

Present: Cllrs: McGill (in the Chair), Bundred, Fonseca and Hawkins

In Attendance: V Swift (Clerk & RFO), 5 Members of the Public

2475: Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Francis and Roberts.

2476: Members declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2477: Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Wednesday, 6 March 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

2478: Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

2479: Public comments

The meeting was adjourned at 19:03 for this item.

2479.1 Members noted that the National Trust guest speakers had withdrawn at the last minute due to illness.

2479.2 Resident, Green Lane, reported concerns about the administration of the Facebook page, Thornton Parish Council, Sefton. He detailed a series of offensive and misleading comments made by contributors in association with the potential opening of the chip shop on the Crescent that could see the Police become involved if a complaint were to be made to them. Members noted that the Facebook page had been paused while the Parish Council decide on its future.

2479.3 Resident, Brenda Crescent, reported an issue with noisy work being carried out by workmen on the neighbour's house over the Easter weekend and most weekends. Highlighting how the daily coming and going of workmen over bank holidays and weekends interferes with her and her family's enjoyment of their own home. A discussion ensued.

2479.4 Resident, Hartdale Road, reported on the amount Sefton Council Tax is charging for street cleaning services. Commenting that Cadent had just dug up his road and roads in the surrounding area and that Sefton Council had done nothing to clear up the sand and other rubble left behind by Cadent.

2479.5 Resident, Green Lane, reported that the two unofficial bins located down Holgate had been taken away and that once again irresponsible dog owners were littering the area with discarded poo bags.

The meeting was reconvened at 19.37.

RESOLVED:

- 2479.2.1** Members agreed to the closure of 'Thornton Parish Council, Sefton' Facebook page.
- 2479.2.2** That the clerk to contact NetWiseUK, website support and maintenance providers, for their advice on creating a new Facebook page 'Thornton Parish Community' and to ask if it is possible to add a feed to the website.
- 2479.2.3** That Cllr McGill to post a closing message on the 'Thornton Parish Council, Sefton' Facebook page.
- 2479.2.4** That Cllr McGill to post a welcome message on the 'Thornton Parish Community' Facebook page.
- 2479.2.5** That George Pennington, to close the 'Thornton Parish Council, Sefton' Facebook page.
- 2479.2.6** Members thanked George Pennington for all his hard work in helping to build a Facebook membership in excess of 1800 members.

2480: Keeping Thornton Tidy

RESOLVED:

- 2480.1** That an update by Cllr McGill on the monthly community litter pick be noted.
- 2480.2** Members noted the date of the next community litter pick, 6 April 2024.
- 2480.3** Members thanked David Wilson Homes PR Team for the generous offer of support for any litter picking events planned in the next few months, this could be through a donation of equipment or volunteers.
- 2480.4** Members noted 3 community litter pick events: Saturday in May date tba, Saturday June 8 'The Big Help Out Weekend' and Saturday in July date tba.
- 2480.5** Members noted a litter pick equipment wish list including: hand-held litter pickers, litter picking hoops, high-vis vests and disposable gloves.
- 2480.6** Members noted that the clerk to respond to correspondence from Rhea Foster, PR Account Executive, acting on behalf of David Wilson Homes.
- 2480.7** Members noted that the clerk to file a litter pick risk assessment with Sefton Council.

2481: Thornton Community Group

RESOLVED:

- 2481.1** Members noted an update by Irene White on contact with Bootle Tool Shed.
- 2481.2** That Cllr McGill and Irene White to liaise on a date and time to meet up to carry out a review of the location sites for the new planters.
- 2481.3** That Cllr McGill to complete and submit a Sefton Highways 'Consent Form' to grant Thornton Parish Council permission to site new planters on the highway for the purpose of enhancing the street scene, to include a location plan and description.
- 2481.4** Members noted suggestions for improving the look of the area around the Crescent planters prior to the visit of the RHS North West in Bloom panel of judges, including the offer of volunteers through David Wilson Homes and the 'payback' scheme through Sefton Neighbourhoods.
- 2481.5** That Cllr McGill to assess the level of vandalism to the vinyls covering the defibrillator kiosk at the Crescent and if possible, try to restore with adhesive and tape.
- 2481.6** Members noted that a plaque on one of the roadside 'welcome' planters is damaged.
- 2481.7** That Cllr McGill to look at ordering plaques for the new planters and replacing the damage plaque on the roadside 'welcome' planter.

