# Minutes of a Meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council

# Held On Thursday 7th July 2022

**At the Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh (6.30pm start).**

**Present: -** Councillors G Trickett (Chair), A Martin (vice chair), D Bates, J Parsons, B Shaw, J Chambers & T Knapton .

Also attending the meeting: Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers & Nicola Harding from Friends of Dalton, East Herringthorpe & Thrybergh Green Spaces.

There were no members of the public present

Before the chair opened the meeting he advised that today was ‘National Tell The Truth Day’ which was somewhat ironic given the events of the day!

**324/22. Apologies For Absence.**

Apologies were received from Councillors K Endicott, M Senior, G Senior & R Thomas.

**325/22. Approval of Reason Given for Absence.**

**Mover: Councillor D Bates Seconder: Councillor A Martin**

**Resolved: That the councillor’s apologies be accepted by the Parish Council.**

**326/22. Declaration Of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**327/22. Questions From The Public.**

There were no questions from the public.

**328/22. Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th June 2022.**

**Mover: Councillor A Martin Seconder: Councillor J Chambers**

**Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council, held on Thursday 9th June, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**329/22. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings of the Parish Council.**

**113/21. The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022** – As previously advised, thewinners in each category were:-

5 and under.

1 – Lyla Jenkinson – St Gerard’s

2 – Leonard Bulbec – St Gerard’s

3 – Bonnie Lister – Thrybergh Fullerton

6 to 11.

1 – Alyssa Howell – Thrybergh Fullerton

2 – Ava Cardwell – Thrybergh Fullerton

3 – Magda Kassim – Thrybergh Primary

12 to 16.

1 – Ebonii James – Academy

2 – Amelia Horton - Academy

3 – Chloe Coult – Academy

The awards in category 12 to 16 have been handed to the Academy art teacher Jo Wood and all art returned.

The chairman and clerk attended Thrybergh Fullerton & Thrybergh Primary Schools on Monday July 4th with awards being presented to the schoolchildren and all artwork returned. The teachers have reported that the children all thoroughly enjoyed the project and are keen to be involved if we do something like this again.

The chairman and clerk are to visit St Leonards on Friday 8th July to give out the awards and return the artwork.

The top three works of art in each category will be laminated and displayed in the parish hall.

All winners to be shown on the parish council website and will be sent to the Advertiser and the Dalton & Thrybergh Neighbourhood Update. The school and parents have given permission to use the children’s names and pictures.

The entrant from India has been sent a Platinum Jubilee pen.

In other matters, the second picture of the Queen is now in place in the hall and the scroll from The Great War originally in St Peters is now hanging in the entrance corridor.

**112/20 – Bench For Hope Fields.** The bench is finished but not yet moved into place on Hope Fields but this is expected imminently. The clerk will advise when all done so that the parish councillors can visit to view. Payment for the bench will be discussed and sorted when it is in place.

**310/22 - Hall Committee Action Items -** We discussed the clean up and removal of soil build up on the Vale Road side of the hall by West Joinery & Building at the June meeting. This involved clearing back all rubbish, removing built up dirt and soil and putting down gravel chippings. The work needed doing as the area is unsightly and the soil build up against wall gives a risk of damp. In total, 5 tonnes of dirt, bricks and stumps were removed and replaced with 2 tonne of limestone chippings and all were mechanically compacted to prevent disturbance by foot traffic. It was discovered that the pipe work from the kitchen sinks also needed some work so the total cost of the project was £675.00 with £630 being the cost of soil removal etc and £45 the plumbing work.

**Mover: J Chambers Seconder T Knapton**

**Resolved: That Thrybergh Parish Council approves and authorises the building work done by West Joinery & Building at £675.00.**

**309/22 - Modifications Made to CCTV room** – the partition wall has now been removed, new cabinet for the CCTV system installed and 2 filing cabinets put in place. The removal of the partition wall has allowed for more space in the room and much of the equipment for Boxfit classes has now been moved from the cleaning room to the CCTV room.

**310/22 – Handrail for Vale Road Side Emergency Door** – The hand rail has now been fitted in place.

**303/22 – Yorkshire Flag** – the flag has now been purchased and will be flown on Yorkshire Day on 1st August as requested by the parish council.

**330/22. Police Report.**

The clerk advised that the crime statistic had not yet been updated and the figures remain as reported at the June meeting of the parish council i.e. April was 49 incidents for Thrybergh and 718 across the Rotherham North Region.

