



Thurcroft Parish Council

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

e: clerk@thurcroftparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held Thursday 29th February 2024

Present Councillors: B. Clark (Chair), H. Bell, D. Brown, A. Copeland, D. Fretwell, C. McCartan, D. Oxley, J. Richardson, N. Ronksley, C. Walker, A. Winsborough (11 Councillors present)

Apologies were received from Councillors: C. Alsop, R. Butler, M. Howis, E. Humphreys, T. Murphy, P. Owen & J. Ronksley.

Officers: Thomas Collingham

There were three members of the public in attendance.

The meeting started at 6.30pm

9595. To receive and consider reasons for absence

The Clerk shared with council the reasons for absence that were received from C. Alsop, R. Butler, M. Howis, E. Humphreys, T. Murphy, P. Owen & J. Ronksley.

Resolved:- That the reasons for absence be approved for C. Alsop, R. Butler, M. Howis, E. Humphreys, T. Murphy, P. Owen & J. Ronksley.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. 10 voted in favour, 1 abstention.

9596. To receive declarations of personal and pecuniary interest for members and officers

Cllr B Clark raised a personal interest on Item 23, he stated that he would remain present but would not take part in the vote on the item.

9597. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

No requests for dispensation received.

9598. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

No dispensations received to consider.

9599. To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd February 2024

A councillor raised a point of clarification on minute reference 9591 whether the contract was for 12 months. The Clerk confirmed the supply of hanging baskets were just for one year.

Resolved:- That the minutes of Thursday 2nd February be approved as a true and accurate record and that the Chairman sign the minutes and payments list of the minutes.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. 10 councillors in favour. 1 abstention.

9600. 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))



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The Clerk advised there are no items highlighted to be considered in a confidential session.

Resolved:- That no items on the agenda need to be considered for confidential session.

9601. Public Participation Session

No questions were raised in the public session.

9602. To note meeting minutes for committee meetings held since the previous ordinary meeting -

9602.1 Finance & General Committee held on Thursday 22nd February 2024

That the council note the minutes of the Finance & General Committee held on Thursday 22nd February 2024.

9603. To discuss and consider defibrillators in Laughton Common

The council raised the agenda item following feedback from local residents would like a defibrillator in the centre of Laughton Common.

The Clerk advised that the closest defibrillators are located;

- x3 in Laughton en-le Morthen at Laughton Village Hall and in the two primary schools (Available all day)
- x2 in the industrial estate at Screwfix and Courier Logistics.

The council have a power to act under the Public Health Act 1936 s234 to provide and maintain a defibrillator. The council can apply for a grant to obtain a Defibrillator.

The council considered the location and whether it would be best placed at the Co-Op or The Gallows as a central location for Laughton Common. The Clerk advised that the council would also need to consider the maintenance cost, and guardianship which could be through the council, or a further conversation would be needed with the location if different. The Clerk advised that permission would also need to be gained to place on private/public property if it is connected to their electricity and again a further conversation is needed that the parties are happy with the costs of support this equipment.

Resolved:- That the Clerk writes to the chosen location to explore the possibility of accommodating a defibrillator and gain the required permission so that we are able to proceed. This will be reported back to council with the required financial information and permissions granted for council to consider, following a successful outcome, a grant application will then be submitted to a provider.



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Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9604. To discuss and consider the placement of benches in Laughton Common

The council discussed the placement of additional benches in Laughton Common. The council discussed that they would like to have the flat wooden benches rather than the rolltop we have had placed in other parts of the parish.

The council discussed the placement along Outgang Lane, near to the post box and bus stop (entrance to Mountfield Way junction) and near to Glaisdale. The Clerk advised that if benches are to be placed near to homes that public consultation be carried out with the nearby houses to ensure they agree with the proposals.

Resolved:- The Clerk will put together a consultation letter to be delivered to homes in the immediate area with the proposals to place benches. The Clerk will bring the consultation feedback back to the council to note and consider, following this the Clerk will then contact RMBC Highways for the required permission to place the benches. Following the success of this being granted, quotes will be obtained and presented back to council for decision, and these will then be placed.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9605. To discuss and consider submitting a request for a photo of King Charles

Councillors raised that they would like a portrait of HM King Charles in the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall. The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received informing the council that it was entitled to one free copy of the photo and could fill in the application as a parish council. Councillors agreed to go ahead with the application and order the photo to be displayed in the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall.