2482: Signage on Edge Lane

RESOLVED: Members noted that Cllr Hawkins is still waiting for confirmation of an installation date for the new signage on Edge Lane.

2483: New noticeboard - Village Green

RESOLVED:

- 2483.1** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on planning application DC/2024/00027 and the subsequent 'Approval Notice' received 27 March 2024 be noted.
- 2483.2** Members noted that Cllr Hawkins is still working on another license from The Highways Authority, as the noticeboard is to be sited on a public highway.
- 2483.3** Members noted that Cllr Hawkins has contacted the noticeboard supplier, Greenbarnes Limited, to ask how the noticeboard will be delivered, completely assembled or otherwise, and its weight including posts, as this will have an impact on installation costs.
- 2483.4** Members noted that a meeting is to be held between Cllr Hawkins and Ronnie Stafford, Sefton Council, to confirm the specific site on the village green for the noticeboard.

2484: War memorial and COVID memorial

RESOLVED:

- 2484.1** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on planning application DC/2023/02036 and the subsequent 'Approval Notice' received 21 March 2024 be noted.
- 2484.2** Members noted that a meeting is to be held between Cllr Hawkins and Ronnie Stafford, Sefton Council, to confirm the specific sites at the Stocks and Sundial for the memorials.

2485: Public Address System

RESOLVED:

- 2485.1** That Cllr Bundred confirmed taking delivery of the new PA System, with microphone, stand and carry bag from Gear4Music Ltd for the sum of £490.19, that was within the set budget of £500.
- 2485.2** That the clerk to reimburse Cllr Bundred the sum of £490.19, inclusive of VAT at £81.70.

2486: Parish Council records

RESOLVED:

- 2486.1** Members noted that Caroline Schofield, Cultural Heritage Curator and Emma Ritson, Collections and Officer, have confirmed they will review the permanent loan agreement on the Thornton Parish chest and sampler with the team at Rufford and the National Trust Registrar team and that they will report back to us in due course.
- 2486.2** That the clerk to invite a representative(s) from Rufford Old Hall to be guest speaker(s) at the meeting to be held on 3 July.

2487: Guest speakers

RESOLVED:

- 2487.1** Members noted that Vicky Blaine, General Manager National Trust in Lancashire, Alex English, National Trust Project Manager and Ellie Ralph, National Trust Project Officer have asked to defer their attendance from 3 April to 1 May.
- 2487.2** Members noted that Jennifer Taylor, Neighbourhoods Area Co-ordinator for Thornton, Blundellsands and Crosby has confirmed as guest speaker for 1 May meeting.
- 2487.3** Members noted that Andrew Taylor, DWH North West, Planning Director has confirmed as guest speaker for 5 June meeting.

2488: Planning Applications

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

2489: National Westminster Bank mandate

RESOLVED: Members noted that Cllrs McGill and Hawkins and former councillor, James O'Keeffe to meet at the National Westminster Bank on Monday, 8 April 2024 at 11:00am to complete a new bank mandate to add and remove 'Authorised Signatories'.

2490: Accounts paid and for payment

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

2491: Correspondence

2491.1 South Sefton Communities Alliance, enclosing a copy of their terms of reference.

2491.2 Resident complaint, asking for help to deal with fly tipping from one of the flats on the Crescent. The bins are left out to be collected for up to a week and this attracts nuisance to the area and creates an eyesore for other residents.

2491.3 Neighbourhoods, in response to the fly tipping on the Crescent, the complaint has been passed on to Sefton enforcement team to look at as the bins should not be on the highway in the first instance, even though they are for a private contractor.

2491.4 Clare Carragher, invitation to the meeting of 3 April.

2492: Date of next meeting

RESOLVED: Wednesday, 1 May 2024 at 7:00PM.

2493: Deadline for agenda items

RESOLVED: Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

Signed (Chairman) **Date** 1 May 2024