

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 3 April 2014

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), PCSO E Wright, Mr A Stringer, Mr P Brooke, Mr L Welch, Mr M Sillett, Mrs C Aldous and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.01

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: None

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of 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 agenda items were specified.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.03

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 6 March 2014

The minutes from the meeting held on 6 March 2014 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Vice Chairman

4. Action Points/matters arising from those minutes

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
04.07.13 – 02	Review and cost options for enforcement of speed limit in The Street	JH c/fwd
03.10.13 – 02	Contact Highways Department re faded signs around Village	PB c/fwd
02.01.14 – 01	Write to the Chairman of Thorndon Town Trust to enquire whether they can make some land available for overflow parking adjacent to the Church	MR c/fwd
02.01.14 – 02	Request repayment of monies expended by the Parish Council in clearing Street Farm ditch in 2006	AT c/fwd
06.03.14 – 01	Confirm the current cost of replacing the items of play equipment for insurance purpose	Complete
06.03.14 – 02	Pursue Highways Department re flooding at Collingwood Bridge	Complete
06.03.14 – 03	Write to Simmonds Bus Company to confirm the triangle on Thwaite Road remains to be repaired	Complete
06.03.14 – 04	Investigate to whom the existence of Japanese Knotweed should be reported	Complete
06.03.14 – 05	Confirm cost and style of litter bin in need of replacement	Complete

04.07.13 – 02 Cllr Hayward has received confirmation from Suffolk County Council that it is now possible for Parish, Town, Borough and District Councils to purchase their own Vehicle Activated Signs directly and deploy them. Applicants are asked to submit a request form which will then be assessed by a local area highways engineer. If the engineer is satisfied that the site meets the necessary criteria then they will be invited to purchase from the manufacturer. Cllr Hayward confirmed that having reviewed the application criteria Thorndon met the same and will now process an application. **Action point 03.04.14 - 01**

03.10.13 – 02 Cllr Bartlett has not received a response from the Highways Department at Suffolk County Council regarding the faded signs and has copied County Cllr A Stringer on his correspondence. Cllr Bartlett will continue to pursue this matter.

02.01.14 – 01 Cllr Le Gros confirmed that the next meeting for Thorndon Town Trust is April next at which this issue will be discussed.

06.03.14 – 01 Cllr Cattermole has established that the cost of replacement of the equipment in the Play Area at circa £35,000.00. It was agreed that the insurers should now be approached to see how much it will cost to increase the current cover (£30,000.00) to either £35,000.00 or £50,000.00. **Action point 03.04.14 – 02**

06.03.14 – 02 Cllr Jenkins confirmed that having referred the flooding to Suffolk County Council once more, highways have now cleared the ditch and created a channel through to the river and have replaced the drain in a position which is further into the bank and should avoid lorries running over it. Since these works have been executed, no further flooding has occurred.

06.03.14 – 03 The Clerk has written to Simmonds Bus Company once more, but to date has not received a response. Cllr Le Gros who knows relevant personnel at Simmonds will now pursue the issue. **Action point 03.04.14 - 03**

06.03.14 – 04 The Clerk confirmed that landowners who have Japanese Knotweed on their may be causing a private nuisance to neighbouring properties. Landowners are responsible for the control of Japanese Knotweed in order to prevent spreading and liability. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 states that it is an offence to 'plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild' any plant listed Schedule 9 Part II of the 1981 Act, which includes Japanese Knotweed. A landowner is responsible for the control of Japanese Knotweed, but does not necessarily have to remove it. The Police are responsible for investigating any offences and if they are unable to take action then civil action would be necessary to ensure that the invasive plant is controlled. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the two landowners on whose land the Japanese Knotweed is currently growing requiring them to take immediate action to control the Japanese Knotweed on their land. **Action point 03.04.14 - 04**

06.03.14 – 05 The cost of a replacement bin will be £281.00 + VAT. This expenditure was approved.

Meeting opened to Public 20.30

5. Reports

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

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

5.3 Police Report: PCSO E Wright from Police was present at the meeting and delivered their report, a copy of which is attached.

Meeting closed to Public 20.40

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications:

- **0681.14** – Erection of a single storey rear extension on south east elevation at 2 Stanwell Green Thorndon. This application was supported.
- **0855.14** - Proposal: Erection of 3 bedroom detached house & garage (revised scheme to previously approved 2670/13) at 2 Soer's Close Thorndon. This application was supported.

