

THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Community Library, Thurston Community College, Thurston.

In the Chair: Cllr. Dashper

Present: Cllrs. Fawcett, Haley, Hasler, Mrs Morris, Moss, Mrs O'Connell, Rainbow, Robinson and Thurlbourn.

In Attendance: County Cllr. P Otton; District Cllr. D Haley; Mrs V Waples, Clerk and 4 members of the public.

1. **OPENING** – The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30 pm and thanked all for attending. A statement was read out indicating that, in accordance with the changes in legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media to report on the proceedings of the meeting. A full transcript is available from the Clerk.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** –
 - a. There were no applicable apologies of absence.
 - b. The Chairman informed the meeting of the sad passing of past Cllr. Robert Alston prior to Christmas – agreed that a note will be sent from the Parish Council expressing its condolences.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS INCLUDING GIFTS OF HOSPITALITY EXCEEDING £25** –
 - a. Cllr. Fawcett declared a Pecuniary Interest under Agenda Item 12a with regards to financial matters and would not take part in the vote concerning the financial transactions for the Library. The following local non-pecuniary interests for the Agenda under discussion were declared: Cllrs. Fawcett, Haley, Mrs O'Connell & Robinson as Friends of Thurston Library. Cllrs. Moss, Mrs Morris & Robinson declared a personal interest under Agenda Item 12h. There were no gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 declared.
 - b. There were no declarations of lobbying by those Councillors present.
 - c. There were no requests for dispensations for the Agenda under discussion.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th December 2018 were agreed as true and accurate records, aif. The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held 12th December 2018 were also agreed as true and accurate records, aif.

It was agreed that as the meeting of 14th December 2018 had been held in camera, it should follow that the minutes should also be discussed in camera and would now be moved to the confidential section at the end of the meeting, aif.

5. **BUSINESS REMAINING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING** – none that was not covered elsewhere in the agenda.
6. **PUBLIC FORUM** –

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS OTTON'S REPORT – Cllr. Otton was invited to submit her report, a copy of which can be seen at Appendix C.

The following items were brought to Cllr. Otton's attention:

 - SCC - TROs – although website not available at the current time, (will be available as of 14th) they will be publishing the proposed TROs in the newsletter relating to the proposals for Thurston. Noted that Cllr. Haley chased this up with SCC Legal Dept.
 - Network Rail – possible withdrawal of the speed limit through Thurston

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- St Peter's Way – rabbits entering the gardens of those from the embankment
- Mount Road closure – relates to planning and S106 obligations and the possible creation of a roundabout close to the new housing development along Mount Road.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MR HALEY'S REPORTS – Cllr. Haley was invited to submit his report in which he covered the following items:

- Councillors Briefing Notes
- Refusal of Planning Permission at Great Green & 54 Heather Close
- Granting of Planning Permission for Meadow Lane
- Cabinet met on Monday – decisions taken on budget figures
- Councillors Companion for design in planning – link to be sent to Clerk
- Meetings in December focused mainly on Treasury Management
- CAB consultation

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – *the following comments were made by the members of the public present:*

- Behaviour at New Green over the New Green – glass on footpath to New Green; on road and on footpath on Station Hill. Kept awake until 1.30am by youngsters who were around the Youth Shelter by language, screaming and shouting.
- Shameful behaviour at the Youth Shelter – escalating – attracting all forms of anti-social behaviour. Such behaviour is distressing for residents of Field View; creates unease for residents; behaviour is intimidating towards residents. Perception of unease for residents.
- Requested the Parish Council to consider the removal of the youth shelter.
- When can Thurston expect to receive its share of the money given by Central Government to Thurston for pothole repairs – in particular Furze Close?

