Thurlby Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Thurlby Parish Council (Min 24-06) held on Wednesday the 6 November 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room

Present: **Councillors:** N Bradley, S Broadbent, H Daines, (Presiding), L Day, P Haley, M Keene, L Lowe, and A Thomas
Residents:
Others: Bernard Champness – Clerk, District Cllr B Dobson and J Brough

	Open Forum	
	Jonathan Brough was asked if he wanted to address the Council. He introduced himself as the potential candidate for next year's County Council election as Cllr Reid was leaving.	
	The meeting was formally opened at 19.32	
108.	**Apologies for absence, acceptance of Apologies & noting of resignations received**	
	108.1	Apologies were received from Cllr R Bill (personal). **Resolved** that the apologies be accepted. Apologies had also been received from County Cllr Reid.
	108.2	The Clerk reported that Matthew Harrison had resigned from the Council for personal reasons. His resignation has been accepted and the Clerk has been in touch with South Kesteven District Council to start the process of advertising the vacancy. Cllr Harrison had asked the clerk whether he could delete his council email folder. As we had never been asked this before the Clerk advised him to keep the folder for 3 months, but he did not know if we were legally obliged to keep it for any longer. The Clerk was asked to take the advice from LALC.
109.	**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	
	109.1	No one declared any Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests on any matter on the agenda.
110.	**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 2 October 2024 (Min24-05)**	
	110.1	**Resolved**: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 2 October 2024 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.
111.	**To Co-opt a Councillor**	
	111.1	The person who wished to be considered for co-option had contacted the Clerk to say that he could not attend as he was away on business and would not be back in time to attend the meeting. He would still like us to consider him next month.
112.	**To receive a report from the County and District Councillors on matters relating to Thurlby**	
	112.1	County Cllr Reid had sent his apologies, and a report as follows:

		I enclose the response to the Enquiry for street lighting on the Swift Way junction with Swallow Hill. 10/09/24 - Response from Street Lighting team on original enquiry:- "We're sending you this message to let you know that unfortunately Lincolnshire County Council is unable to assist with your enquiry at present, as requests for changing from part night to all night lighting from individuals or community groups are required to be directed through the relevant Parish Council or, where there is no Parish Council, the equivalent precept-issuing authority. Thank you for reporting this matter." My take on this is that if as a Parish Council you wish to financially support This requirement, then LCC will assess the cost. It was agreed that we write direct to the person who replied to Cllr Reid to see what would transpire Highways Update. PELICAN CROSSING The request for a yellow box hatched area to assist motorists waiting to turn right now requires evidence including photos to support this as an extra safety measure to be collated with the support of the Parish Council by the local community. This can be assisted by the one already sited at Northorpe; however, this alone will not meet the Highways criteria need. It was agreed we would not take this matter further at this stage. 50 to 40 mph Thurlby to Northorpe section which both the highways manager and I thought had been approved is still awaiting that clarification. The damaged sign on the A15 at Northorpe raised by Cllr Richard Bill has been queried as to its reinstatement! Re confirmation to the assessment and enforcement of Riparian responsibility is on record with LCC as follows…. On going drainage issues with Riparian drainage system- 30/07/24 - Senior Highways Officer had a long meeting with the F&W team about the Northorpe area of Thurlby. They are going to investigate all the east-west drainage including culverts and open ditches, with a view of enforcement and possible improvements in the future. We have let them know about the investigation already issued in the area.
	112.2	District Cllr Dobson had sent a report as follows: 1. The new Customer Service Centre has been opened at the Picture House in Grantham. The reception area is a much-transformed welcome for visitors where they can register and wait to be called to one of the six consultation desks or in one of the private consultation rooms. 2. With the changes in financial burdens on councils announced in the budget, SKDC will undoubtedly have to review everything they do. No announcement has been made yet. 3. There are changes in the laws governing homelessness and other duties such as burial ground maintenance. 4. SKDC will also be setting up new departments, such as a Cost-of-Living Team and a Welfare Team. I will report back on this as it develops. 5. Currently there are still a number of empty homes, despite the rise in Council Tax the longer they are empty. SKDC still has many families and individuals looking for suitable accommodation. SKDC has now set up a Homelessness Emergency Accommodation team. 6. I can report that the 2-year long wait to cover the manhole guarded by simple plastic fencing at the start of Fen Road has now permanently made safe with a cover. I

