

Therfield Parish Council

Parish Clerk Helen Stubbings

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Chairman Andy Osbourne

Draft Minutes of Therfield Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 7.30pm at Therfield Chapel.

Present: Cllrs; C Close, J Duncan, L Laing, A Osbourne (Chair) D Whitby and S Whitby.

In attendance: H Stubbings (Clerk) Cllr S Jarvis, Cllr G Morris and five members of the public.

1.01.22	To receive apologies for absence. PC C Brabrook	
2.01.22	To receive Members Declarations of Interest. None	
3.01.22	To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 th November 2021 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record. The Minutes were proposed by Cllr L Laing seconded by Cllr J Duncan – resolved.	
4.01.22	Matters Arising not appearing on the agenda a) Greens Management Plan; circulated on the day of the meeting. b) Noticeboard repair; in process for repair. c) Appointment of Boteman Trustee confirmed as G Moule- resolved d) Inspection of Beacon and Jubilee lighting – there may be cattle in the field, see Mrs Hodge/Tom Kingsley e) Siting of no parking signs – S38 no longer relevant f) Website – AO/LL to see SB, items for review include the contact form	LL AO/CC SB
5.01.22	Chairman's Report. Report circulated; to be posted on website. There are sixty members on the new hub group. AO proposed that two members from Therfield PC and two members of Kelshall village meeting be appointed to monitor traffic; AO & LL were appointed- resolved.	
6.01.22	To invite Members of the Public to address the meeting. a) Why is there a second chatter group? Originally the plan was to link the council website with the village chatter group (which wasn't allowable). The PC have therefore set up their own Google group with Kelshall Parish to mainly give council "alerts" straight to villagers inboxes. b) Increasing deer numbers? It's becoming a national problem. What is the action of the police? Post warning signs on the website and hub. c) Jubilee events – JD will investigate what activities are planned among other village groups.	AO
7.01.22	To accept the RFO's Finance Report. The report was agreed, noting a cash balance of £17,536.18. Proposed AO, 2 nd JD – resolved.	
8.01.22	To agree the Precept for 2022-23 In light of reserves and approved Draft budget for 2022-23 the precept as shown on the circulated tax base of £262.70 and precept of £6,000 was proposed by AO; 2 nd by DW and resolved.	
9.01.22	To approve payments for January, including; Clerk's salary. Total expenditure of £275. Proposed by LL, 2 nd SW - resolved.	
10.01.22	Update on Parish Councillor vacancy and appointment of Clerk. a) LL has been in discussions with a newcomer to the village with a view to joining the PC as a Councillor in March 2022. b) Clerk; potential leads have not raised any interest at present job will be advertised on the hub and website.	AO/ Clerk

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11.01.22	To discuss matters relating to the play-park. AO had previously produced a project plan, however having obtained further quotes the final cost was higher than anticipated, a third quote is being sought. The school children had suggested two items of play equipment, a surface trampoline was the preferred option of the children. A grant applications for S106 money has been submitted to NHDC and up to £5,800 is available. The PC resolved to use reserves to help fund the cost.	AO
12.01.22	To discuss matters relating to the Heath and Greens. The report from the open meeting held by the Conservators was circulated. It was suggested that a sub-committee meeting with the Conservators be held in mid-February before the March Parish Council meeting to discuss the proposal in good time before the grass cutting season commenced. AO asked for comments and feed-back to be sent to him AO – resolved . Report on website.	Feed-back to AO Clerk
13.01.22	To discuss matters relating Foot Paths and Parish Paths Partnership including tree planting. The refurbishment of the BOAT is in the budget but yet to be carried out. SW to contact JC. Litter pick; suggested date of March 12 – resolved . Tree planting in the village to commemorate the Queens Jubilee; AO to investigate.	DW AO/CC
14.01.22	To discuss matters relating to highway. a) Flooding on Reed End; on going b) Large pot hole on New Road	SJ
15.01.22	To discuss any Planning applications. a) High Beeches; LL had telephoned the Planning Officer regarding this application. The major concern of this application is the accessibility to the proposed property along a narrow lane that leads to working farms. The two other gated houses in the lane further reduce turning and passing. Essential service and trade vehicles may struggle to gain access. If planning permission should be granted provision for a turning circle could be included in the conditions. Concern was raised about access to the farms during the build and the extensive earth works required. Other concerns were raised about over development and sustainability. b) Tuthill; objections remain the same; green field, outside envelope. –. c) Thrift Farm – household development. d) Pavillion: awaiting plans. Clerk Nigel Reader plans.	LL comments to GM HS AO Clerk
15.01.22	To discuss matters relating to North Herts and Herts CC. GM a) The comments from the Inspector re the Local Plan are due soon. b) Newsells Stud is being developed. c) GM described new electoral process, ie that of a four year rolling process. SJ a) More drainage work on Police Row is to be carried out. b) Discussions with Affinity Water regarding the pumping head on The Heath have resulted in the plans being reviewed with simpler solution proposed. c) Work down Church Lane included ditching to be completed.	

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	AO asked about the possibility of a pathway being put along Hay Green for pedestrian use and in particular wheelchair access and push-chairs? SJ agreed to investigate, but it may depend on ownership of the land.	SJ
16.01.22	To receive matters for report and or referral to next agenda (Information only) Beacon lighting, Jubilee celebrations, Speed equipment survey.	JD
17.01.22	Note correspondence received. The Parish Council had received a letter from Mr & Mrs Jeffries regarding the speeding in the village and in particular along the Causeway and outside the school. It was felt that the traffic in the village has increased multi-fold over the past few years and since the previous traffic survey had been carried out. SJ advised that there is some additional funding available from Police Commissioners road safety fund. The PC discussed spending reserves on appropriate warning equipment. Prior to any expenditure the PC would conduct a survey of village opinion via the newsletter, hub and website. JD offered to design a poster - resolved	JD
18.01.22	Date of next meeting – 8 th March 2022, 10 th May, 12 th July, 13 th September, 8 th November. The idea to hold a 'New Comers' event would be decided based on what jubilee celebrations were arranged.	

The meeting closed at 9.18pm

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