

THORPE MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Thorpe Malsor Parish Council Meeting held on 11th July 2017 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Mrs F Pope (Chairman), Cllr Mrs H Sharp, Cllr Mr R Walton, Cllr Mrs Z Powell, Cllr Mr E Stevenson.

Clerk: Mrs Anne-Marie Walton-Miller

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
None.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
None made.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS LAST MEETING
The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd May 2017 were read, accepted and signed.

4 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 STREET LIGHTING

Cllr Mrs Sharp reported that all of the street lights were now working and no other issues had been reported. Cllr Mrs Sharp advised the committee that it was still her intention to contact KBC to discuss the possibility of replacing the lamp-posts as had been suggested by the contractors.

4.2 PATHWAY TO LODDINGTON

It was reported that the Community Enhancement Gang had started work on resurfacing the pathway between Thorpe Malsor and Loddington. Cllr Mrs Pope expressed how impressed she was with the speed at which the Northamptonshire Highways had dealt with this issue. All Councillors agreed.

4.3 KEEPING THE VILLAGE TIDY

It was reported that action had been taken to address the issue concerning the grass cuttings that were being deposited by the gateway of the allotments and in the nearby ditch. It was agreed that Councillors would continue to monitor this for a further period and if the dumping of grass cuttings persists consideration would be given to contacting the land agent to assist in resolving the matter.

4.4 SPEEDING TRAFFIC

Cllr Mrs Sharp reported that she had done some investigation into having the speed limit through the village reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph to curtail speeding traffic along Short Lane and round the bend into the village. The consensus from other parishes that had done this was that imposing this restriction was not that effective.

Cllr Mr Stevenson advised that he had done some investigation into installing speed humps however this would involve a number of speed humps being installed at intervals through the village. Councillors agreed that this would not be an appropriate course of action.

The possibility of installing flashing signs or "slow down" signage was also discussed and Cllr Mrs Sharp agreed to carry out research into signage for discussion at the next meeting.

4.5 SEATS

Cllr Mrs Pope reported that the seats had been repaired and repainted. Councillors all agreed that the seats looked good and were happy with the quality of the workmanship.

4.6 TRANSPARENCY FUNDING

Cllr Mrs Sharp advised that, after some effort, she had received the appropriate forms and was in the process of completing the same for submission to NCALC for funding to enable a laptop and scanner to be purchased for the benefit of the Parish Council.

4.7 DEFIBRILLATOR FOR INSERTION INTO THE PHONE BOX

Cllr Mrs Pope reported that the cost of purchasing a defibrillator was in the region of £800.00 and that she is going to look into obtaining a grant via the Councillor Community Fund towards this cost as well as the cost of a cabinet for housing the defibrillator.

5. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the Accounts as at 8 June 2017.

Account balances:	Business Premium Account	£ 628.62
	Business Current Account	£2122.13
	Business Current Account (Contingency)	£2000.00

The following accounts were passed for payment:

Cheque no: 100311;	Payee: Mrs Helen Sharp	Amount: £ 99.58
Cheque no: 100312;	Payee: PDN Property Maintenance	Amount: £330.00

Cllr Mrs Sharp explained that her invoice was the fee was for hosting the website. Cllr Mrs Pope on behalf of the Parish Council expressed thanks to Cllr Mrs Sharp for getting the website up and running and for maintaining the same.

6 PLANNING

6.1 The Clerk advised that there had been no new applications.

6.2 KET/2015/0551 – Gipsy Lane Development

Cllr Mrs Pope declared a personal interest. The application appears to have stalled, as at 27 June 2017 officers continue to work on an alternative sustainable access arrangement for off-site works at Warren Hill and Gipsy Lane junction.

KET/2017/0459 – Old Cransley Iron Works

Cllr Mrs Pope advised that at a recent Rural Forum meeting it was reported that traffic lights in this area were being turned on following a recent accident. No other developments to report.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HIGHWAYS DEFINITIVE MAP PLAN

Cllr Mrs Pope reported that the survey had been completed and submit to the Northamptonshire Highways.

7 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items were presented to the Councillors:-

- 7.1 Email from Stephen Mold, Northamptonshire Police & Crime Commissioner regarding online survey to capture people's views by 1 August 2017.
- 7.2 Police & Crime Plan booklets 2017 – 2021 were passed around Councillors; agreed copies to be made available to public.
- 7.3 Email from Danny Moody requesting nominations for National Recognition Awards – no nominations to be submitted
- 7.4 Local Council Public Advisory Service email offering courses re Data Protection Regulations coming into force May 2018 – no interest from Councillors in attending these courses. Cllr Mrs Pope, Cllr Mr Stevenson and Clerk confirmed that they had/would be receiving training via their employers.
- 7.5 Catalogue from Fenland Leisure of outdoor fitness equipment. Councillors discussed whether there was a need for new equipment. Cllr Mr Stevenson to carry out an assessment in the first instance for discussion at the next meeting.
- 7.6 Email Northants Police detailing crime stats in the Thorpe Malsor Parish:
 - no crimes reported in May 2017
 - one crime reported on 14th June: Kettering Road, Padlock broken, hurdles stolen
- 7.7 Email Anglia Water re private pumping stations. Councillors not aware that anyone has a private pumping station however it was agreed that the email would be posted on website.

8 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 **INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The Clerk shared the Internal Auditor's Report dated 12 May 2017 with the Councillors. There were a number of issues of compliance which needed to be addressed and it was agreed that these would be dealt with ahead of the next meeting.

8.2 **RESIDENT'S GARDEN HEDGES**

An issue regarding the overhanging trees along Church Way had been raised, particularly those trees at the bottom of Sycamore Cottage, 8 Church Way which were overhanging and obstructing the public footpath to the extent that pedestrians were having to walk on the road. This obstruction coupled with the speeding traffic is potentially dangerous to villagers and therefore needs sorting. Cllr Mrs Pope proposed in the first instance to speak to the householders direct but, failing contact, a letter would be sent. It was also suggested that the Estate may be responsible for tree cutting of the tenanted properties along Church Way which would require a letter being sent to the Agents.

8.3 **MAINTENANCE OF GRASS VERGES**

Cllr Mrs Sharp advised that the verge along Short Lane had been mowed and queried whether this had been done by the Council. Cllr Mr Walton advised that this had been done by Ben Walton rather than KBC. Cllr Mrs Pope proposed that the PC employ Ben Walton to trim the grass verges and to spray the weeds approximately 10 days before the Yarn

Bombing weekend both for safety reasons and for the purposes of keeping the village tidy.
Cllr Mrs Sharp seconded the proposal. No objections were raised.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING : This was fixed for Tuesday 5 September 2017 at 7.00pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....