

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 2 July 2015

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr G Horn, Mr A Stringer, Mrs C Horn, Mrs C Aldous, Mr M Sillett, Mr S Deering, Mr J Cook, Ms C Lane, Mr T Fox and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.00

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: Cllr Farquhar

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Meeting opened to Public – 20.01

The Vice Chairman asked members of the public to detail which particular agenda item, if any, they had an interest in. Interest in Agenda item 7, the presentation by Suffolk Fire and Rescue, was expressed.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.02

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 4 June 2015

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Vice Chairman

4. Action Points/matters arising from those minutes

Summary of Action Points from Last Meeting		
03.10.14 – 02	File complaint with BT re state of the telephone box	Complete
03.10.14 – 03	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
06.11.14 – 01	Refer persistent delays regarding the Parish Council application for a vehicle activated sign to Cty Cllr Stringer	JH c/fwd
04.12.14 – 01	Continue to pursue details as to broadband speed upgrade for the Village	PB & JH c/fwd to September
05.02.15 – 02	Report on Kerrison proposals	PB c/fwd
05.03.15 – 01	Monitor usage of dog bin in layby on Clint Road	RJ c/fwd to September
14.05.15 – 05	Audit of road signs around the village	Complete
04.06.15 – 01	Write to the Chief Fire Officer to accept the offer for Area Commander Jon Cook to attend the next Parish Council meeting	Complete

13.10.14 – 02 Irrespective of the fact that this item is scheduled for discussion at the meeting in September, Cllr Ravenhill reported that when she saw BT cleaning the telephone box, she approached the men to enquire when the same would be repaired. She was advised that two years ago the telephone had been decommissioned as a payphone and was now only available for emergency calls. Note was made that no notice to this effect had been placed

on the telephone box. If the village want to reinstate the telephone as a payphone a request will need to be made to BT in default of which the telephone will remain as is or will be removed altogether. At 20.08 the meeting was opened to the public to invite their comments. One point which was made noted that the telephone box is located close to the defibrillator and in order to access the defibrillator one must first dial '999' to obtain a key code. At 20.09 the meeting was closed to the public and Cllr Ravenhill agreed to look into the costs of reinstating the telephone box as a payphone, otherwise it was felt that it is important to retain the telephone box for emergency calls. **Action Point 02.07.15 - 01**

13.10.14 – 03 Cllr Hayward confirmed that Robin Moore is to provide two options for a generator which can be discussed once the same are received.

06.11.14 – 01 Following the last meeting, Cllr Hayward forwarded copies of all his correspondence on this to District Cllr Horn, and to date has not heard anything from Suffolk County Council. Philip Wright is the new Highways Engineer for this area and when District Cllr Horn spoke with him he was advised that Mr Wright was unaware of Thorndon's application. Mr Wright has now received the chain of correspondence on this and has promised to follow the matter up and revert.

05.02.15 – 02 Cllr Bartlett has had further correspondence with Col Lea at the Kerrison Trust who has advised that vacant possession of the three main buildings has now been secured and that they are hoping for an exchange of contracts in the next 2 weeks.

05.03.15 – 01 It was agreed to review this issue at the meeting in September following the end of the summer holidays.

14.05.15 – 05 Cllr Jenkins has spoken to Richard Porter, the Area Auditor for Road Signs at Suffolk County Council. The 30mph signs for Thorndon have been ordered and should be installed in the next 2 weeks with other signs in the next 6 weeks. There is no budget for finger signs but Mr Porter has a comprehensive list and these will be addressed as soon as possible.

Meeting opened to Public 20.16

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 Horn was present at the meeting and delivered his report, a copy of which is attached.

5.3 Police Report: No representative from the Police was present at the meeting but they provided their report, a copy of which is attached.

5.4 Parish Liaison Meeting: Cllr Bartlett attended the Parish Liaison Meeting held on 9 June last at Mid Suffolk District Council. He reported the following:

- The next rollout of the broadband upgrade is on schedule for publication is September
- Under the new Community Infrastructure Levy provisions Parish Councils who do not have a Neighbourhood Plan will be allocated 15% of the levy received
- As part of the new development plan New Functional Clusters are to be created and on the draft proposals Thorndon will be designated to Debenham. These proposals are still open to discussion and the Clerk will provide details of these Functional Clusters to Councillors and contact Andy Macmillan at Mid Suffolk District Council to advise that the Parish Council agree Eye would be the preferred choice. **Action Point 02.07.15 - 02**

Meeting closed to Public 20.56

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: None

6.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

6.3 Approvals: Planning Application 1471.15 – Proposed single storey front extension at Silwood House The Street has been approved

6.4 Refusals: None

6.5 Listed Building Consent: None.

6.6 Other: None

7. Specific Agenda Items:

Meeting opened to the Public 20.00

7.1 Area Commander Jon Cook of Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service gave an informative presentation to the meeting to explain the reasons for the reductions in fire engine availability across Suffolk and to inform the meeting of measures being taken to address this and other matters for concern, including recruitment. Mr Cook was happy to answer questions from Councillors and members of the public. Questions were raised about the damage to hydrants which can result in difficulties for crews attending incidents. Mr Cook confirmed that the Fire Service carried out an annual review of each of its 17,000 hydrants and that he would provide a web link for publication through which members of the public can report damage to hydrants. He agreed to provide periodic reports for the Parish Council, updating it on current matters of interest/concern. In addition, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service is about to enter a period of pre-consultation ahead of the next review of the service. He will provide a link to this which can be circulated to villagers inviting them to give their views and concerns on the service.