7. POLICE MATTERS –

- a. Council received the latest Thurston SNT Report detailing the work undertaken over the past month by PCSO Smith which had been produced following reports submitted to the Clerk from PCSO Smith.
- b. To receive village reports of concern for referral to Police – Youth Shelter and a possible visit to premises selling alcohol. It was noted that, following the meeting with Suffolk Constabulary to discuss the new PCSO Contract effective 1st April 2019 there was an agreement that some flexibility within the new contract would be allowed for the PCSO to work extended hours (at an extra over cost to the Parish Council) and to be tasked with specific jobs. The meeting agreed that it would formally consider whether to sign up to a new contract at Agenda Item 12f.

8. STATUTORY BUSINESS –

- a. To receive nominations for the vacancy in the post of Councillor – none received.
- b. To receive, in accordance with the Council's Complaints Procedure, the decision on the complaint submitted against the Council's procedures adopted and action taken or not taken by the representatives of the Thurston Parish Council, be they elected, appointed or employed – *It was agreed by all that as the meeting of 14th December 2018 had been held in camera, it should follow that the minutes and associated discussions should also be discussed in camera and that this item should be heard in the confidential section at the end of the meeting, aif.*
- c. To receive, in accordance with the Council's Complaints Procedure, an appeal against the decision taken as reported under 8b above. *It was agreed by all that as the meeting of 14th December 2018 had been held in camera, it should follow that the minutes and associated discussions should also be discussed in camera and that this item would now be heard in the confidential section at the end of the meeting, aif.*

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9. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO NETWORK RAIL:

- a. To receive an update on safety works / improvements to Thurston Railway Station - Clerk confirmed that she had heard nothing further from either S Merry at SCC Highways Dept or Network as to progress on the discussions over satisfactory mitigation measures that might be agreed upon. Visit by Cllr. Haley to MSDC re answers to the situation regrading traffic management for this area. S Merry is to report to the Corporate Manager for Key Sites and Infrastructure and he will issue a briefing note to Cllr. Haley. Noted that no-one has heard anything further from Network Rail.
- b. To receive an update on the measures to mitigate the Thurston Area Noise Complaints with particular reference to freight trains – the meeting was made aware that there is an issue with speeds possibly creeping up again and it was noted, following representations made by a member of the public, that an email had been submitted by the Clerk to Network Rail asking for an update on the situation. It was also agreed that a request should be submitted for data showing actual speeds.

10. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PLANNING FOR THURSTON:

- a. To consider the following Planning Applications: none had been received for consideration by the meeting.
The meeting was informed of a request submitted by Persimmon Homes to meet with the Parish Council to show / discuss the submitted amended plans – Cllr. Haley reported that John Pateman-Gee, the Area Planning Manager for Development Management Services is willing to attend such a meeting to provide evidence as to what is being said. The Clerk would circulate dates and issue an invitation to Mr Pateman-Gee.
- b. To note decisions as determined by the Local Planning Authority – those received were listed at Appendix A.
- c. To note responses to previous planning comments submitted as statutory consultees – the meeting was made aware of the email received from the Corporate Manager – Growth and Sustainable Planning that MSDC was unable to demonstrate that it has a 5-year land supply. In July the government issued a revision to the NPPF and this introduced a new standard methodology under which MSDC were unable to provide evidence of deliverability as defined in that Framework.
Cllr. Haley made the meeting aware that following an email from a resident, he could confirm that there were no changes to the housing plans as agreed on the Hopkins Homes site.
- d. To note the date for the Community Housing Enabling Officer to attend the Parish Council Planning Meeting on 23rd January 2019 to discuss Community-Led Housing and the way that it can be connected to Neighbourhood Planning – it was confirmed that this meeting was open to all Councillors to attend to hear the presentation.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING –

- a. To confirm that in accordance with Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, 2012 (as amended) the Thurston Neighbourhood has been submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council for formal consultation on the content of the Thurston NDP to see if it fulfils the Basic Conditions as required by Paragraph 8(1)(a)(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by the Localism Act 2011) – it was re-confirmed that as there were no fundamental changes to the pre-submission consultation document that required a further round of consultations, the Submission Document along with a number of supporting documents had been submitted to MSDC – full copies can be found at: <https://thurstonparishcouncil.uk/thurston-neighbourhood-plan-npd/>. Timescales were also given regarding the next stages of the NP. Noted that the Clerk would be chasing MSDC for a date as to when MSDC's consultation would commence.