		thank the officer at LCC whom, by good fortune I met in the village recently, who said he would get it looked at – and he did. 7. To end on a bright note: a. Bourne Christmas Fayre is on 7th December from 11am – 6pm b. Stamford Fayre is on 24th November from 10am – 5pm Cllr Dobson said that he was still working hard to persuade the District Council not to proceed with the development in Obthorpe Lane. He had invited someone from South Kesteven District Council to the village to inspect the site and to see for themselves that any development was just not feasible. If anyone wanted to attend from the Parish Council they would be most welcome. He had been advised that within the Local Plan they had to find plots of land for development, and this included Thurlby, It was suggested that the two sites that they had earmarked in the plan should be removed and a potential site was the land owned by the County Council on Station Road instead. He said he would put that proposal forward.
113.	**Clerk's Report and correspondence received**	
	113.1	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. He had received the additional correspondence as follows: The following correspondence/matters were discussed: 1. An email from a Mr Gray which said the following " *I am enquiring to the ownership of the area marked in green of Maple Avenue Thurlby. Pe100hf this green shaded area I have coloured in along with house numbers of maple avenue. The drawing shows a carriageway in blue then the public footpath marked in purple behind and alongside the properties of number 6,7 and 8 maple avenue this has been taken from https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coast-countryside/public-rights-way/2.* *We see that the area in front of properties 1 -4 7and 8 and 9- 12 have a tarmac footpath and edging to the carriage way and vehicle access . Number 5 and 6 have no access for vehicles alongside properties only a footpath access which is concrete being different from where it meets the tarmac path in front of the corner of number 7. I am executor of the estate of number 6 maple avenue and need to establish ownership and rights of access over the land and communal parking area along maple avenue for the sale of this property. I'm happy to meet someone at that location to discuss this further. From our local knowledge of the area we understand that there are still a number of council owned properties being at number 3,4 5 and 8 that we are aware of and the other properties like ours are privately owned being purchased from the council*. After considering the matter and the further email received from Mr Gray it was agreed that the Clerk would respond by saying we do not have the information he required but if the house had originally been purchased from South Kesteven District Council them they would be the ones who would have the information. In any event the information should be included in the Deeds ot obtained by doing a search with the Land Registry. 2. An invitation from South Kesteven District Council to take part in a workshop where you will be able to help influence the future of the district through the way that new development is designed. They will be held **North: Grantham - 21st November – 5:30pm to 8pm** - SK House, St Peter's Hill, NG31 6PY (adjacent to The Grantham Museum) and **South: Bourne - 27th November – 5:30pm to 8pm** - The Corn Exchange, 3 Abbey Rd, Bourne, PE10 9EF. 3. Two emails had been received from Stephen Holland one of which related to the suggested development on Obthorpe Lan and the other was about the Item

