THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD AT HOLY FAMILY HIGH SCHOOL ON**

**MONDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2016**

**Present:** Councillors Hounsell (Chair of Meeting), Bain, Chambers, Miles (from item 1031) and Pennington.

**Also present:** Mrs Jones (clerk).

**1028** **Apologies for Absence:** No apologies were received for absence. Councillor Miles offered his apologies for late arrival.

**1029** **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations were received.

**1030 Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 5th September 2016**:

The minutes were agreed as a correct record and were then signed by the Chair.

**1031** **Email Communications**

There had been a number of email communications sent between councillors which were felt to be inappropriate in content and tone. Councillor Hounsell advised that emails between councillors were public documents and the content should be carefully considered before being sent. Councillor Miles stated that the content described was factually incorrect and both Councillors Miles and Pennington felt that the meeting was not an appropriate place for this discussion. There was no further comment made.

**1032** **Matters arising:**

* A letter had been sent to the Road Haulage Association to request that the use of Brooms Cross Road by HGVs be highlighted to its members.
* An update on the Thornton Corridor Study had been received from Sefton Council and Councillor Chambers read this to the meeting. (Copy attached). The Clerk was to post a copy of the update on the Parish Council website. (Councillor Chambers)
* Highways Sefton had reviewed all signage in the area surrounding Brooms Cross Road and it was considered to be appropriate, however the signage at Switch Island directing traffic through Thornton to Southport was to be removed. (Councillor Chambers)
* A weight restriction on traffic using Green Lane/ Lydiate Lane could be considered, however this may impact on access for emergency services. (Councillor Chambers)
* There were no plans for ramps at Quarry Road near to Aldi. (Councillor Chambers)
* The possibility of trees being planted on the route from Brooms Cross roundabout to Crosby was to be considered following the completion of the Thornton Corridor Study.(Councillor Chambers)
* Defects in the footpaths and roads in the area had been marked up and some had been repaired. (Councillor Chambers)
* There were no plans in place to replace the 53a bus service. Attendance by interested parties at the Merseytravel committee meetings was possible although it was not permitted to address the meeting. A speaker from Merseytravel had been invited to attend a future meeting of the 10 Parishes. (Councillor Miles)
* There had been measures taken to address the issue of anti-social behaviour in the area using a multi-agency approach. This included the issue of both community orders and summons to court. Inspector Jones from Merseyside Police had encouraged the public to report any further incidents using the 101 facility. (Councillor Bain).

**1033 Reports**:

***Sefton Central Area Committee*** There was no report on the Area Committee, however Councillor Hounsell read out a letter from Sefton Council requesting feedback to inform a new structure for the Area Committee.

1. ***Parishes*** Councillor Miles had attended the 10 Parishes meeting and advised that

there were no items discussed which were particularly relevant to Thornton. It was noted that Mr Ian Cowell was retiring which would be a great loss to the organisation.

**1034 Chairman’s Update**

* **Riparian Owners**

A further meeting was to take place with Sefton Council and all riparian owners were encouraged to attend.

* **Vacancies**

There were two vacancies on the Parish Council and any interested parties were encouraged to apply.

* **Boundary Signs/Planters**

The missing boundary sign and bench had not been located and Sefton Council were to pay for replacements.

**1035 Finance**

It was agreed to pay the following invoices:

Mrs J Jones Clerk’s Salary £233.27

SAPLC Annual Donation £70.00

Plantscape Winter Planting £176.40

Stone Central Stocks and Sundial £1480.32

**1036 Planning and Correspondence:**

The Clerk read out correspondence received from Sefton’s Planning Department. It was noted that there had been an appeal lodged against the decision to refuse plans for a chip shop at 6 The Crescent.

**1037 Gardening Services**

Councillor Pennington advised that there had been cuts to the gardening services facility at Sefton and this would have a great impact on the cutting of grass verges in the area next year.

**1038 Proposed date for Christmas switch on and celebration of Stocks refurbishment.**

The Stocks refurbishment was now complete and it was decide that a celebration event would take place at a later date.

The Christmas tree was to be situated on the old Village Green opposite the Nag’s Head Public House and it was decide that the switch on would take place on Wednesday 23rd November. Councillor Chambers was to liaise with Sue Ashe from Sefton Neighbourhoods and Councillor Pennington was to speak to the vicar from All Saints and St Frideswydes. Also Councillor Hounsell was to contact the Rotary Club to request that the Christmas float could be in attendance and Councillor Bain was to contact Inspector Jones to inform him of the event.

**1039 Edward Holme Trust**

A member of the public present at the meeting outlined a charity assisting people in need in Sefton and advised that it may be possible to identify those people within Thornton who were in need, which may enable the fund to be used in accordance with the trust. Councillor Hounsell agreed to investigate this matter further.

**1040 Update from Councillors**

There were no further updates given.

**1041 Calendar of Meetings 2017**

It was agreed that the Council would investigate the possibility of moving to monthly meetings and the cost implications of this move were to be looked at.

**1042 Public Participation:**

The Chairman welcomed 20 members of the public and the following items were discussed

* The Thornton Corridor Study update discussed earlier in the meeting had not included the Thornfield Road/ Hartdale Road area which was being used as a “rat run” for traffic. Councillor Chambers agreed to contact Sefton to highlight the difficulties being experienced by residents in this area.
* It was noted that the speed enforcement training offered by Merseyside police at a previous meeting of the Council had not had any take up from members of the public; this may have been due to the bureaucracy involved in applying for the scheme.
* Residents in attendance from Holgate advised that they had become aware of plans for a housing development on the area of land between Holgate and Rothwells Lane with access to the development from Holgate. This was not included in Sefton’s Local Plan and there were no plans submitted yet to the Planning Department. Councillor Hounsell advised the residents concerned that he would visit to further investigate the matter.
* There had been a study monitoring emissions from the crematorium in connection with plans for housing on land east of the cemetery, however, it was noted that the crematorium was not operating at full strength at the moment due to redevelopment works and the monitoring itself had not taken place from the most appropriate site.
* The public expressed thanks to Councillor Hounsell for his work on the Stocks and Sundial refurbishment project. Councillor Hounsell also undertook to address the issue of Brooms Cross monument which was being neglected.
* The public also expressed thanks to Councillor Chambers for his work in organising a Christmas tree in the Parish which, it was felt, would help to build community spirit.
* Councillor Pennington agreed to contact Tesco to address the issue of the welcome signage advising that the store was situated in Crosby and not Thornton.
* It was agreed that the council discuss the possibility of making a donation to the Tuesday Club at St William of York.

**1043 Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the meeting should take place on **Monday, 9th January 2017 at 7pm**.

The meeting closed to a round of applause from the residents who were present

Signed …………… Date …………… (Chairman)