

Date: 15th May 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	In Attendance: SHDC Cllr Mark Long SHDC Cllr Sam Dennis Helen Leather (Parish Clerk) Parishioners/guests: 11	Apologies: Cllr Rosa Lewis DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Mike Hodges 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.

269. 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.

A member of the public asked if there was any further information on the planning application for the agricultural barn in West Buckland. District Cllr Mark Long responded that this decision will go before the Development Committee on Wednesday, 15th May. There had been a site visit by District Cllrs and some of the Thurlestone Parish Cllrs had attended as well. Cllr Stone will be attending the meeting on 15th May on behalf of Thurlestone Parish Council.

A member of the public reported that he had written to Cllr Rufus Gilbert about the Thurlestone Airband and the connecting Devon and Somerset supply. On 15th April he had received a reply from Airband's Community Engagement team, which said "Since the last communication, activities in the Cluster area have not progressed at all and unfortunately, due to unforeseen developments, this build and others have been put on hold and remain so at the present time. This is whilst an internal build strategy review takes place." It was agreed that this item will be added to the June agenda for full discussion.

Cllr Smyth informed the meeting that he had received a phone call from a parishioner, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. It was regarding Footbath Number 4 – which is the footpath that goes down behind The Sloop in Bantham. The stile by the side of the gate has been removed and it's now difficult to get through, in particular when the path is muddy. Cllr Smyth undertook to contact the estate to have the stile restored.

270 Election of Chair

Councillor Stone nominated Cllr Lewis as Chair, and Cllr Smyth, Cllr Palmer and Cllr Hadaway seconded the nomination. Cllr Stone reported that despite Cllr Lewis being absent it was still possible to elect the nominated chair. A resolution was passed to allow the Cllr Lewis to sign the declaration at a later date, which is in accordance with section 83, paragraph 4C. The Clerk will forward the declaration to Cllr Lewis for signature.

271 Election of Deputy Chair

Cllr Hadaway nominated Cllr Stone as Deputy Chair, and Cllr Palmer and Cllr Smyth seconded the nomination. Cllr Stone duly signed her declaration and it was countersigned by the Clerk.

272 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

County Cllr Rufus Gilbert had submitted a report to the Clerk for this months meeting:

GENERAL ROADS. Devon has 8500 miles of roads and 426 Parish Councils. To put Devon's roads back to something reasonable would require about £1.2 billion. Wettest year for 130 years and the system can't cope and was not designed to do so under these conditions. Highways will do there best to catch up in the summer. Please keep reporting the potholes/flooding etc www.new.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem

DEVOLUTION. This is progressing well and for further information please visit: www.devonandtorbaydeal.org.uk

WASTE AND RECYCLING. For information please visit: www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling

MOBILE LIBRARIES. Sadly this service has had to be discontinued due to lack of patronage and costs. No static libraries have been closed. Please contact you local library for information on books delivery

LOCALITY FUNDING. Most of my parishes have been given some funding, which I hope was found to be helpful.

District Cllr Sam Dennis

Alison Hernandez was re-elected for another four years as Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Many thanks to those that voted, and those that assisted in or were inconvenienced by the administration involved in the election.

A public consultation has launched across Salcombe and it's neighbouring parishes. Anyone living, working, own a business or a second home in the Salcombe, Malborough or East Portlemouth areas is invited to take part. You can find the consultation online at <https://mysalcombe.commonplace.is/>, where it will be until Wednesday 31st July.

Quayside Leisure Centre has received £77,000 from the 'Swimming Pool Support Fund' which comes from a combination of Government and Sport England funding. The money will go

towards variable speed pumps and improving the swimming pool itself and upgrading the building management system.

273 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Adam Ryan-Carter, Cllr Hodges

274 Minutes of the last meeting.

Councillors agreed to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th April 2024. They were signed by the Chair.

275 Declarations of Interest

None were received.

276 Review And Acceptance Of Key Policies And Procedures.

The Councillors resolved to accept the key policies and procedures that had been updated for 2024.

277 Appointment of Councillors to Committees/Lead Roles

No changes were made to the current roles, which are:

Cllr Smyth – Police Liaison and Footpaths
Cllr Hadaway – Schools Liaison and Speed Watch
Cllr Hodges – Church Liaison and Climate/Sustainability
Cllr Palmer – Roads and Snow
Cllr Stone – Planning and Parish Hall
Cllr Lewis – Water/Electric Meter Readings
Cllr Ryan-Carter – Tree Warden

278 Clerks Report.

The Council received the Housing Needs Report that was undertaken within the parish in August 2023. The full report can be found here:
https://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/uploads/4/8/9/6/48967079/thurlestone_housing_needs_report.pdf

A complaint had been received from a parishioner about overgrown vegetation on Parkfield which was making it difficult to walk along the pavement. This was reported to Devon County Council, who came and undertook cut back of vegetation.

The Parish had received a lovely email from Alfie Smith, who is 15 and a Sergeant in the Kingsbridge Royal Air Force Air Cadets, and also a big Motorcycle enthusiast. He has created his own motorcycle enthusiast and engineers club with some other like-minded young lads from the community and has offered their services to help with voluntary work around the parish. The Clerk will invite Alfie to come and speak at the next meeting and Councillors will have a think about areas they can help.