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12. FINANCE (for financial details see Appendix A at the end of the minutes)

- a. To approve the accounts awaiting payment including those coming forth – Council approved the items for payments as listed at Appendix A, aif.
- b. To note the accounts paid since the last meeting – Council noted the items that had been paid since the last meeting as listed at Appendix A, approval of the schedule by all was forthcoming.
- c. To note receipts allocated since the last meeting – Council noted the monies received since the last meeting as listed at Appendix A.
- d. To consider and receive the Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31.12.18 as per Paper A – Council noted the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31st December 2018 with available funds being £62,631.06.
- e. To consider the budget monitoring paper for the period ending 31st December 2018 (Paper B) – the paper was noted along with agreed movement between earmarked funds and revenue balances.
- f. To receive the working draft papers for the Budget for the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 (Paper C) – prudent to allocate reserves and ensure that they are earmarked and remain as such. Need to bear in mind that all precepting authorities are proposing an increase. It was agreed to hold an extra ordinary meeting on 23rd January 2019 to discuss the budget to be set and the PCSO contract effective 1st April 2019. It was also agreed that the Clerk would provide a balance of monies held in the reserve accounts.
- g. To consider further the quotations received to ‘fence off’ the New Green bottom car park from the Youth Green Shelter and access to Station Hill – to be funded by the Parish Council and New Green Trust on a pro-rata basis – review at the next meeting once the discussion has been held on the future of the Youth Shelter.
- h. To consider the request for donations for the year ending 31st March 2019 as submitted to date (Paper D) – as the Parish Council fulfilled the eligibility criteria under the General Power of Competence as set by the Secretary of State Council which gives councils the power to do anything an individual can do provided it is not prohibited by other legislation, the Parish Council agreed to support donations to the following organisations Thurston’s W.I. £250.00; Suffolk Accident Rescue Service £250.00; CAB – West Suffolk £300.00; CAB Mid Suffolk £300.00 & Ixworth’s Patient Association £150.00. *It is noted that Cllrs. Moss, Mrs Morris and Robinson did not participate in the vote for the first item.*

13. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED – none had been received.**14. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND GROUPS -**

- a. Recreation Ground Trust:
 - i. The schedule of the accounts detailing income received, accounts paid since the last meeting and accounts awaiting payment, was presented to the Council and agreed by all present – see Appendix 14a ii) at the end of the minutes for full details.
 - ii. The Council received the bank reconciliation to date and noted that bank balances stood at £1414.12.
 - iii. To receive any matters coming forth – there had been a Recreation Ground Meeting since the last Parish Council Meeting at which the committee had been considered the Annual Inspection Reports for the 3 play areas. Still works to be carried out and the Chair and Clerk would be meeting over the following weeks to discuss these works further.
Clerk to ask Urban Forestry as to how it would recommend the removal of a motorised model plane that had been flown into one of the trees on the Recreation Ground. Noted that there was a further hire of the pavilion for a couple of hours during the week.

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b. Library Account:

- i. The accounts for the period ending 31st December 2018 were presented to full Council and accepted by all. Bank balances were confirmed as £8282.64 with cleared available funds being £7972.64.
- ii. The schedule of the accounts detailing income received, accounts paid since the last meeting and accounts awaiting payment, was presented to the Council and agreed by all present – see Appendix A 14b ii) at the end of the minutes for full details.
- iii. To receive any matters coming forth – thanks to all for support & for Christmas Tree Festival, Children’s Area – pressing on; today visited the Foundry Suffolk Libraries working with Arts Council – running a bronze work shop with senior class at the Primary School. Wine Tasting on 15th February; Theatre Performance during ½ term; good music event at AGM.

c. Emergency Plan:

- i. To note a meeting is to be scheduled for late January / February 2019 to discuss the next steps in updating / implementing the Emergency Plan – noted that members are Cllrs. Hasler, Moss, Mrs. Morris & Thurlbourn and that possible dates for a meeting for January/February to discuss cascading of information and the formal production of the document for release to all residents and businesses of Thurston will be circulated to all.

d. Parish Infrastructure Investment Steering Group:

- i. to note that the next meeting of the Infrastructure Group is 25th January 2019 at which the 1st draft of the assessments of suitable sites within the parish of Thurston for Multi Facility Recreation Use will be submitted.
- ii. to note that members of the PIISG will be meeting with SCC to discuss a feasibility study into the provision of a Community Hub for Thurston on 11th January 2019.

e. Village Welcome Sheet:

- i. to receive a report from the working group on the production of a Village Fact Sheet / welcome sheet or similar documentation – nothing further as of yet.

f. Councillors Reports –

- i. to note Councillors’ activities/ meetings attended since the last meeting
 - VAS – Cllr. Hasler
 - Planning Committee Meeting – Fawcett; Mrs O’Connell; Rainbow and Robinson
 - Persimmon Meeting - Reserved Matters – Cllrs. *It was noted that Cllr. Haley was in attendance in his capacity as a Ward Member and not a Parish Councillor.*
 - Village Welcome Booklet/Sheet – Cllrs. Fawcett & Mrs O’Connell
 - Community Library Meetings – Cllrs. Fawcett & Robinson
 - External Library Meetings – Cllr. Fawcett
 - PIISG – Cllrs. Fawcett, Robinson & Rainbow
- ii. to receive reports from Councillors’ on issues relating to the village:
 - Subsidence at junction of Mill Road
 - Cllr. Morris has 50 young trees to be planted and would welcome suggestions as to where they should be planted – 5 different species.
 - Pokeriage puddle - soakaway issues
 - Updating of Parish Council Details on noticeboards.

15. CLERKS REPORT

- a) Delegated powers – the Clerk confirmed that she had dealt with the following matters under delegated powers: various locations for potholes;
- b) To receive an update on the deployment of the VAS – downloads to be carried out that coming Friday.

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16. TO CONSIDER SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Youth Shelter, themes for road names for the other four significant development areas with planning permission;

17. CLOSE OF MEETING – There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting to which members of the public and press were in attendance at 9.50pm.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS–

- a) to confirm the date of the next Parish Council Meeting which is scheduled for 6th February 2019 and planning meeting for 23rd January 2019 at 7.00pm which will be followed by an extra ordinary parish council meeting at 8.00pm to discuss and approve the budget; PIISG meeting on 25th January at 10.00am in the Parish Office. A date for a Policy & Resources Committee Meeting to take place later in January would be agreed via email later that week.

19. To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that disclosure of disclosure of ongoing discussions relating to the lease of New Green Trust and are not in the public interest (19a) and that the council has rights and obligations under relevant data protection laws as to how its uses personal data about the complainant, Councillors and Staff: it was resolved by a majority decision to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the consideration of items 19a) – c).

- a) To consider further the request from the New Green Trust to set-up a working group to commence negotiations with the Parish Council (tenant) and the Landlord over a new lease for the New Green Centre and Open Space – **CONFIDENTIAL**
- b) To approve the minutes of the extra ordinary meeting held on 14th December 2018 - It was agreed that the minutes of the extra ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th December 2018 would not be submitted for approval until the Clerk had sought clarification on the status of confidential minutes and the meeting called to discuss the complaint. Once ascertained the minutes were to be brought back to the Parish Council at the earliest opportunity. The Chair noted, on the set of minutes produced, that they had not been signed and would be represented.
- c) To receive, in accordance with the Council's Complaints Procedure, the decision on the complaint submitted against the Council's procedures adopted and action taken or not taken by the representatives of the Thurston Parish Council, be they elected, appointed or employed – Council was advised that the complaint had been considered and had not been upheld as the Council had found no grounds for the complaint. It was confirmed that the Council had found no evidence of any accusations against the complainant or against their integrity.

