

# Thurlby Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlby Parish Council

### (Min 23-05) held on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room

**Present:** **Councillors:** R Bill, N Bradley, S Broadbent, L Day, M Harrison, M Keene, L Lowe, M Owen and A Thomas (presiding)  
**Residents:** Mary Trumble and Ges Roulstone  
**Others:** Bernard Champness – Clerk, County Cllr R Reid and District Cllr B Dobson

<b>Open Forum</b>	
<p>Mary Trumble and Ges Roulstone were present and wanted to talk about the proposals for the Church Hall and proposals to the Church. The Church Hall is now rather dilapidated. The replacement of the rendering many years ago caused a serious damp problem. A report was prepared as to the cost of repairs, which has been updated to account for recent inflation. The cost of repairs comes to about £80,000.00. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) cannot afford to get the repairs done. Additionally, Thurlby has two other public halls available so the Church Hall is under used and is now run at a loss.</p> <p>In order to develop St Firmin's Church as a Community Church, in line with other local Parishes, the PPC would like to install a toilet in the church and make alterations to adapt some of the space available. In order to fund this work, the PCC have decided to dispose of the Church Hall. We could demolish it but the cost of doing that was very high. The alternative is to convert the building into a 3 bedroomed bungalow. A Design Consultant was instructed, and a report was prepared. We want to transfer the facility of a community hall into the church. All of this could be done with the funds received from the sale of the hall. We hope to put in the planning application soon and wanted to appraise the Parish Council of these plans and hopefully get you onboard to support this work. Questions were asked and answered.</p>	
The meeting was formally opened at 19.53	
<b>87. Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies &amp; noting of resignations received</b>	
<b>87.1</b>	Apologies were received from H Daines, (work) and P Haley, (work) <b>Resolved</b> that the apologies be accepted.
<b>88. 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</b>	
<b>88.1</b>	No one declared a Disclosable Pecuniary and Other interest on any item on the agenda.
<b>89. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 6 September 2023 (Min23.04)</b>	
<b>89.1</b>	<b>Resolved:</b> That the minutes of the meeting held on the 6 September 2023 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.
<b>90. To receive a report from the County and District Councillors on matters relating to Thurlby</b>	
<b>90.1</b>	County Cllr Robert Reid had sent a report as follows:

		<p>Firstly a Big Thank you to those who supported me in Lincoln Cathedral for the Service of dedication on September 10th.</p> <p>Secondly to the Rev Carolyn Bailey for her support with prayers at the Full County Council Meeting on September 15th.</p> <p><b>HIGHWAYS UPDATE.</b></p> <p>Further work has brought the footpath programme to completion.</p> <p>A15 Puffin crossing - outside 'The Horseshoe' public house. TSP scheme. No further update.</p> <p>A15 - speed reduction TRO (50mph to 40mph) - between Northorpe &amp; Thurlby. FPB 4558015. Assessment remains to be completed.</p> <p>Church Street (Pumping Station) – Access construction adjacent to pumping station. Job number 5697601. 02/10/23 - Works Planned for end of October 23, subject to other network priorities</p> <p>Crown Lane/Chapel Lane/Park View - Flooding - Job No 5681189 &amp; 5712193 The issue is complex, and job number 5722253 is committed and awaiting completion, for further exploratory works on Chapel Lane.</p> <p>02/10/23 - Other Works awaiting completion, no programme date yet.</p> <p>High Street - related to Obthorpe Lane issue - Drainage problems. 02/10/23 - Works listed as complete on 23rd September.</p> <p>Temporary traffic restriction: Thurlby Please note it will be necessary to impose a temporary restriction as detailed below. Organisation responsible for restriction: Lincolnshire County Council Reason for restriction: Anglian Water compound access widening Nature and location of restriction: Road closure Order - Church Street (Between A15 &amp; a point 160m East) Period of restriction: 23/10/2023 - 27/10/2023 (Restrictions to be implemented for 3 days as and when required during this period, signage detailing accurate dates and times will be displayed on site in advance) Alternative route or access arrangements: Diversion routes and vehicular or pedestrian access arrangements will be signposted. This information is also available in map form at <a href="https://one.network/">https://one.network/</a></p> <p>It was agreed that a letter be sent to Cllr Davies thanking him for the work done around the village on the footpaths. Cllr Reid said that he had mentioned this to Cllr Davies personally.</p> <p>He will not be with us at the November meeting but if there was any updates he would let us know.</p>
	<b>90.2</b>	<p>District Cllr Dobson had sent a report as follows:</p> <p><b>1. Explanation of Right-to-Buy.</b></p> <p>Right to buy discounts available to social housing tenants. The discounts are: Houses: There is a 35% discount if you've been a public sector tenant for between 3 and 5 years. After 5 years, the discount goes up 1% for every extra year you've been a public sector tenant, up to a maximum of 70% or £96,000.</p>

