

THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council

held on Wednesday, 3rd November 2021 at St William of York Parish Centre

PRESENT: Cllr. McGill (Chair)
Cllr. Donegan
Cllr. Hawkins
Cllr. O'Keeffe
Cllr. Rathbone
Cllr. White

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs V Swift (Clerk)

1898: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apology for absence was received from Cllr. Pennington.

1899: MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Wednesday, 6th October 2021, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

1900: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

1901: MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- (1) Items 1807 and 1852: That newly co-opted Parish Councillors period for signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office be extended to Wednesday, 3rd November 2021.
- (2) It was noted that Cllr. Hawkins had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1902: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was adjourned at 19:08 for a period of public participation. The Chairman welcomed to the meeting 9 members of the public and guest speaker, John Gibson, Honorary Consul of Finland for the North West via telephone conference link.

- (1) John spoke on the aims of twinning with Finland (or another country of choice); from bringing people together, forging new friendships and partnerships; to broadening horizons, enhancing cultural ideas and understanding. This was followed by a lively Q&A session that drilled down on the philosophy, aims and financial implications of the community of Thornton Parish Council twinning with another community in a village in Finland.
- (2) Residents highlighted a pavement parking issue on Water Street at the Edge Lane end of the road that is creating an obstruction for people using the pavement and obstructing the view of drivers coming out of, and entering Water Street and asked if there could be the introduction of double yellow lines to prevent parking in this dangerous spot.
- (3) Residents highlighted a pavement parking issue on Hartdale Road making the road inaccessible despite there being double yellow lines at the Edge Lane end of the road, cars are almost constantly parked there causing safety risks for road users coming in and out of Hartdale Road.

The meeting was reconvened at 19:55.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to raise residents issues with Sefton Highways maintenance department.
- (2) Members were asked to approve a proposal to twin with a village in Finland.
Proposed: Cllr. Donegan. Seconded: Cllr. McGill. Agreed: 4:2 in favour of proposal.

1903: HOLGATE PLANNING APPLICATION DC/2021/00417 - OBJECTION

RESOLVED:

- (1) That an update by Cllr. Donegan on his last minute objection regarding the pink footed geese and their wild habitat, flight paths and breeding grounds, and case law, be noted.
- (2) Members noted the late withdrawal of Holgate's planning application from Sefton's planning meeting on Wednesday, 20th October 2021, on technical grounds.
- (3) Members noted the late withdrawal indicated the unlikelihood of a successful planning outcome and that the applicant will now look to amend and resubmit.

1904: CORNERSTONE'S PROPOSED NEW 5G MAST ON THORNTON ROAD ROUNDABOUT

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a report by Cllr. Donegan on Cornerstone's proposed new 5G mast site, on Thornton Road roundabout, be noted.
- (2) That the clerk to investigate any funding opportunities associated with this new activity.

1905: SEFTON IN-BLOOM COMPETITION

RESOLVED: This item be deferred to the next meeting, 1st December 2021.

1906: KEEPING THORNTON TIDY

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members noted that the 3rd community litter pick event will take place on Saturday, 6th November 2021, meeting at the Crescent at 10:00am.
- (2) Members noted that Cllr. Carragher (Manor Ward) has ordered 3 new bins and that she is waiting on contractors to have a full list before they will fit them.
- (3) Members noted suggestions for making temporary litter bins and signage for raising awareness on keeping Thornton tidy.
- (4) Members thanked Cllr. Rathbone and the scouts for their litter picking activities that are contributing to making Thornton a cleaner place to live.

1907: SEFTON CULTIVATION AND AMENITIES LICENCE

RESOLVED: This item be deferred to the next meeting, 1st December 2021.

1908: WILDFLOWER VERGES

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members noted that Cllr. O'Keeffe is waiting to hear back from Andrew Dunsmore, Sefton Council, on developments regarding suitable locations in Thornton for participation in Sefton's wildflower pilot scheme.
- (2) Members noted Thornton roundabout as another suitable location for wildflowers.

1909: COMMUNITY 'GIVE AND TAKE' BOX

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members noted that Cllr. Rathbone has taken delivery of locally donated wood and is now able to get started on making the community 'give and take' box.
- (2) That Cllrs. Rathbone and O'Keeffe to liaise on finding a suitable location for housing the community 'give and take' box.

1910: SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE on SUNDAY, 14th NOVEMBER 2021

Cllr. O'Keeffe led discussions on the Order of Service.

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members to gather at the War Memorial Plaque, Stocks and Sundial, Water Street at 10:45am for a 10:57am start.
- (2) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact Rob.Taylor@merseyside.police.uk to request the placing of no parking cones around the path of the Stocks and Sundial on the night before the event.
- (3) That Cllr. McGill to lead Thornton Service of Remembrance and to lay the wreath.
- (4) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to attend the Five Lamps Service of Remembrance and to lay the wreath.
- (5) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to purchase 12 wooden crosses for the scouts to lay in remembrance of the 12 Thornton men who served and died in the First and Second World Wars.
- (6) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact Mrs Pennington to ask if she would be the event first aider.
- (7) That an update by Cllr. McGill on the 'Risk Assessment' be noted.
- (8) Members were asked to share the Service of Remembrance notice on social media and the clerk to share on the parish council website.
- (9) Members noted that the Moor Lane RBL shop is open every day until Remembrance Sunday.

