



Thurcroft Parish Council

Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour
Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S66 9DD

e: clerk@thurcroftparishcouncil.gov.uk

w: thurcroftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held Thursday 24th May 2023

Present Councillors: **B. Clark (Chair), C. Walker (V-Chair), D. Andrews, A. Copeland, A. Winsborough, C. McCartan, E. Humphreys, D. Fretwell, N. Ronksley, D. Oxley, J. Richardson, P. Owen and T. Murphy.** (13 councillors present)

Apologies were received from Councillors: **D. Brown, A. Scott, J. Ronksley, C. Alsop and M. Howis.**

Proper Officer: **Thomas Collingham (Clerk & RFO).**

There was 6 members of public in attendance.

The meeting started at 6.30pm

9391. To receive and approve reasons for absence

Councillors were made aware that apologies and reasons for absence were received from D. Brown, A. Scott, J. Ronksley, C. Alsop and M. Howis.

Resolved:- That the reasons for absence for D. Brown, A. Scott, J. Ronksley, C. Alsop and M. Howis be approved.

Voting:- 13 councillors present. All councillors voted for.

9392. To receive declarations of personal and pecuniary int

9393. erestⁱ

No declarations were received.

9394. To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 27th April 2023

Resolved:- That the minutes for Thursday 27th April be approved as a true record.

Voting:- 13 councillors present. All councillors voted for.

9395. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 11th May 2023

Item 9377 should be C. Walker not C. Alsop for the Environment Committee membership.

When Councillors left there were 13 councillors present, not 14 councillors.

Chairperson Initial:

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A councillor raised that Item 9368 should be the word 'discussed' not decided.

Resolved:- That with the above amendments be made on the signed copy and the rest of the minutes be approved as a true record of the meeting held on Thursday 11th May 2023.

Voting:- 13 councillors present. 10 councillors voted in favour. 3 councillors abstained.

9396. To note any matters arising from the minutes of Thursday 27th April 2023 and Thursday 11th May 2023

A councillor raised that he was not happy with the change to the date of the meeting. The Clerk has offered to contact YLCA to gain legal advice in writing on the decision making of the meeting schedule and to send this to the councillor once a response is received.

A councillor raised that the meetings held on various days throughout the year have not had three clear days' notice and he would like that to be noted in the minutes.

Item 9345 – The £18 that was raised was found on a previous document for last year relating to some premium bonds and these were accounted for outside of the opening figures which shows the difference in the accounting. The Internal Auditor has been through the accounts and these are being finalised along with the report that is going to be available in due course.

Item 9351 – The memorandum of understanding has been completed and approved by RMBC. The order has been placed with Hobsons, and the brackets will be put up soon – due at end of May into June.

Item 9353 – The meeting for the safety of the recreation ground went well. RMBC have agreed to put a knee rail on between the steel posts on Waverley Avenue. They have also agreed that extra posts can be put in between the ones on the land at RMBC. There have been external posts purchased by an external group through fundraising and it is planned for Community Payback to put these in. There is no requirement from the Council to do anything at this stage but the permission has been granted to the parish council to put extra posts in working with the external group who have purchased the bollards.



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9397. To identify any agenda items which may be considered following the exclusion of the press and public, due to the confidential nature to be discussed. Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2))

Item 7 on the agenda pack has been highlighted as confidential. Councillors will discuss this at the end of the agenda with the Chairs approval.

Public Participation Session

- A member of the public raised the date change of the meeting and that the website state last Thursday of the month and that this needs to be updated.
- More clarity on the roles and responsibilities of the committees and whether this can be available on the website and what the rationale was behind the decision of how they were set up.
- An organisation member approached the Council to ask why The Council followed their organisations page.
- A member of the public asked if councillors receive appraisals or if they have some form of meeting.

9398. To receive an update to the questions raised for the Christmas lights and consider the quotations for a new provision of Christmas lights that will affix to lampposts

Councillors discussed the extra information that was requested to make an informed decision on the purchase or hiring of Christmas lights for the parish. The company have agreed to extend the warranty to 3 years and the company do not buy back any lights as they are always looking to improve on their products.

In order to make a purchase for this year, councillors were made aware that a decision would need to be made this evening.



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Councillors discussed the different options and made the decision to hire on a three-year contract.

The Clerk advised the Council that they would need to suspend the Standing Order 18C in order to pass the Christmas Lights due to the specialist cost of the product and to bypass advertising through Contract Finder.

Year one of purchase includes the insulation, removal and storage - £22,052.08 + VAT. The remainder of the contract is £6800.10 + VAT for the following two years.

Resolved:- That the Council agree to suspend Standing Order 18C and that the Council agree to hiring Christmas Lights from Blachere Illuminations for three-years at a total cost of £35,652.08 + VAT for installation, maintenance, removal and storage.

Voting:- 13 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

Cllr Fretwell left the meeting. 12 councillors remained present.

9399. To consider two quotes received for the moving of the gate, and a quote to implement a new gate between the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall and leading onto the high street.

The Clerk presented the recommendation from the Facilities Committee to link up the high street with the Gordon Bennett carpark by placing a gate to the side of the carpark. There was an original quote to move the gate but this worked out a similar price to place an additional gate.

