

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 7 July 2011

Present: Cllr Botwright, Cllr Cattermole, Cllr Faulkner, Cllr Horton, Cllr Le Gros (Vice Chairman) and Cllr Ravenhill Cllr Taylor and Cllr Theobald

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Cllr Stringer, Cllr Tilbury, PCSO S Johnson, C Brand, D Hayward, R Hunt, Mrs L Power, Mrs C Owen, D Bland, M Sillett

Meeting Opened 20.05

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence: Cllr Bartlett

Declarations of interest: None

2. Open Meeting to Public - 20.06

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail which particular agenda item, if any, they had an interest in. Interest in the proposed closures of the Village Shop and Brome Recycling Centre were specified.

Meeting closed to Public - 20.07

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 2 June 2011.

The minutes from the June meeting were agreed as a true & accurate record of the meeting & duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Action Points/matters arising from those minutes

Summary of Action Points arising from Last Meeting		
11.06.09 - 04	PO Boxes, relocation & collection times. Response from Post Office?	MR c/fwd
01.04.10 - 01	Early morning speed monitoring - Response from the Chief Constable?	Complete
04.11.10 - 01	Year 6 consultation re Bike Track	MR c/fwd
07.04.11 - 01	Consult with RoSPA as to the possibility of installing new equipment at the Play Area	Complete
12.05.11 - 01	Consult with Bowls Club re 'Grass-crete'	PB c/fwd
12.05.11 - 02	Write to MSDC re Red House Lodge	AT

11.06.09 - 04: Cllr Ravenhill has been advised by the Post Office that a decision on this matter has been put back a month.

07.04.11 - 01: MSDC had written to advise that if the Parish Council required to be present at the inspection there would be an additional £40.00 charge levied. Since Cllr Faulkner could not be available for the inspection, and we did not respond within 48 hours to MSDC, they proceeded without further reference to the Parish Council.

12.05.11 - 01: Cllr Bartlett was not present at the meeting but had emailed the Clerk to say that he had received a positive response from MSDC indicating that an application to cover 50% of the costs would stand a good chance of success. He now awaits an indicative response from the Bowls Club.

12.05.11 - 02: The Clerk has written to MSDC detailing the works which have been executed, but has not received any further communication from MSDC. The Clerk will telephone MSDC to enquire as to when an Enforcement Officer will visit the property.

Meeting opened to Public 20.11

5. Reports

5.1 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Stringer attended the meeting and delivered his report, a copy of which is attached.

5.2 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Tilbury attended the meeting and delivered his report, a copy of which is attached.

5.3 Police Report: A representative from the Police was present who delivered the Police Report a copy of which is attached.

6. Village Shop Proposal

Darren Hayward attended the meeting to explain the financial losses the Shop was suffering resulting in his decision to cease trading with effect from 31 July next. He indicated that he would like the business to continue as a Community Shop as the wage costs are one of the main reasons the Shop is not currently viable. Mr Hayward was, therefore, seeking to ascertain whether the Parish Council would support his proposal.

Meeting closed to Public 21.15

The Parish Council agree to support the continuation of the Shop as a Community Shop in principle. However concerns were expressed about the realistic prospect of finding:

- 6.1 someone locally who would be prepared to manage the Shop on a voluntary basis, and
- 6.2 sufficient volunteers to staff the Shop during opening hours.

It was felt important that these two elements were established in the first instance before the matter could be moved forward. It was agreed that a public meeting be set up within the fortnight and Mr C Brand would make approaches to Villagers using his email network.

Meeting open to Public 21.30

7. Brome Recycling Centre

Cllr Ravenhill recently attended a Steering Group Meeting at Eye Town Hall concerning the imminent closure of the recycling centre at Brome. Suffolk County Council are currently talking to 2 private contractors with a view to one contractor taking over the site. If the negotiations are successful, then there will be a charge for using the facility, possibly £4.00 for a black bag of rubbish and £10.00 for a trailer load.

Whilst the site produces a small income, most of the rubbish disposed of is 'green', and as such not capable of onward sale, whilst the running costs, particularly the requisite Licences, are very expensive. Suffolk County Council have a legal responsibility to dispose of waste and as such the alternative will be for Villagers to use the recycling centre at Stowmarket which will remain free to all comers. Members of the public voiced concerns at this proposal, as it would result in more miles travelled and the obvious possibility of an increase in fly tipping. Responsibility for the clearance of fly tipping lies with MSDC.

Cllr Ravenhill is to write to Mark Bee at Suffolk County Council to make representations on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action Point 07.07.11 - 01**

Meeting closed to Public 21.50

8. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: None

6.2 Approvals: None

6.3 Refusals: None

6.4 Listed Building Consent: None received

7. Clerks Report

7.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £11,906.39

7.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
05.07.11	Mrs A Thompson	Salary Month 3	202.50		202.50	Agreed	000242 (11/12 - 10)
05.07.11	HMRC	PAYE	50.60		50.60	Agreed	000243 (11/12 - 11)
07.07.11	SALC	New Councillor Training	30.00		30.00	Agreed	000244 (11/12 - 12)
		TOTAL	£283.10		£283.10		

7.3 The Cambridge Building Society have written to the Clerk with details of its products for Town and Parish Councils. It was agreed that the Clerk would undertake a review of products available from Banks and Building Societies to see whether the Parish Council would be better off investing elsewhere. **Action Point 07.07.11 - 02**

8. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 22.00

8.1 SCC has written to the Clerk regarding the re-painting of the marker posts on the Thorndon Roadside Nature Reserve detailing the work required to be undertaken. Cllr Horton volunteered to complete the work. **Action Point 07.07.11 - 03**

8.2 There is an overgrown hedge on Thwaite Road just outside the Village boundary. Cllr Le Gros will confirm the name and address of the owner to the Clerk who, in turn, will write to the owner requesting that the same is cut back. **Action Point 07.07.11 - 04**

8.3 SALC has written with details of its 'Newsletter of the Year 2011' competition. It was agreed that the Parish Council will nominate the Village Life.

8.4 The Suffolk Fire Brigade have written asking that the Parish Council compile a register of thatched properties in the Parish. Cllr Le Gros offered to undertake the task. **Action Point 07.07.11 - 05**

Meeting closed to the Public 22.18

9. Next meeting date was confirmed as – Thursday 1 September, 2011, 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 22.20

11.06.09 04	- PO Boxes, relocation & collection times. Response from Post Office?	MR c/fwd
04.11.10 01	- Year 6 consultation re Bike Track	MR c/fwd
12.05.11 01	- Consult with Bowls Club re 'Grass-crete'	PB c/fwd
12.05.11 02	- Write to MSDC re Red House Lodge	AT
07.07.11 01	- Write to SCC making representations regarding the closure of the recycling centre at Brome	MR
07.07.11 02	- Review of products available to Parish Councils from Banks and Building Societies	AT
07.07.11 03	- Paint the posts for the Thorndon Roadside Nature Reserve	BH
07.07.11 04	- Write to owner of land on Thwaite Road regarding overgrown hedge	AT
07.07.11 05	- Compile a register of thatched properties in the Village	JG