

Minutes Of A Meeting Of Thrybergh Parish Council Held On Thursday 5th December 2019 at the Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh (6.30pm start)

Present: - Councillors G Trickett (Chair), D Bates, A Martin, J Parsons, T Knapton, G Marlow, M Senior, G Senior, S Tennant & K Endicott.

Also present Ward Councillors A Napper and K Reeder and six members of the public.

Apologies For Absence

Apologies received from Councillor S Docherty.

Declaration Of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Questions From The Public

Just prior to the meeting, the parish council had been made aware that it had been reported that the gymnasium at Thrybergh Academy was being closed. There was not a lot of information available at the time and most was rumour based and several members of the public attended the meeting to discuss this issue. It was advised that the gym and sports facilities were important to the local community and was needed given the current drives to get citizens more active. The clerk then read out a statement from the Academy released earlier in the day that stated the sports centre is to close 31st December. The gym is financially unsustainable and priority is being given to the education of Thrybergh community students. The statement then goes on to say that evening and weekend lettings will continue. The clerk has requested clarification of this last point but had not received an answer before the start of the meeting. There then followed discussions on the need for sports in the area, the actual ownership of the sports facility, the legal status of Academy schools and their independence. The Academy had taken over the running and control of the leisure facility from RMBC and has now taken the decision to close as it is uneconomical and all monies they have needs to be spent on the students. It was decided that any decision on how to approach this matter could not be taken until we had full information on the closure. It was requested that the clerk approach the headmaster and the Chairman of the Board of Governors to get a definitive statement on what is happening and what is actually closing. It will then be discussed further at the January meeting of the parish council.

Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 7th November 2019.

Mover: Councillor M Senior Seconder: Councillor G Marlow

Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council, held on Thursday 7th November, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

To Discuss Any Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes.

Parking. It was reported that a PCN had been issued to a vehicle parked on the footway (in contravention of the yellow lines) on 25th November. Further parking patrols will take place in the future.

Silverwood Colliery Wheel. The weather has not improved so repair work not yet undertaken. It was reported that work will now to be done in the New Year.

New Bench, the clerk reported that the new bench will be ordered and fitted in the New Year with the aim to be in place for March.

5 yearly fixed wire test and electrical rectification work. It was requested at the October meeting that we get 2nd party inspection of the electrical work. The clerk has spoken to an electrical inspector and he has advised that the company that has done the work is NAPIT registered and all of their work is audited by the trade association and, therefore, 2nd party inspection is not required and this was accepted by the council and 2nd party testing now not required.

Damaged windows. We have received a quote to repair the four damaged windows. It was decided not to make an insurance claim for the work due to the excess on the policy. The clerk advised that

the incident of damage had been reported to the police and it is being looked into by the Force Crime Bureau.

Mover: Councillor G Senior Second: Councillor A Martin

Resolved: That the repair work to the windows be undertaken.

The chairman advised that the hot water boiler in the kitchen had broken on 9th November and we had a children's party in the hall on that day and the Remembrance Service the following day. We had brought in a plumber on an emergency basis and he had fitted a new water boiler.

Mover: Councillor A Martin Second: Councillor G Marlow

Resolved: That the fitting of the new boiler be approved.

Remembrance Service. The chairman reported that the service had been successful and gave thanks to Councillors Martin and Endicott for helping with the refreshments.

New Bar. Modification work to the new shutters will be completed by the end of December. The clerk passed around photographs of the Thrybergh area and he will get these framed and placed in the bar.

Police & Crime Report

The clerk distributed the crime statistics for October for Thrybergh and these showed a significant reduction from the September figures. The clerk advised that he had attended the meeting of the PCSOs and they had nothing to report, the general feeling was that Thrybergh had been relatively quiet.

It was advised, by one of the ward councillors that at a recent meeting of the Police & Crime panel, it was reported that 70% of all calls to 101 were now being answered within 2 minutes.

Activities in Thrybergh for the Young & Elderly – Residents Letter.