Meeting closed to the Public 20.38

7.2 It was confirmed that no one has come forward for the Parish Councillor vacancy which has been advertised in the Village Life in both the June and July editions. Approaches will now be made and the matter discussed again at the next meeting in September.

8. Clerks Report

8.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £22,624.54

8.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
02.07.15	MSDC	Uncontested Election	£87.50		£87.50	Agreed	100660 (15/16 - 16)
02.07.15	HMRC	PAYE	£51.78		£51.78	Agreed	100661 (15/16 - 17)
02.07.15	Mrs A Thompson	Clerk's Salary	£207.12		£207.12	Agreed	100662 (15/16 - 18)
		TOTAL	£346.40		£346.40		

8.3 The Clerk has received an email from the Clerk at Thornham Magna expressing concern at a letter which has been received from the Head of Thorndon School advising of

space problems. Following the closure of Stoke Ash Primary School and the increase of children in Thorndon apparently Thorndon School is oversubscribed and does not have the physical capacity to accommodate increased numbers of children. Cllr Ravenhill disclosed that prior to the election in May she had been approached to join a working party which, it was hoped would comprise Andrew Stringer, a representative from Thorndon Parish Council, a representative from the Church, the School Head and Governors. The working party was to look at the challenges facing the school and liaise with Suffolk County Council to find ways of addressing the issues. Since this time however there has been a change of head of the Governors and Cllr Ravenhill has been in hospital. She will now make contact with the new head of Governors to follow up the initial approach and will revert to the Clerk with any information which can then be fed back to the Parish Meeting at Thornham Magna. **Action Point 02.07.15 - 03**

8.4 The Clerk has received an email from the Eye Town Clerk inviting Councillors to attend an evening's training on planning on 9 July from 7 – 9.30pm at a cost of £10.00 per attendee. Cllrs Hayward and Taylor expressed an interest in attending.

8.5 The Clerk has received an email from Mr D Burn, a member of Yaxley Parish Council, who is proposing the establishment of a working group formed from local Parish Councils which, he suggests, could provide a more efficient response to planning issues affecting the area. Cllr Ravenhill has also received this email and will respond directly. **Action Point 02.07.15 - 04**

9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.49

9.1 Cllr Hayward raised the issue of cars parked outside Thorndon School for the whole of the school day, which cause problems for locals gaining access to and egress from their properties and for receiving deliveries such as oil. It was agreed to put this matter on the Agenda for September's meeting when suggested solutions can be discussed.

9.2 Attention was drawn to the overgrown verges along the B1077 which are seriously inhibiting visibility for traffic travelling to Thorndon from Eye/Occold and wanting to turn right at the Wash. The Clerk will notify both the Highways Department and Sue Hooton at Mid Suffolk District Council.

9.3 There is flooding on the A140 at the junction leading to and from Thwaite Road. Cllrs Hayward and Jenkins will report this to the Highways Department.

9.4 The issue of traffic speeding down Thwaite Road at Stanwell Green en route to Huntingdon Life Science Research was raised as the same is hazardous for residents and in particular children walking to school. The Clerk will write a letter to HLSR expressing concerns at this conduct. **Action Point 02.07.15 - 05**

9.5 Cllr Cattermole advised that a replacement litter bin is needed for the Play Area. He will liaise with the Clerk as to type before the same is ordered.

9.6 There has been recent discontent at the parking of cars by members of the bowls club with one resident, in particular, taking exception to this. On Monday evening the Police were in attendance and spoke to members of the club suggesting that they had a responsibility to monitor the situation. Cllr Bartlett felt that it might be helpful to ascertain the Police approach to this problem and will make enquiries. **Action Point 02.07.15 – 06**

9.7 Mr Brand delivered his report on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch.

Meeting closed to the Public 22.19

10. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 3 September 2015 at 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 22.20

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03.10.14 - 03	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
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05.02.15 - 02	Report on Kerrison proposals	PB c/fwd
05.03.15 - 01	Monitor usage of dog bin in layby on Clint Road	RJ c/fwd to September
02.07.15 - 01	Contact BT to ascertain the cost of reinstating the public telephone as a payphone	MR
02.07.15 - 02	Write to MSDC re New Functional Clusters	AT
02.07.15 - 03	Contact Thorndon School Head of Governors to follow up on proposed working party re oversubscription and lack of space	MR & AT
02.07.15 - 04	Proposed establishment of a working group of local Parish Councils to discuss local planning issues	MR
02.07.15 - 05	Write a letter to Huntingdon Life Science Research about traffic speeding through the village, especially along Thwaite Road	AT
02.07.15 - 06	Ascertain Police approach to the problem of parking outside the Bowls Club	PB