

THORPE MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Thorpe Malsor Parish Council Meeting held on 9th January 2018 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 LAST MEETING

a. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th November 2017 were read, accepted and signed.

b. MATTERS ARISING

i) SPEEDING TRAFFIC

Cllr Mrs Pope advised that she had researched into the cost of speed signs and any possible funding streams but had concluded that the overall cost was in excess of the PCs budget and so not a viable option. Cllr Mr Stevenson advised that he had received a positive response from villagers who would be willing to take part in the Speed Watch programme planned for July time. As the programme requires all volunteers to undertake a 3 hour training session it was agreed that this would be re-visited again in the spring.

ii) DEFIBRILLATOR FOR INSERTION INTO THE PHONE BOX

The Clerk confirmed that the £500.00 donation from Cllr Jim Hakewill had been received. Cllr Mrs Pope advised that she was still in the process of obtaining quotations and co-ordinating information which would be ready for approval at the next meeting. Cllr Mrs Pope also proposed that in readiness for the defibrillator, the telephone box be given a coat of paint, Cllr Mr Stevenson agreed to approach local tradespeople for quotations for consideration at the next meeting.

iii) PLAY AREA

Cllr Mrs Pope reported that she had met with a KBC representative at the play area and explained to him the concerns that had been raised by the auditor regarding risk assessments. Cllr Mrs Pope was provided with contact details for David Lane at KBC whom she has emailed and his response is awaited.

iv) COMPLIANCE

Further progress has made in terms of compliance to ensure that the PC covers all issues raised in the 2016/17 Auditor's Report. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Pope and Cllr Mrs Sharp would meet separately to discuss this.

v) **BUDGET PLANNING**

It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Mrs Pope would meet separately to discuss the PC budget taking into account the NCCs recently published budget proposals for 2018/19.

vi) **CRANSLEY SAILING CLUB**

Cllr Mrs Pope presented copies of correspondence that had been sent to Cransley Parish Council, Cransley Sailing Club and Mr Stein by Fisher German reiterating that water sports are not permitted on the Reservoir and that a breach could result in legal action being taken. It was agreed that there was no action required by TMPC in relation to this matter.

vii) **COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN**

The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Mrs Pope and Cllr Mr Stevenson were booked to attend the forthcoming CEP course. It was agreed that the implementation of a plan would be discussed further at the next meeting.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public attended.

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

a. **BROADBAND/FIBRE OPTIC CABLING**

Residents have recently received a letter from Gigaclear informing them that Ultrafast broadband will be available in Thorpe Malsor in the coming months.

Gigaclear is working in partnership with Northamptonshire County Council to supply fibre to individual premises (FTTP - Fibre to the Premises) in some areas, including Thorpe Malsor, which will provide access to ultrafast broadband speeds.

Cllr Mrs Sharp advised that she had done some investigation and ascertained that although BT Openreach is installing fibre-optic cabling to provide FTTC (Fibre to the Cabinet) throughout the country - which provides access to Superfast broadband speeds - there is no specific time frame for this service to be delivered in Thorpe Malsor.

The ultrafast speeds offered by Gigaclear are guaranteed considerably faster than superfast speeds, but the monthly service costs are higher and there is a one-off installation cost as fibre-optic cabling must be installed into the home via underground trunking from the street.

It was felt that the lack of any plan by Openreach to improve the existing telephone infrastructure by installing fibre cabling from Kettering to the cabinet in Short Lane was disadvantageous to residents in the village, and limited their choice. Cllr Mrs Sharp suggested that if BT Openreach was to install fibre-optic cabling to the cabinet in Short Lane this would considerably improve the villagers' telecommunications experience and would be less expensive than the Gigaclear option. Cllr Mrs Pope proposed that this should be raised with Paul Bimson at the County Council in order to find out what can be done to improve the current facility to the all residents.

More information can be found on the following website:

<http://www.superfastnorthamptonshire.net/how-we-are-delivering/Pages/about-the-project.aspx>

b. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was agreed that Cllrs Mrs Pope and Mrs Sharp would meet separately to discuss this.

6. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the Accounts as at 11 December 2017.