6.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

6.3 Approvals: None

6.4 Refusals: None

6.5 Listed Building Consent: None

6.6 Other: Following the last meeting the Clerk spoke to Progress Power who advised that no one was available for a Q & A session in March and no commitment could be given until after the closing date for the submission of the consultation report (31.03.14). Generally, it was felt that if, having received the consultation documentation, the application is accepted, then all the documentation will come into the public domain and that at that point a Q & A session might be more beneficial. It was also suggested that another group session might be held at this point, and the Clerk was assured that this time the Parish Council will be notified of such a session if one is held. In the meantime representations continue to be made by Villagers to third parties, including Dan Poulter MP, are receiving some support.

7. Clerks Report

7.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £13,020.00.

7.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
03.04.14	SALC	New Councillor Training	98.00	19.60	117.60	Agreed	100582 (14/15 - 01)
03.04.14	SALC	Annual Subscription	283.00		283.00	Agreed	100583 (14/15 - 02)
03.04.14	Mrs A J Thompson	Salary Month 01	207.12		207.12	Agreed	100584 (14/15 - 03)
03.04.14	HMRC	PAYE	51.78		51.78	Agreed	100585 (14/15 - 04)
		TOTAL	£639.90	£19.60	£659.50		

7.3 The Annual Audit is now due and the appointment of Dawn Crisp as the internal auditor was approved.

7.4 It was agreed to amalgamate the two deposit accounts for the Play Area and Community Shop into a single deposit account

7.5 The following donations for the financial year 2013 -2014 were approved:

• Eye Responders	£100.00	Cheque no 100586
• SSAFA	£100.00	Cheque no 100587
• Eye Volunteer Centre	£50.00	Cheque no 100588
• British Red Cross	£100.00	Cheque no 100589
• East Anglian Air Ambulance	£200.00	Cheque no 100590
• Suffolk Age UK	£100.00	Cheque no 100591
• Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau	£100.00	Cheque no 100592
• Headway	£100.00	Cheque no 100593
• Mr R Hunt	£50.00	Cheque no 100594
• Friends of Thorndon School	£200.00	Cheque no 100595
• The Bank	£50.00	Cheque no 100596

7.6 It was agreed to carry forward discussion of Emergency Procedures to the next meeting.

7.7 Headway have written to enquire whether the Parish Council will agree to it bringing its mobile charity shop to the village, and if so have asked where the same should be parked. The two options would seem to be either the car park of The Black Horse Public House or the Church car park on, say, a T Plus day. The Clerk will write to Mr D Neuteboom to enquire as to whether T Plus would be agreeable to such a proposal. **Action Point 03.04.14 - 05**

8. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.20

8.1 Cllr Le Gros questioned the legality of the new opening which has been created in the overflow car park opposite the White Horse Public House on the A140. Permission for an opening onto the Stoke Road leading to Thorndon has been declined in the past. Cllr Ravenhill will make enquiries. **Action Point 03.04.14 - 06**

8.2 Mr Brand has some ideas for the Crime Fighter's Award made last year and will liaise with Cllr Jenkins in respect thereof. **Action Point 03.04.14 - 07**

8.3 Mr Brand delivered his report on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch. He also asked whether some of the money he was awarded to assist with crime prevention in the village could be used to fund panic alarms and torches for the school as well as maintenance for his computer. He will put together a proposal for approval.

Meeting closed to the Public 21.40

9. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 1 May, 2014 at 8.00pm.

Villagers are reminded that the Annual Parish Meeting will precede the Annual Meeting of Thorndon Parish Council at 7.30pm.

MEETING CLOSED 21.42

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
04.07.13 - 02	Review and cost options for enforcement of speed limit in The Street	JH c/fwd
03.10.13 - 02	Contact Highways Department re faded signs around Village	PB c/fwd
02.01.14 - 01	Write to the Chairman of Thorndon Town Trust to enquire whether they can make some land available for overflow parking adjacent to the Church	MR c/fwd
02.01.14 - 02	Request repayment of monies expended by the Parish Council in clearing Street Farm ditch in 2006	AT c/fwd
03.04.13 - 01	Apply for Vehicle Activated Sign	JH
03.04.13 - 02	Contact the insurers re increasing the replacement value of the equipment in the Play Area	AT
03.04.13 - 03	Speak to Simmonds Bus Company re repairs to the triangle on Thwaite Road	JLG
03.04.13 - 04	Write to Messrs Hammond and Wallace re Japanese Knotweed on their land	AT
03.04.13 - 05	Write to D Neuteboom re parking of mobile shop for Headway in the Church car park when T Plus is held	AT
03.04.13 - 06	Enquire as to permission granted for the creation of an opening from the overflow car park opposite the White Horse Public House onto Stoke Road	MR
03.04.13 - 07	Liaise with Mr C Brand re spending of the Crime Fighter's Award	RJ