It had also been recommended that all Councillors participate and benefit from training in the Register of Interests with reference to the Suffolk Local Code of Conduct. This had been verbally communicated at the meeting and in writing to the complainant.

- d) To receive, in accordance with the Council's Complaints Procedure, an appeal against the decision taken as reported under c) above – it was agreed that until the legal status of the meeting had been ascertained, Council was unable to consider the appeal. Once this had been ascertained the matter would be reconsidered by the Council at the earliest opportunity.

20. CLOSE OF MEETING – there being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.25pm.

So signed by the Chairman at the meeting of 6th February 2019

Appendix A

10. Planning:

b) To note the following decisions coming forth:

DC/18/04911 - Refusal of Planning Permission for the erection of 1 No dwelling and integral garage. Erection of new garage and creation of new access @ 54 Heather Close

DC/18/04980 – Planning Permission for a single storey infill extension between garage and dwelling @ Winchmore, Sandpit Lane

DC/18/04714 – Planning Permission for the erection of an agricultural building and hardstanding @ Harveys Garden Plants, Great Green

4942/16 – Planning Permission for residential development consisting of 64 dwellings and associated highway, car parking and public open space

12. Financial Matters

a) Accounts submitted for payment

	Voucher	CHQ/ DD/SO	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
Navigus Planning – NP Support	614	3262	1073.50	214.70	1288.20
Sac-O-Mat – Dog Waste Bags	615	3263	272.74	54.54	327.28
MSDC – Annual Play Inspections 2018	616	3264	146.13	29.23	175.36
Gipping Press – Character Assessment Document	617	3265	15.00	3.00	18.00
Gipping Press – Reg. 16 Submission Documents	618	3266	1123.00	224.60	1347.60
Village Handyman – maintenance works	619	3267	27.70	0.00	27.70

b) Accounts paid since the last meeting

Salaries – December 2018	604 - 607	3258-3261	5308.64		5308.64
New Green Rent – December 2018	608	SO	360.00	0.00	360.00
Plusnet – business account	609	DD	37.00	7.40	44.40
Amazon – wall posters	610	CC	11.64	2.34	13.98
Eurooffice – stationary	611	CC	189.56	37.92	227.48
SLCC – Clerk Magazine	612	CC	32.00	0.00	32.00
Amazon – Prime	613	CC	7.99	0.00	7.99

c) Receipts received since the last meeting

Lloyds – Interest – December	Interest	2.31	0.00	2.31
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14a) Rec Ground Accounts

i) Accounts paid since the last meeting:

Caretaker Contract	599	110.77	0.00	110.77
Caretaker Expenses	600	7.43	1.49	8.92

Monies received since the last meeting:

Cavendish Hall – use of car park	Chq	250.00	0.00	250.00
Thurston Cricket Club – hire of pavilion	Chq	175.88	0.00	175.88
SCC – TUFS rent	Bacs	625.00	0.00	625.00
SCC – Locality Grant – transfer to be arranged	Bacs	345.00	0.00	345.00
Mah-Jong – hire of pavilion	Cash	84.00	0.00	84.00

14b) Library Accounts

iii) Accounts awaiting payment:

R Fawcett – expenses for AGM	125	40.00	0.00	40.00
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Appendix B

Glossary of Common Abbreviations used

Aif	All in favour
AGAR	Annual Governance and Accountability Return
APM	Annual Parish Meeting
BACS	Bankers Automated Clearing Services
BUAB	Built Up Area Boundary
BMSDC	Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils
CC	Credit Card
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
Chq.	Cheque
Cllr.	Councillor
Cttee.	Committee
DC	District Council
DD	Direct Debit
FOI	Freedom of Information
GPoC	General Power of Competence
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
LAIS (from SALC)	Local Association's Information Services
LGBCE	Local Government Boundary Commission for England
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MSDC	Mid Suffolk District Council
NHS	National Health Service
NP	Neighbourhood Plan
NR	Network Rail
PC	Parish Council
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
Pdf	Portable Document Format
PIISG	Parish Infrastructure Investment Steering Group
Rec.	Recreation
RFO	Responsible Financial Officer
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SALC	Suffolk Association of Local Councils
SCC	Suffolk County Council
SID	Speed Indicator Device
SNT	SaferNeighbourhood Team
SO	Standing Order
SPS	Suffolk Preservation Society
TBC	To be confirmed
TCC	Thurston Community College
TNPSG	Thurston Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group
TPO	Tree Preservation Order
TRO	Traffic Regulation Order
VAS	Vehicle Activated Sign