		above. He was going to the meeting in Bourne. As no one could attend this meeting it was agreed that we would ask Mr Holland if he could attend as our representative.
114.	**Planning applications:**	
	114.1	**To consider any Planning Applications received –** there were no plans to discuss at the rime that the agenda was posted. However, a planning application has now been received **S24/1800 -** Proposed erection of boundary fence at Ashfield Dairy, 98 High Street, Thurlby. The Clerk explained If no one thinks it is contentious then we can deal with this tonight and give the Clerk delegated authority to respond. If just one Councillor considered it contentious then a special meeting would have to be called. It was agreed that we would deal with the matter tonight, provided no one considered the plan contentious, and the Clerk to have delegated authority to respond. He would reply that we could not see any plan on the South Kesteven District Council website, so it was difficult to see what was being proposed, and to make comments. We could not understand why planning permission was required The Clerk should ask why planning permission was sought for future reference. In any event we would not object at this stage provided the fence was not higher than 2 metres and was in keeping with the area. If it was above 2m high we would have to re-consider our views on the matter.
	114.2	**To note Planning Applications approved:** **S24/1204 -** Proposal: Change of use of domestic garage to use as hairdressing salon at 66 Beck Way Thurlby **S24/1410 -** Submission of details reserved by conditions 3 (soft landscaping), 4 (archaeological report) and 5 (water drainage) of S24/0559 (New two storey detached dwelling) at The Barn 25 Crown Lane Following the agenda being posted another planning application has been approved: **S24/0969 -** Proposed partial barn conversion for habitable use at: Manor Farm, The Granary Wilsthorpe Road Obthorpe
	114.3	**To note any Planning Applications refused or withdrawn:** **S24/0794 -** Change of use of land from agricultural use to mixed agricultural and equine use at: Land To The Rear Of The Stables 50 High Street Thurlby (withdrawn) **S24/0792 -** The erection of a new tractor shed, to replace a smaller shelter previously sited on the parcel of land at The Stables 50 High Street Thurlby
	114.4	**To note any Application appealed or any decision made regarding an appeal:** none to note
115.	**To confirm Expenditure** £40.00 – B M Champness (use of home as office) £700.19 – B M Champness (salary) £46.60 – Elaine Reynolds (salary) £306.00 – Bourne Skip Hire (weekly bin collection charges x 5) £104.00 - Thurlby PCC (insert in Village Link) £49.56 – BT (broadband charges) (DD) £69.00 – C S Harris (cut grass, sweep paths in cemetery) £53.98 – B M Champness (10 Tommy lamp post signs) £10.00 – A Thomas (refreshments for Save a Life session) £87.33 – B M Champness (ink cartridges) £2378.64 – Greenbarnes Ltd (new noticeboard)	

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	[ ] *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*	
	115.1	**Resolved:** that the payments be approved.
	115.2	Following the agenda being posted further invoices had been received as follows: £1.70 – B M Champness (postage) **Resolved:** that this payment be approved as well Although not on the agenda the Clerk was wondering if we could approve payment to the Royal British Legion from the money received from the D Day Celebrations. It was **resolved** that the sum of £421.71 be paid to the Bourne branch of the British Legion. Mr Brough would find the information of how to make payment by BACS. The Clerk also explained that after payment of the sum of £45.31 was made for the new lamppost Tommy signs we still had £848.56 left in the Kings Coronation funds. It was agreed that this matter be put on the agenda next month for further discussion.
116.	**To discuss the accounts for September & October and for the bank reconciliations to be signed as a correct record**	
	116.1	The Clerk had circulated in advance details of the bank details showing income received and spent in September and October. He also provided a Bank Reconciliation for both months. **Resolved**: that the Chair sign the Bank Reconciliations for September and October 2024
117.	**To agree the salary increase for the clerk and for this to be back dated to 1 April 2024**	
	117.1	Notice had been received that The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has been notified by the Local Government Association (LGA) that it has come to an agreement on the 2023/4 pay offer with the unions representing local government employees. The unions met and agreed to accept the offer. The terms of that agreement include the following: With effect from 1 April 2024, an increase of £1,295.00 on all NJC pay points 1 and above. For part time workers this is paid on a pro-rata basis. This equates to an increase in £0.67 per hour. The amount per hour is £14.60. This makes a difference of £30.03 per month so the total backpay for the last 6 months is £180.18. **Resolved:** that the Clerk be granted the pay award and for it to be backdated to 1 April 2024
118.	**To decide if we give a donation to Save a Life Campaign and whether we book another session for residents**	
	118.1	It was reported by Cllr Day that the training session was a success with 12 residents attending. This means that we have had three successful events, and the Clerk wondered if another session was organised we should book another slot. He also wanted to know if we should make a donation like we did the previous times **Resolved:** that we make a donation of £60.00 and to see if we can book another session when one was being organised.
119.	**To receive an update on the installing of the new noticeboard by the Post Office**	
	119.1	The Clerk was able to report that the new noticeboard had been delivered to his house. He had been in touch with David Collins who was happy to install it and would charge

