

# Therfield Parish Council

Parish Clerk Helen Stubbings

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Chairman Andy Osbourne



Draft Minutes of Therfield Parish Council held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm via zoom remotely.

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

In attendance: H Stubbings (Clerk) Cllr G Morris and 4 members of the public.

1.09.20	To receive apologies for absence. Cllr's S Jarvis, G Morris and J Duncan,	
2.09.20	To receive Members Declarations of Interest. None	
3.09.20	To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 7 <sup>th</sup> July & 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record. The approval of the Minutes were proposed by Cllr L Laing and seconded by Cllr D hitbyW - <b>resolved.</b>	
4.09.20	Matters Arising not appearing on the agenda a) Website – made contact with Simon Brazil with a view to moving forward in all haste. b) Community phone – DW will liaise with JD who currently has the phone. The volunteer list is being updated. AO proposed that the Council continue to offer this facility in the village, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by LL - <b>resolved</b> c) Replacement bench seat at Mill Lane. The cost of a hardwood bench is in the region of £400, it was agreed to ask for sponsors from the village via the newsletter. The bench in memory of Mr Bishop does not need replacing.	LL DW LL
5.09.20	Chairman's Report. The Chair had circulated his report prior to the meeting, in his report he had thanked Mike McGloin for his service to the village and Parish Council. AO to action gift to Mike. The Chair had received several phone calls regarding the running of HGV's out of Tuthill Yard. LL reported on the actions that are taking place, including a visit to the site by Environmental Agency.	AO
6.09.20	To note the resignation of Michael McGloin, to elect a vice-chair and to discuss replacement councillor. The Parish Council as a whole added their thanks to Mike McGloin for all his contributions over the past years to the Parish Council. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mike, NHDC will also be informed of the vacancy. AO proposed that Cllr Linda Laing become the Vice-Chair, Cllr Laing was in agreement, DW 2 <sup>nd</sup> the motion and it was - <b>resolved.</b>  Subject to clarification from NHDC the vacancy will be advertised. Other responsibilities carried out by M McGloin included: Planning/Website/Community phone/ AED Linda Laing agreed to cover planning and the website David- community phone Andy - AED	
7.09.20	To invite Members of the Public to address the meeting. a) A resident endorsed the continuation of the community phone. b) The bollards in Pedlars Lane; some residents are in support of the bollards as a traffic calming option. There are opinions for and	

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	<p>against the siting of the bollards. The PC agree with traffic calming, but it is an issue whether the land is highway property and therefore up to HCC to decide whether post should be put in or not. The matter has been reported and is now with highways, the PC have fulfilled due process.</p> <p>c) Comments about the Luton Skip company also included the fact that lorries were using Coombe Road.</p>	
8.09.20	Accounts for payment. Including; Salary, Grass cutting Prop Cllr AO and 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Cllr LL - <b>resolved</b> .	
9.09.20	<p>To discuss matters relating to the Playpark including hand-over to new safety officer.</p> <p>Bob Clegg had handed over to Trevor Sharpe; DW will provide the Clerk with contact details. A letter of thanks will be sent to RC. The Clerk will ask HAPTC about its legal obligations regarding the safety officer and if a DBS check is required.</p> <p>A new swing seat is required, Clerk to order.</p> <p>The roundabout requires servicing and the rubber matting it sits on replacing. The Clerk will undertake to find a maintenance contractor.</p> <p>A request has been made to the Parish Council to consider putting a access gate in playpark to the burial ground for casual grave visiting. It was agreed that this was not a PC matter but an issue between Chapel &amp; school.</p> <p>AO will contact Denis Wilks regarding access.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
10.09.20	<p>To discuss matters relating Foot Paths and Parish Paths Partnership.</p> <p>Cllr S Whitby had met with Julia Clerk to inspect the village foot-paths. The two and a half-hour walk identified items that needed repair or replacement. However, as budgets have been cut it is not known when the repairs may take place.</p>	
11.09.20	<p>To discuss matters relating to Heaths &amp; Greens.</p> <p>Conservator, Robert Law affirmed that the cutting of the greens was continuing, with a final cut being planned for about a months time. He asked if a kind person might strim around bollards on the Boat.</p> <p>A resident had approached the Conservators asking for access across Conservators land on Hay Green. It was noted that some of the land was also highways. Negotiations are taking place, as a charity the Conservators have an obligation to achieve best value for the charity.</p> <p>There was a discussion about land at The Rookery -RL agreed to visit to refresh his memory on layout. The Parish Council would be in agreement to the proposed changes.</p> <p>The Parish Council asked the Conservators if it was possible to remove the pile of grass to side of Hay Green.</p> <p>It was also asked when the Boat 36; the wild flower meadow might be cut, it had previously been agreed that this would be once a year.</p>	<p><b>RL</b></p> <p><b>RL</b></p>
12.09.20	<p>To agree a date for the autumn village litter pick.</p> <p>Proposed Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October; Clerk to send recent advice bulletins to DW</p>	DW
13.09.20	<p>To discuss planning applications.</p> <p>a) Little Orchard – no objection</p>	

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14.09.20	To discuss concerns over empty housing stock. House No 19 has been let but it appears that there is no one living in the property. Nos 1 Meadow Way was also empty. Cllr J Duncan has been in contact with 'Settle'.	<b>JD</b>
15.09.20	To discuss matters relating to highways including DriveSafe proposals. Repairs to Pedlars lane repairs have been carried out, but New Road needs repairing, also the problems along Police Row are being addressed by highways. DW proposed that DriveSafe be reinstated, this was 2 <sup>nd</sup> and agreed. Six volunteers are needed to run the scheme. Ask for volunteers via the newsletter.	<b>DW</b>
16.09.20	To discuss matters relating to North Herts and Herts CC Cllr Jarvis had sent a report to the Clerk prior to the meeting, this was read out. Cllr Jarvis confirmed that he had requested the SID to be moved, also he mentioned that drainage investigation work is to be carried out along Police Row. The concerns about Tuthill have been raised with the Environment agency. The Clerk will forward the report to the Councillors.	
17.09.20	To consider a guidance policy from HAPTC regarding parishioners comments. In the absence of Cllr Duncan this item will be held over to the next agenda.	Next agenda JD
18.09.20	To note items of referral to next meeting Housing Grievance policy	
19.09.20	Note correspondence received. An e-mail has been received concerning the transfer of piece of land along the A505 and if Therfield PC have a copy of this plan. It was noted that some archive material had been given to Museum Royston.	
20.09.20	Date of next meeting – Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

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