

**Present:** Cllrs: McGill (in the Chair), Beardwood, Bundred, Fonseca, Harrison and Hawkins.  
**In Attendance:** V Swift (Clerk & RFO), 2 Members of the Public

**2658: Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2659: Members declaration of interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

**2660: Minutes of the previous meeting**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on the 4 December 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**2661: Matters of report arising from previous minutes**

There were no matters of report.

**2662: Public forum**

*The meeting was adjourned for this item.*

Stannyfield Close resident reported the state of the pavement outside 53 Edge Lane (opposite Larchfield Road) that used to be a grass strip that over time cars have mounted the pavement to undertake cars waiting to turn right into Larchfield Road, and more recently vehicles accessing 53 Edge Lane. The quagmire is now encroaching the pavement and is becoming a health and safety issue.

The applicant for the Parish Council vacancy introduced himself to the meeting and provided information on his career, the skills he could bring to the Council and how long he has lived in Thornton.

*The meeting was reconvened.*

**RESOLVED:** Members asked the Stannyfield Close resident to send photographs of the pavement outside 53 Edge Lane to the clerk for passing onto Sefton Council to look into.

**2663: Parish Council vacancy**

**RESOLVED:**

**2663.1** Members agreed to co-opt Robert Dale to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council.

**Proposed:** Cllr Bundred. **Seconded:** Cllr Hawkins. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

**2663.2** That Cllr Dale then signed 'The Declaration of Acceptance of Office' and joined the meeting.

**2663.3** That the clerk to notify the Democratic Services Officer of the co-option.

**2663.4** That the clerk to forward Cllr Dale the Register of Interests form for completing, returning and filing with the Democratic Services Officer.

**2664: Christmas tree lights switch on, 6 December 2024**

**RESOLVED:**

**2664.1** That a report by Cllr Bundred and feedback on how to expand the event be noted.

- 2664.2** Members thanked the Nag's Head Pub for hosting the event and all those who took part and all those that came to support, braving the cold, rain and high winds, helping to make the event another great success.
- 2664.3** That the clerk to make enquiries about the process for applying for a part road closure at the top end of Water Street.

**2665: Nativity crib**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2665.1** That a report by Cllr Beardwood on the set up of the crib, its instability without fixed supporting legs and the temporary repairs carried out as a result of storm damage and ongoing storage issues be noted.
- 2665.2** Members thanked Cllr Beardwood for his work on stabilising the storm damaged crib and for carrying out needed repairs to the roof and statues.
- 2665.3** That Cllr McGill agreed to work on the restoration of the crib and to laminate set up instruction to be fixed on the side of the crib for future guidance.

**2666: Traffic issues**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2666.1** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on pursuing a public forum date with Peter Hillsdon, Sefton Transport Planning Team Leader, Highways & Public Protection, and Sefton Councillors Veidman, Carragher, McGinnity and McNabb be noted.
- 2666.2** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on the extra signage for the Crescent be noted.

**2667: Keeping Thornton tidy**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2667.1** Members noted the date of the next community litter pick, 11 January 2025, meeting at the corner of Thornfield Road and The Crescent at 10:00am.
- 2667.2** That Cllr Beardwood to advertise the litter pick with Crosby Wombles.
- 2667.3** That the clerk to file a litter pick risk assessment with Sefton Council.

**2668: Thornton community group**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2668.1** Members received NW In Bloom IYN Award Assessor(s) report.
- 2668.2** The community cupboard be deferred to a later date.
- 2668.3** The damaged Crescent planter be deferred to a later date.

**2669: Strategic planning**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2669.1** Members reviewed and signed the CIC 36 Declarations on Formation of Friends of Thornton CIC.
- 2669.2** Members noted the next strategic planning meeting to be held at the King's Church on Saturday, 25 January 2025 at 11:00am.

**2670: Noticeboard policy**

**RESOLVED:**

- 2670.1** Members reviewed and approved the noticeboard policy.  
**Proposed:** Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Fonseca. **Agreed:** Unanimously.
- 2670.2** Members noted the key holders: Cllrs McGill and Beardwood and the clerk.

**2671: Parish Council website**

**RESOLVED:**

**2671.1** That a report by Cllr Beardwood on updating the website with members profile photos and bios be noted.

**2671.2** Members agreed to having their photos taken at the next meeting, 5 February 2025.

**2672: Cuppa with a copper**

**RESOLVED:** That an update by Cllr Hawkins on advertising a future event arranged for Crosby village be noted.

**2673: Storage facility**

**RESOLVED:**

**2673.1** That an update by Cllr McGill on items to go to the storage facility be noted.

**2673.2** That the clerk to re-open the Parish Council account at the Big Yellow Self Storage and to send Cllr McGill a copy of the public liability certificate.

**2674: The King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS)**

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed that the 4 tickets for the presentation of the King's Award to the 4th Crosby and District (St William of York) Scouts Group to be held on 7 February 2025 at 18:30 at St William of York Parish Centre to go to: Cllrs Dale, Harrison, Hawkins and McGill.

**2675: Planning applications**

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

**2676: Budget and Precept 2025/26**

**RESOLVED:**

**2676.1** Members reviewed and agreed the proposed budget for 2025/26 be set at £16,000.

**Proposed:** Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Bundred. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

**2676.2** Members reviewed and agreed the proposed precept for 2025/26 be set at £16,000.

**Proposed:** Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Bundred. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

**2677: Accounts paid and for payment**

**RESOLVED:**

**2677.1** That the payments set out in the schedule of payments circulated be agreed.

**2677.2** That a transfer from the Nat. West. Business Reserve Account to the Nat. West Current Account of £1,700 be agreed.

**2678: Correspondence**

**2678.1** Alan Anderson, Quay Notes Ukuleles, were pleased to be part of the Christmas tree lights switch on and wished the Parish Council a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**2678.2** Town Clerk, Maghull Town Hall, confirmed that the Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council's CEO visit to Manor Ward was an internal visit and not a civic function.

**2678.3** Rev. Kath Rogers, thanked Cllr Hawkins for her update and photos of the COVID memorial and asked that we pass on her thanks and praise to all concerned.

**2678.4** Stephen Moore, former Thornton resident and Oakington Parish Councillor, asked if the Parish Council would be interested in receiving a few copies of the 'Thornton Ratepayers and Residents Association Magazine' dated 1949 through to the early 1950's.

**2678.5** Office of the Police and Crime Commissioners for Merseyside, invitation to the Merseyside Councillors Conference: Saturday 1 March 2025, 10:00-13:00pm.

**2679: Date of next meeting**

**RESOLVED:** Wednesday, 5 February 2025 at 7:00PM.

**2680: Deadline for agenda Items**

**RESOLVED:** Monday, 28 January 2025.



**Signed** .....

(Chairman)

**Date** 5 February 2025