		<p>Flats: There is a 50% discount if you've been a public sector tenant for between 3 and 5 years. After 5 years, the discount goes up 2% for every extra year you've been a public sector tenant, up to a maximum of 70% or £96,000.</p> <p>SKDC obtained the freehold to their own properties years ago (£125m) for which they are still paying back. So, it does seem like a win-win for Westminster and not for local government.</p> <p><b>2. Decarbonisation of Council Property</b></p> <p>Council houses in the area are set to benefit from cost-cutting energy efficiency upgrades as part of a £7.26m scheme delivered by South Kesteven District Council. Funding from the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2.1 will provide energy efficiency measures for over 300 households across the district.</p> <p><b>3 Road Closure</b></p> <p>Road closure Order - Church Street (Between A15 &amp; a point 160m East). This is to improve access for large vehicles at the pumping station opposite the St. Firmin's. Period of restriction: 23/10/2023 - 27/10/2023 (3 days as and when required during this period, signage detailing accurate dates and times will be displayed on site in advance). Alternative route or access arrangements will be signposted.</p> <p><b>4. Bin Collections</b></p> <p>I complained to the leadership group that there had been issues with my ward with bins being missed. This, I hope, has now been rectified.</p> <p><b>5. Flooding</b></p> <p>a. Further to my report on the flooding of Chapel Lane caused by a blocked drain from the corner of Lawrance Park down to the road, the drainage board has been requested to look at it and it is ongoing. I have asked for this to be expedited.</p> <p>b. There is a dyke on the riparian owner side of the hedge along Bourne Road that has still not been attended to. This will flood nearby housing and the road (A15) when full, unless cleared. The pipe here is (4"/100mm) and totally inadequate to drain heavy rainfall</p>
<b>91.</b>	<b>Clerk's Report and correspondence received</b>	
	<b>91.1</b>	<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"> <li>1. An email from Lincolnshire Police regarding a Parish Council Engagement Session - North and South Kesteven - 7th December 2023. They need to know if anyone wishes to attend either in person or on line</li> <li>2. News from Lincs &amp; Notts Air Ambulance. They are seeking our help in 3 ways. 1. Request a Talk. 2. Display their posters and 3 Share their news.</li> <li>3. An email from Baston Parish Council about a meeting they had arranged to take place at the Barn in Baston on Thursday 19th Oct between 19.00-22.00. The meeting is in response to the planning permission submitted by CEMEX UK to quarry on Thetford Farm Estate Baston. They would like someone to attend from Thurlby as they were concerned about the increased traffic on the A15 and potential long-term implications for health, road safety and environmental issues posed by this new quarry. The Clerk was to send this out to all Councillors.</li> <li>4. An email from Ruskington Parish Council to extend a warm invitation to your Parish or Town Council to attend the upcoming "Management of Memorials – Inspection Workshop." Details for the workshop are as follow Thursday, 25 April 2024 Time: 10.00 – 16.00 at Winchelsea Centre, 11 High Street North, Ruskington, Sleaford, NG34 9DY</li> </ol>

