

Date: 3rd June 2024	Venue & Time: Thurlestone Parish Hall, 19.30 hrs	
Present: Cllr Gill Stone (in the Chair) Cllr Nigel Hadaway Cllr David Smyth Cllr Eric Palmer Cllr Mike Hodges	In Attendance: SHDC Cllr Mark Long SHDC Cllr Sam Dennis Helen Leather (Parish Clerk) Parishioners/guests: 12	Apologies: Cllr Rosa Lewis DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Adam Ryan Carter

REPORT IT:

Potholes: Members of the public are requested to report all Highways issues through the Highways Website, enabling faster assessment of problem areas which can then be added to the repair/maintenance schedules. You can report potholes, overgrown vegetation, defective signs/lighting and much more.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/report-a-pothole-form/>

To report: Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged or Full Dog Bin, Damaged/Full Litter Bin, Damaged/Full Recycling Bank, Dead Animal, Dirty Beach, Fly Tipping, Litter/Dog Mess, Planning Breach, Stray Dogs, AND MORE...

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/report-it>

It takes two minutes to report a problem, please help keep our community beautiful.

285. Open Forum

Cllr Stone welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the 15 minute Open Forum Session and reminded all present that during the open forum the Council is only allowed to take decisions on topics publicised on the agenda and on questions submitted in advance. She then asked if any members of the public wanted to speak.

Cllr Stone introduced AS and J who had written to the council offering their services for voluntary work in the parish. AS spoke to tell the meeting he is local to South Milton and Thurlestone and he and his colleagues want to help out in the community. Anyone who needs help with gardening, things like that. Cllr Lewis – thanked AS and J and said how grateful everyone was they had offered their services to the to the parish. Councillors and the Clerk will ask parishioners what sort of jobs they would like doing and is there any way your group can help and hopefully a list can be drawn up for AS and his colleagues.

A MOP spoke about the state of the main road in Thurlestone and the overgrown hedges that force pedestrian to walk into oncoming traffic particularly by the houses Nuthatch and Treetops. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the owners and also report the overgrown hedges to Devon Highways on the Report It website.

The Clerk read out an Email from SH who had asked would it be possible to mention DP from North Upton, as he kindly went out and cleaned and strimmed around all the blue signs along the Bantham Road as they had become quite dirty over the winter, with foliage growing over them. Cllr Stone thanked DP on behalf of the council for the work he had undertaken.

A Member of the Public mentioned that the sign on the road near Seaview Terrace had been knocked over.

A member of the public asked was it possible to reserve parking spaces by the church for a wedding. Cllr Hodges responded by saying if requested he would try and put cones out as the road is owned by the Parish.

286. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Email Cllr Rufus Gilbert: rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk

Email Cllr Mark Long: cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk

Cllr Mark Long. Bin, collections and Localities cover have moved into summer mode. Half term had been a dry run for it, and had been a few problems with the extra litter created by visitors. Hopefully Localities will monitor and resolve the problems and bin collection will increase. Cllr Long reminded people to report online any problems with individual bins. Obviously everyone is aware that there is a general election on Thursday, 4th July, and the voting timelines will be posted on the Parish website. The deadline to register to vote is 11:59 pm on Tuesday, 18th June, and this can be done online very easily. The deadline for postal applications is 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 19th June and there's a link on the parish website where you can apply to vote by post. And if anyone cannot get to the polling station on polling day they can vote by proxy by asking someone they trust to vote on their behalf. The, the deadline to register for a proxy vote is 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 26th June. A reminder that photo ID is required to attend to vote in the election. The deadline to apply for voter ID if you don't anything is before 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 26th June. Polling day is 7:00 am to 10:00 pm on Thursday, 4th July.

287. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Cllr Rosa Lewis and Cllr Adam Ryan-Carter.

288. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 13th May 2024 were agreed and signed and initialled by the Chair.

289. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

290. CLERK'S REPORT

At the recent audit it had been recommended by the auditor that Councillors should be encouraged to use PC specific e-mail addresses in preparation for mandatory introduction. The website must also meet the WCAG2.1AA website accessibility regulations – soon to raise to WCAG2.2AA in October. The current website does not currently meet WCAG2 so needs to move to a more secure domain. This will mean having to move the council pages away from the Village Voice website, which is a shame, but hopefully both can be linked. The clerk will investigate further details, options and prices and forward to Councillors.

291. COUNCILLOR REPORTS ON AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Cllr Hodges reported that the Thurlestone School continue to run The Living Church Arts project at the church. They plant flowers and bulbs and provide homes for insects and bugs.

292. BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

a. Parking in Bantham and emergency vehicle access

Cllr Smyth reported that the question of emergency services access to Bantham village has recently been raised by a number of concerned residents and has become of even greater concern since Kingsbridge Fire Service have acquired an a new larger fire engine. Of particular concern, but by no means the only one, is the access to the lane running adjacent to the estuary behind the village shop. There is only a single yellow line that runs down the lane, so people do park there legally. Cllr Smyth had written to Cllr Gilbert and the local police. The police had responded quickly to say that parking enforcement was the responsibility of Devon County Council. Cllr Gilbert had responded to say that to change any road markings is a slow process. The procedure starts with discussion at Parish Council and if agreed approach Devon CC. It will then at some point be assessed as a TRO Traffic Regulation Order. If this is passed at some point the new/amended lines will be installed. Average time for this process is eighteen to twenty four months from start to finish.

Cllr Long said that if there is illegal parking then it should also be reported to Enforcement at Devon CC, and via Cllr Gilbert you can ask for enforcement officers to come down.

Councillors will pursue both enforcement and the application for double yellow lines.

b. Footpath 4 Bantham

Cllr Smyth had been in touch with Bantham estate and they had confirmed that the stile will be reinstated as soon as possible. A member of the public who works for the estate confirmed that the stile would be attended to shortly.

c. Joint meeting of local parishes at Withymore Farm

Cllr Palmer reported that he would be attending a meeting on 4th June with councillors from South Milton, South Huish and Marlborough regarding the problems with the local roads and flooding. The purpose of the meeting is to work together to be more proactive regarding maintenance and draining damage and repairs that need to be done.

d. Play area/school playground equipment

Cllr Hadaway shout out from the school that they school playground equipment is defunct and has been condemned. The school are currently exploring various funding options and getting some quotes for equipment.

e. Speed limits in village

Cllr Hadaway reported that Adam Key from Devon CC had been conducted 2 speed gun sessions in the village, one in the in the bottom of Thurlestone and one in Bantham. He is looking to do a third and then he will provide feedback which if it meets the correct criteria

will be submitted to a Speed Compliance Action Review Forum – SCARF report. If successful this then goes through due process to potentially change the speed of an area.

f. Update on maintenance programme and areas covered by Julian.

Cllr Palmer reported that he has been keeping Julian Lees updated on anything that needs doing in the parish and Julian feeds back to him about any issues.

g. Airband bankruptcy and broadband in the Parish.

CW – a member of the public who has been dealing with this issue on behalf of the parish for a long time updated the meeting on the broadband issue. The aim of signing up to Airband was to give the three villages old parish, a better broadband service. Airband are not actually bankrupt but the fact is that they are not doing new installs and will not be doing any work in Thurlestone Parish. The parish is in limbo because Airband are technically still in contract to connecting Devon and Somerset until such time as they presumably pay to get out of that contract. There is nothing else to do other than wait.

h. Planning Enforcement reporting.

Cllr Stone asked Cllr Long whether residents of the parish report to Enforcement anonymously? Cllr Long stated that they could, but the only stipulation is that if it proceeds to a point where legal action occurs their details may have to be recorded, but certainly the initial reporting can be done without the person's details being disclosed. Enforcement breaches can be reported online only.

i. Parking in “top car park” at Thurlestone – Sip/Ringo car park confusion

Cllr Stone reported that the Clerk had received an email from someone who had parked at South Milton Car park at the top of the hill regarding parking charges. Even though the car park is in South Milton, residents of Thurlestone have been affected. The car park was run by RINGO but is now SIP, but the signs are not clear and RINGO still have the car park listed, so people have been paying online to RINGO and SIP have been writing saying they will be charged a penalty for not paying. Cllr Long reported he would be meeting the with manager of SIP the next day and will hopefully get some clarification about the issue.