SYP continue to monitor anti-social behaviour and speed issues in Thrybergh.

Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers informed the council that she had received a letter from Inspector Bakewell asking which streets in Thrybergh had traffic and speed issues and the councillors advised that the main areas of concern remain Doncaster Road, Park Lane, Vale Road and Hollings Lane. There are static cameras on all roads except Park Lane but it was felt an actual police presence with a real possibility of speeding convictions is the only way to reduce speeding levels seen in the village.

**331/22. Friends of Dalton, East Herringthorpe & Thrybergh Green Spaces.**

Nicola Jackson of Friends Of Dalton, East Herringthorpe and Thrybergh came along to the meeting to update the parish councillors on the current and new activities of the group. They now run the Wednesday coffee morning at Warreners Drive Neighbourhood Centre at 10am to 12pm and also the keep fit and wellbeing session at the same venue on Thursdays 11:30 am to 12:30pm. The chair said that they should inform Age UK about these activities as they would help to promote them to the wider public.

Work continues on the community garden project on the railway embankment on Vale Road. Bird boxes are in place and they have planted fruit trees and will also be planting vegetables. The produce will be offered to the local community. They are also seeking funding to buy wild flower seeds.

**332/22. Proposed Resurfacing of Rear of Parish Hall**

The councillors went outside to look at the Park Close side of the hall that needs clean-up and rectification work as we are seeing evidence of damp occurring in the building. The council then discussed the quote we had received from West Joinery & Building for tree stump removal, digging out the built up soil, bricks and debris and covering with a membrane and limestone chippings the same as the work done on the Vale Road side of hall). This area is larger and will need a small digger to get out the tree and bush stumps. The quote from West Joinery & Building for all work is £1170.

**Mover: A Martin Seconder T Knapton**

**Resolved: That Thrybergh Parish Council approves and authorises the building work to be done by West Joinery & Building at a cost of £1170.**

Councillor Bates then expressed his thanks to the clerk for his hard work in ensuring the upkeep and renovation of the parish hall.

Councillor Chamber asked if the parish council had ordered and paid for the new hall when it was built in the 1960’s. The clerk will check the archives and will advise at the next meeting in September.

The clerk then advised that the rebuild cost of the parish hall was £983,600 in February 2021 but would be higher now given the increases in building materials. The clerk will get a new rebuild cost and present it at the next meeting. This may then affect out insurance as we currently have the hall insured for £1,180,661.00

**333/22. Proposed Bookcase for Parish Hall**

The idea of purchasing a small bookcase for used books to be offered to users of the hall and Thrybergh residents was discussed. A used bookcase would be around £50/60 but we had put out a call to see if anyone had a second hand bookcase that they could donate. Councillor J Chambers offered a bookcase and said that she would be pleased to run and control the operation. A request was then made to donate any books that people no longer wanted or required and we could then set up the system, similar to what can be seen so many places elsewhere, as soon as possible. Donated books can be brought into the hall whenever it is open.

**334/22. Correspondence**

Copies of correspondence were made available to view by the parish councillors.

White Rose Bulletin.

YLCA Training Bulletin

YLCA Civility & Respect Project

Dalton & Thrybergh Neighbourhood Update.

Neighbourhood News

**335/22. Items of Report.**

Councillor Shaw attended the South Yorkshire Branch meeting of YLCA. Among the many items discussed were the byelaws that mean a parish council cannot put up its own Christmas lights but must get the work done through the Borough Council. There is some legal doubt in the old, long standing legislation and YLCA is to seek clarification. He also advised that there is to be additional funding in the region of £7m to be made available in South Yorkshire but mainly for infrastructure type projects and will advise further information as it becomes available. There was also a discussion about ‘Power Of Competence’ which we do not have at Thrybergh parish council, the clerk will update councillors on this at the September meeting.

Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers then gave her report which included discussions that began in June’s meeting relating to the parish council’s jubilee bid for funding being rejected. We were initially advised that all parish council’s were ineligible to apply for a Jubilee grant and then we discovered some parish councils had received one. It appears that conflicting advice was given by RMBC and that we were included but our bid was not considered as there was only a limited number of grants available and these were primarily offered to those providing greater opportunities for disadvantaged and vulnerable communities and those with a greater degree of diversity. It was also stated that we have access to other funding avenues which we have challenged as this is simply not true. It is sad that RMBC did not see an event involving 316 local schoolchildren did not fulfil any of their categories for inclusion!