<b>92.</b>	<b>Planning applications:</b>
<b>92.1</b>	<p><b>To consider any Planning Applications received</b> – none to note at the time that the agenda was posted, but since then two further planning applications had been received. <b>S23/1636</b> - Proposal: T1 Ash tree - reduce by appx 3-4m on top and 2-3m on the sides due to being very over extended. Co-dominant stems at appx 10ft and a small cavity at the base at 20 Chapel Lane, Thurlby. We need to respond by 12 October. The Clerk explained that we could deal with the application tonight if no one thought the application was contentious. If, however just one Councillor was of the view that it was contentious then we would have to call a special meeting, If we dealt with it tonight the Clerk was to be given delegated authority to respond. The Clerk was given delegated authority to respond. <b>Resolved:</b> that had this matter been on the agenda we would have no comments or objections.</p> <p>The other was <b>S23/1695</b> – Proposal - Proposed demolition of dilapidated carport, erection of new carport, log store, garden store and re-roofing of existing garage at Earl House Farm, 59 Northorpe, Thurlby. <b>Response</b> by 23 October 2023. The Clerk was given delegated authority to respond. <b>Resolved:</b> that had this matter been on the agenda we would have no comments or objections.</p>
<b>92.2</b>	<p><b>To note Planning Applications approved:</b> none to note but since the agenda was posted notice has been received that <b>S23/1304</b> - Proposal: New detached double garage block with storage space over at 40 High Street Thurlby was approved</p>
<b>92.3</b>	<p><b>To note any Planning Applications refused or withdrawn:</b> <b>S23/1060</b> - Proposal: Remove existing screed finish on second floor accommodation, remove existing serving hatch from dining room wall to reinstate to solid wall. <b>Withdrawn</b> by agent</p>
<b>92.4</b>	<p><b>To note any Application appealed or any decision made regarding an appeal:</b> none to note</p>
<b>93.</b>	<p><b>To confirm Expenditure</b>  £40.00 – B M Champness (use of home as office)  £494.64 – B M Champness (salary)  £20.00 – Elaine Reynolds (salary)  £421.00 – HMRC (PAYE)  £44.34 – BT (broadband charges, delivery charges and new router July)  £232.80 – Bourne Skip Hire (bin collection charges for September (4)  £55.00 – D Collins (repair and refurbish war memorial)  £2.25 – B M Champness (postage)  £95.98 – Royal British Legion Industries (20 Tommy lamp post poppies)  £3.60 – Royal British Legion Industries (postage)  £1.00 – Royal British Legion Industries (donation)  £40.00 – B M Champness (black bin liners)  <b>[ ]</b> 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>
<b>93.1</b>	<p><b>Resolved:</b> that the payments be approved.</p>
<b>93.2</b>	<p>After the agenda was posted other invoices had been received:  £50.00 - C S Harris (cutting grass and sweeping paths)  £164.00 – St Firmins PCC (insert in Village Link)  <b>Resolved:</b> that these payments be approved.</p>

<b>94.</b>	<b>To discuss the accounts for September and for the bank reconciliation to be signed as a correct record</b>	
	<b>94.1</b>	The Clerk was able to circulate in advance various reports from Scribe for September 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
<b>95.</b>	<b>To discuss and approve the cost of cutting the hedge by the bus stop at Northorpe and to discuss the cutting back of the hedge behind the bus stop on the western side at Thurlby crossroads</b>	
	<b>95.1</b>	<p>After the last meeting the Clerk contacted Martin Reece to see if he would have a word with his neighbour to see if there would be any problems, He replied stating that he would speak to her but she could be difficult. After speaking to her he said that as a softener could we agree to cut back the entire bush rather than just by the bus shelter. The Clerk contacted Chris Harris to see if he could do the work and at what price. After seeing the hedge, he said it would take two people to do the work and he felt the job was too big for him to do. Martin then contacted the man who cut his hedge to see if he could do the work. He likewise said that it was a 2-man job but he could do it but it would take 7 hours to do and the cost would be £224.00 in total. As some of the hedge was on Martins land he would agree to pay £32 towards the cost.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council could get themselves into a catch 22 situation as we might have to pay for the work every year and other residents might like the same treatment. The cost in the opinion of the Council was excessive and we should not agree to it. Cllr Thomas would have a word with another groundsman who might be prepared to do the work, but it was agreed that he would only cut the bush at the back of the bus shelter so that the shelter was not being damaged by it. The Clerk pointed out that if this was to be done they must be satisfied that we had the authority to cut back the bush and that we would not be accused of doing something illegally by the house owner. It was felt by the Council they were in their own rights to do the work but the Clerk should send her a letter advising her that we would be cutting back he bush behind he shelter.</p> <p>As for the bus shelter at Thurlby crossroads Cllr Bill had taken photographs showing that the bus was overhanging the footpath and also was likely to damage the shelter.. It was agreed that a card be posted to the owners advising them to cut the bush back but that if they do not then the matter would be reported to Highways.</p>
<b>96.</b>	<b>To consider and complete the South Kesteven District Council Housing Strategy Consultation Survey and decide if and who will attend the workshop which take place on Monday 30th October at 2-4pm in Grantham at the Guildhall Ballroom.</b>	
	<b>96.1</b>	<p>The survey had been circulated in advance given everyone the opportunity of seeing the questions. It was felt that the survey was a generic questionnaire for the entire South Kesteven District Council area and not specific to Thurlby. We had our own protection on possible development in Thurlby by the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Notwithstanding this the survey was completed and submitted. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Stephen Holland advising him that the survey had been completed and to ask him if he thought it was time to update the Neighbourhood Plan. If he thought that it was would he be prepared to look into this matter and take steps to update it.</p>
<b>97.</b>	<b>To receive an update on the crossing at Thurlby crossroads.</b>	

