

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 5 July 2012

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Ms C Byles, Mr M Pearce, Mrs P Pearce, Mr M Sillett, Mrs C Owen, Mrs C Aldous and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.00

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: None

Declarations of interest: None

2. Open Meeting to Public – 20.05

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail which particular agenda item, if any, they had an interest in. No interests were specified.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.06

3. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of Thorndon Parish Council held on 3 May 2012

The minutes from the meeting held on 3 May 2012 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Action Points/matters arising from those minutes

Summary of Action Points from Last Meeting		
05.01.12 - 01	Preparation of questionnaire for the Village Life	Complete
02.02.12 - 01	Obtain quotations for Play Area replacement parts	Complete
02.02.12 - 02	Obtain prices for commemorative mugs/other memorabilia for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee	Complete
05.04.12 - 03	Ask whether Andrew Stringer's 'Quality of Life' budget could contribute towards road markings near Roger Jones farm on the B1077	Complete
03.05.12 - 01	Col Lee to be asked about the provision of signage for dog walkers on the set-aside land	Complete

05.01.12 – 01 Cllr Faulkner produced an analysis of the 11 replies received from villagers to the Parish Council questionnaire, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes. The following responses were made/actions agreed by Councillors in respect thereof:

- Road Signs - Parish Councillors will arrange to clean the road signs around the village;
- Overgrown hedges – the Parish Council is vigilant on this issue and has no hesitation in contacting occupiers of 'offending' properties;
- Affordable Housing – the Parish Council confirmed that it was aware of this issue and that planning permission for 12 affordable homes around the village is in place. The difficulty is attracting a developer to build the homes. Cllr Bartlett confirmed that he would approach Col Lee about this. **Action Point 05.07.12 – 01**; and

- Clarity about the Parish Council and its functions – on this point, the webmaster for the village website has asked for photographs of Parish Councillors and it was suggested that an article about the Parish Council and its work could be prepared for posting on the website.

02.02.12 – 01 Quotations have been received, the total cost of which is £581.00. It was agreed that the works need to be undertaken and Cllr Faulkner was authorised to order the equipment and its installation.

02.02.12 – 02 Following a successful Diamond Jubilee weekend, the Parish Council agreed to contribute 50% of the cost of the activities laid on by the Community Council. The total cost for the mugs (£816.00), tablecloths and bunting (£135.00) and barbeque (£19.00) is £970.00. The Parish Council agreed the payment of £485.00.

05.04.12 – 03 Cllr Bartlett has been in contact with County Councillor Andrew Stringer who has agreed to contribute £336.72 (60%) from his 'Quality of Life' budget towards of the cost of 'cattle warning' and 'slow' signage on the B1077 outside Thorndon Hill Farm. The Parish Council agreed to pay the balance of £224.48, being the cost of the signage required as quoted to Cllr Bartlett by John Simpson at the Highways Department at Suffolk County Council. **Action Point 05.07.12 - 02**

03.05.12 – 01 Cllr Bartlett has spoken to Col Lee about the installation of signs for dog walkers using the set-aside land. Col Lee is aware of issues around dog mess, but not of any individual being bitten. In any event his attitude is that the set-aside area is a public place and it is the responsibility of each individual dog owner to control their dog/s. The matter cannot, in the circumstances, be taken any further.

Meeting opened to Public 20.45

5. Reports

5.1 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Stringer was not present at the meeting but sent his report, a copy of which is attached.

5.2 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Byles attended the meeting in Cllr Tibury's continued absence abroad and delivered her report, a copy of which is attached.

5.3 Police Report: No representative from the Police was present at the meeting nor was a report provided.

Meeting closed to Public 21.00

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: None

6.2 Approvals:

6.2.1 0401.12 Permission has been granted for the erection of a two-storey 4 bedroom dwelling and two bay garage with studio over on land adjoining Gean House Thwaite Road Thorndon.

