

THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 7th September 2020 using Zoom Video Conferencing

Present: Cllrs: McGill (Chair), O'Keeffe, Donegan, Pennington and White

In Attendance: Bill Esterson, MP
John Kelly, Cllr. Manor Ward
Jacqui Anderson, Con. Community Policing
Bob Albert, Resident
Kevin Rathbone, Resident
Veronica Swift, Clerk

In the Chair Cllr. O'Keeffe

1597: Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received from Cllrs. Dixon and Atkinson.

1598: Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 6th July 2020, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1599: Declaration of Interest - Members are requested to give notice of any pecuniary interest relating to any item on the agenda.
None

1600: Matters Arising from Minutes (for information only)
None

1601: Public Participation
Meeting adjourned at **19:14** to allow public participation.

Resident, Kevin Rathbone, spoke on the disgraceful lack of community play facilities for children living in the Thornton area.

The meeting reconvened at 19:44.

RESOLVED: That the clerk to pass Kevin's contact details onto Ward Cllr. John Kelly who then will put him in touch with the officers in charge of upgrading park facilities in the area.

1602: 5G Mast on Green Lane DC/2020/01140

Cllr. O'Keeffe thanked Sefton Council on their decision to refuse prior approval for the proposed 20m high mast on the village green, Green Lane, 19th August 2020. He also thanked everyone who had taken time to file their objections and sign the petitions to bring about this fantastic result. He said, "This may not be the end of Thornton's battle against the mast but it is a huge step in the right direction."

1603: Flooding on Westbourne Avenue

Members noted Cllr. Pennington's report on the problems of external and internal flooding for residents on Westbourne Avenue; his subsequent unanswered letter to Sam Dimba, Sefton Drainage Engineer, 19th August; and Paul Wisse's notification of a statutory Section 19 investigation to be carried out on the widespread flooding across the borough, including Westbourne Avenue.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Clerk to invite Sam Dimba, Sefton Drainage Engineer, to the next Council meeting to be held on 5th October 2020.
- (2) If Sam Dimba is unable to attend, that the Clerk to ask Sam to prepare a report for the Parish Council on flooding, giving an up-to-date position, looking at Westbourne Avenue and Runnells Lane.

1604: 'Village Green'

- (a) Members noted Cllr. O'Keeffe's report on the registration of the 'Village Green'.
- (b) Members noted Cllr. Pennington report on the health of the Christmas Tree.
- (c) Members noted residents reports of other dying or dead trees in the area.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to pull together a document of evidence gathered on the recreational use of the village green from its earliest record, including maps, photographs and data.
- (2) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to liaise with Ward Cllr. John Kelly to schedule a meeting date with Neil Kennard, Sefton Council solicitor, to thrash out ownership of the 'village green'.
- (3) That Cllr. O'Donegan to contact Cllr. Roche to enquire if Sefton has a provision in place for the replacement of Christmas trees.
- (4) That Cllr. Pennington to contact Sefton Highways to report the unsafe condition of two trees for removal in the location of the village green.

1605: Kiosk Refurbishment

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. McGill to contact a vinyl poster company for a quote on creating a poster displaying the Parish Council logo with stock images of key workers, to avoid any GDPR issues.
- (2) That Cllr. McGill to contact an NICEIC electrician for a quote on installing a defibrillator cabinet (IP54); to upgrade electric housing (IP66); and lighting (IP54).
- (3) That Cllr. McGill to make enquiries about renewing the Parish Council signage on the planter boxes.

1606: Speed Checks on Thornton Roads

RESOLVED: That Con. Jacqui Anderson to enquire about implementing speed checks (day of action) on a road in Thornton and to email Cllr. O'Keeffe the outcome of these enquiries for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

1607: Brooms Cross Restoration

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Donegan to forward to Ward Cllr. John Kelly and the clerk a schedule of costs for the purchase and installation of the new plaque as agreed.

1608: Wildflower Verge

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe's report on wildflower verges be noted.
- (2) That Cllr. Pennington to make enquiries for funding in support of community garden projects with for example B&Q.

1609: Dog Fouling and Waste Bins

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Sefton Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control be noted.
- (2) That Cllr. Pennington's report on dog fouling hot spots be noted.
- (3) That the Parish Council unanimously approved a dog foul bin in a location by the Nags Head Public House.
- (4) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to take a photo of the dog foul bin location and send it to Ward Cllr. John Kelly for approval.

1610: Litter Picking Equipment

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe's report on a community campaign to keep the village clean and tidy via facebook and twitter be noted.
- (2) That a budget of £50 for the purchase of community litter picking equipment be approved.

1611: Wireless Speakers/PA Equipment

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe's report on wireless speakers/pa equipment be noted.
- (2) That resident Bob Albert's very kind offer to loan two gazebos to the Parish Council for use at future community events be accepted.
- (3) That a budget of £400 for the purchase of wireless speakers/pa equipment, free of mains and rechargeable, be approved.

1612: Storage of Council Records

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe's report on the storage of Council records be noted.
- (2) That Cllr. McGill to arrange with former Chair, Ken Hounsell, the collection of Parish Council records.

1613: Merseyside Police Crime Alerts

None

1614: Planning Applications

Members considered the planning applications set out in the schedule circulated and also available on Sefton MBC website.

RESOLVED: That the applications listed on the schedule be noted.

1615: Accounts for Payment

Members considered the payments set out in the schedule of payments circulated.

RESOLVED: That the payments listed on the schedule be paid.

1616: Review of Councillors Absence

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Clerk's report on councillors absence be noted.

(2) That a decision on this item be deferred to the next meeting.

1617 Remote Meetings

RESOLVED: That zoom video conferencing will continue to facilitate all meetings required to take place remotely in accordance with government guidelines at a cost of £14.39 inclusive of VAT per meeting.

1618: Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 5th October 2020 via Zoom video conferencing at 7:00pm.

1619: Deadline for Agenda Items

Friday, 25th September 2020.

Signed (Chairman)

Date 5th October 2020