



THURLASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 1 /2020/2021 held on Monday 13th January 2020 at Thurlaston Village Hall at 7.00 pm

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

Councillors attending: Cllr Howard Roberts (HR) and Cllr Peter Eccleson (PE)

Residents attending: Richard Ponsford

1. **Welcome by Chair:**

Welcome was given by the Chair to all.

2. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interest:** None

3. **Apologies and Absence Approved:** None

4. **Reports from Borough and County Council officers**

HR reported on current reviews of operations at both County and Borough levels, including with regard to Climate Emergency declarations.

Budget setting for 2020/21 is in progress.

With regard to healthcare services there are reviews of GP surgeries and resident access to St. Cross and University Hospital by public transport. To assist with the reduction of hospital bed-blocking the Fire & Rescue Service is assisting with night-time patient discharges where these can be safely undertaken.

The Warwickshire Police service is now up to strength with a total of 1,000 officers.

Lighting at Thurlaston Main Street/Coventry Road junction is still under review.

PE provided updates on planning activities. At Dunchurch he reported on the Ashlawn Road 100-year-old Oak tree which was to be felled but now saved. More trees are being planted in this area. With regard to housing developments attention is being given to insulation compliance and reduction in carbon footprints – eg installation of solar panels fitted on south facing rooves. He agreed that new building schemes require tighter controls with regard to standards that developers must adopt. Ashlawn Road Phase 1 development has been approved and this will release funds for the remodelling traffic lanes at the main Dunchurch crossroads.

PE concurred that the WCC Mineral Plan needs to be aligned with the Rugby SW Local Plan particularly with regard highway infrastructure design.

It was noted that the Dunchurch NDP has currently stalled. NL had noticed, on the Dunchurch website, that a meeting had been arranged for January 6th to re-launch this process but had no information on the outcome of that session. Willoughby and Coton Forward Parish NDPs have been approved.

5. Residents Matters:

A resident brought a proposal for a local wind turbine farm surrounding the Leam valley. He explained the potential carbon reduction benefits and savings on electricity generation. His prime motivation for this initiative is concerns with regard to accelerating climate change. He has explored many aspects of climate change and has information available from many sources. Cllr HR will invite our resident to a Council meeting to put forward his proposals.

6. Approval of Minutes of Meetings held on 11th November 2019

Minutes of meeting on 11th November 2019 were approved and proposed by SL and seconded by JB. The minutes were signed by KB.

7. Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

None.

8. Local Plan

NL believed that the response from residents to the SDP was significant. A number of people had shared their submissions. Some also shared their submissions with our MP and he has written to the RBC supporting their comments. The reply to him was an assurance that views were being evaluated and an overview of the timescales for a final draft of the SDP. Another resident has been supported by the PC in his submission of questions to the monthly cabinet meetings of the RBC. This has led to a meeting with Sebastian Lowe, leader of the Council. This interaction must be beneficial and NL will discuss with the resident the progress with his discussions.

A meeting has been arranged with Ms Stephanie Chettle-Gibrat on 22nd January. Cllrs KB, NL and JB will attend. Prior to the meeting an agenda will be developed.

The Minerals Plan (see agenda item 10) would be referred to in the context of the need for a holistic approach to highways especially with regard to the A45 and associated connecting roads around SW Rugby and the Bourton minerals site.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

JB provided an update on the NDP. Replies to the December Newsletter survey were 41 for and 2 against the NDP. He expressed concern whether interest would be adequate for a successful NDP project to proceed.

PE had suggested Jill Simpson-Vince, Rugby Borough Councillor as portfolio holder for Growth and Investment on the Cabinet, may be useful source for advice.

Martin Needham, Senior Planning Officer, is RBC's NDP specialist adviser.

JB would undertake further research, and would consider presenting material at the Annual Village Meeting.

10. Warwickshire Minerals Plan 2018

KB updated members on the WCC Minerals Plan which has been forwarded by WCC to the Secretary of State for ratification. Public consultation will commence in April 2020.

11. Planning Applications

HC provided updates on the following applications:

R16/2569 db Symmetry extended to 20.1.2020

R19/1443 Toft View Extend and update, approved

12. Village Hall Liaison

NL had no further information to that already reported at our November meeting.

