

# **THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

## **Minutes of Thrussington Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7.30 PM at the Village Hall, Thrussington**

### **Present:**

Cllr Tom Prior, Cllr Edward Guest, Cllr Bev Kearns and Cllr Mark Thistlethwaite  
1 member of the public  
Cllr James Poland  
The clerk

### **207/2016 - Resolution to receive apologies for absence**

- Cllr Dave Houseman and Cllr Colin Bell

### **208/2016 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda**

- N/A

### **209/2016 – County Council/Borough Council & Police reports**

- Cllr Poland reported that Charnwood Borough Council have received a legal challenge from a developer in relation to the Core Strategy claiming that the inspector did not consider the 5 year plan and the supply of adequate land. An application has been submitted to the High Court on 5 grounds.
- Cllr Houseman submitted his report prior to the meeting which confirmed that Leicestershire is the lowest funded county in the country. If it received the same overall income per household as Surrey, it would be £105m better off. Total savings of £78 million will be required, including £26 million from April. The council has only identified £59 million, leaving £19 million still to be found. Identified savings include proposed cuts to bus subsidies, waste sites and public health work. Efficiency savings of £27 million, including reductions in management and administration (£3 million) and better commissioning and procurement (£9 million). Growth of £41.3 million to meet rising demand, including adult social care (£23 million), children's social care (£8 million) and waste (£2.4 million). Council Tax rises of 3.99 per cent per year, including a two per cent precept to support adult social care, which was introduced by the Government. The two per cent Council Tax rises will not cover the council's full costs for adult social care. An estimated 500 full-time equivalent posts will go – 900 have gone over the last five years.

### **210/2016 - Public Questions**

Members of the public were asked to declare their name when addressing the Chairman if they wished for their name to be minuted in this section of the meeting, if they did not want their name mentioned they need not declare it.

- Nich Stanyard reported that the Government are looking to make parking on pavements illegal and that each Borough/Town council will have to apply for an exemption to this and suggested that the Parish Council should consider this if and when it becomes law. Cllr Thistlethwaite agreed to contact Cllr Ed Agar to see whether he can be alerted to future instructions.

### **211/2016 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

The minutes of the meeting were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for them to be reviewed. Councillors were reminded to check through the minutes fully before the meeting in order to resolve any queries that may arise.

**Resolved:** The minutes of the December meeting were approved and signed and will be uploaded onto the parish website.

## 212/2016 – Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts

- Current account balance = £6,001.82

The following cheques were agreed:

200076	• ATV Contract Services, mowing payment	£150.00
	<b>Total outgoing cheques:</b>	<b>£150.00</b>

**Resolved:** Cheques will be processed.

## 213/2016 – Update on Neighbourhood Plan meeting

Cllr Thistlethwaite reported that Nich Stanyard had been appointed as the independent Chair for the Neighbourhood Plan working party. It was reported that the group had met on two occasions and used the time to review how other groups have proceeded and outlined the work required to create a Neighbourhood Plan. A request has been submitted to Thrussington Life to include an article about the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The clerk said that we need to ensure we have set the group up in the right way and agreed to look into whether an advisory committee or a working party would be the best way forward as there are implications for both.

**Resolved: It was agreed that the clerk would investigate the various options for setting up an advisory committee or a working party and the implications and will report back at the February meeting.**

## 214/2016 - Update on the electricity supply to the village green

The clerk reported that she had made initial enquiries with Western Power about using the electricity supply on the green for future events and they confirmed that the electricity supply on the green cannot be used for anything other than Christmas illuminations. It is an unmetered connection and nothing apart from the tree lights are permitted as they obviously have no method of calculating the electricity being used.

The clerk reported that if we want to be able to provide electricity for any events then we will need to have it converted to a metered supply.

Western Power have suggested that we start by getting an enquiry raised and passed to the local office so that an engineer can go and assess the site and see if the existing unmetered connection can be converted and used as a metered supply. The local office will then be able to tell us if it is just a case of upgrading the cut-out and fuse or whether the supply isn't suitable for metering and then it would be a case of providing a quote for a new service.

## 215/2016 – To discuss and agree mowing contract for 2016

The clerk presented quotes in relation to mowing the village green and village from April to November 2016 and proposed that the current provider be permitted to continue with the contract for 2016 at a cost of £1,180 + VAT. Cllr Kearns proposed that the council should continue with the services of the current provider based on the excellent service provided during 2015 and the amount of the quote and this was seconded by Cllr Thistlethwaite.

**Resolved: The clerk will offer the contract to ATV Contract Services commencing April 2016.**

## 216/2016 – To discuss and agree to the purchase of a laptop and printer using Transparency Fund funding

The clerk reported that the council's application to the Transparency Fund had been approved and the amount of £531.00 would be paid directly into the council's bank account.

The clerk requested permission to go ahead and purchase the laptop and printer in line with the application and to claim it back via expenses at the February meeting. Cllr Prior proposed the purchase of the laptop and printer by the clerk and this was seconded by Cllr Guest.

**Resolved: The clerk will purchase a laptop and printer and claim the cost back via expenses.**

## 217/2016 – To discuss councillor co-option and agree actions

Cllr Prior reported that Cllr Bell had submitted his resignation as councillor with immediate effect due to ill health and asked about the process of appointing a councillor to replace him.

The clerk reported that following the resignation of an appointed councillor then the parish council will go through the casual vacancy process. Once a casual vacancy happens a Notice of Casual Vacancy is published and the electors of the parish are given the opportunity to request that the vacancy is filled through the election process. If a request is received the election process is started. A date is set and nominations open. If at the close of nomination there are more nominations than seats then an election will be held. If the number of nominations received matches the number of seats those candidates are elected uncontested.

**Resolved: It was agreed that the clerk would proceed with the correct course of action.**

#### **218/2016 – Parish Councillor updates**

Cllr Thistlethwaite reported that:

- There is a considerable amount of dog fouling in the village, especially on Old Gate Road.

Cllr Kearns reported that:

- There is an option to hold another speed watch during May and councillors suggested that a date be agreed.
- The owners of a property on Hoby Road have appeared against the planning application they submitted for change of use.

Cllr Prior reported that:

- The bushes on the high path have been cut back and the area is much more accessible now for pedestrians. It was suggested that the council arrange to have these bushes cut back every year in order to ensure the footpath is passable.

#### **219/2016 - Date of next full parish council meeting**

**Resolved:** The date of the next full parish council meeting will take place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016, commencing at 7.30 PM in the village hall.

The clerk circulated a list of proposed meeting dates for 2016 which were agreed by councillors.

**The Chair closed the meeting at 8.40 PM.**

**Signed:**

**Date:**