279. Councillor Reports

Cllr Palmer had been in correspondence with Adam Keay from Devon County Council regarding the flooding on the top road into Thurlestone. Mr Keay will arrange a visit with Cllr Palmer to assess the problem and what DCC can do.

Cllr Palmer reported that Julian Lees has been busy around the parish keeping the paths and grass strimmed and tidy. Mr Lees and Cllr Palmer are doing all they can to clear gulleys and drains that are the Parish's responsibility to prevent flooding.

Cllr Palmer had met with Lucy Powell from Swoosh and they had driven the route in and out of Bantham together along with the traffic management personnel. Cllr Palmer felt confident that everyone was now aware of the routes, the bottle necks and problem areas and the names of all the road and crossroads and junctions. Everyone had commented on how beneficial this was to making the day run smoothly and it had been a really useful exercise.

Cllr Palmer has also been in touch with Tim Hassell the estates manager at Thurlestone Hotel and has arranged to meet with him about the Blue Waste bin store at the staff housing and if there was a way they could be disguised more.

Cllr Hadaway reported that some parents at Thurlestone school had raised concerns as a collective, Friends of Thurlestone School, about speeding. Adam Keay has been to the area and carried out a few speed checks at the bottom of Thurlestone and in Bantham. He will be coming back to undertake further checks. Cllr Hadaway expressed interest in the parish purchasing a Mobile speed check solar sign, and all Cllr's agreed this might be a good idea. The clerk will contact Cllr Gilbert and Adam Keay at Devon CC about the protocol of purchasing.

Cllr Hadaway reported that he was still awaiting costings from Thurlestone School about replacement play equipment in the community play area.

Cllr Stone reported that two Mulberry trees had been planted in the churchyard to commemorate the Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and the Coronation of King Charles. The Headteacher from Thurlestone School had attended and four of the children along to help plant them with Cllr Stone and Cllr Hodges, who was representing the church. It was a lovely occasion. Two brass plaques with inscriptions will be inserted next to the trees.

Cllr Smyth reported that Devon County Council have appointed a new Public Rights of Way Officer called Jon Boyd. Cllr Smyth will walk the parish paths with him in June so he has a chance to explore the area and familiarise himself with the paths. Cllr Palmer requested if he could also walk with them.

Cllr Smyth reported that the first police surgery had taken place in the Village Hall on April 11th. Sargeant Wilkes is the new community officer who attended. The weather had not been kind on the day and the surgery was sparsely attended, but those that had attended had a good discussion. It's unlikely that more than 2 such meetings would be held in the year. Cllr Smyth asked councillors to think about if there was a way the meetings could be used to maximum effect, such as a talk on a topic of interest specific to local residents, such as home security.

Cllr Smyth reported that members of the public can now report crimes and incidents and find out how to access support for victims just by using a smartphone app. The Police.UK app also gives crime prevention advice, information on local police contacts and an opportunity to compare crime rates in different parts of the country. The app offers a quick and easy way of reporting non-urgent incidents, find crime prevention advice for a wide range of issues, such as burglary or vehicle crime prevention advice, information about local neighbourhood policing teams, listing who is on the team, local crime priorities and any upcoming meetings in the community. The app is called Police.UK and is available via the iOS App store and Google Play.

Cllr Stone reported on the Parish Hall. They are promoting lots of new events and the latest had been the disco. There had been a small turnout but everyone had an enjoyable time. The Parish Hall committee will continue to try and do lots of good things, the next event will be the Open Gardens when they will be serving tea and cakes.

280 Planning

Full details of all applications and Parish Council responses can be found by entering the reference number on the South Hams District Council planning portal

<https://apps.southhams.gov.uk//planningsearchmvc>

- a) **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. (Thurlestone Parish Support). **Councillors ratified the decision of support.**
- b) **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. Councillors agreed that a site visit was needed before a decision could be made.**

South Hams District Council Decisions:

0347/24/VAR - 24 Court Park, Thurlestone, TQ7 3LX. Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 2515/23/HHO. **Approved**

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 new outbuilding comprising ground floor garage/boat store, gym with art studio, music room, bat loft to first floor with associated driveway & landscaping enhancements. **Under Consideration.**

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. **Under Consideration.**

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.**

2786/20/FUL, West Buckland Barn, TQ7 3AJ. Under Consideration.

282 Finance & Governance

Accounts to Pay

Councillors agreed to pay: PWLB lending facility – loan repayment 3,107.55. Clerk’s Salary. SHDC Election recharge of £122,70 for uncontested seats. Direct Debits monthly to Pennon Water and EDF for water and electricity to Public Toilets. Julian Lee continued contracted for parish maintenance to be paid at regular intervals upon receipt of invoice. Renewing subscription for SCRIBE accounts on a monthly basis and membership of DALC – invoice number 5745 (£337.19) Village Hall hire – invoice 2629 - £12.00. 2 x Brass Plaques for Churchyard trees - £322 + VAT

Governance: Councillors agreed the 2023/24 draft accounts could be sent to the internal auditor for checking (see Appendix A). The Agar form pages 1 and 2, were approved and signed by the Clerk and the Chair to be sent to internal auditor for checking.

283. Next Meetings

The dates of the next meeting are 3rd June, 1st July, 5th Aug, 2nd Sept, 7th Nov.

284. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 20.32.

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/>