

# Thurloxtton Parish Council.

## Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm in Thurloxtton Village Hall

### Present:

H Coombs (Chairman)  
A Hooper (Vice Chairman)  
J Trott  
Helen Barrington (Clerk)  
A Bradford (SC)

Members of the public present: Mr C Trott

**Public Session:** no issues raised.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. B Revans (SC), Cllr. A Quick, Cllr. P Mackay.
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were agreed and duly signed, proposed by A Hooper, seconded by J Trott.
3. **Matters arising from the last meeting:** none.
4. **Planning Applications:** none.

### 5. Finance

#### a) Bank balance

	Income	Expenditure
Opening Balance	£7547.35 as at 9/1/25	
Clerk's salary and tax refund		£ 614.28
Closing balance	£6933.07 as at 6/3/25	

#### b) Payments

Payment have been made for Clerk's salary £614.28, including a tax refund of £8.80 which was authorised via email and confirmed at this meeting proposed by H Coombs, seconded by A Hooper.

Payments due: Clerk's expenses for the year ended 31/3/25 £42.13 proposed by H Coombs, seconded by J Trott.

SALC training invoice £75 proposed by H Coombs, seconded by J Trott.

Income due: The Clerk has submitted a claim for a VAT refund of £68.38 for the year Jan-Dec 2024.

**c) Bank mandate update:** once both the Clerk and Chairman are registered for online banking then A Hooper will be added as the third signatory.

### 6. Highways and Footpath issues:

#### Highway issues:

##### -Damaged drain cover-near Green Dragon

The problem has been inspected by Highways but it was decided that no further action was needed at the moment because the problem is not a safety issue and not severe enough to need fixing. Since it was originally reported, the damage to the drain cover has worsened due to heavy traffic, so the Clerk will report it again.

### **-Blocked drains by Fruit Farm**

The Clerk has reported the blocked drains near the fruit farm and the blocked/broken underground pipe that runs from these drains along the A38 verge. The problem has been inspected by Highways but assessed as not urgent but still needing attention. The problem will be fixed as part of planned maintenance and the works done at a later date.

### **-Flytipping on Howells Lane**

There has been another flytipping incident-this time in Howells Lane. Without any means of identifying the vehicle involved it was felt that unfortunately little can be done either by the police or Somerset Council.

### **-Road safety concerns regarding lorries driving through the village**

Concerns have been raised again regarding the safety of pedestrians with lorries driving through the village. It was agreed that it's the size of vehicles, both lorries and larger agricultural vehicles, having to use the narrow lanes through the village, rather than the speed they are driving at which is the issue.

Footpath BW23/75 has been reported as being blocked in places. The footpath falls within North Petherton parish and the Clerk will advise North Petherton Town Council Clerk of the problem.

### **7. Lengthsman Scheme**

The Lengthsman has cut the grass for the first time since the winter. It was noted that the drains on School Hill, Boez lane and Mill Lane up to Quick's farm need to be cleared. The Clerk will contact Mr Lock and ask him to attend to these matters.

### **8. Village Hall**

H Coombs attended the recent village hall committee meeting and reported that finances were good, especially as significant rental has been received from a special school. New ideas for future fundraising were discussed. The next event is the barn dance on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May at the fruit farm shed which will be free to attend.

It was also decided that the village hall website should be closed down as it represents a significant cost to maintain and is rarely used for bookings. It was suggested that the village hall could use the parish council website to advertise events etc. The councillors agreed that this would be a good idea..

### **9. Book Exchange**

The book exchange has recently had a tidy up.

### **10. Website**

The Clerk is continuing to update the website regularly and it was agreed that she should ask Judy Wallace whether details of the new website and email address could be included in the next link newsletter, along with a request for suitable parish photos to be sent in which could be included on the website.

### **11. Hestercombe LCN update**

Both the Clerk and the Chairman attended the last meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, at which an update on the Children and Young People's matched funding project was given. Unfortunately neither are available to attend the next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March. It was noted that the working groups take place during the day, making it difficult for anyone who is working to attend.

**12. Councillor Training Update**

The Code of Conduct training event has now been attended by the majority of councillors.

**13. Feedback from MP'S visit 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025**

The feedback from Caroline Brown, the organiser of the charity coffee morning attended by Ashley Fox, was that it had been good to meet the local MP and the opportunity was really appreciated by those who talked with him one to one. £172 was raised for this month's charity, Help Musicians.

An invitation to attend the Bridgwater Constituency Parish Council Summit on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 being organised by Ashley Fox has been received but unfortunately no one is available to attend..

**14 Clerk's contract of employment-final draft for signature**

The final draft of the Clerk's contract of employment was signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

**15. Matters of report and items for the next meeting:** bank mandate update, highways matters.**16. Date of next meeting:**

The date of the next meeting: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm (AGM)

The meeting closed at 8.10pm