

Minutes of the Thwaite St Mary Parish Meeting

Wednesday, 27th September 2017 at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Thwaite St Mary

Present: Christine Hamilton (chairman), Jane Love (minute secretary) Mavin Shulver, Marion Barwick, Josie Bassingthwaite, Geoff Hayes, Mike Holness, Philip Taylor, Tom Grant, Roger Madgett, Sandra & Steve Hayes, Simon Norton, David Rowlinson

1. **Apologies for absence:** Maurice & Valerie Healy, Geraldine Hayes, Scott Hamilton, Tom & Louise Edwards, Jean Madgett.
2. **To approve the minutes of the meeting on 14th June 2017:**
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 14th June 2017 were agreed to be correct
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - 3a. **Roger on CPRE - house building - should we sign their petition?**
Roger Madgett declared his own agreement with the aims of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE), and summarised his research into the recent CPRE proposals on planning. After some discussion, the meeting agreed to sign up to the CPRE campaign that new housing allocations should not be made available until existing allocations had been built; that "windfalls" (back garden builds, small developments etc) should count as part of the "buffer" that the government wishes local councils to introduce to extend the overall housing requirement; and that developments should be concentrated on urban areas rather than spreading out into countryside.
 - 3b. **Jim or Janet on their new Broadband service**
Jim or Janet were not present, but the chairman reported that Thwaite Hall Farm was now connected to Wispire because of the height of their grainstore. Initial speeds seemed to match the promised capacity, which could be up to 10Mb, but this was not of universal application due to lack of height of the other buildings.
 - 3c. **Mike on Broadband**
Mike reported on contacts he had had with community broadband project B4RNorfolk (Broadband for Rural Norfolk), which originated from Lancashire, which promised the fastest broadband service in the world. This had benefited a lot of communities and had now extended to Norfolk. If a community wanted to take part, they had to put in a lot of effort, working out the route, persuading landowners to allow land to be dug up, similar to laying water pipe on a farm, etc. The project leader had offered to come and talk to the community with a fully priced plan. Far-flung properties could be included, but the advice was to sign up in the early stages because later connection was more expensive. A separate meeting might be called in the autumn on this subject.
 - 3d. **Dog Control Orders** – would be replaced in October 2017 by Public Space Protection Orders, and the penalties would be roughly the same as under Dog Control Orders. Communities could continue to put up signs, such as those that Mavin had put up around the village some time ago, asking owners to clear up after their dogs, but these should now refer to the new Public Space Protection Orders.
 - 3e. **Community Governance Review** – District Councillor Brendan Bernard had reported that there would be no change to the parish boundaries to affect Thwaite St Mary, but the district council wards would change. Thwaite would become part of the new, larger Ditchingham & Earsham ward, which would return two district councillors.
4. **Any Other Business:** the finger pointer by the pond at the T-junction had been repaired and should be reinstated within the next week by Tom Grant, who was thanked for his efforts.
5. **Date of next meeting:** – if no other issues arise, this will be in March. There may be another separate meeting about broadband.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.04pm