# Minutes of a Meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council Held On

Thursday 1st October 2020

**at the Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh (6.30pm start).**

**Present: -** Councillors G Trickett (Chair), A Martin, D Bates, G Senior, J Parsons, R Thomas & K Endicott.

Ward Councillors J Senior & K Albiston plus K Burke, Culture, Sport, Tourism, Countryside and Ecology Manager at RMBC.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**106/20 October Meeting of the Parish Council.**

The clerk advised that is was current NALC policy that all parish council meetings be conducted on-line due to the risks from Covid-19. Legislation was now in place for on-line meetings up to May 2021. If a live, face to face meeting was to be held then it must, effectively, be paperless and the reason why the live meeting is being held stated in the minutes. We have had to meet as not all councillors have access to internet, smart phone or email so a face to face meeting was our only option. A full risk assessment has been undertaken by the clerk and all of the required procedures have been undertaken to open the hall safely. The hall would remain closed but a future date would be discussed under Matters Arising later in the meeting.

# 107/20. Apologies For Absence.

Apologies received from Councillors M Senior, B Wellings and B Shaw.

**108/20. Declaration Of Interest.**

Councillor G Senior expressed an interest in agenda item 15 (Minute 120/20) Parish Hall Roof.

**109/20. Questions From The Public.**

There were no questions from the public.

**110/20. Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3rd September.**

**Mover: Councillor A Martin Seconder: Councillor G Senior**

**Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council, held on Thursday 3rd September, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**111/20. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings of the Parish Council.**

**146/19** – The clerk advised that the original handyman charged with renewal work on the colliery wheel has not responded to our attempts at contacting him. As requested at the last meeting, the clerk has now sourced another company for the work. They have viewed the wheel and we await final details of the quote which is expected to be in the region of £700/800 with the cost being split three ways between the parish councils of Thrybergh, Dalton and Ravenfield.

**Mover: Councillor D Bates Seconder: Councillor A Martin**

**Resolved: That the work be given to the new company when official quote is received.**

**110/19** - 1st Choice Shutters have confirmed that modification work to the bar shutters will take place 2nd October. They were on site 15th September to do the work but could not complete the work as all required parts had not been delivered.

**147/19** – The latest position on traffic calming on Doncaster Road is that the work on the new central refuges near to the Church will commence 12th October. RMBC have confirmed that there will be a speed device placed on Doncaster Road but this will be temporary and not a permanent device as originally requested. The residents group leading the road campaign and the parish council have been in touch with the Borough requesting that the sign be placed permanently. The ward councillors mentioned that the borough uses temporary, mobile signs as current evidence suggest that drivers become blasé about speed warning signs and eventually ignore them. The ward councillors suggest we write to them and they will also take up the case. Discussions still continue about a central refuge close to the country park with the Borough insisting that the road is not wide enough for one. Additional signs warning drivers of pedestrian crossing the road have also been requested from the Borough.

**128/19** – the clerk and chairman both advised that we were still awaiting information from RMBC on when the speed indicator devices would be in place on Vale Road and Hollings Lane. The chair then mentioned that there seemed to be a high number of devices between Bramley and Ravenfield and that Thrybergh councillors could not even get any information on when the two that were planned for Thrybergh, one funded by ward councillors and the other funded by Thrybergh parish council would be in place. The ward councillors present asked that we send them the details and they will progress this on our behalf.

**080/20** – It was advised that the gate on Hollings Lane was now locked as some adjustments had been made to it. Unfortunately, further work is needed as only 1 gate can open at the moment which allows footballers to come onto the field with their cars but could cause problems for the Borough when they come for routine maintenance to the football pitch. We have seen a high number of problems on the field with a burnt out van, fly tipping, the burning of documents stolen in a recent break in that occurred in Maltby and 4X4’s and off road bikers driving over the pitch causing significant damage. The clerk will discuss further required work with the gate company and revert to council.

**080/20** – The remedial fire work was now complete except for the door in the bin room that needed its hinges replacing. This would be done within the next week. The fire assessor will then check all work to ensure that everything is in line with current legislation. We will then look at Fire training of councillors, staff and hall hirers for when the hall is re-opened.