293. PLANNING & ENFORCEMENT (RESPONSE DATES NOTED)

1135/24/HHO - The Coast House, Glebe Field, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NA. Householder application for store/ workshop/ studio incidental to Main House (Retrospective). 24 May 2024. Ratification of Decision. Thurlestone Parish Object.

1460/24/TCA - 3 Kathleen Cottages West Buckland TQ7 3AH, G1: Ash - Fell & Remove due to ADB & parts of the trees being dead - to be replaced with Willow & Birch. 29 May 2024. Not clear which trees this referred to in plans and a more detailed site plan had been requested from Devon's Tree Officer, who had agreed to provide one should it be needed.

1269/24/HHO - The Platt, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NJ. Householder application for a proposed single storey front extension and porch. 27 June 2024. Thurlestone Parish Support.

1484/24/HHO - The Dog Watches, Bantham, TQ7 3AN. Householder application for extension & alterations to dwelling. 20 June 2024. No decision. Site Visit to be planned.

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL DECISIONS:

1114/24/TCA - Kennedy, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NP. T1 & T2: Eucalyptus - crown height reduction of 3 or 4 meters, crown thin by 20%. Ratification of decision. Approved

1135/24/HHO - The Coast House, Glebe Field, Thurlestone, TQ7 3NA. Householder application for store/ workshop/ studio incidental to Main House (Retrospective). **Under Consideration**

0919/24/CLE - Land At Sx 664 436 Bantham. Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of land as an overflow car park. **Under Consideration.**

0929/24/HHO – Onnalea, Bantham, TQ7 3AR - Householder application for mew outbuilding comprising ground floor garage/boat store, gym with art studio, music room, bat loft to first floor with associated driveway & landscaping enhancements. **Approved.**

0388/24/FUL - Land at **SX663 436, Bantham, Kingsbridge.** Change of use of land to surf school & siting of two storage containers (retrospective). **Under Consideration.**

2786/20/FUL - **West Buckland Barn, Bantham, TQ7 3AJ,** READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans & documents) Erection of new agricultural store. **Refused**

2116/23/FUL - **Worthy, Bantham, TQ7 3AA.** READVERTISEMENT (**amended description and plans**) Conversion, restoration and alterations of outbuildings associated with the farmhouse, conversion of Southern Barn to provide holiday let and Northern Barn to provide ancillary accommodation, and associated landscaping. Demolition of Piggery & replacement with walled garden with natural pool and poolhouse. **Under Consideration.**

294. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Finance - Councillors agreed to pay: Insurance Policy Renewal - £1,316.63 with an added £3.60 for minor amendments as recommended in the Audit. Clerk's Salary. £33.40 – Paul Martin to create the annual floral display at the entrance to Thurlestone village for this summer. Approve £300 for church ground maintenance.

Governance: Internal Auditing arrangements for June.

The Chair signed the AGAR forms as provided by the Clerk and the internal auditor.

Councillors had received the AGAR forms and the internal auditor written report in advance of the meeting. The clerk has drawn up a plan of action to address any comments or recommendations made.

Approve amendments to bank mandate. Councillors agreed to remove people who were no longer councillors, these were HN, SC, GM, CM, AR, CM, DT and SW.

Councillors agreed to add Cllr Stone and Cllr Hadaway to the bank mandate as full signatories

Cllr Hadaway and Cllr Stone completed the bank mandate form and it was witnessed by Cllr Smyth.

295. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

1st July, 5th Aug, 2nd Sept, 7th Nov.

296. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 20.55.

Signed as a true record:

Print Name & Date:

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk one week prior to the meeting to ensure time for inclusion, circulation, and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

Distribution List: Thurlestone Parish Councillors. For Information to: County Cllr R Gilbert, South Hams District Council Salcombe & Thurlestone Ward Councillors, Thurlestone Parish Website: <https://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/>