A local resident came to the council meeting to discuss the provision of activities for the youth of Thrybergh. The council requested that she write in with her thoughts and we would put it on the agenda for this month. We subsequently received the following items:-

A village Christmas tree and a lighting ceremony with a few outdoor stalls and music etc.

Halloween scary walk then back to guide hut for drinks and buns.

Halloween pumpkin carving competition.

Valentine's dance.

Easter egg hunt

Summer walks all meet at Thrybergh Country Park and have a picnic, bring your own food etc.

Ginger bread house making competition in parish hall with small prize for the winner.

Christmas dinner for the elderly & a donated wrapped gift from willing locals

Knitted Christmas angels free to keep and placed around the village

Painted pebbles free to whoever finds them

The Santa Charity event (Wickersley Lions/Round Table) to call at Parish Hall.

All these activities would incur a small charge from the participants except the knitted Angel's and stones.

The resident has advised that she has received a lot of support on her Facebook page with volunteers offering to help print posters, help arrange events and some are DRB checked.

Unfortunately, the resident did not come to the meeting so we were unable to discuss the proposals with her. It is important though that there is an organisation with a committee and financial

procedures set in place which would allow from grants and possible aid from Borough Council funds?

The details of the local Neighbourhood Co-ordinator will be passed on.

Speed Reduction Doncaster Road Resident's Petition.

It had been agreed to put the resident's petition to reduce the speed limit on Doncaster Road from Fosters Garage to Thrybergh Country Park on this month's agenda. The current position on the proposed speed reduction is that the speed limit will be reduced from 40mph to 30mph from Fosters Garage up to last houses in Thrybergh and will then be 40mph until just after the Country Park and then 50mph to the crossroads. Currently this part of the road is 60mph. SY Police have not backed a 30mph zone up to the country park as they believe that this part of the reduction scheme would be virtually unenforceable if dropped to 30mph and also that, in their opinion, 40mph in this section is commensurate with the road.

There will be increased signs showing the new limits and the provision of central refuges to allow crossing points and this will be placed where the road is widest.

The Borough Council has again stated that they will not put a crossing point outside the country park as this location does not meet Government criteria to warrant a crossing point.

The speed reduction is to be welcomed even if it is not as long a 30mph zone as requested and it may be that the petitioners set up a meeting with SY police to discuss further and the clerk has said that he is happy to join any possible meeting.

The refuge crossing points are still being discussed with Borough Engineers and talks continue on the issue of a crossing at the country park although it seems most doubtful that this will happen.

There are still some procedural issues but it seems most likely that the new limits will be in place middle/end of next year.

The Thrybergh petitioners have worked very hard on this matter and it is nice to report that the roads of Thrybergh will be a little safer for future generations.

The Borough is also investigating if a speed activated device can or will be part of the new street furniture. It is understood that discussions are still to continue to fine tune the plan.

Planning Application RB2019/1748.

The council considered the planning application submitted for 83 Vale Road for the formation of means of access. No objections were raised.

WWI Memorial Plaque.

It was requested at last month's meeting that the clerk firm up the costs for the proposed cleaning of the WWI Memorial Plaque in the parish hall foyer. Hirst Conservation has now advised an accurate cost base for cleaning, re-patination, return and fitting.

Mover: Councillor G Senior Seconder: Councillor A Knapton

Resolved: That the required cleaning work be done as quoted.

Chesterhill Avenue & Whinney Hill Update.

It was reported that RMBC have accepted an offer from Engie in a consortium arrangement with two housing associations (Great Places and Sanctuary) and Sigma, an organisation specialising in private rent. They propose to build 239 homes on Whinney Hill and Chesterhill Avenue with the majority being homes for rent or shared ownership and a mix of house types including bungalows. The planning application was being placed first week December and a consultation meeting had been arranged for Thursday 28th November. The chairman attended this consultation meeting and gave a detailed report of the houses to be built and the infra-structure to be put into place to support the extra housing including parking spaces and demands on the road. There will also be a meeting at the Town Hall 13th December for discussions on the proposals and the clerk will attend this meeting.