Councillor Parsons has requested that the kerb be dropped on both sides of the road at the bottom. Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers asked if a photograph could be sent to her showing exactly where the kerb needs to be dropped.

She also announced that she is pleased to be offering a monthly surgery in the parish hall on Mondays at 3:30pm to 5:00pm and upcoming dates will be circulated.

BBC Radio Sheffield has a radio programme on Sundays which is a virtual road trip and this weekend’s subject was to be Thrybergh. Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers is being interviewed and Nicola Jackson then advised that she is being interviewed too to talk about Green Spaces.

Community Cafe – the clerk has spoken with Richard Goodhall, councillor at Dalton. He is on holiday so cannot attend July meeting but will come to the September meeting along with Kevin Oxley to discuss the community cafe principle and what they are doing to take it forward.

Ward Councillor Bennett-Sylvester was on holiday but sent in his report which the clerk read out.

A630 Neighbourhood Road Safety Bid

This has now been submitted aimed at primarily asking for improvements to deal with vehicles leaving the road and the fear some residents have of walking the route.  Can I stress this is a bid where out of the 25 wards in Rotherham only 8 or 9 will be selected per year.  I believe ours is well evidenced and has included parish council minutes to show evidence of community concern.

Activ-Regen & Youth Activity

Talking of bids unfortunately Activ-Regen has failed in bids to put together for a one year youth programme for the village.  They are resubmitting a bid to the postcode lottery to fund an engagement officer for the ward and I will be funding from my community leadership fund a week’s summer sports camp with them.  Subject to venue confirmation this should be w/c August 29th.

In Activ-Regen we have a group who have the expertise and safeguards in place to deliver youth activities but we need to find solutions for funding, going forward I’ll be looking to have conversations with residents about setting up a support group that can look to fundraise and bid for funding (including parish council grants) to hopefully deliver more activities for local young people.

Community Skip

Our latest community skip was held on June 15th on Silver Street in Thrybergh and was run alongside a community litter pick with workers from the housing development.

I’ve explained previously how these are funded from housing rents and due to limited resources how we have to target their usage.  Silver Street was targeted due to issues that residents have brought previously about the condition of the estate and how it does tend to be a forgotten area but also due to residents having had the most negative impact from disruption due to the building work.

We are working on arrangements for another community skip in Q2 and will announce details when the plan is due.

Community Speedwatch

I’ve been on a couple of these now and one of t he interesting things the police do is ask you to estimate the speed of vehicles and compare it to the recording on the gun.  Myself and the chair of governors at Thrybergh Academy were consistently wrong while PCSO Kearney was always within 2mph. These events are useful in guiding activity around speeding and will soon be discussing some new dates.  I would like to invite a couple of parish councillors along next time to see how they are run and understand the work involved.

116 Bus Route - when it came to this point the chairman took over.

 Yesterday at time of writing via the press I learned of changes to the 116 bus route.  These will mean no Sunday service, early morning cuts to Saturdays and no evening service with services finishing about 7pm.

 I’m not happy with how this has been revealed but I will be political here and lay the blame at the feet of the government for its failure to support financially in South Yorkshire.  This cut will lead to more isolation especially for older residents towards the end of Vale Road and again at time of writing have no idea.  The next meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board is on July 27th and the issue will be raised then.  I would stress that that is only an advisory board and getting political again would argue we need a publicly owned, funded and controlled transport system but that is up to our friends at Westminster to start being concerned about communities like ours.

The chair and all members of the council were outraged by this decision especially as it impacts of the mobility of the old and low waged members of the community. It beggars belief that a whole village community can have its bus service effectively wiped out simply due to budgetary and financial reasons. There is a feeling that the Transport Advisory Board were very economical with the truth when the replied to Ward Councillor Bennett-Sylvester and the people of Thrybergh when they said only last month that there were no plans as yet to reduce services. It is obvious that a month ago they knew what they were going to do and this just shows what they think about the village and people of Thrybergh!

I’m back on duty from July 11th but if members of the PC have any questions please let me know via the clerk. How will people get to work, shop, visit friends and have any sort of social life without a bus service. Thrybergh is a poor and underfunded village with an aging and immobile population. This decision must be reversed immediately.

Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers was as appalled as the parish council and said she would take up the matter directly.

