

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 7 March 2013

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), PCSO C Bales, Mr M Sillett, Mrs C Aldous Mr J Hayward, Mr P Tucker, Mrs C Rich and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.01

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: Cllr Botwright

Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Co Option

Following the resignation of Cllrs Horton and Faulkner, Mr J Hayward and Mr P Tucker have put themselves forward as prospective Parish Councillors. Both candidates gave a presentation to the Parish Council and answered Councillors questions. Thereafter, a vote was taken and both candidates elected.

3. Open Meeting to Public – 20.22

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 – 20.23

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 7 February 2013

The minutes from the meeting held on 7 February 2013 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman

5. Action Points/matters arising from those minutes

Summary of Action Points from Last Meeting		
06.09.12 01	- Speak to Chairman of Stoke Ash Parish Council about the speed activated sign on the A140	Complete
01.11.12 03	- Speak to Andrew Weaver at Mid Suffolk District Council re vacant property in Fen View	Complete
06.12.12 01	- Send recorded delivery letter to the landowners on Thwaite Road re overgrown hedges	Complete
06.12.12 02	- Consider photographs for Village website	Complete
06.12.12 04	- Speak to the Police concerning the parking of cars around the Church at the end of the school day	Complete
06.12.12 05	- Report back on the reaction of other Parish Councils to SERCO's job cuts	Complete
07.02.13 01	- Contact the Police to ascertain why no representative has been present at a meeting for some months	Complete
07.02.13	- Write to Galloway and Simmonds bus companies concerning the	Complete

02	manner in which buses drive down the minor roads	
07.02.13 - 03	Speak to Wendy Coulson concerning parents parking outside the school	Complete

06.09.12 – 01 Cllr Ravenhill has now spoken to Stoke Ash Parish Council who has confirmed that the Parish Council are actively pursuing replacement of the speed activated sign on the A140. Should they require any assistance in this matter from Thorndon Parish Council, they will revert; otherwise it seems that the sign will be replaced in the new financial year.

01.11.12 – 03 The previous occupant has surrendered his tenancy, and new tenants have now moved in to this property.

06.12.12 – 01 The Clerk has spoken to Mr Edwards who advised that he is in the course of selling the land and had felt that the prospective purchaser should take responsibility for the maintenance of the hedge. Given that the sale has not yet completed, Mr Edwards agreed to undertake the work and provide contact details of the new owner to the Clerk following completion of the sale.

06.12.12 – 02 Liz Power attended the Village Hall ahead of the Parish Council meeting to take photographs of Parish Councillors for the website.

06.12.12 – 04 Cllr Ravenhill was at the Church last Tuesday and saw the extent of cars parked in the vicinity of the school and Church, a matter she raised with the Headmistress at the school. At the same time, the Police were at T Plus, and saw the problem for other drivers caused by the parked cars. PCSO Bales confirmed that he will endeavour to mention the issue to the school.

06.12.12 – 05 On 05.03.13 Cllrs Bartlett and Ravenhill had a meeting with SERCO who have taken over responsibility for community services in Suffolk from the NHS. These services include, inter alia, podiatry, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and district nurses. SERCO confirmed that they have clear plans to improve efficiencies within the service and are committed to the provision of a service equivalent of that provided to date, if not a better one. SERCO's own scrutiny committee are requiring that they hold nine public meetings throughout the County to explain their aims and objectives. It was suggested that perhaps a liaison between SERCO and the community, possibly through a relationship with Parish Councils, could benefit both service provider and users, allowing ideas to be put forward and feedback given. Management approval to this suggestion must be obtained, and if forthcoming, it is hoped that a pilot group in the Eye area might be established. SERCO are to confirm the dates of the public meetings and will revert on the management decision relating to the liaison group as discussed. If no response is received by early next week Cllr Bartlett or Cllr Ravenhill will follow the matter up by sending a record of the meeting to SERCO. **Action Point 07.03.13 - 01**

07.02.13 – 01 PCSO, who was present at the meeting was able to confirm that, whilst the Police endeavour to attend as many meetings as possible, they have recently had logistic difficulties with staff illness. Further, reported incidents always take priority over Parish Council meetings and in any event, the current practice of the Police is to send out quarterly reports and attend meetings twice a year.

07.03.13 – 02 Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that she has written to both Galloway and Simmonds bus companies. Cllr Le Gros observed that having seen the model of bus being used on the offending routes, the same do not allow the drivers the same manoeuvrability as more modern buses. It was also noted that manhole covers close to the Bowls Club are now quite exposed around the triangle on Thwaite Road as a result of bus movements, the details of which Cllr Bartlett will email to the Highways Department at Suffolk County Council. **Action Point 07.03.13 - 02**

Meeting opened to Public 21.00

6. Reports

6.1 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Stringer was not present at the meeting and did not provide a report.

