

THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council
held on Monday, 5th October 2020
via Zoom Video Conferencing

Present: Cllrs: O'Keeffe, Donegan, Pennington and White

In Attendance: Sam Dimba, Sefton Drainage Engineer
Ricardo Fonseca, Resident
Kevin Rathbone, Resident
Veronica Swift, Clerk

In the Chair Cllr. O'Keeffe

1620: Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. McGill, Cllr. Kelly, Manor Ward and Jacquie Anderson, Community Policing.

No apologies were received from Cllrs. Dixon and Atkinson.

1621: Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 7th September 2020, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1622: Declaration of Interest - Members are requested to give notice of any pecuniary interest relating to any item on the agenda.

None

1623: Matters Arising from Minutes (for information only)

None

1624: Public Participation

Meeting adjourned at **19:06** to allow public participation.

Kevin Rathbone, resident, commented on how spotless he had found Edge Lane, Hartdale Road and the stocks on a recent walk; he raised concern about a low lying branch obstructing the pathway to the crossing in the vicinity of the village green; and pointed to community benefits of repurposing a dead tree on the village green.

The meeting reconvened at 19:33.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. O'Keeffe to email Cllr. Kelly, Manor Ward and John Keough, Neighbourhoods & Partnerships to follow up Kevin Rathbone's request to join the community group responsible for identifying S106 community spend in the Sefton area.

1625: Flooding on Westbourne Avenue and Runnell's Lane

Members welcomed Sam Dimba, Sefton Drainage Engineer, to the meeting. His report on flooding in the Thornton area with specific reference to Westbourne Avenue and Runnell's Lane was noted.

RESOLVED:

- (1)** That Cllr. Pennington and Sam Dimba to meet on site to look at a blocked drain at the bottom of Rothwell's Lane and other drains in the area.

- (2) That Cllr. Pennington to provide Sam Dimba with a photograph of the drain off point on Broom's Cross Road overgrown with vegetation.
- (3) That Sam Dimba to check with Sefton Council on who is responsible for the maintenance of the drain off point on Broom's Cross and to report back to Cllr. Pennington.

1626: 'Village Green'

Members noted updates from Cllr. O'Keeffe on the registration of the 'Village Green'; Cllr. Donegan on the replacement of the living Christmas tree; Cllr. McGill on the renewal of the signage of the planter boxes; Cllr Pennington on unsafe trees, border planting and street signage on Green Lane.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Council agreed to approve a charge of £350 payable to Sefton Council for an electrical contractor to set up the Christmas tree lights and the nativity scene.
- (2) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact Gary McCartney at Sefton Council to ask specifically if the new Christmas tree will have insurance cover and if so, for how long.
- (3) That the Council agreed to explore ideas on having the stump of a dead tree on the village green carved into some sort of feature.
- (4) That the Council agreed to approve a charge of £24 payable to Attic Display Limited for the renewal of vinyl signs for the planter boxes.
- (5) That Cllr. Pennington to collate the names of residents interested in supporting the Council with border planting on the village green.
- (6) That Cllr. Pennington to contact Sefton Council to see if their 2018 offer of a 50-50 share of costs for the replacement of road signage on Green Lane still stands.

1627: Kiosk Refurbishment

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Council agreed to approve a charge of £276 payable to Attic Design Limited for phone box vinyl including fitting.
- (2) That the Council agreed to approve an NICEIC electrical contractor to source a defibrillator cabinet to best fit the telephone kiosk enclosure.

1628: Resuscitation Aids Storage

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Donegan agreed to take over the storage of resuscitation aids.

Cllr. White left the meeting.

1629: Speed Checks on Thornton Roads

Members noted an email received from Jacqui Anderson, Community Policing.

1630: Brooms Cross Restoration

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Donegan to consult with Historic England on the requirement to apply for schedule monument consent.

1631: Service of Remembrance 2020

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to email John Keough at Sefton Council on plans for running a scaled down Service of Remembrance given the heightened Covid-19 restrictions.

- (2) That the Council agreed to approve the purchase of one wreath from the British Legion at a cost £20 including a ribbon.
- (3) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to take the lead in conducting a Covid-19 risk assessment, notifying Merseyside Police and inviting guests as permitted given restrictions.
- (4) That Cllr. Pennington to mark out lines for suitable social distancing.
- (5) That Cllr. Pennington to make arrangements for live streaming on Facebook.

1632: Christmas Tree Lights Switch On 2020

Members noted Sefton Council are not encouraging any events during the Covid period.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact the vicar to organise a blessing of the nativity scene.
- (2) That Cllr. Pennington to make arrangements for live streaming on Facebook.
- (3) That the Council explore an idea for a road facing window lighting competition in partnership with local business in which the winner receives a prize.

1633: Local Schools Project

Members discussed this item under Village Green - 1626.

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Pennington to contact Sefton Council to cancel the work order on the dead tree on the village green.

1634: Purchase of Dog Foul Bins, Litter Picking Equipment and PA Equipment

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact Sefton Council to ask if the two redundant bins at the rear of the crematorium can be repurposed as dog foul bins.
- (2) That Cllr. Donegan to contact Green Sefton for guidance on planning socially distanced community litter picking events.
- (3) That the Council agreed to approve the purchase of one Alesis TransActive Wireless 2 Portable PA System at a cost of £199.00 and one Sub Zero SZPA-P6 Portable PA with Digital Media Player and Wireless MIC at a cost of £122.98 from gear4music.com.

1635: Storage of Council Records

Deferred to the next meeting.

1636: Merseyside Police Crime Alerts

None

1637: Planning Applications

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

RESOLVED: That Cllr. Pennington to submit a letter of approval to Sefton Planning in response of Mr and Mrs Procopiou's planning application and to promote this on the Council website.

1638: 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.

1639: Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 2nd November 2020 via Zoom video conferencing at 7:00pm.

1640: Review of Councillor Absence

Deferred to the next meeting.

1641: Deadline for Agenda Items

Friday, 23rd October 2020.

Signed (Chairman)

Date 2nd November 2020

Unapproved Draft