

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held in the Village Hall,
on Thursday, 8th January 2026 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Stephen Marshall, Emma Milton (c), Andrew Owens, Ian Smith, Jill Wilson

In attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk), District & County Cllr Andrew Stringer, Mr Claude Brand – Neighbourhood Watch and 2 members of the public.

Item ref	Description
26.01.01	<p>Chairman’s welcome The Chairman welcomed all to the first meeting of 2026.</p>
26.01.02	<p>Apologies for Absence (a) Councillors received apologies from Cllrs Cherrett, Jenkins and Sherlock (b) Councillors resolved to accept the apologies received.</p>
26.01.03	<p>Declarations of Interests: There were no declarations of interests made.</p>
26.01.04	<p>Dispensations: All councillors receive a dispensation to set the precept figure for the year.</p>
26.01.05	<p>Minutes: Councillors resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 4th December 2025.</p>
26.01.06	<p>Councillor vacancy: Councillors resolved to co-opt Nigel Williamson, who will join the Council once all the relevant paperwork has been signed.</p>
26.01.07	<p>Reports:</p> <p>County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A motion proposed by the opposition group to strengthen the protection for rivers failed. • Motions that were passed included SEND provision and the importance of local post offices. • Suffolk Mineral and Waster plan is under review. • A review of SEND is underway • £27m has been awarded to Suffolk for funding bus services and £12m sustainable travel. • Warmer homes grant is still available. • Workshops to help older drivers stay safe are planned for January. • Extraordinary meeting on 12th January for County Council to determine whether to request postponement of May 2026 elections. <p>District Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on Local Government Reorganisation closes on 11th January. • Biodiversity and nature recovery scheme open for bids. • Information on changes to bin collections is on the council’s website. • Thorndon land update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quotes obtained for reinstating original hedgerows and field boundaries ○ Quotes for replacement signs have also been obtained ○ A Drainage Board has given notice they need to access the land to clear Thorndon Brook of silt and debris. ○ Suffolk Wildlife Trust have been approached to look at pond restoration and to help produce a management plan.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Self-sown trees will be protected with green guards. ○ History of the area has been shared by residents with the Council, including information on a ferry across a lake. <p>The Clerk read an email regarding the request for allotments and a suggested location. This will be followed up with the officer at the Council.</p>
26.01.08	Public forum: there were no questions or comments from the public on agenda items
26.01.09	<p>Planning:</p> <p>(a) Councillors reviewed the following planning consultations: DC/25/04703 – Proposed new access and access track to hardstanding parking area at rear of property. Ivy Cottage, The Street. RECONSULTATION Councillors agreed comments to be submitted.</p> <p>(b) The Clerk will request an extension to the response deadline for the following application received after the agenda was issued: DC/26/0006: The Hovell, 25 High Street. Erection of single storey, self build dwelling with shared access.</p>
26.01.10	<p>Finance:</p> <p>(a) Councillors resolved to approve the following payments: O Wladon – 3rd qrt alary to 31st December 2025 £1254.08 HMRC – PAYE and NI £361.25 Bank charges £6.00</p> <p>(b) Councillors noted receipts in month: Bank interest £530.17</p> <p>(c) Councillors resolved to agree a precept figure of £23,740 for 2026-27 which is a 0% increase. The Chairman and Clerk signed the form for submission to Mid Suffolk District Council.</p>
26.01.11	<p>Clerk's report:</p> <p>(a) Councillors noted correspondence received by the Clerk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for Mr Cattermole of the Freedom of the Parish • SALC – notice that PC's can respond to Government regarding potential cancelling of May elections and impact on Town & Parish Councils • Councillors agreed to reserve the village hall for 14th May, in case the elections on 7th May go ahead. <p>(b) Updates from Thorndon Primary School: None for this meeting.</p> <p>(c) LGR/Devolution: see County/District reports</p> <p>(d) Land off Clint Road: See District report.</p> <p>(e) Policies for approval: None for this meeting.</p>
26.01.12	Councillor Training & External meetings or briefings. No updates at this meeting
26.01.13	<p>Highways:</p> <p>(a) Councillors received updates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Lorry Watch: w/c 13/12 – 2 reports w/c 27/12 – 1 report (ii) SIDs – Councillors noted the data on speeding previously circulated. No action will be taken on location/positioning of SIDs Reinstatement Community Speed watch will be reviewed. <p>(b) Other highways information – An issue at the Wash has been reported twice, this was</p>

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	followed up at the meeting by Cllr Stringer.
26.01.14	<p>Emergency Planning: to note any update. Bags not yet purchased – unable to find a supplier who will invoice. Councillors resolved that the Clerk should apply for a Lloyds multi pay card through Unity Trust Bank. This requires a set up fee and a monthly charge of £3.00</p>
26.01.15	<p>Play Equipment: equipment has been delivered. Cllr Milton will carry out a site inspection and ask the contractors about the position of the fencing.</p>
26.01.16	<p>Meeting opened for brief matters of report/agenda items for next meeting. Cllr Marshall reported that some of the trees planted as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy are looking sad. Cllr Stringer advised that they may require mulch. Cllr Wilson asked Cllr Stringer how a resident could respond to the call for sites – advised to do this via the Council’s website. Cllr Smith – suggested that residents should be asked for names for the land off Clint Road. Kerrison Bell – Cllr Wilson to see if information can be found.</p>
26.01.17	<p>Neighbourhood Watch report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCSO Hausler will be at Eye library on 3rd February 10am till noon. • There is still a vacancy for a community PC. • 3 new residents • Lost & found: 1 set of keys, and 1 bank card returned • Several parcels have been redirected to proper dwellings. • Post box has been damaged and taken out of commission. • Indoor bowls on 9th February. • Burst pipe and flooding in lay by, pump used to clear the water.
26.01.18	<p>Date of next meeting: 5th February 2026</p>

Meeting closed at: 9.03pm

Signed: _____ Date: