

Minutes for Thornbury Parish Council Meeting

**10th November 2022, at 7.30pm
at Bradford & Cookbury Hall**

- Those Present: Keith Hutchings (KH) (chair), Chris Ward (CW), Trevor Jollow (TJ), Paul Taylor (PT), Liz Priest (LP), Gaye Tabor (GT), Coun. Ken James (Torrige DC)
- 22/039. Apologies for absence – none.
- 22/040. Co-options – Michael Nattrass introduced himself to the Council. A proposal (LP/GT) to co-opt him to the Council was passed unanimously.
- 22/041. Public discussion period – none.
- 22/042. The minutes of the two previous meetings were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 22/043. Disclosure of Interests – none.
- 22/044. Clerk's Report:
The schedule of payments and receipts was approved and signed by the Chair. Clerk's expenses of £47.88 were approved.
The insurance renewal is due, Clerk advised that a significant increase in premium can be expected. The ICO renewal falls in this quarter, £40.
The Jubilee tree planting is further delayed by the weather – a new date in the spring will now be considered.
Council thanked Richard Poole for fitting the new larger blackboard faces for the noticeboard at the Green.
Clerk confirmed that the Thornbury Tatler bank balance is £6.17. The account will be kept open for a time in case it is needed.
Funds held for THCC are currently £870.40.
- 21/045. Planning:
1/0925/2022/FUL: First floor extension Hendra, Woodacott, Application permitted.
1/1057/2022/FUL: Methodist Chapel. JW reported on negative feedback from residents to the proposed conversion to a dwelling. Ken James advised that the Methodist Circuit has sold numbers of chapels and planning policy supports their conversion. Council agreed in principle that this is the best way to ensure the building is preserved, but will ask TDC to ensure that all work is done with full respect to the active graveyard and the ability to visit graves in peace.
- 21/046. Precept for 2023-24: Council discussed the growing pressures on County, District and local budgets, and agreed an increased of 5% for the next year (PT/LP).
- 21/047. Banking proposal: Council agreed to open new accounts with Unity Trust Bank and transfer assets away from NatWest in due course. (GT/LP).
- 21/048. War Memorial report & RBL donation: TJ reported on his work to maintain the memorial, Chair thanked him. Council agreed a donation of £35 to RBL for the wreath.
- 21/049. CAB donation of £100 was agreed (KH/PT)

- 21.050. North Devon Record Office donation of £50 was agreed (GT/LP)
- 21/051. Graham Fund gifts for 2022: Council agreed a budget of £10 per capita for gifts to qualifying residents. (PT/LP).
- 21/052. Defibrillator report: New pads have been installed, a spare set is needed. Council agreed to fund, Clerk to order. (LP/GT).
- 21/053. Storage for Parish assets: Items previously stored at the Holiday Park are now held by the Chair at The Barton. It was agreed to keep this topic under review.
- 21/054. New Council website: Clerk advised that a new simpler design (only for Council statutory business) is required and a costed proposal will be brought to the next meeting.
- 21/055. Rough Sleepers report: none.
- 21/056. Events in 2023: It was proposed that a bonfire evening be held for the Coronation (6th May), and a separate date be planned for the Big Lunch. The Fun Day will be in July. Details to be worked out in the new year. Clerk to investigate possible sources of funding (Lottery etc).
- 21/057. Thornbury Emergency Plan and communication: Councillors and members of the public are asked to use the Thornbury Facebook group to spread news of incidents (such as the recent fire) that affect traffic or create other hazards as soon as possible, as this has a wide reach in the community.
- 21/058. Any other business:
KH advised that a window at the old hall is broken: TJ agreed to investigate and make secure.
KH advised that there has been a further spate of thefts of machinery and equipment in the wider area, and residents should continue to be vigilant and secure their property.
The Clerk advised that a letter of support from the Council has been sent to James Morrish asking him to work with Highways in connection with the state of the lane to Week Farm, and the impact on residents' health.
- 21/059. Reports from County or District Councillors:
Ken James reported on the impact of the cost to TDC of meeting statutory needs of homeless people and plans to increase council tax for second homes in the future to help fill the shortfall.
- 21/060. Dates of the Council meetings for 2023 will be on Thursdays:
February 16th at 7.30, May 18th at 8.00, August 17th at 8.00, and November 16th at 7.30.