

KINGSTONE AND THRUXTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Clerk: Mrs Lesley Hay, Bankcroft, Monkland Herefordshire HR6 9DB
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Kingstone and Thrupton Group Parish Council Website
www.kingstoneandthruxtongpc.org

**MINUTES
of Kingstone and Thrupton Group Parish Council
Meeting held in Kingstone Village Hall
on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at 7.00p.m.**

PRESENT: Cllr M. Walker (Chairman); Cllr D Lloyd; Cllr C Russell; Cllr L Thorne; Cllr S Walker (Vice Chairman) and Cllr. A Vincent.

Also, present were 11 members of the public; Ward Cllr C Bolderson and Mr Ian Connolly – Safer Road Partnership.

Chairman welcomed those present to the October meeting.

1.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: James Howell – Locality Steward; Cllr G. Bonner; Mr S Madison – Sport Association; Cllr J. Watkins.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS by Parish Councillors – none received.

3.0 THE MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 14th August 2019 – it was agreed the minutes to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

4.00 The Chairman welcomed Ian Connolly– Traffic Management Advisor – Safer Roads Partnership.

Ian Connolly gave a presentation on the Community Speed Watch (CSW) during which he outlined the safety matters associated with running this scheme. He outlined how the CSW works and explained to form a group there must be a minimum of six volunteers with a minimum age is 18 years old. All the equipment is provided by the Safer Roads Partnership and there will be a three-hour training session.

It was agreed to try and establish such a scheme in Kingstone and initially three members put their names forward. It was agreed to advertise on the Post Office notice board to try and encourage others to come forward.

A simple Consent Form has to be completed by each volunteer and the Clerk will forward copies.

Mr Connolly also mentioned additional methods of trying to reduce speeding such as the Gateway scheme. He did mention that although the funding for these schemes as a rule has to be met by the Parish Council, there maybe grants/funding available through the Police Commissioner. Mr Connolly offered to return to discuss these additional schemes at a later date.

Clerk was asked to liaise with Balfour Beatty with regard to approximate costings associated with BB installing such a scheme. In the meantime, it is believed that Madley have recently installed gates at the entrance to their village. The Parish Council to make enquiries with regard to their costings.

Mr Connolly explained that Adnan Ali is the Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator and he will liaise with the volunteers with regard to agreeing suitable safe sites on the highway plus training etc.

After a short Q & A session - the Chairman thanked Mr Connolly for his presentation.

Item to remain on the agenda.

5.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

KS25 – B4349 – the Chairman reported that he had met with the Locality Steward and a local resident to discuss the issues associated with this footpath. The footpath has been left in a dangerous state following the laying of electric cables by the utilities company associated with Lagan Homes.

The Locality Steward reported that he had approached the utilities company who have agreed to put the area back as it was – which was the best deal on the table – however, to date this had not been done. During discussion it was thought that the utilities company had, in fact, excavated the footpath without the appropriate planning permission.

Ward Cllr Bolderson agreed to follow up this matter and will report back to the next meeting.

All present at the meeting felt that the footpath (with its direct access on to the B4349) urgently needs a safety rail across the entrance to prevent children running directly into the road from the footpath.

During the above discussion, a local resident reported that there had been a significant increase in dog waste being left along this footpath. There is a dog waste bin at the top of the footpath but not one at the junction to the B4339.

Item to remain on Agenda for further discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter with regard to parking on the pavement. This practice is impeding pedestrians; wheel chair users and folk pushing prams forcing them into the road to avoid the parked cars.

It was acknowledged that neither the Police nor Herefordshire Council can enforce residents to move their cars. It was agreed, therefore, to write a letter to residents along this stretch of road – outlining the issues and asking them ‘politely’ to stop parking vehicles on the pavement.

The item ‘Dog Bin’ to remain on the agenda. Chairman still to liaise with the resident with regard to funding and a firm decision if yet to be agreed made on the siting of the new bin.

6.0 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT.

Ward Councillor Bolderson gave a verbal report which included updates from Herefordshire Council on:

The Parish Summit

- Parish Council Summit was held on 20 September 2019 with a focus on working together for the well-being of our communities. There were 82 attendees representing 52 parishes within Herefordshire. The focus of the meeting was on the next 4-year Corporate Plan and the 2020/21 budget. Officers provided an update on key areas, such as Talk Community hubs and Understanding Herefordshire. These events are aimed at developing how we collectively share our understanding about local challenges and opportunities and work together to promote community well-being.

Transport & Infrastructure

- The Cabinet Member decision to pause the work on the Hereford Transport Package (HTP) & South Wye Transport Package (SWTP) was called-in to the general scrutiny committee with the recommendation to review options whilst continuing work on the schemes as well as increasing public engagement. It is expected that the Cabinet Member for Transport and

Infrastructure will respond to the recommendations before the end of October.

- Herefordshire Council are submitting a Challenge Fund application for up to £5 million to improve the B4348 from the A49 to Hay. It will be submitted by the end of October.
- With the use of s.106 monies, work is continuing on the footpaths within the village with a more up-to-date progress report to be provided at the next meeting.
- A number of enquiries were dealt with since the last meeting in relation to street cleaning, potholes and planning. All road related issues were discussed with the Locality Steward and appropriate plans put in place. Any road related issues such as lighting, fly tipping, drainage, pavement repair, road sign defects, worn road markings and of course potholes and resurfacing can be reported directly via the call handling team 01432 261800 or on the website https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/190/report_problems_on_the_road

Children and Young People

- A new 5-year plan has recently been approved by the council and its key partners, which aims to give Herefordshire's children and young people a great start in life and to grow up healthy, happy and safe. Further detail is available on the [News section of the Council website](#).
- There has been a continued request from both the local youth and PCSOs for a dirt bike track with support from Herefordshire Housing. There is a possibility of s.106 monies to fund this project plus free dirt from Lagan Homes, however, issues in relation to maintenance and insurance costs still remain unresolved – it was agreed that the Chairman; Ward Cllr Bolderson and PCSO Marsh would arrange a convenient date and time to visit Withington where a similar track has recently been established.