It was agreed that the development of these two run down sites was long overdue and any developments are to be welcomed. The clerk will further report back to the parish council in January following the meeting of the 13th.

Items Of Correspondence

The following items of correspondence had been received since the October meeting and were made available to be read by the councillors:-

- (a) Community First Newsletter
- (b) White Rose Update
- (c) SLCC Bulletin
- (d) YLCA – Bullying & Harassment of Council Employees
- (e) Newsletter for Neighbourhood Watch
- (f) NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin
- (g) NALC – Consultation: Strengthening Police Powers to Tackle Unauthorised Encampments.
- (h) Rotherham Holiday Aid – Letter of Thank
- (i) RMBC – Yorkshire Day 2020
- (j) RMBC – Parking Restrictions in Town & Parish Council Car Parks.

Items of Report

The clerk advised that he had attended the clerks finance seminar run by YLCA at Aston Hall on 14th November. Topics covered included financial powers and duties of local councils, accounting

procedures, VAT, budgeting and internal financial controls. The clerk had also attended a meeting on budget setting run by RMBC at the Town Hall on 20th November. He had also attended the Rotherham Parish & Town Council Network meeting at Aston Parish Hall on 19th November. Presentations were given by Chief Executive, Sharon Kemp, with a strategic overview of RMBC and an update on the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy by Martin Hughes. There was also an extensive discussion on the recent floods, the effect on Rotherham and response of the Borough Council.

Any Other Non Financial Business

It was reported that a planning application had been submitted to build a garage at 175 Doncaster Road and that we had not previously been advised about it. The application has been conditionally granted and the parish council had no objections.

The clerk also reported that we have been given some useful websites containing information on local flooding and flooding warnings. Updates can be found at <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels> and preparation and resources at <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/future-flooding>.

Councillor Tennant reported that there was a serious issue with fly-tipping on Hollings Lane. The clerk to investigate and liaise with the Borough Council to have the rubbish removed.

It was also advised that residents were complaining about rubbish not being collected by our street cleaners on Back Lane, Three Hill Close, School Lane and St Leonards. The clerk will discuss this with our cleaners.

It was also requested that the clerk monitor the build up of animals (horses and pigs) on private on Hollings Lane where it meets Vale Road.

The Public were then invited to leave the meeting.

Pay Rates For Staff.

The parish council had provisionally discussed staff salaries for 2020/21 at the September council meeting and it had been agreed to discuss this again at the end of the year. We are still waiting confirmation of what the national wage rates will be for next year and we will add this to the agenda when the rate is know.

Pay Rates For Bar Staff.

The chairman advised that a discussion had taken place with our bar staff and we needed to implement an increase and then look at rates again for 2020/21.

Mover: Councillor M Senior Secoder: Councillor A Martin

Resolved: That the bar server's rate be increased with immediate effect and back dated to 1st April 2019.

Mover: Councillor M Senior Secoder: Councillor T Knapton

Resolved: That the bar managers rate be increased but not back dated.

Budget 2020/21.

The council considered the proposed budget for 2020/21 which was set at £73,200. We will not have the proposed band D charge for council tax from RMBC until late in January and the precept will be set then. The 20/21 proposed budget includes the following:-

Provision of Hanging Baskets – Locations to be determined early in 2020.

Grants – Existing budget to be maintained

Provision for the internal decoration of the parish hall.

Mover: Councillor T Knapton Secoder: Councillor M Senior

Resolved: That the budget for 2020/21 be set at £73,200.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Council considered the schedule of accounts for payment.

Mover: Councillor D Bates

Secoder: Councillor A Martin

Resolved: That the schedule of accounts for payment, as now submitted, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Date Of Next Meeting

The date of the next Council meeting was confirmed as **Thursday 2nd January 2020, (starting at 6.30 pm).**

Closure of Meeting at 8.30pm.

..... Chairman