**Minutes of the Meeting of Thrandeston Parish Council held on 5th November 2018.**

**Present:**

Councillors Sharon Colchester, Jerry Cotter, Andrew Colchester and Alison Murton.

Philip Freeman – Parish Clerk.

County Councillor Fleming

District Councillor Burn.

Two members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

* Councillor Goff Hawes. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman took the chair.

1. Chairman’s opening remarks

* The Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished the Chairman well.

1. To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from members on any agenda item. To consider any requests for dispensations.

* None.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th November 2018.

* The minutes of the meetings were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Vice-Chairman.

1. Matters arising from the minutes:

**Action Points:**

* Letter to local farmers asking for quotations for cutting the grass verges in Thrandeston once information has been received from Councillor Fleming and it has been out been discussed at the next meeting. **Action: The Clerk.**
* Contact Birketts solicitors to check if the cost of a Deed of Easement can be reduced. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* Report that the road under the low railway bridge has not been tarmacked and potholes. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* Apply for grit bins. **Action: The Clerk.**
* Request that Judas Lane is cut by County Council. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* Councillor S Colchester will contact David Whiting about the risk of a fire before the cutting of Little Green following a period of very dry weather. **Action: Councillor S Colchester.** Completed.

1. Notification of any urgent business.

* None.

**Public Forum.**

**County Council Report November 2018**

By County Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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**Reports of Poor Highway Condition and Potholes** – I have looked into the status of pothole reports CR 222477 and C221158 in the centre of Thrandeston, both are currently with our Community Warden for inspection. All defects or drainage problems should be reported using the reporting tool on the Highways website: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/>

**A140 Scheme (Roundabouts)** – Suffolk Highways is planning to submit a planning application at the end of November for determination in March. Plans include a centre refuge at the A140/Thrandeston Road junction, an issue that was identified through stakeholder engagement. Construction is anticipated in Summer 2019 with an opening in Spring 2020.

**Suffolk’s 2019/ 2020 Budget Consultation is open -** and can be accessed by visiting [www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget2019](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget2019) Hard copies will be available from libraries. The consultation closes at 5pm on Friday 16 November. Your responses are important given the difficult decisions that the County Council faces to return a balanced budget. A proposed budget will go to Cabinet on 29 January, the final budget will be discussed at Full Council on Thursday 14 February 2019.

**Schools Admission Policy –** SCC is consulting on its admissions policy for the 2020/2021 school year and for future arrangements, a similar consultation is running for Free Schools and Academies. Views are sought regarding oversubscription criteria and future use of catchment areas to rank applications give changes to school transport policy. Consultations close on 12th November 2018 and can be reached on <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/consultation-on-admissions-to-schools-in-suffolk-for-the-20202021-school-year/>

**Suffolk Carers’ Survey -** Suffolk County Council, the Clinical Commissioning Groups, Health, and Suffolk Family Carers are undertaking a joint survey about home care and family carers. Answers will be used anonymous and the identity of responders protected. Complete the survey online by 22nd November using the following link: [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/FamilyCarers/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/FamilyCarers/) Please address any queries to Helen Robinson on 01473 260354 or by email to: [family.carers@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:family.carers@suffolk.gov.uk).

In the discussion of the report the following points were made:

* Councillor Fleming offered to arrange for Councillor Evans, the Cabinet Member for Highways, to visit Thrandeston.
* She had no information on the cost of cutting grass verges.
* The central refuge on the A140 at the junction to Thrandeston will have to be large enough for vehicles to make a safe turn.

In response to questions the following point were made:

* The planning application for the roundabouts on the A140 will be made by the County Council and there will be an opportunity for members of the public to comment.
* Anyone volunteering to spread grit, when roads are affected by ice, would have no liability.
* Grit bins do not have to be purchased from Suffolk County Council, but Councillor Fleming will investigate if they can be purchased from the Locality Budget.

Councillor Fleming left the meeting.

**Report by District Councillor David Burn – November 2018**:

* He had money available from the Locality Budget for projects and he would enquire if this could be used to pay for the cutting of grass verges and hedges. This may be funded because of the cycle route which uses Mellis Road.
* Increasing access to the Marsh could be a project, and if this is planned an application can be made to the Locality Budget.

1. Correspondence received.

* Various documents from SALC.
* Town and Parish Council Newsletter.
* Various emails from the Highways Department Suffolk County Council.
* Deed of Easement – Birketts.
* Natural England.
* Invitation to Christmas Carol Service from Diss Town Mayor.
* CIL Expenditure.
* Estimated costs for Parish Election.
* Application for Developer Contributions Eye Airfield Wind Turbines Community Fund.
* PCC Update.
* Invitation to Local Liaison Committee Meeting at EPR Eye Ltd.
* Burglary Brockford A140.
* Eye Airfield Developments enquiry from a person moving into the area.
* The MSDC Draft Home Strategies and Homelessness Reduction Strategy 2019/2024.
* Suffolk web chat with Chief Constable and PCC.
* Mellis Parish Council cutting of grass verges and hedges.

