

Thornbury Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on 12th November 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom (online & telephone)

- Those present: K Hutchings (Chair), P. Taylor, L. Serra, L. Priest, T. Jollow, K. James (Torrige DC), B. Parsons (Devon CC)
- 20/019. Apologies for absence : G. Tabor, C. Ward
- 20/020. Public discussion period - none
- 20/021. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 20/022. Disclosure of Interests - none
Changes to members' declared interests – update from G Tabor
- 20/023. Planning actions since last full meeting:
1/0900/2020/FUH, Single storey replacement extension to front Cross Parks, Woodacott – no objection.
1/0866/2020/AGR, Building for agricultural storage and tractor store, Land Woodacott Cross (Lake Park Barn) – Clerk to contact Planning Officer.
1/0589/2018/OUT, Thornbury Parish Hall, Application is being considered Lashbrook Noise Abatement Notice and Planning appeal – decision expected in November.
- 20/024. Clerk's Report:
Finance Report: Chair approved the schedule of payments and receipts. Council voted to give £100 to CAB, £50 to N Devon Records Office.
Covid-19 Grant expenditure: Council agreed to fund part of costs for latest Tatler and postage out to every household.
Investment review: Clerk has been unable to find a better and secure rate for TPC deposits at this time – continue to monitor situation.
Covid-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan – parish will continue to offer local help, to complement County and District funded activity.
- 20/025. Precept for 2021/22: Clerk advised that the precept has not been raised since 2017. To help meet costs to develop the new hall site, Council agreed to seek a 5% increase.
- 20/026. Road Warden report: Part of Thorne lane has been completely renewed outside Thorne Farm. The "dragon patcher" is now active in the parish, from Strawberry Bank to Thornbury Manor, and various other areas are planned. Potholes are being filled on request, although some chasing is needed at times – residents are urged to report any potholes near them. We have a new stock of DIY pothole material, and residents of Lashbrook

are very active in maintaining their lane.

Definitive Map Review of PROW – no changes are currently expected.

20/027.

Reports from County or District Councillors

Ken James reported on the latest Covid-19 situation, a favourable financial position for Torridge DC, changes to the structure of Planning which will give greater focus and accountability, and ongoing work related to Holsworthy Leisure Centre (Barry Parsons also involved).

Barry Parsons stressed the impact of Covid-19 on unemployment and furloughing in Torridge, and the central funding of £2M received by DCC to support meals for children, and plans for kids' clubs etc. The improvements to the North Devon Link Road are being largely funded by central government (£60M) and work will start soon.

20/028.

Date of next meeting: **Thursday 11th February 2021, at 7.30.** Location TBA.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Administration of the Joseph & Elizabeth Graham Fund

Clerk reported that the current bank balance of the fund is £121.12. This was reported and audited in the AGAR accounts for 2019-20.

In view of the administration involved for such a small balance, Council agreed to close the separate NatWest account for the Graham Fund, and to transfer the remaining reserves to the current account. The Graham Fund would however continue to be accounted for separately.

Council agreed to continue with the custom of distributing biscuits for qualifying residents via a personal visit from a Councillor, subject to latest Covid-19 constraints. Clerk to arrange.