Resolved:- That the Clerk completes the application to the official photo of HM King Charles

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9606. To receive a recommendation from the Events Committee to consider a 6-month free grace period for hire of the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall to support the creation of new user groups that are led by the community in line with social prescribing

The Events Committee welcomed a social prescribing doctor from Thurcroft Village Surgery that would like to use the space at the Gordon Bennett to set up a new community-led group that helps support specific concerns from the surgery. This could be a group focused on help with the menopause for women, or a mental health group for men in the middle ages.



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It was recommended by the Events Committee to provide a 6-month grace period at the Gordon Bennett to help get a group off the ground and see what could work for Thurcroft. It is then proposed that once established it will be charged at a community rate for usual hire of the hall.

Resolved:- That the council commit to administering a 6-month grace period for Social Prescribing groups to use the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall for up to two hours a week for up to 26 weeks.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9607. To discuss the break in at Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall and consider quotes for extra security measures in the bar

The Clerk informed the council of the outcome of the break-in at the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall and the damage to the council's property. The Clerk would also like to thank the speed of the response from employees to the incident and South Yorkshire Police attending. The Clerk informed the council that an insurance claim has been entered and awaiting to hear the outcome.

The Clerk has been approached whether shutters can be installed on the bar for added security and whether councillors agree with the added security.

The council agreed that further investigation would be needed and that this should be referred to the Facilities Committee.

Resolved:- That the item be delegated to Facilities Committee for further investigation, and that a recommendation be brought back to the council for decision.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9608. To receive and a recommendation from the Events Committee to discuss and consider investment audio and visual technology to support eventing in the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

The Events Committee met with the contractor that provides the bar services for the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall. The Committee discussed how the space could be used to support events hosted between the contractor and the parish council for the benefit of the community.

The Committee recommended that the Clerk work with the contractor to put bring events forward for the parish. As part of this, an investment in a sound system to be able to put on live events in the hall and for quotes to be sought for a projector to be installed in the Gordon



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Bennett that can be used for film nights or other events that the council may wish to put on in the future.

Recommendation;

1. That the investments in technology be referred to the Facilities Committee to obtain quotes for audio and visual equipment and that the required licenses be in place to support the events.
2. That the Clerk be given delegated authority to work with the contractor support external events for the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

Resolved:- That the council accept the recommendations.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9609. To receive a recommendation from the Environment Committee to consider a cleaning cart for street cleaning in the parish

The Council received the quote that had been recommended by the Facilities Committee. The Committee have considered different sized equipment, and worked with employees that will be using the equipment to ensure its suitability.

- ***Double Space-Liner™ Orderly Barrow - £1121.74 exc. VAT***

The council agreed with the purpose of the equipment and the recommendation from the Facilities Committee.

Resolved:- That the council agree to purchase a street litter cart as recommended by the Facilities Committee.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9610. To discuss and consider quotes for the building up on the flower beds

The Clerk advised that due to the delay in receiving quotes, this item could not go ahead and would need to be deferred to a future meeting.

9611. To discuss and consider quotes for the repair of the perimeter wall in Brampton playground

The Clerk advised that quotes for the repair of the wall were still waiting to be received and this would also need to be deferred to a future meeting.

9612. To discuss and consider further fencing on Thurcroft Recreation ground



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A councillor would like to explore further fencing for Thurcroft Recreation Ground. It is suggested that the fence be placed along the pathway surrounding our land to enclose the land and stop bikes from entering the field to add protection and ensure that it is a safe space.

The Clerk would like to update the council that when fencing around the recreation field was originally brought to parish council there has been a number of updates; a knee rail bar installed on Waverley Avenue entrance, and the wooden fencing has been installed on the perimeter of the back of the field. There have also been improvements by Thurcroft Church surrounding their land, and RMBC have finished work on the wall next to this.

Councillors raised that a previous meeting was arranged with RMBC Green Spaces. This was attended by a number of parish councillors who were advised that the field cannot be fully sealed due to it being a recreation field and needing to be accessible.

The Clerk advised the council that it may benefit to hear from the team within Environmental Health who deal with accessibility, to ensure that the parish council are acting within their power legally for the accessibility.