Lagan Homes

- No further/revised planning applications have been received by the Council. A number of issues were raised by the public and Parish Council during the meeting in relation to compliance with planning policy and associated conditions on the site. Ward Cllr Bolderson agreed to discuss the list of issues with Enforcement and Planning and report back to the Chairman.

7.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: A resident asked if the village road signage could be cleaned and if the sign by the pub indicating a very sharp bend could be replaced as it is very faded. Clerk will liaise with the Locality Steward.

8.0 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPORT: Further to the PC agreeing to pay the planning application fee at the last meeting - the plans have since been subject to minor internal amendments. The plans have now gone back to the architect and so have not been submitted as yet.

9.0 SPORTS ASSOCIATION REPORT: Unfortunately, Steve Madison was unable to attend the parish council meeting. Below is a short report:

1. Vandalism on the benches in the small children's play area – repaired twice
2. The police have passed on a letter banning someone from the playing field.
3. Lagan Homes – We have not heard anything else as they have not been in touch with us.

The Sports Association AGM has been scheduled for the 18th of October 2019 please make contact if you know anyone who would be interested in joining our committee.

10.0 LOCALITY STEWARD / LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

No representative present. No reports available.

11.0 TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(11.1) Schedule of payments.

The October schedule of payments had been circulated and it was unanimously agreed these should to be paid. The Clerk raised the cheques accordingly and these were signed and counter signed by Mr C Rowan in his capacity as a current signatory.

Expenses	Expenses September	£26.13
Thrupton Parochial Church	Churchyard Maintenance	£150.00
ST Michael and All Saints Church	Churchyard Maintenance	£300.00
M Walker	Annual website subscription renewal	£15.00

(11.2) Current Account sheet (circulated) which includes Sept invoices signed this evening.

Bank statement as of:		19.8.19	Sept invoices
Income			
Current	£24,246.18	£6,000.00	£19,092.99
Savings Account	£3,664.01		£846.81
TOTAL	<u>£27,910.19</u>		
Balance b/f from 31st March 2019	£19,926.74		
Add Income	£12,000.00		
Total	<u>£31,926.74</u>		
Less paid out to date	£4,016.55		
TOTAL:	<u>£27,910.19</u>		

(11.3) New Bank signatories were confirmed as Cllr. A Vincent; Cllr L. Thorn; Cllr D Lloyd, and Mrs L A Hay (the Parish Clerk) to include internet access to the account. Plus, Cllr S Walker who is the existing signatory on the account. The relevant paperwork together with a copy of the August minutes signed by two members of the Parish Council to be forwarded to the Bank tomorrow.

(11.4) A request for a Donation to Thruxton Parochial Church.

Payments to church yard maintenance The Clerk reported that National Association of Local Councils (NALC) had put out guidance saying that there was a lack of clarity between the 1894 Local Government Act (which prohibits Parish Councils to contribute to the upkeep of church assets) and the 1972 and 2011 Local Government Acts which appear to allow this; NALCs view being that it was illegal for Parish Councils to make any kind of donation to Churches or to the upkeep of churchyards (except closed churchyards).

The Clerk had approached the Clerk's professional body (SLCC), their advice being that this should be discussed with the Parish Council, giving them the NALC advice and letting them make a balanced judgement. The SLCC felt that as long as the Parish Council could show they had considered the issue and could give the reasons why they have come to the conclusion they had, then there should be no problem in continuing to support the maintenance of the churchyard.

Resolved: The NALC view was noted. The Chairman asked for a vote and was agreed to continue contributing to the upkeep of Thruxton Parochial Church churchyard. It noted that if any other requests were made from religious organisations or groups within the Parish these would be discussed openly and indiscriminately considered as and when they occurred

(11.5) Precept/Budget setting – it was agreed that a Working Group of Cllr M Walker; Cllr D Lloyd and Cllr Carole Russell will arrange to meet before the next meeting to discuss the Budget/Precept for 2020/21. The Clerk will forward a forecast of expenditure for year ending March 2020.

12.0 PLANNING – new applications since last meeting –

(12.1) 192971 – The Old Forge Thruxton – after discussion - no objection or comment.

(12.2) 192988- Unit 1 Southcon Building (circulated) – after discussion it was agreed, by majority, to object to this application on the grounds that the Parish Councillors felt it was not possible to be able to give a fair and objective opinion on this application due to the fact that it was submitted retrospectively

(12.3) 192838 – Smallbrook Farm Clehonger- after discussion – no comment or objection.

13.0 CORRESPONDENCE: Fastershire Community meeting – circulated.

14.0 TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT

AGENDA – Village Gateway Scheme; Lagan Homes; Dirt Bike Track; Speeding Issues; Dog Bin. Precept/Budget for 2020/2021

15.0 DATE of next meeting: Wednesday 6th November 2019 - earlier start of 7.00p.m.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.

Signed: ..  ..

Date...6th November 2019