

Present: Cllrs: McGill (in the Chair), Bundred, Fonseca and Hawkins
In Attendance: V Swift (Clerk & RFO), 4 Members of the Public

2544: Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Francis.

2545: Members declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2546: Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Wednesday, 5 June 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2547: Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

2548: Public comments

The meeting was adjourned at 19:04 PM for this item.

Resident from Hartdale Road reported pedestrian safety concerns with the new footpath that has been constructed by Castle Green Homes around the Orchard Place development and with other footpaths along Holgate/Brooms Cross (near the sub-station). He went on to describe how he was nearly run over by a delivery driver who had followed his sat nav as it told him the path was a road and how he managed to step aside to avoid youths travelling at speed on e-bikes.

The meeting was reconvened at 19:14 PM

RESOLVED:

2548.1 Members thanked resident, Hartdale Road, for his report on pedestrian safety concerns.

2548.2 That Cllr McGill to take up pedestrian safety concerns with Ronnie Stafford at Sefton Highways and Castle Green Homes for discussion at the next meeting.

2549: Parish Council vacancies

RESOLVED:

2549.1 Members welcomed James Harrison and Paul Beardwood to the meeting.

2549.2 Members considered and agreed the co-option of James Harrison and Paul Beardwood.
Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Fonseca. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

2549.3 That Cllrs Harrison and Beardwood then signed 'The Declaration of Acceptance of Office' and joined the meeting.

2549.4 That the clerk to notify the Democratic Services Officer of the two co-options.

2549.5 That the clerk to forward Cllrs Harrison and Beardwood the Register of Interests form for completing, returning and filing with the Democratic Services Officer.

2549.6 That the clerk to forward Cllrs Bundred and Hawkins a copy of the LALC booklet 'an introduction to parish council roles and responsibilities.

2549.7 That Cllrs Bundred and Hawkins to look at running an 'in house' training workshop for new councillors and to liaise with Cllrs Harrison and Beardwood.

2550: Keeping Thornton Tidy

RESOLVED:

- 2550.1 That an update by Cllr McGill on the monthly community litter pick be noted.
- 2550.2 Members noted the date of the next community litter pick, 6 July 2024.
- 2550.3 Members noted two additional community litter pick dates to take place, on the 3 and 6 August 2024, in preparation for the RHS North West in Bloom competition.
- 2550.4 That Cllr McGill to promote the community litter pick dates on Facebook.
- 2550.5 That the clerk to file three litter pick risk assessments with Sefton Council.
- 2550.6 That Cllr McGill to drop off some litter sacks for Cllr Harrison.

2551: Thornton Community Group

RESOLVED:

- 2551.1 Members thanked Irene White for her work on the preparation of The Crescent planters for the RHS North West in Bloom judging panel, including: selection of plants, planting, weeding, feeding, watering and then, sadly, some re-planting due to theft.
- 2551.2 Members noted that Cllr McGill, Irene White, and other volunteers including former councillor Ken Hounsell and his wife will be in attendance to meet the RHS North West judging panel at The Crescent on 6 August 2024 at 15:50 PM.
- 2551.3 That the clerk to confirm with In Your Neighbourhoods a lunch booking for Irene White at Waterloo Community Centre, 6 August 2024 at 13:10 PM.
- 2551.4 That Irene White to pass her receipts for plants to the clerk for reimbursement.
- 2551.5 That Cllr McGill to upload photographs of The Crescent planters on Facebook.
- 2551.6 Members thanked former councillor Kevin Rathbone for his work on planting out the roadside welcome planters and making tidy the area around the planters.
- 2551.7 Members thanked Cllr McGill and former councillor Kevin Rathbone for their work on moving the five new planters to a new storage location at Cllr McGill's address.
- 2551.8 That an update by Cllr McGill on filing an application of 'consent' for permission to place the five new planters on Sefton highway land/pavement, be noted.
- 2551.9 Members thanked Cllr McGill, his wife and grandchildren for taking part in the 'Big Help Out' weekend at St Joseph's Hospice on 7 June 2024.

2552: New noticeboard - Village Green

RESOLVED:

- 2552.1 That an update by Cllr Hawkins be noted.
- 2552.2 Members noted that Sefton Highways are in the process of progressing the license application to their legal team for sealing.

2553: War memorial and COVID memorial

RESOLVED:

- 2553.1 That an update by Cllr Hawkins be noted.
- 2553.2 Members noted that Sefton Highways have requested additional drawings and measurements on the bolts that will be used to secure the memorials to the ground, including their depth below ground.

2554: Traffic issues

RESOLVED:

- 2554.1 That a report by Cllr Hawkins on **no reply** to two communications sent to Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Transport Planning (19 April and 21 June), in terms of not answering points raised on traffic issues and statistical data, and in not responding to the clerk's request (6 June) asking for a copy of residents comments gathered by his team when in attendance at the June Parish Council meeting, be noted.

- 2554.2 That Cllr Hawkins thanked local resident for sharing traffic data gathered from Sefton's commissioned vehicle monitoring exercise.
- 2554.3 Members noted Cllr Bundred's suggestion on having a process in place for managing correspondence with the purpose of setting response deadlines.
For example: Step 1, response within 7 days. Step 2, day 8, reminder with 14 days deadline. Step 3, day 21 escalate to Manor Ward councillors. Step 4, day 28 escalate to MP.
- 2554.4 That Cllr Hawkins to send Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Transport Planning, a response reminder with the 14 days deadline, or it will be necessary to escalate concerns up.

2555: Strategic planning

- 2555.1 That a report by Cllr Bundred on the meeting held on 15 June 2024 be noted.
- 2555.2 Members considered and agreed: the design of a short on-line community survey; the design of a promotional poster; the use of UK based SmartSurvey software for a limited period; the use of QR codes; and a prize draw offer (Becca's Bites) for all who fill out the survey.
Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Fonseca. **Agreed:** Unanimously.
- 2555.3 Members noted the importance of their feedback/participation during the survey testing phase and with the circulation of posters in and around the wider Thornton area.
- 2555.4 That the clerk to share with Cllr Beardwood the Parish Council website login details.
- 2555.5 That Cllr Beardwood to pass his receipts for the use of SmartSurvey software and printing of posters to the clerk for reimbursement.

2556: Adoption gov.uk

- 2556.1 That a report by Cllr Fonseca on a funding initiative being run by the Cabinet Office to encourage as many Councils as possible to adopt a **gov.uk** domain and in order to encourage this they have introduced a one off **grant for £100 + VAT**.
- 2556.2 Members noted the benefits of moving from a non gov domain to a gov.uk domain and .gov.uk email addresses, including: status, recognised as part of local government; based within UK jurisdiction, offering greater compliance with GDPR regulations; improved controls, information is not lost when staff and councillors leave.
- 2556.3 That the clerk to apply for Cabinet Office funding of £100 + VAT for the purchase of a gov.uk domain name, **thornton-pc.gov.uk**.
- 2556.4 That the clerk to contact Netwise UK for their technical support on moving the website to its new domain and creating eight domain email addresses.

2557: Defibrillator theft

RESOLVED:

- 2557.1 Members noted an update by the clerk on completing the insurance claim for the theft of the community defibrillator and associated damage.
- 2557.2 That Cllr McGill to contact Attic Vinyls for advice on the safe removal of vinyl posters.
- 2557.3 That Cllr Bundred to contact Tesco Express to explore the potential of finding a new home for the defibrillator outside their premises.
- 2557.4 That the clerk to contact the insurance claims company to explain the delay in completing the insurance claim.

2558: LGBCE review of Sefton

RESOLVED: That an update by Cllr Hawkins on the issue of the Boundary Commission final recommendations and the request for a Community Governance Review be noted.

2559: Guest speakers

RESOLVED: Members considered and agreed that guest speakers to be invited on a quarterly basis.
Proposed: Cllr Fonseca. **Seconded:** Cllr Hawkins. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

2560: Storage of Parish Council records

RESOLVED: That Cllr McGill to catalogue Parish Council records from 1941-2000.

2561: Planning Applications

RESOLVED: Members considered the planning applications set out in the schedule circulated and also available on Sefton MBC website.

2562: Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED: That the payments set out in the schedule of payments circulated be agreed.

2563: Correspondence

2563.1 Andrew Taylor BDWH, sent guest speaker thank you note.

2563.2 Peter Hillsdon Sefton Highways Planning, sent guest speaker thank you note.

2563.3 Resident, hoped that we could invite Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Highways Planning, and his team back to update on any actions they have taken.

2563.4 Resident, reported a list of safety concerns from footpaths to bridle paths.

2563.5 Vicky Blain National Trust, deferred attendance as guest speaker to another date.

2563.6 PR Team DWH, notified that Rhea has left the company and someone else has picked up her work and would like an estimated cost of the original wish list.

2563.7 Andrew Taylor BDWH, notification of a contractor meeting date, 24 July, to discuss the cost of clearing and landscaping the area in around Brooms Cross wayside cross.

2563.8 Resident, Green Lane, reported a BBC film crew outside the Grapes pub.

2563.9 Resident, Green Lane, reported damage to the cobbled path at the bottom of Rothwells Lane saying, "another piece of Thornton's heritage is being destroyed."

2563.10 Resident, Green Lane, reported that Castle Green Homes have ordered two new bins to replace the ones they removed at Holgate.

2564: Date of next meeting

RESOLVED: Wednesday, 4 September 2024 at 7:00PM.

2565: Deadline for agenda Items

RESOLVED: Tuesday, 27 August 2024.



Signed

(Chairman)

Date 4 September 2024