

Present: Cllrs: McGill (in the Chair), Beardwood, Bundred, Fonseca, Harrison and Hawkins.
In Attendance: V Swift (Clerk & RFO), 7 Members of the Public

2615: Apologies for absence

There were no apologies received.

2616: Members declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

2617: Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on the 2 October 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2618: Matters of report arising from previous minutes

There were no matters of report.

2619: Public forum

The meeting was adjourned for this item.

Members of the public addressed the Council regarding numerous issues relating to ongoing traffic and public safety issues, many of which date back years. Specific issues included: lack of enforcement with illegal parking on Water Street causing traffic congestion and safety issues; vehicles using the left turn only into Edge Lane and immediately completing U-turns around the junction street furniture into the opposite carriageway and then turning left down Moor Lane towards Crosby village, causing traffic and safety issues; and inadequate road signage on the A565 towards Southport and Liverpool. It was agreed to invite Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Transport Planning Team Leader, Highways & Public Protection, and Sefton Councillors Veidman, Carragher, McGinnity and McNabb to a public forum on how Sefton is addressing residents traffic and public safety issues at a date to be advised (see minutes 2628.1-2628.2).

The meeting was reconvened.

2620: Thornton Fryer

RESOLVED:

2620.1 Members noted that concerns raised by Mr Albert about the Council's interaction with Sefton Council back in 2016 and 2017 about planning matters concerning 6 The Crescent (known as the Thornton Fryer) have been checked out by the clerk and there are no formal minutes (or very brief minutes) about the matter.

2620.2 Cllr McGill stated that given the historic nature of the issue raised by Mr Albert he did not consider it would be a good use of parish council resources to consider the matter any further.

2621: Casual vacancy

RESOLVED:

2621.1 Cllr McGill reported on the resignation of Cllr Francis due to work commitments.

2621.2 Members thanked Cllr Francis for his commitment during his time on the Council.

2621.3 That the clerk to notify the Democratic Service Officer of the resignation.

2621.4 That the clerk to post a vacancy notice on the website and social media.

2622: Keeping Thornton Tidy

RESOLVED:

- 2622.1** Cllr McGill reported on the success of the community litter pick held on 2 November 2024. Not only did a record numbers of people turned up, they had the new litter picking equipment from Barratt & David Wilson Homes, they also had a representative from Barratt & David Wilson Homes, John Kol, join them.
- 2622.2** Members noted the date of the next community litter pick, 7 December 2024, meeting at the corner of Thornfield Road and The Crescent at 10:00am.
- 2622.3** That Cllr McGill agreed to promote the next community litter pick date on social media.
- 2622.4** That the clerk to file a litter pick risk assessment with Sefton Council.

2623: Thornton Community Group

RESOLVED:

- 2623.1** Cllr McGill reported on his and Irene White's attendance at the RHS North West in Bloom Awards ceremony that took place in Bolton Wanderers FC Stadium on 30 October 2024. The planters at The Crescent achieved the second highest grade with a Level 4 - Thriving, maintaining the great achievement of 2023.
- 2523.2** Members thanked all volunteers involved in tending The Crescent planters and in particular Irene White for her unstinting commitment in rain, hail and all weather.

2624: New noticeboard - Village Green

RESOLVED:

- 2624.1** Cllr Hawkins reported on the installation of the new noticeboard on the village green, at the corner of Water Street and Green Lane opposite the Stocks and Sundial.
- 2624.2** Members thanked Cllr Hawkins for all her hard work, from dealing with a change in design and navigating planning portals to co-ordinating delivery and installation dates.
- 2624.3** Members agreed the noticeboard be used to improve community engagement.

2625: War memorial and COVID memorial

RESOLVED:

- 2625.1** Cllr Hawkins reported on the installation of two new memorials at the Stocks and Sundial at the top of Water Street.
- 2625.2** Members thanked Cllr Hawkins for an amazing job.
- 2625.3** Members thanked John Smith, Crosby Memorials, for generously donating the COVID memorial to the Parish of Thornton.
- 2625.4** Members thanked Manor Ward Councillors for generously funding the war memorial to the Parish of Thornton.

2626: Strategic planning

RESOLVED:

- 2626.1** Cllr Bundred reported on the strategic planning meeting held at the King's Church on 26 October 2024.
- 2626.2** Cllr Beardwood reported that his first email newsletter opening rate was 61% and that as a result of dropping the newsletter on Facebook, four more residents had signed up to receive email updates on parish news and events.
- 2626.3** Members noted the next strategic planning meeting to be held at the King's Church on Saturday, 16 November 2024 at 10:00AM.

2627: Friends of Thornton group

RESOLVED:

- 2627.1** Cllr Bundred reported on key stages/recommendations in the establishment of a "Friends of Thornton" group.
- 2627.2** Members noted a useful website for the provision of free online resources and guidance for starting a Friends of group at <https://parkscommunity.org.uk>.

2628: Traffic issues

RESOLVED:

- 2628.1** Cllr Hawkins reported that Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Transport Planning Team Leader, Highways & Public Protected, will be consulting with Cllr Veidman, Sefton Cabinet Member for Highways and Cllrs Carragher, McGinnity and McNabb, Manor Ward, at the end of November in relation to the 'Summary of Key Issues Raised for Thornton Corridor'. The actual date of the consultation and whether it will be a closed meeting or open to members of the public is not known at this time.
- 2628.2** Members agreed to invite Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Transport Planning Team Leader, Highways & Public Protection, and Sefton Councillors Veidman, Carragher, McGinnity and McNabb to a public forum on how Sefton is addressing residents traffic and public safety issues, at a date to be advised.

2629: Storage facility

RESOLVED:

- 2629.1** Members considered three self storage quotes each with a footprint of 25 sq ft. Cllr McGill proposed renting space at the Big Yellow Storage company, 9 Dunnings Bridge Road, Liverpool L23 6UU, on a monthly rolling contract, currently priced at £7.25 pw for the first 8 weeks and thereafter at £14.50 pw (excluding VAT), payable every four weeks in advance, with a refundable security deposit iro £19.50 and with a flexible start date.
Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Bundred. **Agreed:** Unanimously.
- 2629.2** That Cllr McGill to organise logistical arrangements for transporting wooden planters and litter picking equipment to the storage facility.
- 2629.3** That the clerk to complete the Big Yellow Storage administration process.

2630: Cuppa with a copper

RESOLVED:

- 2630.1** Cllr Hawkins reported that Crosby Neighbourhood Police have loaned their mobile unit to Southport Neighbourhood Police as part of a reassurance plan following the horrific incident in Southport over the summer. They are now prioritising venues in high foot traffic areas, such as Maghull town square and Crosby village.
- 2630.2** Members noted that Crosby Neighbourhood Police remain open to hosting an event in Thornton, though at this time the only suitable venue would be Subway.

2631: Remembrance service

RESOLVED:

- 2631.1** Members reviewed and approved the Order of Service.
- 2631.2** Members reviewed and approved the risk assessment.
- 2631.3** Members thanked Cllr McGill for sweeping up inside and outside the Stocks and Sundial enclosure.

2632: Christmas tree lights switch on

RESOLVED:

- 2632.1** Members noted that Sefton plan to install the Christmas tree, lights and crib on the green as early as Monday, 11 November 2024.
- 2632.2** Members noted the event start time, 17:45PM.
- 2632.3** Members reviewed and approved the crib and event risk assessments.
- 2632.4** Members noted Amelia and Isabella to perform the switch on.
- 2632.5** Members approved £50 donation to Crosby Rotary, £50 donation to Quay Notes Ukulele Band and 4 tubs of chocolates (dancers, choir, face painter and switch on).
Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Beardwood. **Agreed:** Unanimously.
- 2632.6** That Cllr Beardwood agreed to produce a Christmas event poster.

2633: Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024

RESOLVED:

- 2633.1** Members considered the 2024/25 Local Government Services pay agreement and a revision of the clerk's hours, applicable from 1 April 2024.
- 2633.2** Cllr McGill proposed that the clerk implement the 2024/25 Government Services pay agreement to include an increase in the weekly hours worked (1 day per week), to be back paid from 1 April 2024.
Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Bundred. **Agreed:** Unanimously.
- 2633.3** That the clerk to amend the budget accordingly.

2634: Planning Applications

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

2635: Accounts paid and for payment

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

2636: Correspondence

- 2636.1** Resident, Green Lane: reported to Sefton Planning, a large tipper vehicle turning left from Park View into Green Lane making its way into Sundial Place on Lydiate Lane despite there being an alternative route.
- 2636.2** Sefton Planning enforcement: responded advising that unfortunately there may inevitably still be the odd occasion when some lorries don't adhere and if you are able to provide the details of the vehicles/companies we can raise this with the developer.
- 2636.3** Netwise: reported on 28 Oct. services were affected as their engineers worked to mitigate a denial of service attack.
- 2636.4** Resident, Runnells Lane: copied the Council into an email to the MP and various other recipients stating now that Rimrose Valley Park has been saved there is some work that is required on the path from Eden Drive, Crosby to access Rimrose Valley Park and went on to list mobility issues for scooter users. No response received to-date.
- 2636.5** Thank you note was sent to John Kol, Barratt and David Wilson Homes, for attending the community litter pick on Sat. 2 Nov. 2024.
- 2636.6** Council meeting invitation for 6 Nov. 2024 was sent to Cllrs Carragher and McNabb.
- 2636.7** Crosby & Waterloo in Bloom invited Cllr McGill and Irene White to their annual celebration at the Waterloo Community Centre on Tues. 12 Nov. 2024 at 12:00 noon.
- 2636.8** Cllr McNabb requesting Forestry England contact details and background information in relation to gaining permission for remedial work to take place at Brooms Cross. No response received to-date.

2637: Date of next meeting

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

2638: Deadline for agenda Items

RESOLVED: Tuesday, 26 November 2024.



Signed

(Vice Chair)

Date 4 December 2024