

THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council Held on Monday, 6th January 2020 at Holy Family High School

Present: Cllrs: O'Keeffe, Donegan, Pennington and White
In Attendance: Representatives from Rimrose Valley Friends
Mrs V Swift (Clerk)

In the Chair Cllr. O'Keeffe

1494: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Atkinson, Dixon and McGill.

1495: Declaration of Interest - Members are requested to give notice of any pecuniary interest relating to any item on the agenda.
None

1496: Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 2nd December 2019, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1497: Matters arising from Minutes (for information only)
None

1498: Public Participation

The meeting was adjourned at 19:05 for a period of public participation. The Chairman welcomed to the meeting 9 members of the public and 2 Guest Speakers from Rimrose Valley Friends.

Stuart Bennett and Linda Gaskell spoke of a determined political campaign to save Rimrose Valley Country Park from the jaws of a £250m bypass build, that will destroy everything in its path. If Highways England get their way a 6 lane bypass will be driven right through the centre of the park and on through the green belt corridor of Brooms Cross Road. This 300 acre oasis, home to a huge array of flora and fauna, is not only a valuable ecosystem but also a priceless asset to the local community - that is under attack. To get involved go to www.saverimrosevalley.

Residents raised the following questions:

- What is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project?
- Why did Sefton not appeal the judicial review?
- Why did Highways England fail to consider the option of a tunnel to ease the Port of Liverpool traffic congestion?
- Similar multi-billion pound projects have been approved in London, does this not smack of North/South double standards?
- What has happened to the Northern Powerhouse?
- Why is a compromise too expensive?
- What has happened to Sefton's carbon neutral 2030 Vision (UK 2050 Vision)?

Other issues raised by residents:

- St Joseph's Hospice: the need for a zebra crossing on the A565, to be located by the bus stop opposite the Hospice for pedestrian safety.
- Ramblers Football Club: objections to the planning application were revisited.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to take a picture of the bench by the Vicarage near the Stocks and Sundial for publication and promotion on social media.
- (b) That Cllr. Pennington to contact Sefton Highways about the installation of a zebra crossing to be located by the bus stop opposite St Joseph's Hospice.
- (c) The Clerk to check that the Council objections to the proposed development at the Ramblers Football Club have been uploaded on the website.

The meeting was reconvened at 20:05.

1499: Siting of a Community Defibrillator
Deferred to the next Parish Council meeting.

1500: The Crescent Traffic Issues
Cllr. O'Keeffe reported on the history of the Crescent lay out (as it is today), that this was agreed by Ward Councillors, Parish Councillors, local businesses and local residents at that time, at a cost of £23,000.

Discussion ensued on the following: pedestrian safety, section 106 funding, TRO's, two-way traffic system, traffic light cameras and penalties, trialling temporary traffic lights, the cost of two further road humps and the works on Edge Lane (designed to reduce traffic flow and change priorities).

RESOLVED: That the Clerk to invite a member of the Sefton Highways Safety Team as Guest Speaker to the Parish Council meeting to be held in April.

1501: Maintenance of Brooms Cross Path, the Wayside Cross and Inscription
Cllr. Donegan reported on his communication with Sefton Highways, that the maintenance of Brooms Cross Path is now on a maintenance job sheet, but that no time frame has been notified as to when the work will commence.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That if Cllr. Donegan does not hear back from Sefton Highways in the next week or so that he get in touch with them again and if necessary contact the Ward Councillors to press for this work to be carried out as soon as possible.
- (b) That Cllr. Donegan to look at proposals for securing funding for the restoration and maintenance of the damaged wayside cross, inscription, location signs and bench, from the Heritage Fund or the Borough of Culture Fund.
- (c) That the Clerk to contact Andrew Sawyer, Highways and Public Protection Manager, for an update on plans to clear Japanese Knotweed located on Holgate (from the gate to Brooms Cross).

1502: Roll of Honour WW1 and WW2
Cllr. Pennington reported on his research to create a Thornton Roll of Honour to commemorate those who lost their lives during WW1 and WW2, that Sefton Parish Church have a Memorial Book listing those who died in world wars from Sefton.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Pennington to contact Sefton Parish Church for access to the Memorial Book to collate a Thornton Roll of Honour for those men and women who died during WW1 and WW2.

1503: Link between Virgins Lane Thornton and Battle

Cllr. O'Keeffe reported on his research to discover if there is a link between Virgins Lane Thornton and Virgins Lane Battle. This research is ongoing.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact tom.martin@champnews.com to make a public appeal in the local newspaper for anyone with information or ideas as to the origins of Virgins Lane Thornton or links with Virgins Lane Battle.

1504: Merseyside Police Crime Alerts

The Clerk read out correspondence received from Merseyside Police.
For information only.

1505: Planning Applications

The Clerk read out correspondence received from Sefton's Planning Departments.
For information only.

1506: 2020-2021 Budget & Precept

Members discussed and reviewed: the anticipated expenditure for the year end 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, the budget requirement for the year end 2020-2021 and the precept requirement to fulfil the budget for the year end 2020-2021.

RESOLVED: That the 2020-2021 budget and a precept of £6,000 be approved (the amount may vary slightly depending on Sefton Council determining the tax base for 2020-2021).

1507: Accounts for Payment

Payments Out				
24/01/2020	000678	Mrs V Swift	Clerk Salary Jan. 2020	£230.75
06/01/2020	000679	ICO	Data Protection	£40.00
06/01/2020	000680	Champion News.	Advert TPC Meetings	£259.20
Total Amount				£529.95

RESOLVED: That the accounts set out in the schedule above be paid.

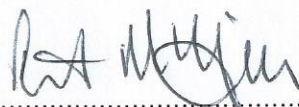
1508: Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 3rd February 2020 at Holy Family High School at 7:00pm.

1509: Deadline for Agenda Items

Monday, 27th January 2020.

Signed


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Date

03/02/20. (Chairman)