

## THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 6 November 2014

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

**Also present:** Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), 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:** Cllr Botwright

**Declarations of pecuniary interests:** None

**Declarations of non-pecuniary interests:** None

#### 2. Open Meeting to Public – 20.01

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 – 20.02

#### 3. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of Thorndon Parish Council held on 2 October 2014

The minutes from the meetings held on 2 October 2014 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		
<b>04.09.14 - 01</b>	Enquire of Royal British Legion as to whether a new representative for Thorndon has been appointed for the Poppy Appeal	Complete
<b>03.10.14 - 01</b>	Liaise with Highways re verge repairs to Thwaite Road triangle	RJ
<b>03.10.14 - 02</b>	File complaint with BT re state of the telephone box	AT
<b>03.10.14 - 03</b>	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
<b>03.10.14 - 04</b>	Review the current emergency procedures information leaflet	BF & JLG
<b>03.10.14 - 05</b>	To look into improving the broadband connection for the Post Office van	PB & MR
<b>03.10.14 - 06</b>	To establish the level of interest in the provision of a skateboarding facility	Deferred to February

**04.09.14 - 01** Cllr Hayward confirmed that Mark Harrison, a retired Marine has agreed to take on the role of Poppy Appeal Co-Ordinator for Thorndon

**03.10.14 - 02** Cllr Jenkins has had an exchange of email correspondence with the Highways Department on this issue and they have received formal confirmation from the

Clerk that the Parish Council will meet the cost of these works from its own resources. John Simpson has now moved onto another position and a new engineer has been appointed with whom Cllr Jenkins will now liaise.

**03.10.14 – 02** The Clerk has contacted BT about the state and condition of the telephone box but no response has been received.

**03.10.14 – 04** Whilst Cllr Farquhar has circulated a draft revision of the emergency procedures information leaflet, not everyone has had the opportunity to consider the same. This item will now be placed on the Agenda for December

**03.10.14 – 05** The connection appears to have improved. Cllr Ravenhill has spoken to Anna at Stowupland who has confirmed that should the Post Office continue to experience problems with the broadband connection the Post Office will liaise with Darren at the Black Horse Pub concerning a manual connection.

**03.10.14 – 06** Cllr Hayward was unable to prepare an item in the Village Life asking for villager input into the idea that a skateboarding facility is created in the Play Area. Since the last meeting another villager has enquired as to whether this space could be used to create two tennis courts, should there be sufficient interest. It was agreed to defer this item until February and then to pursue villager feedback on these suggestions.

## **Meeting opened to Public 20.22**

### **5. Reports**

**5.1 County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Stringer was not present at the meeting but provided his report, 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:** A representative from the Police was present at the meeting and delivered their report, a copy of which is attached. Reference was made to the fact that John Eaves is moving on from his current post and it was agreed that the Parish Council will write to thank him for all he has done to assist the community.

## **Meeting closed to Public 20.32**

### **6. Planning**

**6.1 Planning Applications: 2970.14:** Application for front extension to the dwelling under construction (implemented application 0806/13) at land to the rear of Rowans, Clint Road, Thorndon. The application was supported

**6.2 Listed Planning Applications:** None

**6.3 Approvals: 0388.14:** Planning permission has been granted for amendments to existing planning permission 3685.09 (barn conversion) at Old Rectory Barn High Street Thorndon. .

**0589.14:** Planning permission has been granted for the variation of condition 10 of planning permission 3685.09 to allow for the retention of fencing in addition to hedging at Old Rectory Barn High Street Thorndon. This application has been approved.

**6.4 Refusals:** None

**6.5 Listed Building Consent: 0389.14:** Listed building consent has been granted for amendments to existing planning permission 3685.09 (barn conversion) at Old Rectory Barn High Street Thorndon.

**6.6 Other:** Mid Suffolk District Council have written to the Parish Council inviting suggestions from Parish Councillors for a new road name for the three dwelling development at Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon with a deadline of 29 December 2014 for response. Councillors were asked to email any suggestions to the Clerk.