**080/20** – The clerk confirmed that painting of the hall was now completed but there were just a small amount of wall that needed another coat and the main doors need another coat of varnish. This work will be done in the next week or so. The new main hall blinds will be fitted Monday 5th October.

**009/20** – There are still training places for on-line classes run by YLCA. Information is available from the clerk for any councillor wishing any training.

**080/20** - The clerk advised that all plumbing and joinery work in the cleaning room is complete.

**200/19** – The clerk advised that Engie had been in touch this week to confirm that all contracts had been signed and exchanged and that work was planned to start on both sites this week.

**091/20** – There then followed detailed discussions regarding the re-opening of the parish hall. We had initially planned to re-open 21st September but this was put back to 1st October for more discussions due to the increasing second wave and further restrictions imposed by the Government. The clerk had been in touch with some other parishes and some remained closed and some partially open but all were severely restricting numbers allowed in. The new rule of 6 effectively means that all indoor activities cannot take place. .Legislation does allow for some children’s indoor activities to take place but only under strict supervision and after ensuring all safety procedures are followed exactly. We have already done our risk assessment but it is a requirement that hirers of the hall conduct their own assessments. Halls, if opened, must be deep cleaned before and after the public has been in which makes it almost impossible to open for any groups of 6 and under. It was requested that the clerk send the latest Government details of usage of halls by Children’s groups to one of the councillors and he also asked in anyone at RMBC could come along to inform on what is allowed and what isn’t. The ward councillors said that we should contact Janice Curran and the clerk will do this and invite her to the November meeting. This is assuming that there restrictions on meetings do not become more severe. A councillor then asked if we were OK having parish council meetings and the clerk advised that the latest legislation did have significant exceptions where groups can be larger than six. These include meetings for work purposes which include council meetings.

The ward councillors then stated that we would need a QR code to enable opening up, this is the scanning system used on your mobile phone and the clerk will look into this and revert.

It was decided by the parish council that the risk of infection was too great to ignore and that the parish hall would remain closed and the position would be re-assessed at the next parish council meeting in November.

**112/20. Thrybergh Country Park**

Kevin Burke, Culture, Sport, Tourism, Countryside and Ecology Manager attended the meeting to update the council on plans and proposals for the development of Thrybergh Country Park. Kevin is based at Thrybergh but does look after other country parks, woodlands and nature reserves in the Borough. He expects that he will be able to return in 3 to 4 months to give a presentation on the major developments to the park and the proposed Covid remembrance park. At the moment, the average stay at the park is approx 2 hours and the plan is to try to extend the stay time for visitors. The community payback team has been doing a lot of work on fencing, painting and general tidying of the site. The aim is to make the park family friendly from the young to the elderly and that it remains an outdoor activity centre for children so there will be activities based around climbing, walking and activities like mud kitchens. There is a plan to make the old filter bed area a centre of excellence for environmental training but this will need lottery funding. There will be more meadowlands and bio-diversity with more bird boxes, hedgehog homes and even a sculpture trail celebrating the industrial base of Rotherham i.e. coal and steel. The new notice board will be in place before Christmas. The planned Covid garden is expected to be in place by the end of March which will incorporate a two acre site close to the current bird hide. This will be a meadowland with wild flowers, water feature and a haven for wildlife. The old bird hide will be removed and replaced with something more organic like a living willow/grass screen. It will be called the ‘Field of Hope’ and the plan is for it to be a celebration rather than a sombre place. The chairman thanked Kevin for coming along and we welcome his return. The chairman also advised that we had passed, at an earlier meeting, a resolution to contribute a bench or similar to the Covid remembrance park.

**113/20. Police Report.**

The clerk gave details of the areas that made up the policing district of Rotherham North. The crime statistics for Thrybergh were then given to the councillors for consideration. It was reported that drop in sessions at parish halls remain cancelled but that on-line sessions were regularly taking place. Following the recent shooting on Poplar Avenue and the hit and run on Park Vale Drive, we have received emails from Caroline Bakewell, Inspector North Neighbourhoods at South Yorkshire police advising that there will be increased police patrols in Thrybergh to help to calm the situation and alleviate the worries of the community. Investigation continues into both incidents.

**114/20. Remembrance Service Sunday 8th November.**

The chairman advised that we were still awaiting direction of what format this year’s Remembrance Services will take place. There is little formal guidance in place this year except to say that any services will need to be drastically scaled back and many will be ‘virtual’ services. We understood that the local clergy were discussing this at a meeting also on 1st October and the clerk will make contact to see what services are planned in the local churches. It was discussed and decided that we would hold some form of service in Thrybergh on Sunday. The hall would not be opened so the usual service inside the hall and tea and biscuits after would not be available. It was decided that, unless we hear otherwise, there will be some prayers, hopefully, led by the Rev John Hibberd, some words by the chairman and the Last Post, Two Minute Silence, The Reveille, Wreaths, Kohima Exhortation, National Anthem and Blessing. Details will be placed on the website when all is sorted.

**115/20. Planning Application**s

Planning Application RB2020/0932 – Demolition of existing buildings and erection of new bungalow and garage at 151 Doncaster Road.

Planning Application RB2020/1320 – Listed building consent for part demolition of internal wall and installation of supporting steel beams at Thrybergh Golf Club.

The council considered the planning applications and there were no objections raised.

**116/20. Items Of Correspondence**

To consider the following new Correspondence which has been received since the September meeting and to decide actions where necessary.

(a) Community First Newsletter

(b) White Rose Update

(c) VAR Bulletin

(d) Neighbourhood Watch – Our News September 2020.

(e) SLCC News Bulletin

(f) Rotherham North Neighbourhood Newsletter September 2020.

(f) SYP Alerts – Speeding, Off Road Bike teams, Scam Alerts, Cold Callers & Domestic Abuse

**117/20. Items of Report.**

To clerk reported on a Silver Street walk round meeting with Ward Councillor Reeder and several members of RMBC on Silver Street on Wednesday 16th September. The aim of the walk round was to look at the area, assess any work that needed doing including repairs to fences, footpaths, littering etc. Our litter pickers regularly attend the area and the RMBC staff made notes on Borough matters including road/pavement repairs that need further investigation.

**118/20. Matters Requested by Councillors and/or AOB.**

The clerk advised that RMBC has objected to the proposal by BT to remove the public payphone from Musgrove Avenue. Usage shows that there have been 52 or more calls in the last 12 months so it is believed that the community still needs the telephone.

There will be an on-line YLCA South Yorkshire Branch Meeting on Wednesday 28th October at 6:45pm; councillors are invited to partake if they wish.

There will be an on-line meeting of the South Yorkshire Branch of SLCC on Tuesday 6th October at 10am; again councillors can partake if they wish.

There then followed a general discussion on the state of the pavement on Doncaster Road and the danger to the elderly public using it. The clerk had taken photographs and sent them to the Borough and the response was that the road was being monitored and if the condition was below the agreed and accepted Government standards then the necessary repairs would be done. The Borough also advised that they have to maintain 330,000 square metres of footways and that two thirds would benefit from repairs but they only have a budget to repair 10,000 square metres. This effectively means that repair work is not expected to be done soon. The clerk will now take up the matter with the ward councillors.

**THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE THEN INVITED TO LEAVE THE MEETING.**

**119/20. Grant Request From St. Leonard’s Church.**

The chairman advised that we had received a grant request from St Leonards Church towards maintenance costs for the church cemetery on Thrybergh Lane.

**Mover: Councillor J Parsons Seconder: Councillor A Martin**

**Resolved: The parish council award a grant of £500 towards maintenance costs for the Church graveyard.**

**120/20. Parish Hall Roof**.

Councillor G Senior left the meeting for discussions on this agenda item as he has submitted one of the received quotes. We have checked with YLCA and it is permissible for him to be considered for the contract.

Part of the parish hall flat roof over the kitchen/bar/committee room extension was repaired under emergency measure last month. It had been decided that the remaining (but less urgent) repair work would be put out to tender and three quotes obtained. The chair advised that we have received three quotes as follows; Aston Roofing at £8756.98, BB Roofing & Cladding at £9288 and G Senior Roofing at £7880.There then followed a discussion on the individual quotes.