So signed by the Chairman at the meeting of 6th February 2019

Appendix C – County Cllr. Otton’s January Report to Full Council

Council pledges to lead fight against single-use plastics

On 6 December 2018, I put forward a motion calling on Suffolk County Council to do more to tackle single-use plastic waste in the county. I am delighted that the motion was agreed unanimously by all councillors. The measures the council has agreed to implement include a commitment to work towards only using sustainable or re-usable plastics in all council buildings, writing to the public on how to reduce plastic waste, and creating a “plastic free Suffolk network” of councils, businesses and other organisations.

Consultation on cuts to Citizens Advice

In November, Suffolk County Council announced their intention to cut all funding for Suffolk’s Citizens Advice Bureaus as part of their budget savings proposals. This was later amended to a phased cut over 2 years. The funding will be reduced by half (£184 000) in 2019/20, before being removed entirely in 2020/21. I am very concerned by these proposals, which will have a huge impact on our Citizen’s Advice Bureaus. The services provided by CABs represent great value for money and support many of our most vulnerable residents.

Suffolk County Council have launched a consultation on this proposed funding cut, which I would encourage you all to complete. The consultation runs until 5pm on Wednesday 23 January and can be found at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/cabconsultation. There is now a petition on-line calling on the council to reconsider any reduction in cuts to CABs.

Suffolk County Council refuses to tackle carbon emissions

At the Council meeting in December, councillors from my group proposed a motion asking Suffolk County Council to set an annual “carbon budget” and create targets for reducing carbon emissions. A carbon budget would set out how much carbon the council could emit each year, much like a financial budget sets out how much money can be spent. Unfortunately, the administration voted against the motion and refused to commit to any carbon reduction targets.

Suffolk County Council already monitors its carbon emissions, but currently this work is not in the public domain and there are no clear targets for carbon reduction. The motion asked the council to make this process open, transparent and accountable, and it’s a shame the administration didn’t want to engage with us on this issue. I think there was a mis-understanding on how this would cost!

Modern slavery statement unanimously agreed

A motion on modern slavery was unanimously agreed at the Council meeting in December. The motion commits Suffolk County Council to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and do all it can to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking in Suffolk.

In addition, the council will review its procurement processes to see where they can be strengthened to fully comply with the Modern Slavery Act and bring a paper to Cabinet to decide on the production of an annual slavery and human trafficking statement. This statement will outline our actions to identify, prevent and mitigate modern slavery in our communities.

Energy from waste facility refinanced

In 2010, Suffolk County Council entered into a PFI-backed contract with Suez for the Suffolk energy from waste facility. The gate fee per tonne payments for the disposal of waste include the capital costs of the facility as well as the operating costs over the 25-year contract life. In October 2016, the council refinanced £37.8m (22.4%) of the facility’s capital construction cost in order to reduce the gate fee per tonne. At Cabinet in December it was agreed to refinance a further £10.2m (6.0%), which would further reduce the gate fee per tonne and consequently reduce the council’s annual revenue costs. The net savings are projected to be a further cumulative £10.4m over the remainder of the contract.

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Campaign to reduce sugar in schools

SCC and NHS have a scheme with grants for schools to help the reduction of sugar; I have sent details to TCC and the primary school.

Work with Districts and Boroughs to help with children in care

I attended a session with other district and boroughs to see what they can do to help; i.e. providing housing, giving life skill training, publicising fostering and carers. The Districts have agreed to give council tax relief to care leavers up to the age of 25, to be paid for by the county.