

THURLASTON POOR'S PLOT CHARITY

Clerk: Cat Sabine, 11 Castle Mound, Barby, CV23 8TN thurlastonpoorsplot@outlook.com

Chairman: Mr Roland Robinson, Field Cottage Farm, Church Lane, Thurlaston, Rugby CV23 9JY

MINUTES

MONDAY 24th February 2020 at 7pm at Thurlaston Village Hall.

PRESENT: Mr R Robinson - Chairman, Dr Sheena Ashford, Mrs J Cooper, Ms Selina Larque, Mrs Paula Irish, Catherine Camp (ex-secretary) & Cat Sabine (Secretary)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Mr R Robinson was re-elected as Chairman. Trustees thanked him for once again taking on this role.

2. WELCOME TO THE NEW SECRETARY

Trustees welcomed the new secretary, Cat Sabine. They also thanked Catherine Camp for her work in this position.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4. Apologies had been received from ex-officio trustee Rev Patricia Townshend, Vicar of St Peters Church, Dunchurch.

5. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 30th September were approved and signed by Chair, Roland Robinson.

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

- a) Thurlaston Parish Council have confirmed the appointment of Jenny Cooper as a Parish Council appointed trustee for a term of 4 years.
- b) Jenny Cooper signed acceptance document to confirm she abides by the terms of the charity insurance policy.
- c) Sheena Ashford has been re-appointed as a trustee for a term of 5 years.
- d) Sheena Ashford signed acceptance document to confirm she abides by the terms of the charity insurance policy.
- e) There is still a vacant position for a Parish Council Trustee. It was advertised in the Village Chronicle but there was no response.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Ref 4b, 30 saplings are due to arrive in mid-March from Woodland Trust free of charge. Will be delivered to R Robinson, who will then plant them.
- b) Ref 5b, bees have not yet arrived on the allotments. Likely to be May/June. C Camp has asked them to put a sign up to alert other allotment holders of their presence.
- c) Ref 9, S Ashford has looked at the website and confirmed it is correct and that the grant application form has been added to it.

7. ALLOTMENTS

Hedges have been cut. Invoice not yet received for this.

All usable allotments have been rented. All allotment holders are happy at present.

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8. FARM LAND

- a) R Robinson investigated current prices for farm land. He advised that current rate is around £360 - £380 per hectare for agricultural land. This works out at £150 per acre. Currently charging £100. Trustees agreed to increase the rent to £130 from 1st March 2021 and to then look at a further increase in 3 years. C Sabine to notify tenants of the increase by 1st March 2020 (in order to give 1 year's notice of increase.) **CS**
- b) There were no other farm land matters to discuss currently.

- c) The trustees signed the paperwork to add additional signatories to the cheque account.
- d) The Secretary reported that she had been late in banking rent cheques for the land rent. These have now been banked and invoices for the current 6 months sent to tenants.
- e) R Robinson agreed to arrange for the hedges to be cut. Invoice to be emailed to the Secretary for payment.

9. FINANCE

- a) At 31.12.19 Thurlaston Poor's Plot Charity balance is £38,154.90

The financial statement was approved.

- b) Invoices for payment were approved as listed: -

Payee	Cheq No	Description	£
Catherine Camp	0219	Honorarium + Expenses	£300 + £ 8.87= £ 308.87
Water Plus		Water Rates – Paid by Direct Debit	£11.14
Water Plus		Water Rates – Paid by Direct Debit	£19.24

- c) All trustees have completed the cheque signatory forms.

Trustees talked about the amount of money currently sitting in the bank. They had another discussion about the need for a children's play area and the lack of available land. R Robinson to speak to the nursing home about the unused field belonging to them that could be an appropriate place. **RR**

10. GRANTS

- a) A request for funding towards installation of a Disabled Toilet for Thurlaston Village Hall was considered. £2,275 total cost. Trustees expressed their concerns about the ongoing costs for such an old building. Agreed to contribute £1,275 once a grant application form has been completed. C Sabine to contact Chair of Village Hall Committee Mary Cook to advise on decision. **CS**

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b) Trustees discussed the lack of requests for the Education Grant. S Larque volunteered to attend the Annual Parish Meeting and to promote this grant as well as providing a report on behalf of Poor's Plot.

11. ANY ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING

None

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: **Monday 7th September 2020** at 7pm in Thurlaston Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 19.55

PLEASE NOTE while every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of these minutes they are still subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the Trustees and as such cannot be construed as the official record of this meeting until signed by the Chairman at the next meeting.

Signed:CHAIRMAN DATE20