

# THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council

held on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 5<sup>th</sup> 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, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.
- (2) Item 1807: That newly co-opted Parish Councillors period for signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be extended to Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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 - 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, 14<sup>th</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

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

**1871: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7:00pm.

**1872: DEADLINE FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

**RESOLVED:** Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021.



Signed .....

(Chairman)

Date 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021

# THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT TO COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR MEETING 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

**To ascertain and consider the process to be undertaken to change the current PC boundary.**

Used as reference

1. The maps outlined in red provided by Cllr George Pennington, to the Parish Facebook Community Group.
2. Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), Local Government & Public Health Act 2007 (LG&PHA 2007) – Guidance for Community Governance Reviews (CGRs)

## **Brief Background**

LG&PHA 2007

S1.3 Since February 2008 councils, including Sefton Council, have responsibility to undertake CGRs and to give effect to their recommendations.

S2.12 Reviews may become due for reasons of population changes and / or local new issues

S2.15 Boundary changes can be implemented to reflect local identities

S2.16 Strong clearly defined boundaries should be identified i.e. firm ground features (e.g. roads, railways, watercourses etc.)

S2.18 Local people can present a public petition to the principle council

S2.40 Such a petition must set out at least one recommendation that the petitioners want the Review to consider making ... here we would want to include something on the lines of...

- Alteration of boundary of the existing parish council. In doing so it will better reflect the actual geography of the parish, its community's collective pride and responsibility for its appearance, upkeep and positive identity amongst residents.

S2.41 The petition must be signed by 250 local electors.

NB...Here, I think it is useful to note that as S2.44 states that a petition can be lodged by electors in an area which does not currently exist as a parish, so I consider that it is reasonable to conclude that "local electors" can include those who reside in an area proposed for inclusion into a parish and not just those who reside within the existing PC boundary.

S3.83 Gives examples of boundaries which may follow / reflect the "no-mans land" between communities... low or non-populated areas, rivers, roads, railways, parks and recreation grounds.

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In his 23 July 2021 email Cllr McGill advised that boundary extension was an emerging issue a while ago and it was thought some work might have been done with Neil Middlehurst at Sefton MBC. Although I obtained Mr Middlehurst's phone number from Sefton, it was not answered after a few attempts so I emailed him on 13 Aug 2021 to seek any advice or guidance he might be able to offer. I'll forward it to you for your information, together with any subsequent reply I receive.

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In the meantime and in order to expand on the recommendation we would want the Review to consider I've looked more closely at the current position and what we might want to achieve.

### **Current Thornton PC boundary**

Before considering any changes I describe below what seems to be the current boundary:-

For convenience I refer to the maps as

1. Thornton North – including the Homer Green area and this overlaps with
2. Thornton South – including the Edge Farm, Edge Lane area

Starting with the Thornton North map...

The boundary's northern edge is cut off on the map but as we join it, it appears to follow Hunts Brook, through Homer Green, across the A565 and north of the perimeter of St Joseph's Hospice. It continues, running at the side of Back Lane and south, across an unnamed watercourse to the edge of The Northern Club's grounds. It then takes a south easterly course to Moor Place Tennis Club's south perimeter and on to Moor Lane.

Using the Thornton South overlay...

The boundary then turns a little up Moor Lane before it turns right, along Edgemoor Drive and left on to Ronaldsway, to its junction with Edge Lane, it then runs in a south easterly direction. The boundary turns left on to Stanneyfield Drive and seems to take a course across the back of the Lydiate Park estate on to Westbourne Ave, turning right on to Lydiate Lane and left after the Crematorium cemetery. It follows the cemetery perimeter over Brooms Cross Rd, continuing on to Langdale Lane, Lunt Rd, right on to Moor Lane, across Harrison's Brook and I assume it probably continues along Moor Lane to its conjunction with the River Alt. From that point it likely turns in a north westerly direction and follows the river to meet Hunts Brook, to complete the current PC Boundary.

If anyone has more accurate information as to the path taken on any part of the boundary the above description can, of course, be amended.

### **Proposal for Boundary change**

Although relatively new to the Parish Council I've lived in Thornton for many years and was surprised to see the exact Parish boundary! A number of long established businesses etc. refer to themselves as being "Thornton" based, albeit they are actually outside the current PC boundary, including:-

Kings Church, Drummond Rd, L23 9YP  
LCFC, Drummond Rd, L23 9YP  
Rushtons Farm, Runnells Lane, L23 1TR  
Thornton Hall Care Home, Tanhouse Rd, L23 1UB  
Thornton PCT Practice, Bretlands Rd, L23 1TQ  
St William of York Church, School and Club, St William Rd, L23 4TG  
Newfield School, Edge Lane, L23 4TG  
Edge Farm, Edge Lane, L23 1TS

Many private households also consider themselves to be Thornton residents, myself included in Runnells Lane and we identify with Thornton, as being where we live.

