

THORNTON CURTIS PARISH COUNCIL

Interim Clerk to the Council: Mr R Brixton, Selborne, Station Road, Thornton Curtis, DN39 6XF
Tel: 01469 532150 email: thorntoncurtispc@btinternet.com

Minutes of the Thornton Curtis Parish Council Meeting held at 7pm on Monday 9th January 2017 in St. Lawrence Church, Main Street, Thornton Curtis.

Present: In the chair: Cllr R Brixton, Cllr S Leach, Cllr C Couch, Cllr I Whelpton, Cllr E Davey, Cllr E Evans

In Attendance: Ward Cllr R Hannigan, Mr P Grainger, Mrs L Grainger

1. To Resolve the Parish Clerk Matters – Appoint an Interim Unpaid Clerk & RFO

Cllr Brixton stated that he has been unable to contact the Clerk since the last Council Meeting in November 2016. The Clerk had not submitted an agenda for this meeting and had not prepared the minutes of the last meeting. Cllr Brixton assumed that the Clerk had abandoned her position, and so had prepared and posted an agenda for this meeting. Cllr Brixton distributed a note from ERNLLCA explaining the procedure to create a position of Interim Unpaid Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. Cllr Brixton agreed to take up this position until such time as a replacement Clerk could be found. It was proposed by Cllr Leach, seconded by ~~Cllr Edwards~~ ^{Cllr Evans} that Cllr Brixton undertake the position of Interim Unpaid Clerk and RFO for the time being, and passed unanimously. Cllr Couch agreed to act as the scribe for meetings.

2. To Note Apologies for Absence

Cllr J Hargreaves, Ward Cllrs D Wells & P Clark

3. To Note Declarations of Interest

None

4. To Receive Public Participation

Cllr Brixton suspended the meeting and welcomed Mr & Mrs Grainger. Mr Grainger explained that the location of the yew tree sapling recently planted in the play area behind his property was giving cause for concern over privacy issues, and he requested that it be moved. Mr Grainger then explained that he had been burgled in December and that access had been gained from the path leading to the play area. He requested that consideration be given to forming a new entrance to the play area via the Churchyard and Davey's field. Cllr Brixton advised that both issues would be discussed by Councillors during the meeting, and the meeting was resumed.

5. To Resolve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The former Clerk had not produced the minutes from the previous meeting. Cllr Couch offered to visit the former Clerk and to try to obtain all the documentation pertaining to Thornton Curtis Parish, including chequebooks, notes of the previous meeting, minutes of previous meetings, bills, receipts and any other relevant documents. Cllr Brixton would attempt to use the notes to prepare minutes.

6. To Resolve Matters Arising

i. Station Road Footpath. Cllr Brixton advised that highways weed treated the footpath and cut back the hedges, and had intended to clear leaves and apply rock salt in December. Cllr Hannigan had also spoken to Darren Uzzell and been advised that this work would be done on Wednesday 11th January.

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ii. Goxhill Road. The budget has been approved and work will commence in March. Cllr Hargreaves had reported (by email) that a survey of the road has been done from the village to the College Road crossroads. Cllr Hannigan agreed to monitor the situation.

iii. Speed Sign. The results may have been sent to the former clerk. Cllr Brixton will request another set of data.

iv. Station Road Speed Limit. The results of the survey may have been sent to the former clerk. Cllr Brixton will request another set of data.

v. Hilly Pits. Nothing to report.

vi. Internet Provision. Cllr Couch reported that a very positive meeting had been held with Sean Bennan from NLBB. It was expected that fibre optic services could be provided to the whole of the village by March 2018. Cllr Hannigan agreed to convey the positive comments to Sean Brennan, and to request updates on progress and on responses from Quickline.

7. **To Resolve Police Matters**

i. Car Parking Cllr Brixton had reported to the police that a car was parking on the grass outside the sheltered housing in Main Street. Cllr Couch responded that this seemed to have stopped now.

ii. Cllr Brixton attended the NAT meeting in December. He had nothing useful to report. The next meeting would be on 30th March 2017.

8. **To Resolve Village Matters**

i. Yew Tree Saplings Cllr Evans reported that four saplings had been planted. He considered that the sapling in the play area was in the best location to avoid any disruption to the grass cutting. He suggested that it could be trimmed if it ever became tall enough to pose privacy issues for adjacent properties. Councillors unanimously agreed to this suggestion. Cllr Evans agreed to plant the fifth sapling in the Churchyard.

ii. Railway Station Planters Cllr Couch will arrange to replace the existing planters with the new and transfer the soil before the growing season, and keep the Council informed of progress. Mr Tulloch ~~will~~ ^{may} plant bulbs in the Spring.

iii. Play Area Councillors considered the suggestion from Mr Grainger regarding access to the play area. Cllr Davey advised that previous attempts to provide access from Laurel Lane were abandoned due to the high cost of moving the existing footpath which crosses the Davey's field. Cllr Couch agreed to re-consider this and would speak to Richard Davey and Tim Allen of NLC. She would report back at the next meeting.

9. **To Resolve Highways and Transport Matters**

i. Cllr Brixton attended the BCCRP meeting in December. An improvement in train availability and staffing levels was reported.

ii. Cllr Evans attended the Humberside Airport Consultative Committee meeting in November. There was nothing of interest to Thornton Curtis. Cllr Brixton had received a letter of apology regarding helicopter noise. The next meeting is 14th June.

iii. Cllr Leach suggested that a pedestrian warning sign should be erected in Burnham Lane near Manor Farm Cottages. Cllr Brixton agreed to write to highways.

iv. Cllr Davey raised the issue of overgrown hedges at Champions Gate. It was agreed that Council should wait until the hedge becomes overgrown again before writing to highways.

v. Cllr Davey suggested that the traffic calming road signs should be re-painted. Cllr Brixton agreed to write to highways.

10. To Resolve Environmental Matters

Cllr Couch agreed to pass litter pickers to Cllr Leach and to Mrs Grainger. Cllr Hannigan informed the meeting that there will be an anti-litter campaign beginning in March, and that litter pickers and bags will be made available.

11. To Consider Correspondence

None received.

12. To Resolve Accounts and Financial Matters

- i. It was unanimously agreed to renew the membership of BCCRP at £10.00.
- ii. Cllr Brixton advised that he was unable to produce a budget at the present time due to the lack of information from the former clerk. He recommended that the precept should be the same as last year. It was proposed by Cllr Davey, seconded by Cllr Leach and unanimously agreed to keep the precept the same as last year. Cllr Hannigan offered to contact Claire Humble regarding the budget and precept procedures and advise Cllr Brixton accordingly.
- iii. Cllr Brixton reported that we are now legally required to publish a web site and that grants are available for setting it up and running it. He will investigate and report back. Annual accounts must be displayed and no auditor will be required in future.

13. To Resolve Planning Matters

- i. There was no proposal to exclude the public.
- ii. PA/2016/1460. Erection of a new dwelling to replace The Grange. Conditionally approved. None of the Parish Council's comments were included.
- iii. PA/2016/1982. Erection of an agricultural building at Low Farm. There were no comments from Councillors.
- iv. PA/2016/2023. Erection of a grain store at Northfield Farm. Cllr Evans advised that this was incorrect. Site plans were incorrect and it should be Manor Farm, not Northfield Farm. Planning would be notified.

14. To Consider the Agenda for the next meeting

Nothing requested.

15. To Resolve the Date and Time of the Next Meeting

6th March 2017 at 7pm in St Lawrence Church, Thornton Curtis.

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