		us £60.00, All emails sent to David had been copied in with Alan Thomas and Martin Keene. Greenbarnes had asked us to send a photograph once the noticeboard was in place and for us to make a few comments which they could use on their website. It was agreed that the quote be accepted.
120.	**To approve the draft and adopt the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**	
	120.1	Following the last meeting the Clerk with the help of Cllr Bill the drafts as discussed at the last meeting had been amended and copies sent to all Councillors. It was **resolved:** that both documents be formally approved and adopted. The Clerk was to place them on the website.
121.	**To receive an update on the New Puffin Crossing**	
	121.1	Cllr Daines had attended the official opening of the puffin crossing as did Cllr Bill and Cllr Lowe together with County Cllr Reid and Rev Carolyn Bailey. Cllr Bill had been able to discuss matters with Highways and was told that the crossing was quite sophisticated and had features that might need making known to the residents. 1. When you push the button the radar looks for a gap in the traffic before it operates – this has caused some people to think it is not working. 2. The radar also monitors that if you press the button and then change your mind and move back/away the operation will be cancelled. 3. Also, if you are slow crossing the road a further monitoring sensor will pick this up and extend the crossing time. 4. Visually impaired pedestrians can activate from beneath the operation panel a sensor which will illuminate the push button position. 5. Finally, a light sensor will dim the lights at night. It was agreed that a separate article to be placed in the Village Link with the above information.
122.	**To consider the future of the Youth Hostel in Thurlby**	
	122.1	There was nothing further to note as we had not received any update
123.	**To consider the data received from the reactive sign**	
	123.1	Cllr Bill had submitted before the meeting the data he had obtained from the Reactive Sign which was as follows: During October the radar unit was positioned in the High Street recording traffic in an eastbound direction. The results would indicate a slight decrease in the 5 day daily count of 5% (62no) vehicles/day however the 7 day count is very similar to last year. The differences are spread throughout the day with the peak AM & PM counts very similar to previous although the peak times have changed to 10.00-11.00 & 15.00-16.00hrs. The average speed, 23.5mph, is very similar to last year and likewise those travelling above the speed limit, however the number travelling above the speed limit has increased to 10.36 & 10.87%, The maximum speed of 60mph is slightly down 3 mph on last year and was recorded in the early hours. Thanks to be recorded to Cllr Bill for undertaking this task every month. An email had been received from the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership stating that they had been contacted by Countryside Team who reported that the battery reactive speed sign on High Street was blocking their Public Footpath sign. They asked if the

		speed sign could be lowered on the post so that the sign can be seen too It was agreed the Clerk would respond stating that the Reactive sign is only there for 4 weeks in the year and only covers one side of the footpath sign. The sign can be read throughout the year from the other side but we would consider the request.
124.	**To receive an update on the Cemetery to include grass cutting, maintenance and burial fees**	
	124.1	Cllr Thomas was able to report that the hedge had been cut by the farmer and it now looked very neat and tidy. We should record our thanks to Mr Gray for undertaking this work. Mr Harris had swept the footpaths and cut the grass. The green bin had been emptied.
125.	**For any Councillor to produce a written report of any meeting that he/she has attended as representative of the Parish Council**	
	125.1	Both Cllr Bill and Broadbent attended on 30th October a meeting of the Anne Fisher Charity. Items discussed included matters arising from the previous meeting and the finance statement. A donation made to Thurlby school towards play and computer equipment had been gratefully received. The following actions were also agreed: - The Vicar would continue presenting the Cards and Candles to all villagers at Christmas who were bereaved. To advertise the Anne Fisher Charity support in the Village Link magazine. Rev Bailey will make contact with the Almond Court to see if the Charity could assist with anything.
	125.2	Cllr Thomas said that the Firework event was again successful, and they made a profit of £4073.00. He pointed out that the 5th November in 2025 was on the date of our council meeting and we should consider moving the date of that meeting to the 12th November 2025
126.	**To consider what information should be placed in the Village Link**	
	126.1	It was agreed that Cllr Broadbent would draft a report for the Village Link. This would be sent to all for approval before going to print.
127.	**Members Questions -** *reminder only questions given to the clerk a week in advance will be answered.*	
	127.4	The Clerk pointed out that next month we would consider the Precept so if anyone had any suggestions they would like to make they should do so at the next meeting There being no other business the meeting was formally closed at 20.35
128.	**The date of the next meeting –** to be held on **Wednesday 4 December 2024** at 7.30 p.m. in the Lawrance Park Social Room, Thurlby	

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