#  Minutes of a Meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council

# Held On Thursday 1st September2022

# At the Parish Hall, Park Lane, Thrybergh (6.30pm start).

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

Also attending the meeting: Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers, Ward Councillor Bennett-Sylvester, Nicola Jackson from Friends of Dalton, East Herringthorpe & Thrybergh Green Spaces, Dalton Parish Councillors Richard Goodhall and Kevin Oxley & Kevin Burke, Culture, Sport and Tourism, Countryside and Ecology Manager, RMBC.
There were no members of the public present

**340/22. Apologies For Absence.**

Apologies were received from Councillors B Shaw & S Mclean.

**341/22. Approval of Reason Given for Absence.**

**Mover: Councillor M Senior Seconder: Councillor R Thomas**

**Resolved: That the councillor’s apologies be accepted by the Parish Council.**

**342/22. Declaration Of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**343/22. Questions From The Public.**

There were no questions from the public.

**344/22. Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th July 2022.**

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

**Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting of Thrybergh Parish Council, held on Thursday 7th July, be approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.**

**345/22. Thrybergh Country Park.**

The parish council welcomed Kevin Burke, Culture, Sport and Tourism, Countryside and Ecology Manager, RMBC.to advise councillors on the upcoming plans for Thrybergh Country Park. He advised that the park had received £2.5m in levelling up funds and that RMBC had also allocated some extra money to the park. He then unveiled the masterplan for the park which will be in two phases with the money already in place for phase 1 and expected to come in later for phase 2. Some of the changes include the removal of the existing car park and entrance into the park to be replaced by a larger parking area and new access road. There will be a new children’s play area and the existing café will be taken down and a new building put up in its place but will be just a little closer to the water’s edge. The current seating is 60 and this will be expanded to 80 to 110 with extra outdoor seating too. The park rangers and staff are currently located in the building next to the café and they will relocate to the ice cream parlour which will then move to the new café. The caravan park is unlikely to reopen with this area planned to be an events field/space. There will be a new slipway which will be landscaped with a shallow area for wading birds which is planned to be closer to the ice cream parlour and just a little down from the current site. The old water works site is planned to be an education centre for all ages with the emphasis on activities. The first work will commence in March and will be on the carpark. The plans are very exciting and should help to make the park a first-class centre for local tourism.

Kevin advised that the Thrybergh Parish Council sponsored bench should be in place in October and he was hoping to arrange an official unveiling which was thought to be a very good idea by the Parish Councillors.

**346/22. Proposed Community Cafe for Thrybergh Parish Hall.**

The Parish Council welcomed Councillors Richard Goodhall and Kevin Oxley from Dalton Parish Council to discuss their experiences with their community café. They then went into detail about how the café began and what is entailed in its running. It currently runs once per month but they are planning to increase to every two weeks. They advised that it had been a slow process from initial start up to where they are today but they now get in a reasonable number of residents where they can discuss matters informally with the Police, Borough Housing, RotherFed etc. Light refreshments are served free of charge but they have been subsidised by supplies by local supermarkets, RotherFed and donations. They have also set up a constitution and a separate bank account for the café. There was then a short question and answer session about running the event. The chair then asked about the seated exercises that will be run on Monday’s between 10am and 11:30am by RotherFed starting on 5th September. RotherFed will run the event but costs will be met by Dalton Parish Council and entry will be free.

**347/22. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings of the Parish Council.**

**113/21. The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022** – The chair advised that he and the clerk had visited St Gerard’s school on July 8th to award the prizes to the award-winning children and to thank all the children for taking part.

We had been welcomed in the three Thrybergh junior schools and it was felt that the competition had been a great success.

**335/22 (Items Of Report). Parish Hall Fire Review** - The new fire review of the parish hall took place Tuesday July 12th. All went well with no items raised by the assessor but we did have a couple of emergency lights that needed replacing. The fire review is a legal requirement.

We have received invoices for the safety work, checks and fire review as follows:-

R Askew – electrical investigations and repairs - £60 plus VAT £12 for total £72.

R Askew Electrical – new emergency LED bulkhead - £145 plus £29 VAT for total £174.

Trust Fire – New Emergency Exit LED light - £110 plus VAT £22 for total £132.

Fire Safety Specialists – Fire safety review - £513.70 plus VAT £103.74 for total £616.44.

Total cost £828.70 plus VAT £166.74 for £994.44.

**Mover: Councillor A Martin Seconder: Councillor T Knapton**

**Resolved: That the amount of £828.70 plus VAT for various suppliers be approved and passed for payment.**

The clerk then advised that the caretaker has conducted a series of unscheduled fire alarm tests for the users of the hall and the results were very poor with the alarm either being ignored or responses levels that were, at best, shambolic i.e. belongings were collected with no urgency being shown to leave the building and assemble at the designated fire point. The clerk is to write to all regular hall uses to inform again about procedures and how they must be followed.

**332/22 - Hall Committee Action Items –** The work to clean up the area at the Park Close side of the Parish Hall including soil and tree stump removal and the laying of new limestone chippings has all been done and looks so much better. The clerk advised that a small section of wall had also been pushed over which had been repaired free of charge by West Joinery & Building.

**335/22 (Items of Report) - Power Of Competence** – This item was discussed at the July meeting when raised by Cllr B Shaw following a meeting of the South Yorkshire branch of the YLCA. The clerk advised that this power is used to allow councils to make decisions that an ordinary person can do legally but an individual councillor cannot. It is used alongside other PC powers and to enable Power Of Competence then the clerk must have passed CiLCA and more than 2/3 of councillors must have been elected i.e. not co-opted and the power has to be renewed every three years.

**313/22. Update on RMBC Planning Application RB2022/0845** – demolition of side extension and erection of single storey side and rear extension at 21 Longlands Drive. Application has been granted provisionally.

**312/22. Update on RMBC Planning Application RB2022/0812** – Erection of annexe to rear garden of 45 St Leonard’s Avenue. Application has been granted provisionally.

**303/22 - Yorkshire flag** – the clerk confirmed that the new Yorkshire flag was flown on Yorkshire Day, 1st August.

**348/22. Police Report.**

The crime statistics for Thrybergh are May at 41 incidents (Rotherham North 802) and June at 55 incidents (Rotherham North at 788). These figures are pretty much the average that we usually see for the area although the summer months tends to see an upturn in crime due to the lighter evenings and the night-time economy. SYP continue to monitor anti-social behaviour and speed issues in Thrybergh. The lighter nights tend to see an increase in criminal activity with more people on the streets. It was advised that there have been reports that trained police traffic teams in Coal Aston have been targeting off-road nuisance vehicles and, in some cases, have rammed vehicles to make them to stop. This is not something that the Parish Council is aware of and, of course, if this is to happen then we are all sure that the police will only use fully trained units and only when properly authorised.

Ward Councillor Bennett-Sylvester advised that there was a 10-man traffic team in South Yorkshire dealing with off-road nuisance and vehicles and they have been compiling statistical data to know which areas and at what time of day to target their activities. The unit also now has a drone to help them identify and resolve issues. It was also advised that considerate motor cyclists are also outraged by the behaviour of nuisance motorcyclists as this also reflects on them even though they are fully laws abiding.

**349/22. Installation Of New Curate at St Leonard’s Church.**

It was advised by the chair that Rev Helen Terry is to be installed as the new vicar of St Leonard’s Church by the Right Reverend Dr Pete Wilcox, Bishop of Sheffield, on Sunday September 4th at 9.30am in St Leonard’s Church. The chair is unable to attend due to work commitments and vice chair Andrea Martin will represent the parish council. It is understood that the Mayor of Rotherham will also be at the Installation.

**350/22.**

Erection of 2 pairs of semi-detached dwellings on former garage site on St Leonard’s Avenue. Details given to the parish councillors for consideration. No comments or concerns were raised.

**351/22. Planning Application RB 2022/1193** – Demolition of Existing Conservatory & Erection of Single Storey Rear Extension at Saxon House, 138 Doncaster Road. Details given to the parish councillors for consideration. No comments or concerns were raised.

**352/22. Correspondence**

Copies of correspondence were made available to view by the parish councillors.

YLCA White Rose Bulletins.

YLCA Training Report.

YLCA Civility & Respect Project & SLCC Civility & Respect Newsletter.

Dalton & Thrybergh Neighbourhood & Bramley & Ravenfield Neighbourhood News.

Analysis of Parish Precepts (YLCA)Neighbourhood News

Questions put to Dr Alan Billings, the South Yorkshire Police & Crime commissioner for the recent YLCA Branch meeting (he could not attend) plus Police Blog.

Police & Crime Panel Annual Report 2021/22.

NALC Chief Executives’ Bulletin.

**353/22. Items of Report.**

Ward Councillor Baker-Rogers advised that she is now conducting face to face surgeries and she also went to the recent Discovery Day at Thrybergh Country Park. There was a request from Cllr Parsons for a dropped kerb on Fullerton Crescent and the Ward Councillor confirmed that this would be done but, unfortunately, not until 2024/25 due to budgetary restriction. She also requested that Councillors and residents sign up for the Ward newsletter and said that she would send the link to the clerk for him to distribute. The Ward Councillor again advised that she had been in discussions with RMBC about the recent Jubilee grants awarded by RMBC to which Thrybergh Parish Council had been declined access and the application systems for the future will be more transparent.

Ward Councillor Bennett-Sylvester advised that the recent Discovery Day at Thrybergh Country Park was part of the plan to increase user group for the facility. Eleven families with children attended the event but only one family was from Thrybergh. There is to be another Discovery Day in October (on a Wednesday) aimed at building bat boxes. This week has seen a series of youth activities based at the Church Parish Hall and it was aimed that this could be built upon to give further out of school activities for local children. It was advised that parents could get together to apply for grant funding and he would be willing to help anyone interested in pursuing this. The Ward Councillor then advised that a rare moth had been spotted on the disused railway line that runs through Thrybergh and several parties are looking into making a trail on this line all the way through to Ravenfield. It was advised that RotherFed was trying to increase the usage of the Staple Green community centre through more activities and the chair raised concern that he had heard they were planning to hold Bingo session on 5 days of the week which could be a concern due to cost incurred by those playing but it was advised that the bingo is social only and no prize money is being offered. There was further discussion on the planned cutbacks and cancellations to Thrybergh buses and it was also reported that the 616 school bus to St Bernard’s Senior School was also being cancelled. Both Ward Councillors are continuing to fight the case for planned cutbacks to be rescinded.

Site visits were undertaken by both Ward Councillors to Staple Green and St Leonard’s Avenue to look at sites currently used for garages that are planned to be redeveloped into homes and both Councillors are in favour of this.

Cllr Martin also raised the issue of the car wash on the corner of Hollings Lane and Doncaster Road which had now been painted blue which looked awful. It was felt that little could be done about this but people were welcome to contact Environmental Services if they thought it necessary.

The Clerkattended Dalton & Thrybergh Cap meeting Monday 26th July. Again, the Police were not present. We are now seeing more crime reported in Dalton & Thrybergh and if we want the police to take action we need to report incidents more with as much detail as possible and it is recommended to keep a log of any illegal activities. There seems to be an increase on off-road activity across our area and the police are aware of this. There will be a community speed watch on Park Lane and Vale Road 1pm to 3pm on Thursday 28th July and councillors are invited to attend. Poor behaviour and youth nuisance remains a concern. Update on our bid for traffic calming measures should be with us shortly. Issues with Thrybergh tip and off-roaders gaining illegal access by cutting through gates and fences put up by Liberty Steel. Police are aware and will patrol the area.

There was a request that the covert camera on Cross Street, which is aimed at fly tippers on railway tracks, to be turned 180 degrees to monitor ASB, this is a short-term measure.

Date of next meeting 30th August.

The clerk attended the Dalton & Thrybergh CAP meeting Wednesday 31st August. Crime levels in our area up marginally but expected due to longer nights, other areas have seen higher increases in crime. Thrybergh tip remains an issue with off roaders breaking through barriers to access land. Liberty has again secured the site and the off-road team is being very proactive. The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

There was a Parish Council Network meeting Wednesday 10th August at the Lyric Theatre in Dinnington 6 to 8pm. Clerk did not attend as he was on holiday and, unfortunately, no councillors were able to attend either.

There was a walkabout on Gullingwood Drive, Clifford Avenue and Springfield Drive on 3rd August with Ward Councillor Bennett-Sylvester and housing team etc. Several issues reported including degraded pavements and road signs.

Thrybergh Country Park Discovery Day was held on 13th August where local children could build and paint birdboxes and help in building bug hotels, a very hot day that was very successful.

**354/22. Requested by Councillors and/or AOB.**

It was advised by the Ward Councillors that a community skip day is being held September 28th and is for the use of council residents in the area as the money to provide this comes from monies that they have paid as part of their rent agreements. The parish councillors gave permission for the skip to be placed in the Parish Hall car park as previous.

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

**355/22. Thrybergh Parish Council Accounts for Financial Year 2021/22.**

All accounts now by the external auditors with no issues being raised. Invoice received from PKF Littlejohn for £400 plus VAT £80, total £480.