The following payments have been received:

NCC	Defibrillator contribution	Cheque	£500.00
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It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

A-M Walton-Miller	Cq no 100319	Clerks salary (June-Nov '17)	£250.00
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Proposed by Cllr Mrs Pope, seconded by Cllr Mrs Sharp.

7 PLANNING

The Clerk advised that there had been no new applications.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items were presented to the Councillors :-

- a. Email from Northamptonshire Police reporting that there were no reported crimes during November – contents noted by all;
- b. Email from Civic Voice dated 8 November 2017 seeking donations to help fund a Parliamentary event in order to discuss the long term future of conservation areas. Resolved that as TMPC does not have any conservation areas it would not be making a donation.
- c. Email from NHS Nene Clinical Commissioning Group dated 9 November 2017 seeking to identify ways to extend their communications in the local community.
- d. Letter from NCC dated 18 December 2017 advising that there has been a significant reduction in the non-statutory, discretionary services and a full set of budget proposals 2018/19 are available to view on their website. A copy of this letter is attached to the minutes.
- e. Email from Robert Offord, Northamptonshire Police dated 29 December 2017 advising that they will no longer be providing monthly crime statistics to parish councils, this information is now accessible via www.police.uk. Powerpoint presentation attached with the e-mail to be shared with Councillors for information purposes.
- f. Notification from KBC dated 2 January 2018 advising that a Budget Consultation Meeting is to be held at 7.00pm on 25th January 2018 at the Council offices – contents noted by all.

9 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

9.1 LITTERING/FLYTIPPING

Cllr Mrs Powell reported an increase in cases of fly tipping around the village and felt that TMPC should explore methods of tackling this. Cllr Mrs Pope proposed to raise the issue at the next Rural Forum Meeting on 1 February 2018 to find out if it was a county-wide issue and what other parishes/KBC were doing to tackle it ahead of the next meeting.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING : This was fixed for Tuesday 6 March 2018 at 7.00pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....



Northamptonshire County Council

Chairs and Clerks of Parish Councils

Please ask for: Linda Weller
Tel: 01604 366982
Our ref: HS/ljw
Your ref:
Date: 18th December 2017

Dear Chairs and Clerks,

I wanted to write to let you know that today we are publishing our full set of budget proposals for 2018/19. This budget sees a further £34.3m taken out of public services in the county in addition to the £376m already saved since 2010.

These proposals represent a fundamental re-scoping of our public service offer as we direct all our resources to fulfil our statutory duties at the expense of significant reductions in our non-statutory, discretionary services. The proposals can be found at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk.

The reality is that the way we as a county are currently funded means we can now barely afford to pay for those statutory services we are required to deliver by law, as growth in demand and cost continues to grow at an astonishing rate. It would help us if, in your role as community leaders in your parishes, you can help communicate to local people the scale of this growth and challenge in our county.

For example, in children's services we have an additional 200 children in our care compared to just three years ago. In addition to this, there are increasingly complex needs among children receiving care which need to be met.

In addition there is an accelerating growth in costs of our older population where we have seen a 25% increase in the cost for care for the over-85s in the last three years. The number of people aged over 65 will grow by 28% by 2024, meaning that growth in cost and demand will be sustained.

To help cope with these pressures, today's proposals include an additional £24.6m into adult social care budgets and £11m into children's services. Of course, though with no additional help from the government, this required investment comes at a heavy cost. To be able to keep pace with this significant growth in costs we simply have no option but to severely reduce our universal and 'discretionary' service offer.

Cllr Heather Smith, MCIPD
Leader of Northamptonshire County Council
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Northamptonshire
County Council

The full set of proposals, including those published in October, therefore includes a significant programme of library closures, reductions in highways and winter maintenance programmes, far-reaching reductions in trading standards, and the cessation of bus subsidies.

I know just how painful some of these proposals are for your local communities and, as we have said before, many of these are measures we simply would not pursue in any other circumstance. However, the lack of adequate funding and the soaring costs of our statutory services leave us very little choice.

I urge you to review our full set of budget proposals and engage with us on how we can better work together to continue the best serve the public within the financial context described above.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Smith', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Heather Smith CMIPD
Leader
Northamptonshire County Council