The Clerkattended Dalton & Thrybergh Cap meeting Thursday 30th June. The meeting followed a different template. Police were not present so no statistic or police presence feedback available.

There was a report of a bogus called attempting to enter properties on Herringthorpe Valley Road saying he was from RMBC and needed to check the TV aerial. Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers then advised that she had investigated this incident and it seems that it did not actually happen but everyone must always remain on their guard against bogus callers.

All are aware of the recent incident on Herringthorpe Valley but this could not be discussed due to ongoing investigations.

There is still an issue of under reporting crime throughout Rotherham North but Dalton and Thrybergh are third highest reporters so it seems the message is getting through.

Dalton PC reported anti-social behaviour around the hall including people just wandering and using the toilets even when they have bookings and events happening.

Open discussions found that all were in favour of the CAP meeting and that it provided useful information. It was noted though that we are not very good at sharing good news stories.

There is a possibility that the meeting could go quarterly.

Speeding remains a concern and Doncaster Road is on long term watch.

Legal notices served on owners of Millside site to clean up, make safe and secure the property and area..

Next meeting 25th July at 9:30am.

The clerk had a meeting on Friday 1st July with a local resident and Neil Archer, Grounds Maintenance And Street Cleansing Operational Manager. The meeting was to discuss cutting of grass verges and tree maintenance on Doncaster Road. We discussed the wild flower river but the nearest to us will be Dalton as it was thought that having wild flowers from the Country Park Doncaster Road would obstruct the view of the road and road signs for motorists and make it too dangerous for pedestrians.

Many of the trees along the road on the Country Park are self set with braches obscuring views and encroaching onto the pavement. These trees and bushes are the responsibility of the Country Park and the clerk will write to them requesting that they be cut down or at least cut back. They are obstructing the first 30pmph sign put up by RMBC. The land from the bus stop to the country park entrance is the responsibility of the country park to cut etc but RMBC normally does it.

The Borough now has a mini-sweeper which can go on pavements as well as the big sweeper for the roads.

Weeds are sprayed twice a year in April & October.

Autumn leaf fall is Neil’s responsibility and they will sweep as necessary to clear.

Grass is cut 8 times per year so about every 3.1/2 weeks. This involves a level cut by mower, difficult areas and street furniture strimmed and all litter picked up.

The job done on Doncaster Road in Neil’s words is not acceptable and he will send the team out again to do it right. ‘We will re-visit all the areas identified in regards to grass cutting and litter removal including strimming up to all the wall bottoms and carry out a chemical treatment making the overall impact of the road better than currently the case’.

Team used to be a mixture of full time staff and seasonal workers but all are now full time staff.

The area around St Leonard’s has been cut but there is a big build up of bushes growing around the benches which are really the responsibility of the property owning the land and wall behind the benches. However, Neil will arrange to have everything cut back as a gesture of good faith.

Accident signs have been left over on Doncaster Road re the latest accident and Neil will arrange to have them collected.

Grass not cut back on Thrybergh Lane (cemetery onwards) and Neil will revert with a date when the lane will be cut this year (this area is cut once per year). This will not be before the week commencing 8th July as the flail tractor which carries out the works has broken down

Clerk attended the Clerk’s meeting on Tuesday 5th July at Catcliffe Memorial Hall.

Our first face-to-face meeting in 2 years since COVID began. Many of the clerks prior to COVID have left and been replaced. Turnover in clerks across the country is very high mainly due to the work load, legal demands on knowledge and expertise, financial acumen and low wage levels.

The joint working group is made up by 2 clerks and 8 parish councillors, the Brinsworth clerk has recently left and there is now a vacancy of the JWG. The group is looking for nominees and will have an uncontested election if only 1 clerk applies but will need to hold a full election if more than one applies.

Training was discussed and RMBC sent out the training organised by YLCA but will also arrange its own training when necessary i.e. recent flood training, youth activities and planning training.

Discussed Operation London Bridge and all parish councils urged to set up a policy if they do not currently have one.

Future meetings will probably be quarterly.

Clerk attended on-line RMBC Planning Training Wednesday 6th July. The attendance was poor with the 3 RMBC officials being joined by just 5 attendees. RMBC receives approx 2000 planning applications per year. It was a useful presentation which went through the stages of planning and the requirements. Recent legislation has eased the system but it can still be a long and laborious process. I will forward the slides when received.