**Mover: Councillor D Bates Seconder: Councillor A Martin**

**That the contract be awarded to G Senior Roofing.**

**Councillor Thomas then proposed that the contract be awarded to BB Roofing but there was not a seconder to the proposal.**

**Resolved: That the contract for repair work to the roof be awarded to G Senior Roofing.**

**4 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.**

**121/20. Parish Hall Toilets.**

It is over 20 years since the parish hall toilets were renewed although the disabled toilet is much newer. The chairman advised that the men’s toilets were in need of a major overhaul and we have had three companies come in to quote for renovations. The clerk has requested a combined cost for all three toilets and then an individual cost for each toilet. The amount to renovate will then determine parish council course of action. The quotes received were as follows: CW Renovations at £21,950 for all three toilets, if split then Gents at £8171.84. Ladies at £9351.53 and disabled toilet at £4826.63. Stewarts Commercial at £38,607.00, they did not put a split but, in view of how high this quote was, we decided against asking them to break it down into three components. The last quote was from Fletchers Renovations at £15340 for all three toilets. We had only just received the quote so there was no time to get the split but if we worked on a similar % breakdown using the CW Renovations split then they would be approx Gents at £6720, Ladies at £7700 and Disabled at £3980. The clerk will ask for the official breakdown after the meeting. The quotes were discussed at the meeting with Fletchers renovations being the favoured supplier due to price. It was decided that the men’s toilets urgently need immediate refurbishment but the ladies and disabled toilets are less urgent.

**Mover: Councillor D Bates Seconder: Councillor G Senior**

**Resolved: That the men’s toilets are renovated immediately with the plan to and renew the ladies and disabled in the next financial year. The clerk is to put the costs for this into next year’s budget.**

**Mover: Councillor G Senior Seconder: Councillor A Martin**

**Resolved: That the contract for the men’s toilets be awarded to Fletchers Renovations with a cost expectation of £7000. The clerk to finalise the cost and revert to council.**

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**122/20. Trees On Fullerton Field.**

The clerk advised that we have received several complaints from residents with properties close to Fullerton Fields on Vale Road. The trees are dangerously overhanging properties and are attracting local youth’s causing lots of problems with aggression, bad language, drinking and setting fires. The residents have requested the removal of two trees and the pruning off two plus the removal of bindweed. We have received three quotations. The first from Valeside Tree Care which is for £480 but only covers removal of one tree and the removal of several limbs from a second tree. After receiving this quote we received further complaints which meant the work was increased to two removals and two heavy reductions. We then received quotes of £945 from AJM Tree & Garden Services and £800 from Tree Workx. It was deemed that the quote from Valeside was so high for only a small part of the job that it was not worth getting them out to re-quote. The quotes were then discussed. The clerk advised that he was checking with RMBC that we could take the trees down without seeking planning permission. As yet, we had not received an answer. It was deemed necessary to do the work to improve the quality of life for local residents suffering from hooligan behaviour.

**Mover: Councillor A Martin Seconder: Councillor R Thomas**

**Resolved: To award the contract for the removal of one Rowan tree and one Field Maple tree plus crown’s lifting and limbs drawn back on two Field Maples plus removal of ivy and vines to Tree Workx once the permission to proceed is given by RMBC.**

**123/20.** **Accounts For Payment.**

The Council considered the schedule of accounts for payment September.

**Mover: Councillor A Martin Seconder: Councillor D Bates**

**Resolved: That the schedule of accounts for payment be approved and signed by the Chairman.**

**124/20. To notify the Clerk of Matters for inclusion on the Agenda of the Next Meeting.**

There was a request from a councillor for a bench to be sited on the Hollings Lane playing fields. It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for November’s meeting.

**125/20 Delegated Powers To The Clerk.**

Due to the 2nd wave of Covid-19 and the ever increasingly strict rules released by the Government relating to public movement and safety it was deemed prudent to set in place delegated powers as previously advised by NALC/YLCA for the clerk/responsible financial to ensure efficient running of the parish council in case council meetings are unable to be held.

**Mover: Councillor D Bates Seconder: Councillor A Martin**

**Resolved: The Council empowers the clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) to do anything expedient and necessary to ensure the continuous business of the Council and to deal with mandatory undertakings in order to prevent the authority from incurring liability during the period that the delegation is applicable.**

**Date Of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Council meeting was not confirmed due to the first Thursday in November being the 5th (bonfire night), the clerk will advise the date when a more appropriate date has been agreed.

**Closure of Meeting at 8.17pm.**

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