



Thurlaston Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting 1/2020/2021 held on Monday 11th January 2021
as a Virtual Zoom at 7pm

Present: Parish Councillors: John Bretherton (JB) Chair
Helen Creery (HC)
Norman Lines (NL)
Keith Boardman (KB)
Stephen Lewington (SL)

Parish Clerk: Sylvia Jacques (SJ)

Councillors attending: Cllr Howard Roberts (HR)

Residents attending: Four plus One Journalist

1. Welcome by Chair.

Will be discussing the plans for the bungalows in the village. A planning working group was set up to help with responses to the larger planning applications. Very pleased with the increased engagement with the residents of the parish and hearing their views relating to R20/1030.

Visitors muted.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interests.

None

3. Apologies and Acceptance for Absence.

HR presented apologies from PE and DR due to a clash with other Parish Meetings.

4. Borough and County Council officer's reports and representatives from other organisations.

PE sent through notes to report on various issues,

Flooding in Willoughby, HR coordinating sandbag distribution.

There will be no lighting installed this year at the junction of Coventry Road and Main Street, because the funding was spent on a junction at Willoughby instead, which was deemed dangerous and in need of lighting.

RBC is looking at support for safer routes to schools, for local businesses hit by Covid19 and town centre rejuvenation.

Planning enforcement active for infringements of regulations.

RBC have appointed an officer to develop a tree policy in Rugby specifically to look at proposed development and Climate Emergency.

HR is chairing a working party to deal with litter and fly tipping which has increased in the borough.

RBC is focussed on setting its budget – resources have been stretched in the current year

HR reported on vaccinations carried out in the area, a hub has been established.

Discussion followed regarding the two major planning applications in the area: Warehouses (R20/1026) and Thurlaston Meadows bungalows (R20/1030).

HR asked to follow up on Beech Drive trees. Send letter prompt.

5. Residents Matters

- A Resident joined the meeting in November to express concerns regarding damage to the grass verges in Church Lane inflicted by trucks and trailers. WCC have agreed to tidy up the verge when the weather improves and position some posts on the verge.
- The Thurlaston Bus Shelter is in need of repair. Woodworm, wet rot, roof heavy with moss. Preservation treatment needed. SJ to obtain three quotes.
- Dog litter and litter bin problem in the village with extra use of bins for coffee cups, probably from walkers from Draycote reservoir. SJ to check cost of an extra bin.
- The lamp-post damaged by a fallen tree on Biggin Hall Lane has now been repaired. The tree was removed fairly quickly and now the lamp-post has been replaced with a new one.
- A resident asked for advice on a lighting issue. An unoccupied house has lights all around the house and these are on all night. This is a dark sky village and these lights are causing a nuisance to neighbours and possible confusion to wildlife. Possible avenues to explore, the Estate Agent or the CAB for advice.
- Car Parking – this is a nuisance issue now but with a possible 80 more cars plus visitors to the new bungalows, this will increase. Now it is causing problems with residents being blocked into or out of their homes, illegal and obstructive parking which may cause accidents. Possible actions, talk to STW manager, repair to the gate leading onto the reservoir, bear with until normal times. Dunchurch has a traffic warden. Engage with local police. Notices have been put around some posts in the village asking for thoughtful parking. Posters to be put back into bus shelter. Option of double yellow lines in small areas around junctions. Could have a leaflet drop/windscreen onto cars of ones supplied by police. There is also a poster mounted onto melamine which was intended for the wall opposite Stocks Lane where vehicles park on the pavement and cause a problem to walkers with pushchairs, this could be actioned.
- A resident of Biggin Hall Lane attended to discuss a problem with vans looking for the Golf Club and Storage World warehouse. These vehicles are being wrongly directed into the village and along Biggin Hall Lane. They then get to the far end and cannot turn and use residents drives to try and manoeuvre and drive over the verges. The problem has increased with Covid with extra deliveries. Asked if signage could be put at the junction of Main Street and Biggin Hall Lane, similar to that at the Main Road, stating, Dead End no way through to Whitefield's and Storage World. It is possible to change Sat Nav directions via Google. Another point raised was how to apply to RBC to adopt this road, as it is unadopted at the moment.
SJ to enquire about WCC installing a dead-end sign at the junction of BHL with Main Street and another half-way along BHL and to enquire regarding RBC adopting BHL.

6. Approval of Minutes – meeting held on Monday 9th November 2020.

Decision: Proposed by KB, seconded by SL and passed by TPC

7. Actions Review (updates to the actions listed in the Agenda Notes)

JB asked if there were any additional updates to the actions – there were none except where covered elsewhere in the agenda.

8. Finance & Clerk (SJ)

- TPC has discussed the Precept for 2021/22 and the decision was to increase it by £20,000 to cover the costs of professional expertise relating to the planning applications for Thurlaston Meadows and the Warehouses. The total sum requested was £27,500 (proposed by KB and seconded by NL).

The I/E projections for the remainder of the current year (to end of March 2021), that was circulated to TPC prior to the meeting, has been updated by SJ but may have additions with engaging professionals to assist with the planning applications, Avon Planning, two hours, Landscape survey (no estimate received yet), and further Barrister costs. To note I/E transactions to date 2020/21.

Decision: Records accepted – no queries raised

- Cheques payments and signatures – formal proposal to pay invoice
Ten cheque payments made since the last TPC meeting – no queries raised.
Still trying to sent up online payments, SJ to contact bank.