The clerk is to meet Neil Bingham of Silverwood Heritage at the Parish Hall on Monday 11th July at 5pm. Neil is currently working on a new display for the pop up heritage centre which is entitled the ‘End Of An Era’. The main focus on this display is to outline the aftermath within the local communities caused and felt following the closure and demolition of Silverwood Colliery. He already has a vast amount of photographs and information with regards to the actual closure of the pit and his main focus is on obtaining personal accounts, memories and stories from those who lived through it and are still living in our communities.

He would also like to include a section within this display on how the memorial came to be, who was involved with the construction, where the memorial wheel came from, is it a Silverwood winding wheel?, plans, costs, the amount of hard work and planning it took to get it there etc. He also intends to include detailed explanations as to why this memorial is so important and what it means to our communities and the local mining families. The Rotherham Advertiser has been very helpful in providing him with photographs and an article from the memorial unveiling ceremony.

He has asked if we have any information that would be useful for the display and has asked if we could make any contribution (of documents, photographs). He is looking to make the display as detailed and accurate as he can for the former workforce and their families. I think we can all agree that this is something we need to be involved in as this is a huge part of the story of Thrybergh.

The new fire review of the parish hall to take place next Tuesday which is July 12th and we had Trust Fire here earlier today to replace/repair the emergency light in the committee room. This needs to be repaired as this is now deemed as an emergency exit.

**336/22. Requested by Councillors and/or AOB.**

We were advised last week by Electoral Services at RMBC of the following plans for elections:-

Future Election Dates

2023 – there are no planned elections

2nd May 2024 – PCC/Borough & Parish Elections

2025 – there are no planned elections

We are expecting parliamentary elections in 2023 or 2024.

Obviously, the announcement from The Prime Minister earlier in the day will mean that this will most probably change and we all wait to see what happens next in the new race to be the prime minister.

We have received a communication from RMBC relating to the Prevention of Terrorism Act relating to Venue hire and IT policies. We need to watch out for and prevent any undesirable bookings from individuals and groups which obviously means getting the maximum information at the booking stage and to thoroughly check the information given. They have given a statement which is recommended to be added to our venue hire booking policy. The clerk will also look at our broadband to ensure it has a firewall which prevents accessing of terrorist material etc.

We have just received reports of local youths causing problems for the elderly resident at St Leonard’s Avenue. This is the address where we put up an additional 13m of security fencing but it now seems that there is a problem further down from the fencing as accumulated debris, earth etc is allowing the children access into the back garden and the resident is terrified. Of course, the police have been informed but the problem in catching the culprits.

I will visit to a closer look at the problem and will revert. Both ward councillors are aware of the problem and Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers has written to the lady and will be looking into the mater. The police are also investigating.

I have received the funding bulleting from Community First Yorkshire. The booklet is 100 pages so I will not be printing it out but if anyone is interested in looking for grants for their organisation and I will forward on to Green Spaces and Boxfit.

**THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE THEN INVITED TO LEAVE THE MEETING.**

**337/22. A Report from The Staffing Committee.**

The chairman advised that the staffing committee had met earlier in the day to conduct the clerk’s annual assessment. He reported that the clerk had and continues to do his duties admirably and is professional, hard working and very easy to get along with.

**338/22. Accounts For Payment.**

The Council considered the schedule of accounts for payment June.

**Mover: Councillor D Bates Seconder: Councillor B Shaw**

**Resolved: That the schedule of accounts for payment be approved and signed by the Chairman.**

**339/22. To Notify The Clerk Of Matters For Inclusion On The Agenda Of The Next Meeting.**

The chairman asked if we could add the purchase of a projection screen for the use of those using the hall and in particular the church group as they have regular presenters and really need a screen for optimal display and clarity.

Councillor J Chambers asked if we could add a course of Women’s Self Defence Classes to the parish hall activities. It was agreed that this was a very good idea and the clerk will look into the availability of classes to run in the hall. Nicola Harding advised that RotherFed do offer these courses and the clerk will contact them for information.

Councillor J Parsons asked if we could a dog lead anchor point and a dog watering bowl near to the main entrance. It was felt that a dog bowl is a good idea but there was some worry about the liability of the parish council if an anchor point was provided and then if a dog was subsequently stolen whilst the owner was inside the hall. The clerk will take up this issue with YLCA.

**Date Of Next Meeting**

**The date of the next parish council meeting will be Thursday 1st September,** starting at 6:30pm.

**Closure of Meeting at 8:20pm.**

Chairman *G L Trickett*