

## **Thelbridge Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September at Thelbridge Parish Hall

### **Present:**

Cllrs. Boundy, Gibson, Hayes, Grant and Cowell

### **In attendance:**

Parish Clerk, Cllr. Squires (DCC) and Cllr. Colthrope (MDDC)

### **23/13 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Clements.

### **23/14 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July were agreed and signed as a true and correct copy.

### **23/15 Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

### **23/16 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations made.

### **23/17 Reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr. Squires (DCC) brought Councillors up to date with the responsibilities of Members of the County Council as corporate parents for youngsters (up to the age of 25years) leaving the care system. A report on children with special needs and/or disabilities was also discussed at Full Council.

Cllr. Colthrope (MDDC) explained that like the County Council Mid Devon had also forfeited some of its Council Tax to fund finding housing for care leavers. The Three Rivers social housing scheme started by MDDC was closed down by the last Full Council meeting. Projects at Bampton and Tiverton were not quite complete. There is a public enquiry into Hartnell Farm. No judgement has been received in regard to the planned industrial extension and plans for 150 new homes.

### **23/18 Eastwick Barton grass cutting**

After much discussion, and agreement by all Councillors it was decided to offer the residents of Eastwick Barton a £100 grant towards the grass cutting which had started off as the responsibility of Devon County Council but was stopped as a result

of cutbacks. In recent years the cost has fallen to just a few residents. Formal application will have to be made and invoices provided to the Council.

**23/19 Website changes**

In keeping with many free sites, Hugo Fox, who currently provides the website services has decided to make a monthly charge. The minimum service will be £9.99 per month and does not require entering into a lengthy contract. It can be stopped at any time. Councillors discussed the matter and deciding that a website presence was required agreed to the charges. If any other free services come to light, these will be considered.

**23/20 Application for grants**

An application from Thelbridge Parochial Church Council resulted in a grant of £150 being made for the maintenance of the churchyard.

An application from the Nomansland/Witheridge Speed watch group for funds for personal protection equipment for the members was refused as this was not considered to be a parish council responsibility.

**23/21 Finger Post repair**

The research for the most suitable style and material is continuing. Cllr. Squires has offered £100 from her budget and enquiries will be made with the Devon County Council Community Enhancement fund and Awards for All in Exeter.

**23/22 Finance**

A payment to Mid Devon District Council of £127.35 in respect of the uncontested election in May was authorised.

Councillors noted the contents of the Budget monitoring sheet.

**23/23 Planning**

There were no planning items to consider.

**23/24 Items of Information**

Cllr. Boundy mentioned that as Chair he had been invited to the MDDC Civic Service in Crediton on the 8<sup>th</sup> October.

The meeting closed at 20.45

Signed.....

Date.....15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025

(Chairman)