9. Strategic Planning (NL/KB)

- Still work to do for the planning applications. Suggestions to seek meetings with Chief Planning Officer, Framptons. Target Committee members as happened last time, 42 members sent an email. Approach newspapers at the right time. Discussion followed on various points that could be raised to ensure we keep the village character as we want it to appear.
- Discussed 1026, changes to original plan, height to increase, other items changed, could seek professional advice. Check if WCC know of road changes, queries to RBC. Sub planning committee meeting, to include KB and SL. 5pm best for JB. Discussed methods of communication with residents. Facebook and Twitter not suitable. Could create a database spreadsheet. Draft Communications Policy and Publicity Scheme.

10. Village Design Statement (JB)

JB has engaged with RBC received confirmation that the current VDS was renewed with RBC in 2016. This will run out mid-2021.

11. Planning subcommittee (HC)

HC provided the following updates to TPC:

- R20/0366 – Leam Valley Golf Centre: No decision as yet
- R20/1026 – Framptons/Tritax. No decision
- R20/ - 1030 – Thurlaston Meadows, Main Street: no decision
- An email has been received from a planning company representing a proposed development in the village. Plans will be sent for the TPC to view. SJ to reply and offer a Zoom meeting.

12. Trees Update (SJ/NL)

Updates:

- Trees on Beech Drive (NL): NL pursuing with HR and WCC, the ownership to adopt a piece of land. Submitted to the legal department. NL has received a reply from the solicitor, work in progress.
- Updated Trees Maps (SJ/NL): SJ reported that WCC is aiming to update the maps by March 2021 and will send updated maps to TPC thereafter.
- Work on the stiles between Stocks Lane and Biggin Hall Lane has commenced and will be completed shortly.

13. Policy and Procedures (KB)

- Nothing to report.

14. ICT (KB)

- Website – History and Art Group web page require updates and the respective lead authors have been asked to provide material.

15. Councillors reports – for any other items not covered elsewhere on the agenda (All)

16. Items for Future Consideration (All).

Meeting closed at 21.45

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 8th March 2021.

Appendix

Actions from Minutes of Meeting 5/2020/2021 held on Monday 9th November 2020:

Ref	Due By	Owner	Action	Progress	Status
2020.014	30-Jun	SJ	Banking: SJ to contact the bank to request an online banking facility (if they are not willing to supply this service, Unity Bank, which is used by other parishes, does offer this service.	Raised 11th May – Ongoing. SJ has contacted the bank and will be able to set up online banking for payments shortly	Open
2020.018	31-Aug	KB/NL	KB and NL to arrange a strategy meeting to formulate a joined-up approach to TPC responding to planning applications and to include following up on the possibility of creating a greenway linking Sustrans 41, disused LWNR route and Northampton Lane.	08/09/2020: A formalised strategy meeting has not taken place yet, preparation of questions (see 2020.019) became primary focus and the response to these questions may have an input to strategy.	Open
2020.024	31-Aug	SJ	Village trees: SJ to circulate a scan of trees in village.	Sylvia has circulated the maps to the Councillors. A new map will be received when Clint Parker carries out the work in the village	Open
2020.025	31-Aug	SJ/NL	To consider if TPC needs to arrange for more regular tree surveys in the Parish and/or understand whether an annual inspection by Clint's Team is sufficient. NL to consider writing a paper explaining responsibilities and processes.	NL wrote to Clint Parker (WCC) and Dave Gower (RBC) and gained some history from residents. Immediate responses from Clint and Dave – some progress, but no definitive answers yet. NL explained we believe the Corsican Pine trees are fragile, especially in high winds and would benefit from more regular inspections. NL to continue.	Open
2020.037	30 Sept	SJ	Contact Poors Plot for paperwork	SJ has contacted Poors Plot but still awaiting a response	Open
2020.040	09-Nov	SJ	A Resident expressed concerns regarding damage to grass verges in Church Lane inflicted by trucks and trailers. SJ previously investigated options to address this and TPC concluded installing wooden posts on the verge, which would have to be set back by 0.5M from the road and would likely be ineffectual	SJ has contacted WCC and they will tidy the verge and erect posts to prevent future/further damage. Delayed until the weather improves.	Open
2020.045	09-Nov	KB	To circulate notes relevant to a proposed communication policy to TPC.		Open

2020.046	09-Nov	All	All to review the Art and History Group pages and comment on required updates.		Open
2020.048	31-Jan	SJ/SL	Street light along Biggin Hall Lane damaged in storm	Street light installed and commissioned.	Close
2020.049	31-Jan	SJ	Stiles between Stocks Lane and Biggin Hall Lane broken	Work has commenced and will be finished shortly.	Open
2021.001	15-Feb	NL	Letter to be sent to HR to follow up on Beech Drive trees		New
2021.002	15-Feb	SJ	Obtain 3 quotes for the work to repair the bus shelter. Price of new shelter.		New
2021.003	15-Feb	SJ	Obtain prices for extra bin(s) for dog litter and fitting		New
2021.004	15-Feb	SJ	Posters to be put back in noticeboards to outline parking problem in village		New
2021.005	28-Feb	SJ	Look into signage for Biggin Hall Lane to stop delivery vehicles driving in lane looking for the Golf Club and Storage World. Also check adoption of lane.		New