

THROWLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 7th NOVEMBER, 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs Jackie Crawford (vice chair) David Hatton, David Jordan, Duncan Vincent, Julian Wisniewski, Ann Warwick Oliver Paul Ridgers (part of time)
Clerk: Julie Macey

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. Job Bell and Ian Brooker

MATTERS RAISED BY PARISHIONERS: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: previously circulated and were signed by the Vice Chair as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: None other than those raised under the various headings

PLANNING:

Footpath 9 Throwleigh. Email from Head of Legal and Democratic Services, DNPA confirming he should be in a position to circulate revised draft plan by end of October. Circulated and noted.
Monks Withecombe, Chagford. Confirmation of grant of conditional planning permission. Circulated and noted.
Proposed erection of general purpose agricultural building at Leigh Bridge Farm, Murchington. Circulated. No objection.

FINANCE:

As at 30th September, current account £2,486.00, business account £651,22 and emergency account £281.38. Clerk confirmed unable to deliver cheque for Methodist Chapel as emails unanswered. She will try for a final time. To pay BT Payphones £1 for phone box and clerk £406.87 for salary plus £27.26 for back dated pay (salary increase) and £8.35 for expenses. Total £442,48.

Email received from WDBC re. Council Tax Support Grant for next 3 years confirming 8.6% annual reduction which for Throwleigh would mean £88 this year, £80, £73 and £67 for the following three years. It has been suggested that the Government may introduce council tax referendum principles for some of the largest parishes next year if they increase their precepts above a certain level. They have also raised the possibility of applying referenda principles to council tax increases to all parish and town councils in England.

Clerk has written to HMRC regarding compulsory pension contributions to ascertain whether as a small council it is possible to waive this.

CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Okehampton Hospital. Various correspondence circulated including petition to save hospital beds, public consultation including invitation to attend public meetings on 16th November at Town Hall in Fore Street 14.30-16.30 hrs and 17.00 to 19.30 hrs. Circulated and on notice boards and web site. Short discussion took place in respect of need for extra beds in the area.
- (b) Invitation to local plan review at DNPA on 8th November 2-5 p.m. Circulated and noted. Regrettably no councillors able to attend. Clerk to ascertain whether report/details can be circulated.
- (c) Email from WDBC re. councillor training circulated and noted. Cllr. Wisniewski to attend on 9th November.
- (d) Letter from Okehampton District Community Transport Group requesting donation circulated and noted.
- (e) Notification of Super Link Meeting at Okemont Centre on 7th December at 7 p.m. Circulated and noted. Cllr. Bell to confirm whether he will attend.
- (f) Email from DNPA re. Dartmoor Communities Fund confirming Throwleigh's application for works to the village hall to provide archive and reading room in the sum of £2,510 against a project value of £5,470. Circulated and noted. Letter of support on behalf of parish council sent. Announcement of successful projects anticipated for end of October.

REPORTS

None

PARISH MATTERS

- (a) Defibrillator: Contract with BT signed by chairman for purchase of telephone box. Order for defibrillator equipment under managed solution scheme with Community Heartbeat Trust which includes training, insurance, service etc, signed by chairman including terms and conditions and ready to be sent off with cheque in the sum of £1,645 (includes delivery) Approximate date for delivery 4-6 weeks from point of order, Quotes received for electrical work in the sum of £88.40 from J.D. Drew of Okehampton. Cllr. Crawford to arrange for cheques to be sent to clerk to cover this so that order can be sent off. Discussion took place as to one or two people who live near the phone box who would monitor the defibrillator and equipment once installed and complete governance section confirming weekly or monthly checks to be carried out. Cllrs. requested further time to consider this.
- (b) BT consultation on proposed removal of public pay phones on Dartmoor which includes phone at Wonson which BT say has not been used for a year. Objection received from Julia Sanchez who confirmed phone was out of order when she went to use it. This letter has been forwarded to DNPA for their information.. Parish has confirmed to DNPA that they would want phone box (not necessarily line which they thought had been removed) to remain.
- (c) Tap Funding. Application for tap funds completed and submitted for meeting on 17th November. Application to cover 4 hours per month x 6 months (£396) for rural skills worker to assist with essential works maintaining the parish with drainage and ditching works. Quotes received from two skill workers and cheapest £16.50 per hour. Joint application with South Tawton Council for £1188. Support for application received from Highways Manager. Clerk to circulate schedule of drainage and ditching works and for councillors to consider to whom rural skills worker will report and take orders from.
- (d) Chagford Primary School. Email from Chagford Parish Council confirming groundswell of objection to proposed work at Chagford Primary School. Chagford Council have directed any letters of support/objection to individual parishes with copy to them and have confirmed that they will hold a consultation when plans have been submitted and formal consultation period begins. (date unknown). 3 letters of objection received from Throwleigh residents and clerk received one phone call. Letters circulated to parish councillors, Chagford Parish Council and DNPA. Throwleigh Parish Council unable to comment until consultation period commences and plans available.
- (e) Broadband. Update from CDS circulated and will be posted on council web site. Councillors noted that applications for £500 for voucher scheme to cover costs of new broadband connection for those parishioners with speeds under 2 Mbps will close on 30th November. It is understood that BT Open Reach will be installing new cabinet (Whiddon Down R2) which will give 34 properties out of 35 in Throwleigh who currently are unable to get superfast broadband as they are too far away from Whiddon Down cabinet 3, a minimum speed of 24 Mbps. No further details available at this stage as to when and where this cabinet will go live and which properties this will affect. Clerk to endeavour to ascertain more detail.

ROADS

- (a) Road closure notices issued for Barrow Way Cross to Wonson in September and for Forder Farm to Barry Way Wonson (9th-10th November) and Murchington Cross to Woodlands Farm Road and Gidleigh Hall to Murchington Cross 21st November to 2nd December.
- (b) Grit bins will not be routinely filled this winter but filled on a reactive basis. We will now need to email customers@devon.gov.uk giving details including bin number. Circulated and noted. Cllrs asked Clerk to ascertain whether bags of salt will be supplied to roadside. Snow warden details requested and confirmed.
- (c) Work to cattle grid gate completed. To date DCC unable to locate removed road signs. However road sign to Throwleigh replaced on A382.
- (d) Highways conference to be held on 22nd November in Hatherleigh. Clerk to attend.

ANY OTHER MATTERS:

None

Date of next meeting 9th January 2017 to be confirmed.