	<b>97.1</b>	There was nothing further to discuss as the matter had been dealt with in the report of Cllr Reid
<b>98.</b>	<b>To consider the future of the Youth Hostel in Thurlby</b>	
	<b>98.1</b>	There was nothing further to discuss as Cllr Reid said that he had no news but would chase this up
<b>99.</b>	<b>To consider the data received from the reactive sign</b>	
	<b>99.1</b>	<p>Cllr Bill had submitted a report of the data received from the reactive sign which is below: During September the radar unit was positioned at Northorpe recording traffic in a westbound direction.</p> <p>The data includes the partial closure of the High Street for drainage works and by coincidence last year's data also include closure of the High Street for resurfacing works. So, for a 'true' comparison the period 15th to 28th September 2023 is compared to 15th to 28th September 2022 i.e., non-closure.</p> <p>The daily, peak AM &amp; PM counts are very similar except for the 5-day AM count which has reduced by 9%. The AM peak time is the same while the PM peak time has changed from 17.00 -18.00 to 15.00 -16.00hrs. Those travelling above the speed limit and their average speed are also very similar to last year. The maximum speed has increased slightly by 6mph to 60 mph but significantly recorded at 18.25hrs. as opposed to the early hours. The average speed is slightly down at 26.4mph.</p> <p>Compared to pre 2022 data the average daily count is slightly down while the other results are very similar.</p> <p>Further details can be found on the Thurlby Parish Website.</p>
<b>100.</b>	<b>To receive an update on the Cemetery to include grass cutting, maintenance and burial fees</b>	
	<b>100.1</b>	Cllr Thomas said that the cemetery looked tidy now that the hedge had been cut the grass cut and the paths swept. He had seen notices placed on graves at Langtoft cemetery by the Parish Council and felt that we too should do the same. He showed details of the notice which advised relatives that additional topsoil would be added to a grave to compensate for shrinkage and grass seeded in the Spring. The Clerk was asked to prepare should a notice and that they should be put in place before Christmas as it felt that more people might visit the cemetery at that time of year.
<b>101.</b>	<b>For any Councillor to produce a written report of any meeting that he/she has attended as representatives of the Parish Council</b>	
	<b>101.1</b>	<p>Cllr Lisa Day and Cllr Richard Bill on Tuesday 26 September 2023 attended a meeting of the Thurlby Causeway Estate Charity. The main items of discussion were: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection of properties in Church Street recently carried out and the proposals for any actions.</li> <li>• Rent review for the Church Street properties.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider a financial request from Lawrance Park towards alteration to the existing toilets.</li> </ul>
<b>102.</b>	<b>To consider what information should be placed in the Village Link</b>	
	<b>102.1</b>	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.
<b>103.</b>	<b>Members Questions - reminder only questions given to the clerk a week in advance will be answered.</b>	
	<b>103.1</b>	Councillors were advised that more poppies had been ordered and delivered and they were shown them. It was agreed that these should be put up before the 28 October. The poppies were distributed to every Councillor to place on lampposts in the area that they lived.
	<b>103.2</b>	The Clerk reminded Councillors that the defibrillator training would take place on Tuesday 14 November at 18:30 – 21:00hrs) in the Lawrance Park Social Room
	<b>103.3</b>	There being no other business the meeting was formally closed at 21.10
<b>104.</b>	<b>The date of the next meeting – to be held on <b>Wednesday 1 November 2023</b> (not 6 November as stated on the agenda) at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room, Thurlby</b>	