

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 1 November 2012

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr A Stringer, PCSO S Johnson, Mr M Sillett Mrs C Aldous, Mrs L Power, Mr P Robinson and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.01

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: Cllr Botwright and Cllr Faulkner

Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Open Meeting to Public – 20.02

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 – 20.04

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 6 September 2012

The minutes from the meeting held on 6 September 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		
05.07.12 - 01	Consult with Col Lee re affordable housing in the village	Complete
06.09.12 - 01	Speak to the Chairman of Stoke Ash Parish Council about the speed-activated sign on the A140	MR

05.07.12 – 01 Cllr Bartlett has spoken with Colonel Lee about the visibility of affordable housing being built in the Village. Whilst there is a current planning consent for the erection of 6 affordable houses on the Kerrison site it is not economically viable to develop the same at the moment, albeit the planning permission will be renewed when necessary.

06.09.12 – 01 Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that she had spoken to the Chairman of Stoke Ash Parish Council who had confirmed that they would like to see the illuminated sign on the A140 resurrected. Cllr Ravenhill suggested a joint meeting of representatives from both Parish Councils with Suffolk County Council to see if the matter could be addressed. Stoke Ash Parish Council will discuss the matter at their next meeting in December and revert to Cllr Ravenhill thereafter.

Meeting opened to Public 20.10

5. Reports

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

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

5.3 Police Report: PCSO S Johnson was present at the meeting and delivered his report, a copy of which is attached.

Meeting closed to Public 20.20

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: 2875/12 Retention of change of use of farm building to microbrewery at Shorts Farm Wetheringsett Road Thorndon. The application was supported.

6.2 Approvals: None

6.3 Refusals: None

6.4 Listed Building Consent: None

7. Clerks Report

7.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £13,039.97.

7.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
01.11.12	Robert Fieblekorn	Grasscutting	654.00			Agreed	000287 (12/13 - 24)
01.11.12	Mrs A J Thompson	Salary Months 6 & 7	405.00			Agreed	000288 (12/13 - 25)
01.11.12	HMRC	PAYE	101.20		101.20	Agreed	000289 (12/13 - 26)
01.11.12	Royal British Legion	Donation (S137) to Poppy Appeal	100.00			Agreed	000290 (12/13 - 27)
		TOTAL	£1,260.20		£1,260.20		

7.3 The Clerk advised that the current arrangement for paying in cheques to the Bank of Ireland by post was erratic, with half of the cheques sent being lost. The Bank had, therefore, provided an application form for completion which would allow cheques to be paid in at a Post Office. This issue raised the general question as to whether the Parish Council was still receiving a better rate of interest from the Bank of Ireland, which is why the account was originally opened. It was confirmed that there was no financial advantage to remaining with the Bank of Ireland, and in all the circumstances it would be preferable to close the account and move everything to Barclays Bank plc. **Action point 01.11.12 - 01**

7.4 The grass cutting contract has now expired, and informal discussions have taken place with Robert Fieblekorn who has confirmed that he is content to provide a quotation for a new 3 year contract but indicated he might vary the basis of payment whereby his costs are calculated on the number of cuts. The Clerk will write to Robert Fieblekorn inviting his tender for the contract. **Action point 01.11.12 - 02**

7.5 This issue of bi-monthly meetings was reviewed following the 6 month trial. Overall it was felt that the Parish Council was losing momentum with the bi-monthly arrangement and that it was preferable to revert to monthly meetings, excluding August.

7.6 The Parish Council will need to set its precept for 2013/14 before the end of January. Cllr Faulkner is to be asked if he will meet with the Clerk to review the Parish Council's income and expenditure before discussing the precept at January's Parish Council meeting. If Cllr Faulkner cannot do this, Cllr Le Gros will undertake the task.

8. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.14

8.1 The Parish Council has received a letter from a resident of Fen View expressing concern about another house, and the fact that the occupant would appear to have vacated the same. Cllr Ravenhill will speak to Andrew Weaver at Mid Suffolk District Council about the issues raised. **Action point 01.11.12 - 03**

8.2 It was felt that the Parish Council should revisit the results of the Village Questionnaire to confirm that all matters identified have been properly addressed.

8.3 Cllr Taylor, in his capacity as Footpath Monitor confirmed that in the absence of any 'Welcome Pack' from Mid Suffolk District Council, he has requested copies of the definitive maps of footpaths around the Village and hopes to develop a positive relationship between walkers and landowners in the coming months.

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

Meeting closed to the Public 21.20

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

MEETING CLOSED 21.22

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
06.09.12 - 01	Speak to Chairman of Stoke Ash Parish Council about the speed activated sign on the A140	MR
01.11.12 - 01	Transfer Bank Accounts to Barclays Bank plc	AT
01.11.12 - 02	Write to Robert Fieblekorn re Grasscutting Contract	AT
01.11.12 - 03	Speak to Andrew Weaver at Mid Suffolk District Council re vacant property in Fen View	MR