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

6.3 Police Report: PCSO Bales from the Police was present at the meeting and advised that he had emailed his report, although the clerk has not received the same. He will ensure that the same is re-sent.

Meeting closed to Public 21.10

7. Planning

7.1 Planning Applications: None

7.2 Approvals:

3785.12: Erection of two storey dwelling and detached garage and creation of new access at Cotes Cottage Thwaite Road Thorndon.

7.3 Refusals:

3784.12: Continued use of former agricultural land as a tennis court for private use, re-surfacing of tennis court and erection of replacement perimeter chain link fence to height of 2.75 metres at Green Farm Hestley Green Thorndon.

7.4 Listed Building Consent:

3825.12: Revised internal accommodation and revision of fenestration to that approved under implemented Listed Planning Consent 3829.10 at Barn adjacent to Hestley Hall Hestley Green Thorndon.

8. Clerks Report

8.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £9,665.50.

8.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase /Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
07.03.13	Mrs A J Thompson	Salary Month 11	202.50		202.50	Agreed	000304 (12/13 - 41)
07.03.13	HMRC	PAYE	50.60		50.60	Agreed	000305 (12/13 - 42)
07.03.13	First Responders	S137 Donation	100.00		100.00	Agreed	000306 (12/13 - 43)
07.03.13	Home Start	S137 Donation	100.00		100.00	Agreed	000307 (12/13 - 44)
		TOTAL	£453.10		£453.10		

Following the resignation of Keith Faulkner there are not currently two signatories to sign the cheques this month. The Clerk will resolve this matter. **Action Point 07.03.13 - 03**

8.3 Two further requests for charitable donations were discussed for the current financial year, and it was agreed to make the following donations:

First Responders:	£100.00
Home Start:	£100.00

8.4 It was agreed to order an annual inspection from RoSPA which will be conducted in September. In the light of the resignation of Keith Faulkner, Cllr Tucker agreed to assume the role of Play Area Monitor and will liaise with Keith to ensure a seamless handover.

8.5 Suffolk Acre is to merge with 10 Suffolk organisations effect from 01.04.13 and will in future be part of 'Community Action Suffolk'. It was agreed to apply for membership of Community Action Suffolk at an annual subscription of £30.00

8.6 There was a review of the matters raised by the Village Questionnaire as follows:

8.6.1 Post Boxes

A resident has asked whether the Post Box in Hall Road can be moved a short distance away from their house. This raises further difficulties with the Post Office, as they have indicated that any relocation of this Post Box should be into the centre of the Village, whereas the Parish Council continue to press for a replacement third Post Box in the centre of the Village as was promised by the Post Office when the previous Post Box was closed. The Post Office is anxious to reduce the number of Post Boxes in the Village to two, something the Parish Council will continue to resist.

8.6.2 Pot Holes

This matter has been addressed with residents asked to report the presence of pot holes to the Highways Department of Suffolk District Council, although if difficulties are encountered in making such a report, the Parish Council will offer such assistance as it is able.

8.6.3 Clean Road Signs

This was undertaken last year. The Parish Council consider that this task should be undertaken on a regular basis and it was agreed that Cllrs Botwright, Clinton, Hayward and Taylor will clean the same again in April/May.

8.6.4 Speeding

This matter is regularly discussed by the Parish Council, and monitoring of traffic flow through the Village is awaited. Cllr Ravenhill will email County Councillor Stringer, copying the Police, to see if any indication as to when the traffic survey can be expected to take place is available. **Action Point 07.03.13 - 04**

8.6.5 Hedge Cutting

This matter has been addressed.

8.6.6 Affordable Housing

This matter is in hand.

A further review of these matters will be undertaken in June.

9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.32

9.1 Dog fouling was raised as a concern with some Villagers planning to provide a supply of dog bags next to the dog waste bin near the set aside land to encourage dog walkers to clean up their dog mess.

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

Meeting closed to the Public 21.42

10. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 4 April, 2013, 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 20.44

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
07.03.13 - 01	Write to SERCO with a summary of issues discussed at the meeting on 05.03.13	MR / PB
07.03.13 - 02	Contact Highways at Suffolk County Council regarding the exposed manhole covers near the Bowls Club	PB
07.03.13 - 03	Resolve signatories to the Bank of Ireland account	AT
07.03.13 - 04	Email County Councillor Stringer re traffic survey	MR