

THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Thrussington Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 at 7.30 PM at the Village Hall, Thrussington

Present:

Chairman Tom Prior, Cllr Beverley Kearns, Cllr Colin Bell, Cllr Alan Heath and Cllr Ian Procter-Blain
The Clerk
4 members of the public
Cllr D Houseman
Cllr J Poland
PSCO B Geeson

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30 PM

63/2015 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- N/A

64/2015 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items of the agenda

- N/A

65/2015 – County Council/Police reports

- Cllr Houseman reported that the new Care Act 2014 modernises and consolidates the law on adult care in England into one statute and has been described as the biggest change to the law in 60 years. The first part is applicable from April this year. Key changes include the introduction of national eligibility criteria, a right to independent advocacy and, from 2016, a cap on care costs faced by self-funders.
- Cllr Poland reported that the 2012 Household Projections that was published in February 2015 is currently out for consultation. Charnwood Borough Council had a full council meeting on the 23rd February and it was agreed to freeze council tax for another 12 months.
- PSCO B Geeson reported that there have been no crimes reported in the village, however, it is still important for parishioners to report anything they feel is unusual. Since the closure of the Syston Police Station, PSCO's have been deployed to other stations across the area or located within Council Offices. It is hoped that a representative will be able to attend each parish council meeting and it was agreed that the clerk would provide PSCO Geeson with a list of dates.

66/2015 - 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.

- N/A

67/2015 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the full council meeting of the 17th February 2015

The minutes of the meeting were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for them to be reviewed.

Resolved: Councillors were reminded to check through the minutes fully before the meeting in order to resolve any queries that may arise. The minutes of the February meeting were approved and signed and will be uploaded onto the parish website.

68/2015 – Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts

- Current account balance = £5,934.05
 - Interest on account received during January = £0.68

The following cheques were agreed:

200056	• Helen Chadwick, clerks salary and expenses	£490.55
200057	• Thrussington Life, annual donation 2014/2015	£400.00
	Total outgoing cheques:	£890.55

Resolved: Cheques and invoices signed and clerk to send out at earliest convenience.

69/2015 – Clerks report

The clerk presented her report verbally.

70/2015 – To discuss and agree actions in relation to the 2015 speed watch campaign

Cllr Kearns reported that annual speed watch will commence on the 20th April 2015 for a period of four weeks. A training date has now been arranged for Wednesday 7th April at 7:00 PM in the village hall. Villagers who have put their names down to support the speed watch will be contacted with details of the training. Additional volunteers are still welcome and it was agreed that once we knew how many volunteers we had we would draw up a rota to cover the four week period.

71/2015 – To discuss and agree the request for funds by Thrussington Life for 2014 and ongoing financial support

The Chair welcomed colleagues from Thrussington Life (TL) and thanked them for taking the time to attend the council meeting.

Cllr Procter-Blain reported that there is a lot of good feeling about the magazine and that the financial support offered by the Parish Council is a significant contribution from our precept. Cllr Procter-Blain asked TL colleagues whether the magazine will always need funding from the parish council or whether it would be self-funding at some point. RM of TL confirmed that the magazine has been going for 43 years and has always worked on the understanding that it will generate some income from advertising and additional income would be by way of donations by various groups including the parish council and it was anticipated that this would always be the case. TL colleagues confirmed that with the financial support of the parish council they were able to keep advertising costs down. Cllr Procter-Blain asked whether TL colleagues had thought about increasing advertising costs or looking at other options to reduce costs, such as fewer editions, etc. TL colleagues reported that advertising costs for 2015 had been increased by £5 and this was already having an impact on the number advertisers.

Cllr Bell reiterated the importance of TL and its service to the village and proposed that a donation of £400 be made for the 2014 year and that 50% of their request for 2015 be paid in April and then if additional funds were available the council would make an additional payment later in the year, this was seconded by Cllr Prior.