## 7. Clerks Report

**7.1 Financial Update:** The current balance is £21,975.32.

### 7.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
06.11.14	R Fiebelkorn	Grasscutting	£783.00		£783.00	Agreed	100617 (14/15 - 36)
06.11.14	Mrs A Thompson	Clerk's Salary	£207.12		£207.12	Agreed	100618 (14/15 - 37)
06.11.14	HMRC	PAYE	£51.78		£51.78	Agreed	100619 (14/15 - 38)
06.11.14	Royal British Legion	S 137 Donation to Poppy Appeal	£100.00		£100.00	Agreed	100620 (14/15 - 39)
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,141.90</b>		<b>£1,141.90</b>		

**7.3** In anticipation of Remembrance Sunday and in the absence of receipt of a formal request for a donation due to the Poppy Co Ordinator vacancy, it was agreed to make a donation of £100.00 to the Royal British Legion.

## 8. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 20.40

**8.1** Following on from the discussion regarding the broadband connection to the mobile Post Office van, reference was made to the more general issue of the upgrading of Suffolk's connectivity to broadband and its arrival in Thorndon. Cllr Bartlett has been looking into the broadband speeds available around the village in the knowledge that the faster speeds are now available in Occold. Thorndon has not, so far, benefitted from this improvement and there is no indication on BT's website as to when Thorndon can expect to be included in the programme. Cllr Bartlett will continue to press this issue with both BT and County Councillor Stringer and the matter will be placed on the Agenda for December.

**8.2** Cllr Ravenhill advised that Cllr and Mrs Le Gros had kindly donated three bags of bulbs which have now been planted around the village. She enquired as to whether a further two bags could be provided and confirmed that payment for these must be agreed. The Parish Council extended their thanks to Cllr and Mrs Le Gros for their generosity in assisting with this project.

**8.3** As regards the Parish Council application for a vehicle activated sign Cllr Hayward confirmed that prior to his departure, John Simpson from the Highways Department at Suffolk County Council had emailed him to advise that as a result of Health and Safety concerns new guidelines are in the course of preparation and that our application will be processed as soon as resources allow. It was agreed to refer this matter to County Councillor Stringer in the first instance. **Action Point 06.11.14 - 01**

**8.3** Cllr Farquhar confirmed that the problem caused by two silver birch trees in Fen View whose leaves are blocking drains has been resolved by Mid Suffolk District Council who have replaced pipes and created new soakaways.

**8.4** A blocked gully in The Street near the school was reported. Cllr Cattermole confirmed he would investigate the same. **Action Point 06.11.14 – 02**

**8.5** Cllr Le Gros reported that the grit stocks have not yet been replenished, although when he inspected the bins he found a number of dog waste bags complete with contents in there. Evidently there is a persistent problem with the failure by dog owners properly to dispose of such items around certain parts of the village. Mr Brand has some signage designed to remind people politely of their responsibilities as to the disposal of dog waste which he will give to Cllr Clinton for installation, and which will, hopefully alleviate the problem. **Action Point 06.11.14 – 03**

**8.6** Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that the local plan has been redrawn and will be published shortly. The plan will once again identify land behind the village hall and at the bottom of Fen View as land available for development.

**8.7** Concern as to the future proposals for Kerrison were raised. The Parish Council have no information over and above the letter received from Kerrison Trust last August, a copy of which residents at Kerrison have also received. Rumours abound and residents are finding the situation unsettling. It was, therefore, agreed to add this issue as a separate item on the Agenda for December to allow villagers to attend the Parish Council meeting and voice their concerns.

**8.8** Mr Brand delivered his report on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch.

**Meeting closed to the Public 21.04**

**9. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 4 December, 2014 at 8.00pm.**

**MEETING CLOSED 21.06**

<b>Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting</b>		
<b>03.10.14 - 01</b>	Liaise with Highways re verge repairs to Thwaite Road triangle	RJ
<b>03.10.14 - 02</b>	File complaint with BT re state of the telephone box	AT
<b>03.10.14 - 03</b>	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
<b>03.10.14 - 05</b>	To look into improving the broadband connection for the Post Office van	PB & MR
<b>06.11.14 - 01</b>	Refer persistent delays regarding the Parish Council application for a vehicle activated sign to Cty Cllr Stringer	JH
<b>06.11.14 - 02</b>	Inspect blocked gully in The Street	CC
<b>06.11.14 - 03</b>	Install notices re disposal of dog waste	CC