In addition, new housing developments at Pleasant Hill Close and Sundial Place (and the land on Lydiate Lane, which until recently was proposed for development, as Rakes Park) are also described as being located in Thornton. Other new proposed Thornton developments that I'm aware of to the north of the Parish (whether they are successful or not) are already within the current boundary.

In order to regularise the position, resulting in a Parish Council with a boundary which truly wraps itself around our recognised community, such boundary to encompass both defined natural geographical elements together with developed and proposed dwellings, businesses' sites, roads etc. I would initially suggest an extension to the Parish as follows:-

Looking at the Thornton North map, the boundary would remain as before, to the point where it runs along Edgemoor Lane...

From here I would propose it should continue along the length of Edgemoor Lane to the end Cul de Sac, then cross over on to Drummond Rd and incorporate the premises known as LCFC and also Edge Farm, beyond. The boundary should be routed along the farm's south easterly perimeter to Edge Lane and turn right to include the two dwellings at 1 and 2 New Cottages, Edge Lane, which have an L23 1TS postcode.

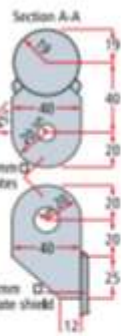
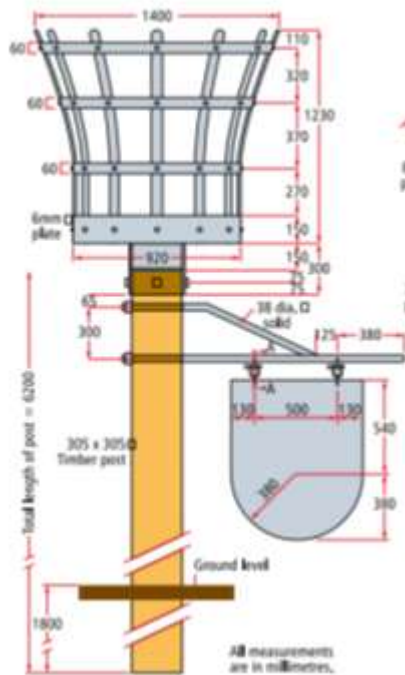
As both Shy Lowen and the Buckley Hill Playing Fields have L29 postcodes I assume that they could not fall under Thornton's umbrella and so the PC boundary would run behind their perimeters, cross to the northern side of Lydiate Lane, then turn immediately along to the Buckley Hill Lane traffic junction (thus including the whole of that field / land adjoining) and run up to Brooms Cross Rd, where it would turn left along that road until it meets up again with the current boundary, at the end of the Cemetery grounds.

This is only a first draft for the proposed extended boundary and other Parish Councillors may wish to consider / add / alter this proposed route based on their own knowledge and residents' expectations for inclusion:-

- I don't know what should happen when there are dwellings on the boundary line, e.g. Edgemoor Drive – would both sides of the road fall within the new boundary but not the smaller side roads from it, on the "Crosby" side of Edgemoor.
- I have no knowledge of any desired changes to the part of the Parish lying roughly north of Brooms Cross Rd.
- I have no knowledge of any desired changes to the part of the Parish lying roughly north of Moor Lane, beyond Moor Place etc..

Dot Hawkins  
13 August 2021

# WWI Beacons of Light, Beacon Brazier



## Beacon Brazier with Metal Shield

A Beacon Brazier can be a more permanent feature, sited in a country park, hilltop or village green, as a lasting memorial of this important moment in history commemorated, and could be manufactured and erected by using local craftsmen.



## Materials Required for Beacon Construction

Wooden centre post consisting of 305mm x 305mm wooden post, 6.25 metres in length of which 2 metres goes into the ground.

Basket and brazier brackets consisting of:

- 1 x 300mm diameter steel plate.
- 1 x 4,175 long 80mm x 5mm steel flat bar rolled into 1,200mm diameter ring.
- 1 x 3,405mm long 80mm x 5mm steel flat bar rolled into 1,100mm diameter ring.
- 1 x 2,985mm long 80mm x 5mm steel flat bar rolled into 900mm diameter ring.
- 1 x 2,565mm long 150mm x 5mm steel flat bar rolled into 900mm diameter ring.
- 12 x (approx. 1,200mm long) 80mm x 5mm vertical bars rolled to shape.
- 1 x 210mm x 210mm x 300mm high connection box welded to base of basket.
- 1 x hanging shield and support: 3.7m length of 38mm diameter mild steel rod.
- 1 x 300mm x 700mm steel plate 3mm thick & connection brackets 3mm thick (see detailed drawings left).
- 2 x pins and loops.



All measurements are in millimetres.