The Chair reported the Parish Council receive their annual precept in April of each year and it is at this time that any donations would be made. To ensure requests can be considered prior to the council setting its budget for the following year and to ensure the Parish Council are transparent in the usage of their funds all future requests should be submitted in writing on an annual basis by the 31st October (so that the council can discuss the request at their precept meetings in November and December) for funds for the following year. So for example, the request that you will submit in October 2015 would be for funds that the Parish Council would donate to you at the 1st April 2016.

Resolved: The clerk will provide TL with a cheque for £400.

72/2015 – To discuss and agree Council response in relation to Planning Application P/15/0293/2 – alterations to roof of building and erection of a conservatory to side and rear of dwelling at 2 Back Lane, Thrussington and the public consultation event by Jelson Homes in relation to the proposed plans at Melton Road, Rearsby.

The clerk circulated a copy of the planning application for 2 Back Lane prior to the meeting and following a discussion the council agreed that it had no concerns with this application.

The Chair reported that a planning application had been submitted by Jelson Homes for 66 properties in Rearsby and councillors agreed that the application would have a negative impact on Rearsby as there were no appropriate community facilities to support the number of homes

proposed. Cllr Poland reported that there was an area of separation shown in the Household Plan between Rearsby and Syston and it was hoped that Charnwood Borough Council would not renege on this decision. The council also raised concerns about the amount of land surrounding the proposed development that Jelson Homes own and the future of this land.
Resolved: It was agreed that the council would offer its support to Rearsby and attend any relevant meetings to discuss the application.

73/2015 – To discuss and agree the appointment of an internal auditor

The clerk reported that Grant Thornton have been appointed as the national auditor of choice for Parish Councils and that an internal audit would need to be completed prior to the June meeting in order for all documentation to be signed off by the council before being submitted to Grant Thornton by the 30th June 2015.

The clerk requested permission to use her discretion to appoint an internal auditor.

Cllr Prior proposed that the clerk be given permission to appoint an internal auditor at her discretion provided the cost fell in line with those in the precept and this was seconded by Cllr Procter-Blain.

Resolved: The clerk will source a list of internal auditors from the LRALC and contact the most appropriate for a quote and appoint as necessary.

74/2015 – To discuss and agree mowing contractor for 2015

The clerk reported that she had approached 5 contractors in relation to the mowing contract for 2015 and had received one quote. Cllr Kearns asked the clerk whether she had contacted the school contractor and the clerk confirmed she hadn't. Cllr Kearns agreed to provide the clerk with contact details.

Cllr Kearns proposed that the clerk be given permission to appoint a contractor providing the quote was in line with the figure agreed in the precept and this was seconded by Cllr Prior.

Resolved: It was agreed that the clerk would source an additional quote and appoint a mowing contractor with effect from April 2015.

75/2015 – Update on May 2015 Parish Council Elections

The clerk reported that the Notice of Election will be published on Thursday, 26 March 2015 and that this will be the start the nomination process which ends at 4 pm on Thursday, 9 April 2015. Any person wishing to stand for election to Thrussington Parish Council will need to complete the nomination paperwork which needs to be delivered by hand to the Returning Officer at the Council Offices by no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 9 April 2015. Any existing Councillors who wish to re-stand will need to submit a Nomination paper and Consent to Nomination form. If there are more valid nominations received than there are vacant seats there will be an election on 7 May 2015. If the number of valid nominations received equals or is less than the number of vacant seats those candidates will be elected uncontested. Providing the Parish Council is quorate, they will then be able to co-opt to fill the vacant seats. If the number of vacant seats leaves the Council inquorate, a new Notice of Election will be published for the vacant seats

Resolved: The clerk provided councillors with nomination packs which need to be completed, signed and returned, by hand, to Charnwood Borough Council by 4:00 PM on the 9th April.

76/2015 – Parish Councillor updates

- Cllr Kearns reported that she had been asked by a parishioner whether the council had any plans to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII. The council confirmed that they had no plans but agreed to consider a celebration of the 75th anniversary.
- Cllr Prior confirmed that the clerk was due for a six month review and it was agreed that this would take place at the end of the April meeting.

77/2015 - Date of next full parish council meeting

Resolved: The chair confirmed that next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st April and will commence at 7.30 PM in the village hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.05 PM.

Signed:

Date: