

**THORNABY TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 20 October 2009
6.30pm**

Present: Councillor's, M Eddy, Pat Large, Sylvia Walmsley, Steve Walmsley, M Trainer, M Moore R Mosley, E Craggs, and Tina Large.

Officer: Debbie Rudd

Members of the Public: Five

Minutes prepared by Town Clerk

FC/09/97: Apologies: Councillor's Allison Trainer, G Green, I Dalgarno, D Kennington, Apologies Accepted.

FC/09/98: Declarations of Interest: Cllr Sylvia Walmsley declared an interest in agenda item 12 Five Lamps Organisation.

FC/09/99: Python Properties: Mr Martin Johnson and Mr Peter Broome partners in Python Properties presented a report to members on the history of the company. They explained the aims and ambitions for the company, informing members of past projects they had worked on. They went on to explain the vision for Thornaby Town Hall, how they would restore it to a very high standard returning the Mayoral chamber back to its former glory. Internally the structure of the Town Hall will have little changes with the one exception of a reception area which is a standard feature in all Python Properties. The terraces next door will undergo major restoration to provide office space.

Mr Johnson informed members that the company gets very annoyed at the state of buildings after there have been left to rundown. Python have renovated around 150 buildings in the Tees Valley winning awards for Best Building in Middlesbrough. They use only local skills and local contractors and are holders of ISO 9001 Quality Assurance registration.

A local training company based in Thornaby has shown an interest in relocating to the building if the sale goes ahead.

Mr Johnson informed members that Python are willing to include in the sale contract an option for Thornaby Town Council to buy back the building should it be offered for sale in the future.

After answering questions from members the chairman thanked both partners for attending and they left.

A short debate then took place whereby members agreed this item needed to be discussed fully. It was agreed to hold a Special Full Council meeting with the one agenda item to discuss the proposal from Python. The town clerk to arrange meeting ASAP.

FC/09/100: Clerks Report: Please see appendix 1
Item 3 Five Lamps; - members agreed the colour of lamps should be as original, black and silver.

FC/09/101: Minutes of Full Council -Tuesday 8 September 2009: The minutes approved as a correct record.

FC/09/102: Minutes of Environment Meeting –Tuesday 22 September 2009: The minutes approved as a correct record.

FC/09/103: Minutes of Finance & General Purpose Committee Meeting –Tuesday 6 October 2009: The minutes approved as a correct record.

FC/09/104: Thornaby Pride: A discussion took place on the recent addition of the Thornaby Pride magazine, how feedback received is very good with one or two exceptions. It was agreed that the

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article 'Under the Lamps' had accompanied what it set out to do, get people to put pen to paper and become involved. Members were shown copies of letters, emails and poems received to date.

Members discussed the option of having a newspaper style magazine instead of a glossy. A vote was taken with glossy magazine receiving 8 votes and newspaper receiving 1. Glossy magazine it will stay.

Steve Walmsley, Sylvia Walmsley, Michael Eddy, Eileen Craggs, Tina Mansell and Mrs. Pat Bell will make up the editorial team. The editorial team will be responsible to decide what is included in each addition.

FC/09/105: Green Infrastructure Strategy 2009-2010: Members discussed the Green Infrastructure Strategy document received from Stockton Borough Council. The clerk to contact SBC to inform that Thornaby Town Council agrees in principle to the document.

FC/09/106: Propeller: It was agreed the propeller needs to be reinstalled in the town centre library. Before this can happen the propeller needs to be professionally cleaned. A French polisher to be contacted for a quote for cleaning.

FC/09/107: Cenotaph: The ornamental balls in front of cenotaph were discussed. The reason for the balls being in place was explained as a preventative measure to deter parking. The clerk explained that the War Memorials Trust had been contacted enquiring if the balls were a detraction and a disrespectful feature.

FC/09/108: Five Lamps Organisation: Cllr S Walmsley declared an interest as a board member of the Five Lamps organisation. The organisation is located in Eldon Street Thornaby, but continues to leave Thornaby out of its address preferring to state Stockton. Members agreed to a letter being sent reminding them that they are in Thornaby and should include Thornaby in address line.

FC/09/109: Special Dispensation: It was agreed by all to grant Special Dispensation from attending meetings to Cllr Allison Trainer.

FC/09/110: Trees/Shrubs Richardson Road/ Black Bobbies Wood: It was agreed an objection to the planning application to cut back trees and shrubs will be sent to SBC Planning Department.

FC/09/111: Employer Parking Town Centre: The problem of employer parking was discussed with borough councillors explaining that the problem is being looked into and a solution being sought.

FC/09/112: Correspondence: Members were each given a copy of the following correspondence.

- SBC - Notification of Tees Valley Bus Network Improvements - Mandale Triangle
- Office of fair trading- reply to our letter regarding bus service in Thornaby
- SBC - Notification of Consultation on Admission Arrangements for Schools 2011/12
- Letter- Invitation to War memorials Trust half day conference entitled 'Looking after war memorials' the conference will be held in Newcastle on Wednesday 2nd December.
- Green Howards- Asking for donation from TTC to help keep ex-service club open.
- Dari Taylor - Regard Th/by lad needing support.

Members agreed that donations cannot be made to private clubs. (Re Letter Green Howards)

FC/09/113: Any Other Business:

Dave Jamieson to apply for Community Chest Fund.

Items to go to next meeting of Environment:

1. Tees Valley Bus
2. Bins
3. Replacement for Five Lamps site Westbury Street.

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Items to go next Finance Meeting:

Old Computers.

Meeting Closed:

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Appendix 1

1. **Website:** The site is now under construction and should be going live shortly. We need some text for the introduction page which Cllr Steve Walmsley has agreed to write. The new email address is now live as reported last week; I will leave the forwarding from the old address in place indefinitely.
2. **Dog Bins:** The four dog bins ordered for the Holmes & Middlefield Estate have now been installed. As SBC used bins already in stock they will have SBC logo on them along with the Town Council's logo. Cllr Sylvia Walmsley brought it to my attention that she thinks our logo has not been included; I contacted SBC who assure me our logo has been applied, if you know differently will you let me know so that I may chase it up.
3. **Bus:** A meeting with Elizabeth Bird to discuss the problem of buses in Thornaby took place on 24th September. Ideas discuss was the use of buses that drop off in Thornaby on a daily basis at the Halcyon Centre. As these buses then run back to the depot empty and not used until pick up again later in the day, Elizabeth suggested using them to provide a service that will link the areas concerned with a service route. We cannot pick up passengers from a used bus stop but we can drop off at one. It was also suggested that one day a week the bus could provide transport to out of town shopping centres IE: Teesside Park. Steve and I are going to have a look at the buses and to discuss the route with Elizabeth on Thursday. It was felt that the service will only be offered to concessionary users to commence with.
4. **Five Lamps Relocation:** Work has now started, the lamps are being dismantled this week and will be taken to work shop for shot blasting and refurbishment. Completion should be in around 7 weeks with a proposed date of 24th November. Sarah has asked if members would consider what colour you would like the lamps painted, do you want the original Black & Silver or would you prefer they were Green and Gold as other Street furniture within the Mandale Linear Park area.
5. **Thornaby Place Footpath:** I was asked to contact Rob Morrow to enquire when his report regarding the closed footpath would be presented to cabinet. As you will see from his reply he is going to be making a recommendation that the footpath is not included onto the definitive map due to recent works by Network Rail to upgrade the Surtees Bridge.
6. **Sun Gardens Fence:** I contact SBC planning department enquiring about the fence that has been erected. Ann Austin informs me that she has inspected the site and walked some way along the riverside footpath, which would now appear unrestricted following works carried out to construct the footway and cycleway. Herras fencing remains around the site compounds as a security measure to protect both the general public and to secure materials, goods and equipment whilst development is ongoing. She has been advised by the site manager that the fencing will be removed when the development is completed.

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7.

8. Arts & Culture Budget.

As £2,000 was agreed by Council for Arts & Culture budget. Cllr Craggs has been investigating the possibility of a Thornaby Choir. Cllr Craggs met with Mrs Emma Richardson and Mr Malcolm Christy (music teacher Village/Harewood Primary School) to discuss how to start a choir? It was agreed that you would need someone passionate to work with the choir, someone with time on their hands as it is a big undertaking. Choir would ideally be made up from children aged between 11 – 16 yrs old rather than adults or young children.

It would be difficult to physically recruit due to time and family commitments. Recommendations needed for someone to run the choir. Part of the budget could be used for hire of a hall. Mrs Richardson recommended the Choir would need coaching 5 days a week. Once a week would be difficult to achieve as there could be obstacles in the way for example football on the TV. All members would need to make a commitment and attend every rehearsal. Those who missed two or three rehearsals should be made to leave as there needs to be a continuation to succeed. If you use different schools then getting everyone together to rehearse would be very difficult. Ideally having schools close together could work, do not think that TCS and St Patrick's have choir. At least 60 children go up to secondary school each year who cannot continue singing.

One suggestion for a Choir name was: Thornaby Citizens Choral Society

A dedicated team would need to be put together to run the choir rather than leaving it to just one person. The next step would be to contact TCS and St Patrick's to discuss the possibility of forming a choir between the two schools if members agree. A meeting can then be arranged between TTC and Emma Richardson to discuss further if enough interest is shown.

All members are welcome to attend Harewood School on a Friday afternoon to listen to the choir singing at 1pm.

Signed.....Dated.....