1. The Common
   1. Report from the Commons Co-ordinator.

* 2 quotations had been received for cutting the Marsh:
  + Mr Coe: £380 plus VAT.
  + Mr Ling: £830 plus VAT
* In the discussion the following points were made:
  + Both contractors were competent.
  + It will be one cut and one operation to deal with brambles, which should be done every 10 years, and the last one was 40 years ago.
  + There will be no problem from the cattle because they could be shut off the Marsh
  + There had been no further information on the cow which got stuck in a ditch.
  + The cattle had stamped in the ditches where they had been cut out for access to water.
  + David Whiting was no longer the local representative of Natural England.
* it was agreed to accept the quotation from Mr Coe, proposed by Councillor S Colchester and seconded by Councillor Cotter.
  1. Risk assessment for a fire before the cutting of Little Green following a period of very dry weather.
* If there is a fire risk an application can be made to cut the area earlier than previously agreed.

1. Highway matters:
   1. Cutting of grass verges.

* See above.

1. Finances and financial report.
   1. Balances on Accounts 28th September 2018.
      1. Current account: £9,689.73.

* The account balance was noted.
  1. Financial report and bank reconciliation.
* Detailed accounts had been given to Councillors, which recorded all items of income and expenditure, and compared them to the budget. The spreadsheet also showed both as a percentage of the budget.
* The accounts were to the date of this meeting and included a bank reconciliation.
* There were no questions from Councillors.
  1. To authorise cheques for signature:

N.B. Cheque signatories to initial cheque stub and invoice.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Details** | **Cheque Number** | **Amount** | **Power** |
| P Freeman | Clerk’s Pay and Expenses |  | £232.29 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| HMRC | PAYE |  | £53.59 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| SPS | Subscription |  | £30.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |
| Community Action Suffolk | Website charge |  | £60.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |
| Septic Tank Services | Cut and clear Thrandeston Green |  | £480.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |

* It was unanimously agreed to pay the invoices listed above, proposed by Councillor S Colchester and seconded by Councillor Murton.
* There was a discussion of the cost of cutting the Green: the method used is an expensive way of cutting and clearing the Green because of the regulations which apply.
* There was a discussion of the method that would be used to cut grass verges and hedges. A map will be used to identify the hedges that need to be cut. Councillor A Colchester will contact local farmers and guidance may be needed from Natural England.
* **Action: Councillor A Colchester and the Clerk.**
  1. Requests for financial support: None
  2. Receipts:
     1. MSDC - Precept: £1,250.00

1. General Data Protection Regulation - update.

* Nothing to report.

1. Dates of Meetings 2019.

* The following dates were agreed: 7 January 2019, 4 March 2019 13 May 2019 and Annual Parish Meeting, 1 July 2019, 2 September 2019, 4 November 2019.

1. Thrandeston Village Hall as a community building.

* Councillor Murton had been unwell, and no action had been taken.
* It was agreed to delay the discussion of this item to the next meeting.
* There had been a meeting with Gillian Hilder, from Mid Suffolk District Council.
* She suggested that an additional amount could be added to the annual precept to pay for the upkeep of the Village Hall.
* £2,658 would be needed for work on the ceiling.
* If applications are made for grants there could be a weakness in the case due to the limited use of the Hall by the community.
* Work would be needed because there was no insulation, the ceiling would need to be lowered and heating and lighting upgraded.
* Councillor Murton will discuss the plans for refurbishment of the village Hall with the Village Hall Committee.

1. Planning:
   1. Applications:
   2. Applications – no decisions to date:
      1. Applications for Discharge of Conditions:
         * Application: DC/18/02041

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by Requirement 18 pursuant to The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I 2015/1570)

Location: Progress Power, Eye,

* + - * Application: DC/18/02574

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by Requirement 13 (Construction Traffic) and 14 (Travel Plan) pursuant to The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I 2015/1570)

Location: Progress Power, Eye,

* + - * Application: DC/18/02639

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by Requirement 7 pursuant to The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I 2015/1570)

Location: Progress Power, Eye,

* + - * Application: DC/18/02693

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by Requirement 11 pursuant to The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I 2015/1570)

Location: Progress Power, Eye,

* + - * Application: DC/18/02041

Proposal: Approval of details reserved by Requirement 18 pursuant to The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I 2015/1570)

Location: Progress Power, Eye,

* 1. Planning decisions:
     1. Approved: None.
     2. Refused: None.
     3. Discharge of Conditions: None.
  2. Withdrawn: None.
  3. Appeal by: None.

1. AOB - Any items raised earlier but not for an extended discussion or decisions and items for inclusion at the meeting on 7th January 2019.
   * + - Budget and precept.

Meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.