1911: 2021 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH-ON on FRIDAY, 3rd DECEMBER 2021

Cllr. O'Keeffe led discussion on the arrangements for the switch-on.

RESOLVED:

- (1) Members noted that the event to start at 18:00pm, the Mayor to arrive at 18:30pm and the switch-on to take place at 18:40pm.
- (2) That an update by Cllr. O'Keeffe on formal invitations and event bookings be noted.
- (3) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to invite the Facebook community to nominate a member of the community who has 'lit up their lives' in the past year to perform this year's switch-on.
- (4) That Cllr. O'Keeffe, Ged and Alec to liaise on finding a new storage home for the nativity crib, having been left outside the vicarage garage, unprotected and open to the elements.
- (5) Members thanked Ged and Alec for their continued help and support.
- (6) That Cllr. O'Keeffe to contact Mrs Pennington to ask if she would be the event first aider.
- (7) That an update by Cllr. McGill on the 'Risk Assessment' be noted.

1912: NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION on 23rd MARCH 2022

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a report by Cllr. Hawkins on holding a National Day of Reflection in support of those who have lost loved ones as a result of the Covid pandemic, and to recognise the efforts of the NHS and the volunteers who have helped us through the vaccination programme, be noted.
- (2) That Cllr. Hawkins to gather more information on the process and costs involved in engraving flagstones/bricks as a memorial idea for discussion at the next meeting, 1st December 2021.

1913: BROOM'S WAYSIDE CROSS RESTORATION

RESOLVED:

- (1) That an update by Cllr. Donegan confirmed that the land on which 'Broom's Wayside Cross' sits was sold by William Roughley in 2000 to Forestry England.
- (2) Members noted that Phil Lee from Forestry England has accepted an invitation to be guest speaker at the next meeting, 1st December 2021.

1914: THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE on 2nd JUNE 2022

RESOLVED:

- (1) That an update by Cllr. McGill on rejigging his beacon design be noted:
 - (a) The new design will enable the beacon structure to be assembled on site, on the day and then dismantled at the end of the event.
 - (b) The new design will not require planning permission from Sefton planning.
 - (c) The site location will require permission from the land owners, Forestry England.
- (2) That an update by Cllr. O'Keeffe on the green canopy be noted:
 - (a) The village green verge opposite the Nag's Head has been confirmed as the definitive location for a centrepiece tree by Stephen Whiteside, Sefton Council Tree Officer.
 - (b) That a plaque for the tree will require permission from Sefton Highways Department.
 - (c) The Jubilee tree will be added to an interactive map at www.queensgreencanopy.org under the labels "Pin your Jubilee Tree" and "Explore the map".
- (3) Members considered the idea of planting more trees in Thornton to help celebrate the Queen's Green Canopy Project, and they noted the idea of holding a 'tree day'.

1915: STOCKS AND SUNDIAL RECLASSIFICATION FROM GRADE 2 TO GRADE 1

RESOLVED: This item be deferred to the next meeting, 1st December 2021.

1916: THORNTON PARISH BOUNDARY REVIEW

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a report by Cllr. Hawkins on a community governance review, outlining the makeup of the Parish boundary, the areas outside the Parish boundary, and noting that only one councillor currently lives within the Parish boundary, Cllr. Pennington, be noted.
- (2) Members noted that for a community governance review to be undertaken to review the boundaries of the Parish, Sefton would require a petition to be drawn up, along with a map showing the current boundary arrangements and a map showing the proposed changes.
- (3) Members noted that the petition requires the signatures of 250 residents living within the current Parish boundary, along with their postal and email addresses.
- (4) Members were asked to approve a proposal to petition a community governance review to be signed by Cllr. Pennington, to take place in the spring.
Proposed: Cllr. O'Keeffe. Seconded: Cllr. McGill. Agreed: Unanimously.

1917: PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

1918: MERSEYSIDE POLICE CRIME ALERTS

None

1919: ACCOUNTS PAID AND FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the payments set out in the schedule of payments circulated be agreed.
- (2) That the Open Spaces request for renewal of membership be declined.

1920: CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk reported on correspondence received from the LALC enclosing accounts for 2020/21.
Resident reported on the poor state of verges on Edge Lane.
The clerk reported on the NALC consultation briefing on environmental permitting regulations.
The clerk circulated a report from Cllr. Carragher, Manor Ward.
The clerk reported on a letter received from the Mayor's Office with a list of Remembrance Sunday Services taking place across Sefton.

1921: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: Wednesday, 1st December 2021 at 7:00pm.

1922: DEADLINE FOR AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: Monday, 22nd November 2021.

Signed (Chairman) Date 1st December 2021