



MINUTES OF AN **ORDINARY MEETING** HELD ON  
**WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY 2024 AT ST WILLIAM OF YORK  
PARISH CENTRE COMMENCING AT 19:30PM.**

**Present:** Cllrs: McGill (in the Chair), Bundred and Hawkins  
**In Attendance:** V Swift (Clerk & RFO), 4 Members of the Public

**2408: Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fonseca, Francis and Roberts.

**2409: Members declaration of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2410: Minutes of the previous meeting**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Wednesday, 6 December 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**2411: Matters arising from previous minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**2412: Public comments**

The public forum took place before the start of the formal meeting (19:00-19:30).

**RESOLVED:**

- 2412.1** That Cllr McGill thanked Guest Speaker Jennifer Taylor, new Neighbourhoods Area Co-ordinator for Thornton, Blundellsands and Crosby for attending the public forum to share her role within the Neighbourhoods Team, the role of the Neighbourhoods Team within Sefton Council and for participating in a really helpful Q&A session.
- 2412.2** That Cllr McGill thanked residents of 49 Runnells Lane for attending the public forum to share how Barratt's housing development at the rear of Runnells Lane has caused their garden to flood, in particular associated works to prevent future garden flooding and who takes responsibility when the development is finished?
- 2412.3** That the clerk to invite former parish councillor George Pennington to the next meeting of the Parish Council, 7 February, to share his valuable knowledge about local flooding in the area that is essential for flood risk management.

**2413: Keeping Thornton Tidy**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2413.1** Members noted that a large scattering of insulation had been picked up around Brooms Cross Road presumably from the Castle Green development on 1 January 2024.
- 2413.2** Members noted that the confusion with bin collection dates over the Christmas period had left many bins overflowing and open to the elements.
- 2413.3** That Cllr Bundred agreed to contact Tesco Express, Aldi and Holy Family High School to try to encourage local business and school involvement in 'Keeping Thornton Tidy'.
- 2413.4** Members noted that the next litter pick event will take place on Saturday, 13 January 2024, meeting at the Crescent at 9:00 a.m.
- 2413.4** That the clerk to file a litter pick risk assessment with Sefton Council.

**2414: Thornton community group**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2414.1** Members noted plans and dates for the year ahead to be fixed at the next meeting, 7 February 2024.
- 2414.2** Members noted the North West in Bloom Assessor(s) Report, Areas of Achievement: *"It was a pleasure to be shown round the new site by committed volunteers and elected members. Although relatively small, the impact on this busy intersection is great...."*

**2415: Signage on Edge Lane**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2415.1** Members noted that Cllr Hawkins is waiting for a response from Peter Hillsden, Sefton Transport Planning, on timescales for the installation of new signage along Edge Lane.
- 2415.2** That the clerk to resend a Guest Speaker invitation to Peter Hillsden, Sefton Transport Planning, with additional meeting dates.

**2416: New notice board - Village Green**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2416.1** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on filing planning application number DC/2024/00027 for advertisement consent for the display of a non-illuminated notice board be noted.
- 2416.2** That the clerk to reimburse Cllr Hawkins the sum of £353.00 being the planning application fee submitted and processed on 6 January 2024.

**2417: War memorial and COVID memorial**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2417.1** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on filing planning application number DC/2023/02036 on the planning portal, the Validation Team request for additional information including a Heritage Statement and the payment/refund of planning fees be noted.
- 2417.2** That the clerk to reimburse Cllr Hawkins the sum of £181.00 made up as follows: planning application fee £117.00 and service charge plus VAT £64.00.

**2418: South Sefton Community Alliance**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2418.1** That an update by Cllr McGill on attending the South Sefton Community Alliance introductory meeting held at Halle's Hub on Thursday, 7 December 2023, be noted.
- 2418.2** Members noted that Cllr McGill to update the clerk on future meeting dates for inclusion on the agenda.

**2419: LGBC review of Sefton MBC**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2419.1** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on the LGBC draft recommendations on new electoral arrangements for Sefton MBC, published 9 January 2024, be noted.
- 2419.2** Members noted that the draft recommendations included a comment on the parish council's request that Sefton MBC undertake a Community Governance Review:
- "Thornton Parish Council requested significant alterations to their parish boundaries. We cannot recommend any changes to parish boundaries as part of this electoral review; this responsibility lies with the Borough Council through a Community Governance Review. However, we note that the area Thornton Parish Council wishes to incorporate into the parish will fall entirely within our proposed Manor ward. This means that the ward will encompass the entirety of Thornton parish if a future Community Governance Review decides to adopt the exact boundary arrangement requested by Thornton Parish Council." Follow link for full report: <https://thorntonpc.org.uk/community-governance-review-2/>*

- 2419.3** Members noted that a public consultation on the future of Sefton MBC local government boundaries has begun and will close on 18 March 2024, with the final recommendations due to be published on 4 June 2024.
- 2419.4** That Cllr Hawkins to write to Jonathan Ashby, LGBCE Review Officer, noting his official comments and recording a small corner of Thornton parish expansion plan that does not sit within the proposed Manor ward.
- 2419.5** That Cllr Hawkins to write to Chief Legal and Democratic Officer, Sefton MBC, noting official comments within the LGBCE draft recommendations and advising that the Parish Council will be in touch about the Community Governance Review in due course.
- 2419.6** That the clerk to post a link to the LGBCE draft recommendations for Sefton MBC on the Parish Council's website and Facebook group.

**2420: Storage of Christmas crib**

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr McGill to contact Fr Harrington at St William of York Church to discuss moving the Parish Council's Christmas crib into storage at his premises.

**2421: Storage of Parish Council records**

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr McGill to follow up a suggestion made by former parish councillor James O'Keeffe to store the Parish Council 's historic papers at the Lancashire Record Office, Preston.

**2422: Guest speakers**

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr McGill to create a Facebook advert to promote attendance of guest speaker Alex English, National Trust Project Manager, at the next Parish Council meeting, 7 February 2023.

**2423: Notice of vacancy**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2423.1** That the clerk reported no applications had been received as yet in response to the recent Facebook adverts.
- 2423.2** That the clerk to continue to post the Parish Council vacancy on the Facebook group.

**2424: National Westminster Bank mandate**

**RESOLVED:**

**2424.1** Proposed changes to the National Westminster Bank mandate: that Cllr Hawkins be added and that James O'Keeffe and George Pennington be removed as 'Authorised Signatories' on the Parish Council's bank accounts at the National Westminster Bank.

**Proposed:** Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Bundred. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

**2424.2** That the clerk to contact former parish councillor James O'Keeffe for some dates and times in order to determine a date and time for the online submission of the completed mandate request.

**2425: Planning Applications**

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

**2426: Accounts paid and for payment**

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

**2427: Correspondence**

**2427.1** Facebook Administrator George Pennington, a reminder that under rule 5 local businesses will be allowed no more than one post per week in the group to be posted between Fri-Sat any additional posts will not be approved.

**2428: Date of next meeting**

**RESOLVED:** Wednesday, 7 February 2024 at 7:00PM.

**2429: Deadline for agenda items**

**RESOLVED:** Wednesday, 30 January 2024.



Signed .....

(Chairman)

Date 7 February 2024