Resolved:- That the Clerk contact RMBC to provide a response to the council on what we can legally do to seal off the land. For this to be brought back to the council to be noted and for this to be referred to the Environment Committee to consider quotes and location requirements in conjunction with Cllr Copeland who originally raised the request and this to then be brought back to the full council as a full proposal.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9613. To receive recommendations from the Finance & General Committee to adopt the following policies;

9613.1. Risk Management

The council are advised that policy has been created as part of a recommendation from the Internal Audit for last year. The policy outlines the roles and responsibilities in the council for analysing risk and putting measures in place to assess risk in the council in every decision whether its financial or non-financial.

Any items that are due to be added to the risk register will be considered with the Chair before they are added.



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The council will commit to reviewing risks of the council once a quarter, for anything that may be arising and to understand the risks of the council.

Resolved:- That the council adopt the Risk Management policy.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9613.2. Training & Development

The council were informed that the policy has been reviewed by the Finance & General Committee and there are no changes to the current policy. The committee are recommending that the council note that the policy has been reviewed in line with the policy schedule in place for this year.

Resolved:- That the council note the review of the Training and Development policy

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9614. To receive and consider a recommendation from Finance & General Committee to hold the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 16th May 2024 at 6.30pm

The council approved the meeting schedule last May, but it didn't include the date of the next Annual Meeting. Due to it being an election year, it is advised that council should hold the Annual Meeting within 14 days of the election. The council agreed that the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council should be set as Thursday 16th May 2024 at 6.30pm in the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

Resolved:- That the council schedule the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 16th May 2024 at 6:30pm

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9615. To approve accounts for payment and note contractual payments made under the clerk delegation (attached)

No matters were raised with the payments for approval. However, it is noted that the Clerk may benefit from having a payment card for office expenses to limit the need for transfers to the Clerk after purchases made for the council.

Resolved:- That the council approve the payments list for payment and note contractual payments under the clerk delegation.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.



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9616. To note expenditure outside of the meeting between the Clerk and the Chair in line with Financial Regulation 4.1

The Clerk advised that no payments were made between the Clerk and the Chair since the last meeting.

9617. To receive and consider a recommendation from Finance & General Committee for the grant application received from Brampton en-le Morthen Village Association

The Finance & General considered the grant application at the last meeting. The committee asked questions around the cost amount per child that would benefit from the grant and whether these would be to residents within the parish. It was also discussed that it didn't feel inclusive, and the amount may be quite high. It was discussed that other grants had been granted that didn't benefit the whole parish but for individual groups within the parish.

The committee recommend for the decision of the grant to be made by the full council on whether the original application is accepted at £120 or if an amendment to the amount awarded be proposed and seconded.

An amendment was proposed and seconded for an amended amount of £42 to be awarded. Councillors debated that this would be enough to supply the eggs within the village without the amount being an excessive cost.

Resolved:- That the grant amount be amended to £42 to Brampton en le Morthen Village Association.

Voting:- 10 councillors present. 8 councillors voted in favour. 2 abstentions.

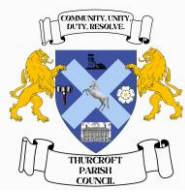
The council's amendment passed, revising the grant application amount to £42 to be awarded to the association.

Resolved:- That the grant application be approved for Brampton en le Morthen Village Association.

Voting:- 10 councillors present. 8 councillors voted in favour. 2 abstentions.

9618. To consider relevant planning applications as published on RMBC's weekly lists along with any associated submissions received and any reports on previous planning applications/issues

The council agreed that there was no further action necessary for the planning applications presented to council.



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The Clerk also shared the 'No Waiting Restrictions' proposed for New Orchard Road in Thurcroft. The council agreed to place comment on the restrictions being imposed and that the parish council are concerned that parking may be displaced onto Osbert Drive due to further restrictions being implemented on New Orchard Lane.

Resolved:- The Council agreed that the Clerk be delegated to write a comment on behalf of the council and submit these into the consultation to highlight the concerns with displaced parking.

Voting:- 11 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

9619. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

No matters were raised for inclusion on the next meeting.

9620. To confirm the date and time of the next ordinary meeting on Thursday 28th March 2024 at 6.30pm

The council noted the next ordinary meeting to be held on Thursday 28th March 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.48pm.