. YHA as</p>

		<p>the beneficiary have the ability to instruct on the release of this covenant and so this will be resolved in preparation for the disposal. YHA have previously sold off two parcels of land to neighbours so the gifted site from 1979 has not been kept wholly for Youth Hostel purposes up until this point.</p> <p>LCC are hoping for £350-400k out of which the SKDC investment will need to be paid so a potential receipt of £225-£275k</p>
60.	To receive an update of the Coronation Fun Day	
	60.1	<p>The Clerk explained that according to the accounts the Parish Council paid out the following:</p> <p>£403.90 £540.00 £159.99 £100.00 £34.99 - flowers <u>£56.00 - insurance</u> £1294.88</p> <p>We banked the following:</p> <p>£1000.00 grant from charity £600.00 from TPC £1053.95 takings on the day £70.78 Refund of money being held. <u>£40.00 raffle</u> £2764.73</p> <p>This means that there is a surplus of £1469.85 from which we paid for the Tommy silhouettes. The Silhouettes would cost £925.00 as we could reclaim the VAT leaving £544.85. It was agreed that an item would be placed on the September agenda for us to consider what further items we could purchase to place around the village for Remembrance Day</p>
61.	To consider the data received from the reactive sign	
	61.1	<p>Cllr Bill had submitted a report of the data received from the reactive sign which is below:</p> <p>During June the radar unit was positioned on High Street, recording traffic in a westbound direction, i.e. The Green. The daily volume for the 5-day period shows a slight increase of 5% and the 7 day a decrease of 2% compared with last year's results, overall, they are in line with previous years data. Both the corresponding AM and PM peak time volumes also reflect this. Peak times remain as previous - 08.00 - 09.00 & 17.00 - 18.00. The overall average speed of 23.56mph is slightly up 1.9mph on last year with a maximum speed of 57mph recorded at 18.40 hrs which is 6mph more than the maximum last year. The average speed above the limit was 32.8 & 32.9mph for the 5- & 7-day period and is very similar to last year however, the number above the speed limit has risen 22% & 25% to 23.56% & 22.60% and is the highest for 5 years.</p>
62.	To receive an update on the Cemetery to include grass cutting, maintenance and burial fees	
	62.1	<p>Cllr Thomas said he had been down to the Cemetery, and all was in order. Chris Harris had cut the grass and swept and sprayed the paths. The hedges would need cutting soon and the farmer renting the land once the crops had been harvested he would trim the hedges back. The trees on the boundary between the Churchyard and Cemetery</p>

		needed the branches cutting back as they were hanging over the cemetery and were rather low. Mr Harris would be asked to cut them back
63.	For any Councillor to produce a written report of any meeting that he/she has attended as representatives of the Parish Council	
	63.1	No one had attended any meetings so there were no reports.
64.	To consider what information should be placed in the Village Link	
	64.1	Cllr Day was asked if she could compile a report and once completed to send it around for approval of the council. She agreed to do this.
65.	Members Questions - reminder only questions given to the clerk a week in advance will be answered.	
	65.1	There being no other business the meeting was formally closed at 20.31
66.	The date of the next meeting – to be held on Wednesday 6 September 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room, Thurlby	