

THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council

held on Wednesday, 1st September 2021 at St William of York Parish Centre

PRESENT: Cllr. McGill
Cllr. O'Keeffe
Cllr. Pennington
Cllr. Rathbone

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs V Swift (Clerk)

1849: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Donegan, Hawkins and White.

1850: MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Monday, 5th July 2021, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

1851: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

1852: MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- (1) Item 1847: That due to venue unavailability, the date of the return of face-to face meetings was changed from Monday, 6th September 2021 to Wednesday, 1st September 2021.
- (2) Item 1807: That newly co-opted Parish Councillors period for signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be extended to Monday, 1st November 2021.
- (3) It was noted that Cllr. Rathbone had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1853: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned at 19:05 for a period of public participation. The Chairman welcomed everyone back to the first face-to-face meeting of the Parish Council after the pandemic.

- (1) Residents reported the path from Holgate to Brooms Cross Road as being overgrown with plants encroaching onto the walkway. Of particular concern was the spread of Japanese knotweed along the pathway.
- (2) Residents supported the re-submission of a planning application for the change of use of 6 The Crescent from Retail to Hot Food Takeaway as a much needed amenity in the locality and would like to see the project completed ASAP.
- (3) Residents commented on the difficulties they are experiencing along Lydiate Lane due to overgrown hedgerows and general lack of footpath maintenance.
- (4) Residents welcomed the plan for monthly community litter picks, were supportive of entering the North West in Bloom competition, and were keen on the idea of local businesses being asked to 'adopt a planter' and 'hanging baskets' on The Crescent.

The meeting was reconvened at 19:33.

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members to take up residents concerns with Sefton Highways Maintenance.
- (2) Members agreed to approve an additional sum of £100 from the council budget for the purchase of a centre piece for each of the planters on The Crescent.
Proposed: Cllr. O'Keeffe Seconded: Cllr. McGill Agreed: Unanimously

1854: HOLGATE PLANNING APPLICATION DC/2021/00417 - OBJECTION

RESOLVED: That this item be deferred to the next meeting.

1855: PLANNING INSPECTORATE/THE RAMBLERS FC APPEAL - APP/M4320/W/21/3269994 & 3269995

RESOLVED: Members noted an update by Cllr. O'Keeffe.

1856: KEEPING THORNTON TIDY

RESOLVED:

- (1) That reports by Cllrs. McGill, O'Keeffe, Pennington and Rathbone be noted.
- (2) That the first monthly community litter pick to take place on Saturday, 4th September 2021, meeting at the registration desk on The Crescent at 10:00am, thereafter every first Saturday of the month.
- (3) That the clerk to upload the litter pick risk assessment onto the Parish Council website.
- (4) That litter pick PPE and bin bag collection to be organised by Cllr. Carragher, Manor Ward.
- (5) That litter pick media reports and photographs to be organised by Cllr. O'Keeffe.
- (6) That a report on sites for wildflower verges be deferred to the next meeting.

1857: PROPOSAL OF DONATION BOXES

RESOLVED: That a proposal by Cllr. Rathbone on the purchase donation boxes be noted.

1858: COMMUNITY 'GIVE AND TAKE' BOX

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a proposal by Cllr. Rathbone on making a community 'give and take' self-service food bank box be noted.
- (2) That the clerk to check on regulations on the proposal of setting up a self-service food bank box and to establish what insurance cover would be needed to cover the potential of handling food past its best before date.

1859: BROOMS CROSS RESTORATION

RESOLVED: That this item be deferred to the next meeting.

1860: MARKING THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE - 2nd JUNE 2022

RESOLVED:

- (1) That reports by Cllr. McGill on plans for a 'beacon' and Cllr. O'Keeffe on plans for a 'green canopy' be noted.
- (2) Members approved Cllr. O'Keeffe's proposal to join the Green Canopy scheme: this would involve establishing the feasibility of planting a tree on the green verge (opp. Nag's Head), a commemorative plaque, the running of a social media survey to test community interest and putting in place the necessary permissions.
- (3) Members approved Cllr. McGill's proposal to build a 'beacon': this would involve the drafting of a complete range of CAD drawings, compiling a map of the locality to identify the location and siting of the 'beacon' for submission to Sefton Planning (prototype plan filed with these minutes).

1861: THORNTON PARISH BOUNDARIES

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members thanked Cllr. Hawkins for an excellent report on the process to be undertaken to change the current PC boundary (report filed with these minutes).
- (2) Members agreed that Cllr. Hawkins to take the lead in organising a petition to be signed by 250 local electors for submission to Neil Middlehurst as a first step in this process.
Proposed: Cllr. McGill Seconded: Cllr. Pennington Agreed: Unanimously

1862: COMMEMORATIVE PLANS TO MARK THE END OF LOCKDOWN

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a report by Cllr. O'Keeffe be noted.
- (2) Members noted Wednesday, 23rd March 2022 to be adopted as an 'Annual Covid Day of Reflection' subject to Government confirmation/change.
- (3) Members agreed that Cllr. Hawkins to look at the feasibility of having a Stocks and Sundial paving block or rainbow plaque inscribed as a lasting memorial.
Proposed: Cllr. McGill Seconded: Cllr. Pennington Agreed: Unanimously

1863: TWINNING WITH A TOWN IN FINLAND

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a report by Cllr. O'Keeffe be noted.
- (2) Members agreed that Cllr. O'Keeffe to find out more information for the next meeting.
Proposed: Cllr. O'Keeffe Seconded: Cllr. McGill Agreed: Unanimously

1864: 2021 SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

RESOLVED: That Cllr. O'Keeffe to take the lead in organising the Service of Remembrance to be held on Sunday, 14th November 2021.

1865: 2021 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

RESOLVED: That Cllr. O'Keeffe to take the lead in organising the Christmas tree lights switch-on to be held on Friday, 3rd December 2021.

1866: STOCKS AND SUNDIAL RECLASSIFICATION FROM GRADE 2 TO GRADE 1

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a report by Cllr. Pennington be noted.
- (2) That Cllr. Pennington to take forward the reclassification of the Stocks and Sundial.
- (3) That Cllr. Pennington to organise the painting of the railings at the Stocks and Sundial.

1867: MERSEYSIDE POLICE CRIME ALERTS

None

1868: PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

1869: ACCOUNTS PAID AND FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: That the payments set out in the schedule of payments circulated be agreed.

1870: CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk reported on correspondence received from Aintree Parish Council inviting Cllr. McGill and a guest to attend their Civic Event to be held on Sunday, 31st October 2021.

The clerk reported on a notice received from the Lancashire Association of Local Councils advising that their AGM will be held on 20th November 2021 in a virtual meeting via Zoom.

1871: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: Monday, 4th October 2021 at 7:00pm.

1872: DEADLINE FOR AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: Monday, 27th September 2021.

Signed (Chairman) Date 4th October 2021