

THORNCOMBE VILLAGE TRUST

COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2014

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence: none
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2014 were approved
3. Democratic period for Trust members: 3 Trust members were present. The Committee took the opportunity to ask Parish Cllr. Sally Welford to report on the latest position re cuts to Thorncombe's bus services. She replied that, following a well-supported campaign of protest from Thorncombe residents, the cuts were not as severe as had been anticipated. In response to a query from a Committee about the possibility of a 'Use It Or Lose It' campaign to protect these services against further plans, she said the Parish Council had no plans for this at present.
4. Matters Arising
 - (a) Memorial Tree plaque: JW reported that this was now in place
 - (b) 'We Are History' progress report: RJ reported that on the basis of her conversation with John Higgs, the project appeared to be going well with good involvement from both students and staff at St Mary's. The interviews conducted already covered areas of relevance to the Trust and would provide interesting material for the website when edited. However, she felt there was some uncertainty as to who had provided the funds for the video camera which should be clarified. The Committee agreed that in addition to this clarification, since the project operates under the TVT's aegis, it would be appropriate to ask for a written report for the next Committee meeting. **Action: RJ**
 - (c) Siting of John Gordon's memorial bench: after discussion, the Committee agreed with RW's suggestion of siting in the churchyard and that permission should be sought from the relevant Church body. **Action: RW**
5. Arrangements for March Member's Meeting: these were made as on the attached task list
6. TVT programme for 2014: JW reported that as agreed, all Trust members had received a letter outlining the problems facing the existing Committee, which had produced a limited response other than in the Trust members present. In view of the resignation of the Secretary after the May AGM, he restated the need for new Committee members/ new ideas plus the need to review the range of activities that could realistically be taken on while still fulfilling the original mandate of the Trust. A Trust Member was invited to describe how

his organisation in Axmouth managed their programme. Committee members then discussed a range of options, including replacing the bi-monthly programme of Members' Meeting with confirmed dates/topics/speakers and instead providing members with a 'skeleton' programme for 2014-2015. Although this had the disadvantage of not providing a definite programme, it would reduce the organisational burden involved in a full programme. There was general agreement that the two fundraising events (Xmas sale and Plant Sale) needed to be kept in order both to maintain Trust funds in good order and as events that members and Thorncombe residents generally enjoyed. It was also agreed that the Trust should investigate whether it could book the Village Hall at relatively short notice and for evenings other than Thursday. JW eventually proposed that these various options should all be further considered at the next meeting.

In relation to expanding Committee members, the Committee agreed to co-opt Marie Parker, and expressed their appreciation.

7. There were no current planning applications to consider

8. Finance Report: as below. It was formally agreed that the Trust should sell its holding of Santander shares. **Action: LK**

9. Thorncombe Parish Council February meeting: RJ apologised to the Committee for having failed to attend this, but reported that she understood there were no items of relevance to the Trust

10. A.O.B

(a) Ruth Jacobson formally confirmed that she would be resigning as Secretary after the May AGM

(b) TVT Village Information leaflet: RJ reported that the leaflet which used to be provided for all new members was seriously out of date. The Committee agreed that it was not feasible to take on its updating but it was suggested that there could be co-operation with the Parish Council and/or with the shop. **Action: RJ** to provide Sally Welford with the template and the latest version.

11. Next Meeting: Tuesday 25 March 2014