

THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Thrussington Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th June 2020 at 7.30 PM at the Village Hall, Thrussington

Present:

Cllr Tom Prior, Cllr Kearns, Cllr Hainsworth, Cllr Newton, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Poland, 3 members of the public and the clerk.

The Chair reported that due to COVID-19 the parish council were meeting virtually using Zoom.

813/2020 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- N/A

814/2020 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- N/A

815/2020 – Presentation by Willows Farm, Thrussington Road, Hoby regarding proposed development at the site

- The Chair welcomed Mrs Warner, the owner of Willows Farm, Thrussington Road, Hoby, to the meeting.
- Mrs Warner reported that the parish boundary runs through the land with about a quarter of it falling in the parish. Most of this area is formed of woodland planted as part of the Queens Diamond Jubilee scheme. It was reported that opportunities have been looked at to utilise an area of woodland for social, leisure and educational purposes and potentially building a "resource centre " out of sight in the middle of the woodland. The school already have an area on family land that they access but would be welcome to be included. Other nurseries and schools in the area have shown interest in a secure off road area they could access. It was reported that Leicestershire County Council Fostering Services have also shown an interest in exploring areas where looked after children and their carers can hold events e.g. Easter egg hunts, teddy bears picnics, tree planting, etc.
- Mrs Warner commented that the area holds potential for environmental education, there are over 35 species of trees and it is a haven for bird/wildlife and might be of interest to scouts, guides, photography groups, etc. It is anticipated that the pathways will be mown for walking, off road cycling, small horse riding groups, etc. They are looking to potentially build a centre with indoor space, toilets and kitchen facilities and may see consent for a small camp site for those wishing to stay under canvas.
- Councillors agreed that it sounds like an excellent idea and that it is a wonderful initiative and that there would be a lot of interest from local groups.
- Cllr Poland commented that he thought it was a really interesting proposal and would offer his support. He did comment that there might be some building issues depending on the size of the proposed building because the area might be classed as open countryside.
- Mrs Warner commented that if anyone wished to view the site they would be more than welcome.

816/2020 - Public Questions

- N/A

817/2020 – County/Borough Councillor & Police reports.

- Cllr Poland reported that the fortnightly collections of the brown garden waste bins will be returning again from Monday 15th June. This means that residents can should start to put their bins out on their normal collection days from that point rather than the Monday morning as has been the case recently. Customers can see their collection days from 13th June at **My.charnwood.gov.uk**
- Cllr Poland reported that the Cabinet received an update on how the introduction of charges are affecting the bulky waste collections. I have despite initially being sceptical the introduction of charging doesn't seem to have had a negative impact on either fly-tipping for

goods which would otherwise have been collected for free (which actually saw a decrease in reported incidents, 29 in the first six months of charging compared to 31 in the previously comparable period). We have also seen an increase in customer satisfaction levels during the comparable periods (up to 92.2% from 89.6% previously), possibly explained by the fact less bulky waste is being collected overall so requests are being processed in a more efficient way than before.

- Cllr Poland reported that small businesses across Charnwood who have been financially hit by the coronavirus pandemic can now apply for a grant of up to £25,000. Charnwood Borough Council has launched its business discretionary grant fund for companies that have previously been unable to claim government financial support. The £1.6 million is open to small businesses that can demonstrate they have been significantly affected by COVID-19. The council is particularly keen to see applications from businesses that support local jobs and provide services that will be important to communities when recovering from the pandemic.
- The scheme has been developed to help as many Charnwood businesses as possible as we know there are many that are continuing to struggle. This funding from the government is very welcome but the Council expects there to be a lot of interest and that's why we've worked hard on the eligibility criteria to ensure it has the most economic impact for the borough. It isn't an endless pot though unfortunately so Charnwood can't guarantee everyone who applies will be successful or will get the full amount they bid for, however Charnwood is doing all it can to help. The business discretionary grant scheme will launch on 3 June. Businesses will have until 8am on Monday, 22 June, to apply online. More information including eligibility criteria and an application form can be found at www.charnwood.gov.uk/dgf.
- Cllr Poland reported that the latest land supply figures in Charnwood have been published and they show we still have more than a 5 year housing land supply figure in the borough – 5.52 years. This is very positive as if we get lower than the 5 year figure our local plans are considered out of date which gives the Council much less control over development. Retaining our 5 year housing land supply is especially pleasing in the current coronavirus pandemic, which given the impact it had on the construction industry had the potential to make achieving that figure harder.
- Cllr Poland reported that the County Council has outlined some of the highways and transport measures it is taking to coincide with the easing of the lockdown during the coronavirus pandemic. From Monday (8 June), concessionary travel on public transport will revert to pre-lockdown arrangements which allow free travel for bus pass holders between 9.30am and 11pm (Monday - Friday), all day Saturdays, Sundays and Bank holidays. During the lockdown, concessionary passes could also be used for free travel before 9.30am so that older and disabled people had access to supermarkets and other essential shops that specifically opened earlier for them. The easing of lockdown means more people will be using public transport for work and school during the morning peak hours, so the change is considered necessary to ensure bus users will be better able to follow government social distancing guidelines. By reverting to the original times, this allows for social distancing guidelines to be more easily adhered to, while ensuring that the most vulnerable members of our communities are still able to get essential items. People travelling by bus are being urged to check if operators have any special rules and arrangements before travelling, to practice social distancing while on board and to wash their hands or use hand sanitiser when they leave public transport.
- Cllr Poland reported that the latest edition of Leicestershire Matters - our residents' newsletter - is out now. It focuses on our extensive efforts to protect and support residents during the coronavirus outbreak. The front page is a letter to residents from our council leader, thanking people for heeding national advice and protecting key workers.

818/2020 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 19th May 2020

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: That the minutes of the May meeting were approved and will be uploaded onto the parish website. The minutes will be signed at the next available meeting.

819/2020 – Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts

The clerk submitted the following payments for authorisation.

- ATV Mowing = £202.50
- Zurich Principal, annual insurance = £416.14
- Helen Chadwick, clerks salary & expenses = £263.25

Resolved: Cllr Prior proposed that the payments should be paid by BACS, this was seconded by Cllr Kearns and all councillors were agreement.

820/2020 – To discuss planning applications

- P/20/0747/2 – construction of 1 no. two storey dwelling on the land adjacent to 18 Seagrave Road, Thruslington. *The clerk reported that comments had been submitted to Charnwood Borough Council. Cllr Hainsworth commented that if the application went to the planning committee then he would be happy to attend.*

821/2020 – To discuss the Wildflower Scheme and agree actions

Councillors agreed that they would like to look into the scheme further and asked if it would be possible to source maps outlining the possible areas in the village that could be utilised for wildflower verges, etc. It was agreed that the clerk would see if Highways could provide a map and that the item would be discussed at a future date.

822/2020 – Update on litter bin

The Chair reported that there has been no further action relating to the replacement litter bins and that he would speak with Cllr Poland to see if he can drive the action forward.

823/2020 – Parish Councillors updates

- N/A

824/2020 – Date of next meeting

The clerk confirmed that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st July 2020 at 7.30 PM via Zoom.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:00 PM.

Signed:

Date: