



Thurcroft Parish Council

Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour
Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S66 9DD
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Minutes of the Full Council meeting held Monday 19th December 2022

Present Councillors: **D. Andrews (Chair), D. Brown, D. Fretwell, C. McCartan, T. Murphy, P. Owen, D. Oxley & A. Winsborough.**

Apologies were received from Councillors: **A. Copeland, M. Howis, E. Humphreys, J. Ronksley, N. Ronksley, A. Scott & C. Walker.**

Absent: **C. Alsop & M. Belcher**

There was no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting started at 6.30pm

9238 To receive and approve reasons for absence.

Resolved:- The council received and approved the reasons for absence from A. Copeland, M. Howis, E. Humphreys, J. Ronksley, N. Ronksley & A. Scott

9239 To receive declarations of interest in respect of business on the agenda.

Resolved:- There were no declarations of interests raised.

9240 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2022.

A Councillor raised an issue with the minutes for agenda item 9230 that he believes were not accurately minuted including all questions asked by councillors. Therefore he would like to raise the item at the next meeting.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held **Thursday 17th November 2022** be approved and file copy was signed by the chairperson of the meeting.

9241 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.

Resolved:- Three items on the agenda are for public exclusion. Item 15, 16 & 17 on the agenda.

9242 Public Participation Session

No public questions were received.

9243 To receive an update from RMBC Borough Councillor, Cllr Zachary Collingham.



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The Councillor brought an update to the Towns and Villages Fund for the Thurcroft and Wickersley South ward. He shared that he had recently met with the design team to look at the options presented for the Thurcroft High Street. It is believed that the final design will be in Spring 2023 with an aim to complete the project in the Autumn 2023.

He showed various planters, and road resurfacing works that will help define the pedestrianised areas and tackle off road parking.

There will be a three-year maintenance programme for the project.

Councillors asked about jet washing the pavements which is included, and the reduction of the number of bollards.

There is a need to contact the local business owners to speak to them about the plans, and it would be helpful if local knowledge was able to help with this.

9244 To receive an update regarding Thurcroft Library project from an RMBC Representative and discuss and resolve the council's finance position to the project.

Polly Hamilton the Assistant Director of Culture, Sports and Tourism for RMBC attended the meeting to give an update on the Thurcroft Library project that will be built next to the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall.

It has previously been agreed by the Parish Council that they would invest £55k into the project, and lease the land to RMBC for a new Library and Neighbourhoods Hub.

The tendered amount has now lapsed on the 15th November due to delays in getting the legal paperwork completed.

The Council now have to retender the project, and have a shortfall of £27,409. Therefore, RMBC approached the council for extra funding.

The RFO advised that as the budget setting is not yet complete, the reserve amounts can be realigned for next year to meet the shortfall.

Resolved:- The Council resolved to pay the shortfall, to a maximum amount of £82,409 or the overall project.

9245 To receive the draft copy of the Reserve Policy and adopt the policy.



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The Council noted the need for the policy to ensure that we draw down reserves to an acceptable level and invest in earmarked projects across the Parish.

Resolved:- The Council adopted the new Reserves policy.

9246 To discuss the recent antisocial behaviour on Thurcroft Recreation Ground and the access points by unauthorised vehicles.

Following a number of vehicles accessing the Thurcroft Recreation Ground it is deemed that as a council we need to act to minimise access of vehicles.

The Council discussed a number of options but felt it may be best to meet with a company to discuss further fencing options that may be suitable for the field.

Resolved:- That a meeting taking place before the next Full Council to investigate options to the Council.

9247 To retrospectively approve the Christmas tree requested by Brampton Village Association to the estimated sum of £300 from the current 'Brampton Pot'.

Brampton en-le Morthen Association approached the Council for funding towards a Christmas tree for the village. The Association were told of the correct procedure when approaching the Council, but due to a change in structure have been allowed as a one-off gesture to retrospectively agree the amount.

Resolved:- The Council approved the amount to Brampton en-le Morthen Association to the amount of £300.

9248 To share an update to the budget setting and tax base from RMBC.

The Tax Base has not yet been received and no update could be made. However, the agenda item was still placed in case of any last-minute updates.

9249 To dissolve the Planning Committee & Recreation Committee.

Due to low attendance across the committees, it was felt that a smaller number of committees with higher membership may be better attended. This would help aid business being conducted and ensure the Council is quorate to make decisions.

Resolved:- The Committees have been dissolved by the Council.

9250 To adopt the Member changes for the Committee Membership changes.



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The were presented with two options to realign membership to committees.

1. *For Council to adopt the new structure building in the provision for an Allotments and Burials Committee.*
2. *For the Council to adopt the new structure with Allotments and Burials to sit within Facilities and to further distribute 3 councillors onto other committees. Choosing this option may have to result in Terms of Reference being updated before a meeting can take place.*

Councillors felt that option two was the preferred option to ensure that committee numbers were larger and the work load was manageable across the committees.

Resolved:- That the Council adopts to have HR, Facilities, Environment and Events as the main committees with the additional Finance & General for chairs to attend. The Council have also adopted to changing the Terms of Reference for the Committees at the next council meeting.

9251 To approve accounts for payment and note contractual payments made under the clerk delegation.

Please see **Appendix 1**.

Resolved:- Council noted the contractual payments made and that the accounts due are agreed and can be paid.

9252 CLOSED SESSION – To adopt South Yorkshire Pensions Authority as a pension provider.

The Council were provided with information to join the South Yorkshire Pension Authority as an admission body. It resolved that the Clerk will be eligible for the pension, and that other pension providers will be sought for other employees of the council.

Resolved:- That the Council adopt to become an employer in the South Yorkshire Pension Fund.

9253 CLOSED SESSION – To discuss the Lengthsman contract for the council.

The Council discussed the contracts and job descriptions of employees to the Council. The Council were also made aware that all matters relating to employees sit within the HR Committee.

9254 CLOSED SESSION – To review and adopt the contractual base hours for the Clerk.

The Council understand that due to the current workload, there is a pressure on the current contracted hours for the Council. Therefore, it was seen to be beneficial to the council to increase the contract.



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Resolved:- That the current hours for the Clerk increase from 25 hours per week to 32 hours per week.

9236 To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

A councillor raised that they had looked into the Menai Bridge policy which is triggered in the events of the King's death. It was thought by the Council that this should be raised at the upcoming events committee.

9237 To set the date of the next ordinary Parish Council meeting.

The date of the next meeting was agreed as **Thursday 26th January 2023** at 6.30 pm in the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 20:17.