The quotes received were.

1. £1525.05 + VAT for a new gate to be placed.
2. £1441.05 + VAT to move the old gate from the back to the side.



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Resolved:- That the Council instruct Lightmain to install a new gate to the side of the Gordon Bennett carpark for £1525.05 exc. VAT.

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9400. To consider obtaining a land summary from a solicitor to ensure that we have all documentation for land owned by the parish, the purpose of which we hold the land and title deeds

When Laughton en-le Morthen separated from Thurcroft Parish Council not all the land was transferred across. Laughton en-le Morthen Parish Council have managed and maintained this land since 1996. An issue was raised when Laughton en-le Morthen were having a renovation of the Village Hall. The land should be held in a Charitable Trust and therefore needed to be registered with the Charity Commission.

The Clerk made the councillors aware that it would be good to look into the land ownership for Thurcroft Parish Council to understand everything that we own, the deed numbers, the purpose of the land and if there are any covenants.

The Council suggested an initial amount of £1000 to conduct initial enquiries.

Resolved:- That the Council directs the Clerk to contact the solicitor to obtain a land summary of everything owned by Thurcroft Parish Council.

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9401. To consider a presentation to be delivered by Internal Audit Yorkshire on the findings from the most recent Internal Audit undertaken.

Internal Audit Yorkshire offer a presentation service for the Internal Audit that has been undertaken for this year. The Clerk advised that this would be good to go through the findings in depth and ask any questions relating to the report.



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The price of the £35.00 per hour plus travel expenses at the HMRC rate is charged to deliver the presentation and it is anticipated that the presentation will take between two-three hours.

Resolved:- That Internal Audit Yorkshire deliver a presentation on the Internal Audit report for the cost of £35 per hour and associated travel paid.

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9402. To consider relevant planning applications as published on RMBC's weekly lists 17-20 (2022/23) along with any associated submissions received and any reports on previous planning applications/issues

RB2023/0528 – Application in relation to two dwellings being erected in Laughton Common. Concerns have been raised by residents regarding the overlooking and the tree's that are in this location. The tree report is said to be out of date by seven years.

Further discussion took place on the construction around New Orchard Industrial estate and councillors would like further discussion. The Clerk advised to raise this in matters to be included in future agendas.

Resolved:- That the Clerk be given Delegation to make a comment on RB2023/0528 and no further action on the other applications.

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9403. To approve accounts for payment and note contractual payments made under the clerk delegation (attached).

A councillor raised a query with the electricity payment to British Gas and that this be followed up.

Resolved:- That the Council approves payments scheduled and notes payments made under Clerk delegation.

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.



9404. To note expenditure outside of the meeting between the Clerk and the Chair in line with Financial Regulation 4.1

- £300 inc VAT for additional bunting costs
- £399.15 for Zurich Insurance amendments agreed by Council
- £300 for Internal Audit Yorkshire extra day for audit
- £399.75 + VAT - Allen Engineering fencing repairs

9405. To consider grant applications received;

15.1. Thurcroft Bowling Club

Councillors discussed the application and the need for the specialist seed to be able to keep the bowling pitch functional. Councillors queried the cost of the seed but were in support of the application.

Resolved:- That the grant application be approved and £350 be paid to Thurcroft Bowling Club

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

15.2. Laughton War Memorial

Councillors discussed the application and had several questions that they would like to seek clarity on before paying the grant. The amount requested of £500 was challenged by a few councillors. A vote was taken to propose an amount to be granted pending the further information, a majority vote for the £150 to be granted.

Resolved:- That the Clerk seek further clarity from Laughton War Memorial organisation and YLCA.

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors in favour.

9406. To consider the councillor training programme provided by Yorkshire LCA between May 2023 and September 2023

Councillors looked through the training offered by YLCA and highlighted relevant training for councillors.



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- Chairmanship – Chair/Vice
- Essentials to be a good employer - HR
- Off to a Flying Start – All councillors.
- Councillors Code of Conduct – All councillors
- Parks and Recreation – Select councillors.
- Standing Orders, Powers and Agendas – Cllr D Andrews requested

Resolved:- The Clerk to look at the cost of the overall training and present to council for approval

Voting:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

The Chair raised a motion to authorise the extension of the meeting beyond the usual two hours.

Resolved:- That the meeting be extended beyond the two hour meeting limit.

Voted:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9407. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION - To consider the applications received through the tendering process for the bar contract at Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

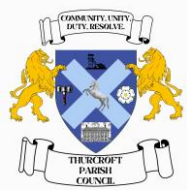
Councillors discussed the application and have agreed to the appointment of SRI Entertainment Ltd on the basis that we received the Insurance documents, DBS Check and a copy of the Personal Licence.

Resolved:- That SRI Entertainment Ltd be appointed as the contractor for the sale of alcohol from Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall.

Voted:- 12 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9408. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

- Industrial Park – Planning
- DBS Checks for councillors
- Grant for Laughton War Memorial



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- Show Curtains for the Gordon Bennett.

**9409. To confirm the date and time of the next ordinary full council meeting Thursday 29th
June 2023 at 6.30pm**

That the next ordinary council meeting be held on Thursday 29th June 2023 at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 20:45.