6.3 Refusals: None

6.4 Listed Building Consent: None received

7. Clerks Report

7.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £11,620.81 which includes the Play Area account in the sum of £4,424.88.

7.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
05.07.12	Dawn Crisp	Internal Auditor Fee	30.00		30.00	Agreed	000035 (12/13 - 10)
05.07.12	MSDC	RoSPA Inspection Fee	40.00	8.00	48.00	Agreed	000036 (12/13 - 11)
05.07.12	HMRC	PAYE	101.20		101.20	Agreed	000037 (12/13 - 12)
05.07.12	Mrs A J Thompson	Salary Months 2 & 3	405.00		405.00	Agreed	000038 (12/13 - 13)
05.07.12	Thorndon Parish Council - Barclays a/c	To provide movement on the account	2.50		2.50	Agreed	000039 (12/13 - 14)
05.07.12	Thorndon Community Council	Parish Council contribution to the Diamond Jubilee weekend events	485.00		485.00	Agreed	000040 (12/13 - 15)
05.07.12	R Hunt	A gesture of gratitude for keeping the village looking pretty with flowers etc	50.00		50.00	Agreed	000041 (12/13 - 16)
		TOTAL	£1,113.70	£8.00	£1,121.70		

7.3 Barclays Bank plc have written to the Clerk advising that following a review of their accounts they will close the Parish Council's account unless there is either a credit payment received or other movement on the account before 10.08.12. It was agreed to pay £2.50 into the account for the time being to keep it 'alive'.

7.4 A new code of conduct has been issued to accommodate the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. The Parish Council voted to adopt the new Suffolk Code of Conduct and Councillors were given the new Declaration of Interests Form for completion and return to the Clerk.

7.5 The Parish Council agreed to adopt its existing standing orders for the current financial year.

8. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.20

8.1 In respect of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the Chairman thanked the public and Parish Councillors for their help with specific thanks to Hazel Wood who arranged the commemorative mugs for the children of the village.

8.2 Several Councillors wanted to acknowledge Cllr Theobald's book on the history of Thorndon which they feel is an excellent record and makes a valuable contribution to villagers understanding of Thorndon. In connection with this book, Cllr Theobald has experienced some unpleasantness from a member of the public. The Chairman confirmed that if any Parish Councillor experiences harassment of any kind it is a matter for the Police.

8.3 The 'Special Nature Reserve' signs cannot be seen as the grass is so long. Cllr Horton will liaise with Sue Hooton at MSDC to ascertain when the grass will be cut. **Action Point 05.07.12 - 03**

8.4 Robert Hunt has cleared the entrance to the set-aside land, and the Parish Council felt it appropriate to make a donation of £50.00 to him as an acknowledgement of his efforts around the village – planting flowers and general tidying etc all of which make the village look attractive.

8.5 The continued presence of a skip in Fen View was raised. The matter has been brought to the attention of the Housing Department at MSDC who have written to the occupier. If the same remains in a week's time, Cllr Bartlett will pursue the issue with MSDC.

Action Point 05.07.12 – 04

8.6 The issue of potholes in Fen View was raised. The advice of the Parish Council as set out in April's 'Village Life' was reiterated, namely individuals should take responsibility for reporting the same. The article in this regard will be repeated in the next issue of 'Village Life'.

8.7 Cllr Taylor confirmed his agreement to act as footpath monitor. The Clerk will advise MSDC accordingly.

8.8 Mr Brand delivered his report on behalf of neighbourhood watch.

Meeting closed to the Public 21.40

9. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 6 September, 2012, 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 21.42

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
05.07.12 - 01	Consult with Col Lee re affordable housing in the village	PB
05.07.12 - 02	Liaise with John Simpson at SCC re signage for B1077 outside Thorndon Hill Farm	PB
05.07.12 - 03	Speak to Sue Hooton about grass cutting around 'Special Nature Reserve' signs	BH
05.07.12 - 04	Revert to MSDC regarding the skip in Fen View	PB