**Mover: Councillor J Chambers Seconder: Councillor J Parsons**

**Resolved: That the amount £400 plus VAT from the auditors be approved and passed for payment.**

The clerk advised that the auditors are given 5-year contract and this was now PKDF’s last year. The new auditors and it may still be PKF will be announced soon. It was further advised that Parish councils can remove themselves from the PKF audit and arrange external auditors if they so require. The difficulty then being finding an approved auditor and all for the set fee of £400. The last time this could be done not one parish council took this option and the clerk as the Responsible Financial officer advised that we remain contracted into the current auditing system which all Parish Councillors agreed to.

**356/22. Parish Hall Rebuild Cost & Insurance Cover.**

Cllr J Chambers asked at the July meeting how much the parish hall had cost to build and where the finances had come from. The clerk has checked the records and advised that the cost to build the hall in March 1967 was £13,688 which was funded by through parish council retained reserves plus a £3500 bank loan. The extension to the parish hall was done in July 1977 and cost a further £16,175 which was again financed through retained reserves plus a £5k grant from RMBC.

The clerk has recently had a new rebuild cost in for the Parish Hall as it was thought wise to update it given the increases in material costs etc. This also affects the amount of building cover insurance we have with Zurich Municipal.

The new cost is £1,080,800 which compares with last year’s cost of £983,600 which is an increase of £97,200. Our policy has our building insured at £1,180,661 which covers the building now but further increases in material costs could change this. It is important the rebuild cost is as accurate as possible due to the averaging clause on the policy. This means if a claim came in for a certain item/building and it was found to be underinsured, the insurer has the right to reduce the claim pay out by the same % the item had been undervalued, e.g. if an item is worth £200,000 but was only insured for £100,000 then the claim pay out would be £50,000 as the item had been underinsured by 50%.

If we increase the insurance cover by £100k to £1,280,661 there would be an additional pro rata premium of £56.96 and if we increase the value by £200k to £1,380,661 there would then be an additional pro rata premium of £113.94.

This was discussed by the Parish Council and it was deemed prudent to increase the value by £100k and to run the exercise again at the end of the financial year to ensure that we are always well covered.

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

**Resolved: To increase the building cover with Zurich Municipal to £1,280,661 which is an increase of £100k meaning an increase in annual premium by £56.96.**

**357/22 New Hot Water Boiler for Parish Hall and Food Damage to the Parish Hall Kitchen.**

The clerk advised on the leak on the water boiler in the kitchen on Saturday 16th July which had resulted in some flood damage to the kitchen units. The damage was minimised due to the diligence and fast actions of the caretaking staff. This occurred around 6:30am and we had hall functions later in the afternoon and on Sunday afternoon too so we had to call in an emergency plumber to stock the leak and to fit a new water boiler. The Parish Council is grateful for the excellent service and rapid actions of S.A. Plumbing and Heating.

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

**Resolved: To pass and authorise the invoice from S.A. Plumbing and Heating for £625 which covered emergency call out, repairs to leaking system and fitting new water boiler.**

The clerk then advised that the kitchen is over 25-years old and still fit for purpose but that the flood damaged units needed to be replaced. The clerk has been in touch with Zurich Municipal and the have confirmed that flood damage is covered by our insurance. They have accepted the claim and the clerk has submitted costs for repairs and we just await acceptance of the costs by Zurich Municipal. There is a £250 excess clause on our policy.

We have received a quote from West Joinery & Building for £2850 which includes removal of the damaged units under window and up to and including 2nd sink. To replace all with basic white units including 2 new worktops. To reuse and refit sinks and taps. The tiling and extractor fan do not need replacing. To modify water system so that water supply switch off is under sink and to refit the water boiler.

The clerk requested that we take this opportunity to replace the electric oven and gas hob with more modern and more appropriate units including a 5-ring gas hob and a new fridge as the current fridge is far too small for parties in the hall. Much of what we can do depends on the amount that Zurich will remunerate but the sum should be enough to cover the work with, perhaps, a further £500 or so required for new appliances.

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

**Resolved: It was agreed by council that the kitchen work be undertaken by using the insurance money and up to £500 of new Parish Council money. The clerk will revert to council if there is an issue with the insurance payment.**

It was then requested by Cllr Parsons that we also purchase an indoor electronic insect killer for the kitchen which costs from £25 to £50 and council thought that this was a good idea, The clerk will investigate and add it to the upcoming work when everything has been authorised.

**358/22. Hot Weather Damage to the Parish Hall.**

The clerk updated the Parish Council on the damage done to the Parish Hall guttering and windows during the recent heatwave. The clerk has contacted our insurers, Zurich Municipal, and they have advised that damage caused by temperature fluctuations is not covered don the policy.

The first issue is scorched windows either side of the main doors into the parish Hall. We had initially received a quote from JM Ross at £375 plus VAT £75 for total £450 to replace the two window unts by the door and protect with anti-sun glass. This is an essential safety measure as these are also notice boards for the Parish Council so we must ensure that this is not a fire risk.

**Mover: Councillor A Martin Seconder: Councillor T Knapton**

**Resolved: That JM Ross replace both windows at a cost of £375.00 plus VAT.**

The clerk then advised that he had received a mail from JM Ross during the meeting to advise that it may not be possible to remove the window units and that it may require replacement of the full door unit. This is far too costly an option and the clerk will remain in contact with JM Ross and if a solution is not found then the scorched areas will be painted and an anti-sun coating applied with the units no longer being used as notice boards. The clerk will keep council updated on developments.

The guttering has been inspected by West Joinery & Building and they have advised approximate cost to replace all guttering around the hall would be in the region of £4000. However, they have advised that the actual gutters are OK despite being warped but all the internal union rubber seals have perished due to the weather. We have now received a quote from West Joinery & Building to replace the 70 seals required and to 2 broken brackets for £600.

**Mover: Councillor J Chambers Seconder: Councillor J Parsons**

**Resolved: That the quote from West Joinery & Building be accepted at £600.**

The clerk advised that the rook had also been inspected at this time and various rubbish including glass bottles had been removed from the roof. A section of the roofing protection had been damaged by the BT telephone cable and this had been repaired by West Joinery and Build.

**359/22. Proposed Purchase of Projection Screen for Parish Hall.**

The chair reported that he had received several requests from hall users to have a projection screen made available for them for when they have presentations and guest speakers etc. The clerk had investigated the matter and found that there are many products available and mostly in the range of £20 to £150. The cheaper ones tend to simple wall mounted affairs that have holes in each corner to allow the screen to be hung on hooks and many of the more expensive unit require building up every time you use them. The best mid-range option found was a T4Tec stand at £59.99 plus VAT which simply rolls open making it easy to put up and it can stand on stage or even on a table if required.

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

**Resolved: That the Parish Council purchases the T4Tec screen at a cost of £59.99 plus VAT.**

**360/22. Proposed Purchase of Bank/Credit Card Machine for Parish Hall Bar.**

There have been numerous requests from users of the parish hall bar and the steward for a card machine for bar sales. The clerk had investigated the matter and the best option is the unit offered bySquare which costs £149 plus VAT. This has a charge of 1.75% per transaction with no monthly charges and appears to be the most popular choice among smaller retail units. There is currently a 15% off the list price offer on it until 15th September.

**Mover: Councillor T Knapton Seconder: Councillor J Chambers**

**Resolved: That the Parish Council purchases the Square card payment system at £149.99 plus VAT. T4Tec screen at a cost of £59.99 plus VAT (preferably with 15% discount if it is still available).**

**361/22. Damage to External Light Wiring at the Parish Hall.**

The clerk advised that the wiring to the new outdoor lighting system around the Parish Hall had been damaged in an incident of vandalism. Luckily, this was caught by the CCTV system and the police have interviewed a local 15-year-old schoolboy about the incident. As yet, we await to see what the outcome from the police will be. The incident involved the youth climbing on a wall and ripping out the electrical wiring

Wires to the external lighting have been vandalised and pulled out of the sockets. Luckily, the lights are on a Dawn to Dusk sensor so the cabling was not live at the time. R Askew Electrical visited today (1st September) to view and make recommendations to prevent this happening again. The clerk will advise on costings when we have them.

**362/22. Accounts For Payment.**

The Council considered the schedule of accounts for payment July.

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

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

The Council considered the schedule of accounts for payment August. It was pointed out by the chair that there was a small error on one of the amounts which was corrected in the council meeting.

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

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

**363/22. To Notify The Clerk Of Matters For Inclusion On The Agenda Of The Next Meeting.**

There were no matters raised.

**Date Of Next Meeting**

**The date of the next parish council meeting will be Thursday 6th October,** starting at 6:30pm.

**Closure of Meeting at 8:55pm.**

*G L Trickett*

Chairman