The PC is not receiving agendas and minutes.

KB reported that the Christmas tree, purchased by the TPC, and displayed outside the VH during Christmas is now stored in the VH shed. This can be used for future festivities.

KB will consider future oak tree lighting arrangements and discuss options with various residents with the intention of ensuring the village has adequate people to take responsibility for their display in the future.

13. Emergency Plan

SL & KB met with a representative from the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Resilience Team (CSW). He advised we should use their document template which is being adopted across the county. CSW did not offer specific advice with regard to major emergency scenarios - in essence it is Thurlaston's plan and we should liaise with residents and relevant businesses particularly concerning specific circumstances (such as Thurlaston Meadows care home) and access to specialist equipment (eg. 4 X 4 vehicles).

A draft emergency plan is almost complete. However, there is still a need to contact certain individuals to check their permission for inclusion in support arrangements.

KB advised it would be helpful if we could have sight of the care home business continuity plan. We should ensure the Parish plan is broadly congruent with that used by the care home.

KB offered to contact a local farmer to record potential availability of off-road vehicles. SL and SJ also had additional people to contact. It was anticipated a draft plan would be ready for review at our March meeting.

Whilst the Emergency Plan will be confidential, KB asked that resident documentation should be produced in a form that is also suitable for the Parish website, and relates appropriately with more general neighbourhood safety information.

14. Tree Management

NL reported that dialogue with Clint Parker is ongoing.

It was suggested contact with Richard Haycock and David Gower RBC may be helpful.

Advice on trees located on Crown Property is probably available from Brian Coleman.

15. ICT

The old Parish computer has been sold for £25 and passed to the Parish Clerk.

With regard to ThurlastonNet an audit of users of the system is still to be undertaken.

KB reported various minor revisions have been made to the website, most notably the Home page and a section on the Parish Council.

16. Councillors Reports

No additional reports.

17. Policies & Procedures

Finance Policy updated on website to reflect September 2019 endorsement.

Transparency Policy endorsement and approval of rollover date.

Planning Applications Procedure, front page updated.

All adopted policy documents are loaded on the website.

SJ would update the PC's 'bring-forward' document.

18. Finance and Administration

Updates provided by the Parish Clerk:

- a) I/E spreadsheet updated and balanced to the bank account.
- b) Cheques for signature and signed and approved by KB and NL. KB signed reports as the Chair.
- c) The precept has been submitted to RBC for 20/21.
- d) The Welcome Pack was discussed and thanks has been given to Mel Harley, who has stepped down, for his input over the years.
- e) A grant was obtained from Cllr Howard Robert's budget and a projector has been purchased on behalf of the Thurlaston Ladies Cub for use in the VH. This will remain the property of the Parish Council.
- f) Brian Coleman who has led the team producing the Thurlaston Chronicle is stepping down. KB said he had not yet received an electronic version of the 2019 edition for the website.
- g) Tom Crawford of STW Draycote Water is still pursuing a development grant and will contact the TPC in the future.

Items for future consideration:

Training of new Councillors – this will be reviewed when the new WALC newsletter is received. When the new WALC dates are issued JB and SL will decide which they can attend.

Annual Village meeting Date in April to be agreed.

Confirmation of Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.00pm at Thurlaston Village Hall.

The meeting finished at 22.30 pm

Minutes Signed by Chair Keith Boardman Dated.....

Ref	Due By	Owner	Subject	Action	Status
8	31 Jan	NL	Local Plan	Meeting with Brian Coleman	
8	22 Jan	KB/NL/JB	Local Plan	Meeting with S Chettle-Gibrat	
9	28 Feb	JB	NDP	Meeting with RBC	
12	22 Jan	KB	email	Email to Mary Cook re Christmas Tree	
13	30 Jan	SL/SJ/KB	Emergency Plan	Contact residents as discussed	
14	29 Feb	NL	Tree Management	Contact WCC and RBC & BC	
15	29 Feb	KB	ThurlastonNet	Pursue audit	
18	29 Jan	SJ	Welcome Pack	Ask MH for papers to be passed to KB	
18	29 Feb	SJ	Chronicle	Check lead on future Chronicle	
18	29 Feb	SJ	Training Cllrs	Check WALC for courses	