

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 3 September 2015

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr A Stringer, Mrs A Farquhar, Mrs C Aldous, Mr M Sillett, Mr S Deering, Ms A Montgomery, Mr P Bridge and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.00

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: None

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Meeting opened to Public – 20.01

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail which particular agenda item, if any, they had an interest in. Interest in Agenda item 7, parking outside Thorndon School, was expressed.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.02

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 2 July 2015

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

06.11.14 – 01 Cllr Hayward has still not heard anything from Suffolk County Council and following advice received from District Councillor Horn in July, has not pursued this matter. County Cllr Stringer stated that he understood everything was in place for September. The Parish Council is unable actively to pursue this matter at the present time.

04.12.14 – 01 Cllr Bartlett has looked at the Better Broadband website which appears to show Thorndon within the 'blue area' which is targeted for upgrade in 2015-2017. County Cllr Stringer confirmed that his monthly report contains details of the current position, namely that a meeting is scheduled for 4 September between BT and Suffolk County Council after which it is anticipated full details of the planned roll out will be known.

05.02.15 – 02 Col Lea at the Kerrison Trust has advised Cllr Bartlett that contracts for the sale of the land and buildings to local developer John Howard, subject to the grant of planning permission, has now taken place. An article in the East Anglian Daily Times confirms that the planning permission sought is for a conversion of the existing buildings to residential accommodation together with new builds aimed at first time purchasers and families, which it is hoped will be granted by the end of 2015 to facilitate commencement of the works in 2016. The Parish Council suggested that it invites Mr Howard to a forthcoming meeting in advance of the planning application being submitted. Cllr Bartlett will ask Col Lea whether he has any contact details for Mr Howard and the Clerk will keep a close eye on the weekly planning lists.

Action Point 03.09.15 - 01

05.03.15 – 01 Cllr Jenkins confirmed that the usage of the second dog bin on Clint Road remains unchanged, as a result of which it was agreed to relocate the same in the vicinity of the Church.

02.07.15 – 01 Cllr Ravenhill has spoken to BT who has confirmed that should they take the decision to reinstate the payphone, no charge will be levied. To date no decision has been made, and should a new payphone be installed, it will be card operated, not cash.

02.07.15 – 02 The Clerk confirmed that she has written to MSDC but to date has not received any response. The situation will continue to be monitored.

02.07.15 – 03 Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that she has spoken to the Chair of Governors for Thorndon School, Wendy Coulson. Mrs Coulson confirmed that the school had received the requisite consents for the erection of the garden hub and was grateful for the interest shown by the Parish Council. At present the school has no funding for the hub and indicated that they may seek financial assistance from village organisations.

02.07.15 – 05 The Clerk read the reply received from Huntingdon Life Sciences in which they confirmed that an email has been sent to all staff advising them of the concerns expressed by the Parish Council about traffic speeding through Thorndon and asking that the speed restrictions be observed.

02.07.15 – 06 Cllr Bartlett confirmed that he had met with Sgt Warby, the new sergeant for Eye and Debenham to discuss the concerns which have arisen about cars parked around the Bowls Club as highlighted by recent complaints to the Police by a local resident. Having attended the site and seen first-hand the positioning of the cars, the Police have confirmed that, potentially, some people could be committing an offence of 'obstruction of view' under the Road Traffic Act, rendering the culprits open to prosecution. It was confirmed to Councillors that the Bowls Club has placed a warning sign at the entrance to the Club alerting members to the issue.

Meeting opened to Public 20.54

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 not present at the meeting and did not provide a report for the meeting.

5.3 Police Report: No representative from the Police was present at the meeting nor did they provide a report for the meeting.

Meeting closed to Public 21.05

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: None

6.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

6.3 Approvals:

- **Planning Application 2418.15** – Erection of extension to existing garage at Poplar Farm Thwaite Road has been approved
- **Planning Application 2558.15** – Installation of a detached timber garden room at Thorndon Primary School 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 The parking of cars outside the school and along The Street within its vicinity continues to be a nuisance for residents and a hazard for motorists, a situation which for which a resolution needs to be found. In an attempt to progress matters, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Thorndon Town Trust once again to ask whether they would be prepared to allow the use of its land behind the Church as additional parking. This request has been made in the past, and it was agreed that if the request was declined, the Parish Council would seek to ascertain the reasoning behind such refusal. In addition, the Clerk will suggest to the Chair of Governors that at the next meeting of the School Governors Cllr Stringer and two Parish Councillors attend in order that this issue and fact that the same is exacerbated by staff parking in this area all day can be aired and a resolution to the issue sought. **Action Point 03.09.15 - 02**

7.2 Peter Bridge attended the meeting as a candidate for the Parish Councillor vacancy. He gave an account of his career to date following which he was elected onto the Parish Council.

8. Clerks Report

8.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £22,292.35

8.2 Payments to be made:

| Date Rcvd | Payee | Purchase/Service | Amount (£) | VAT/IPT | Total (£) | Agreed/ Declined | Chq No. (& ref) |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 03.09.15 | BDO LLP | External Auditor's Fee | £100.00 | £20.00 | £120.00 | Agreed | 100663 (15/16 - 19) |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|------------------------|
| 03.09.15 | HMRC | PAYE | £103.56 | | £103.56 | Agreed | 100664 (15/16 - 20) |
| 03.09.15 | Mrs A Thompson | Clerk's Salary | £414.24 | | £414.24 | Agreed | 100665 (15/16 - 21) |
| 03.09.15 | Mr C Cattermole | Refurbishment of Litter Bin | £57.83 | | £57.83 | Agreed | 100666 (15/16 - 22) |
| | | TOTAL | £675.63 | £20.00 | £695.63 | | |

8.3 The Annual Auditors Report was approved by the Parish Council.

9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.58

9.1 Cllr Jenkins identified flooding on the A140 at the junction north of Brockford Garage towards Thorndon which he believes is due to blocked gullies. The issue has been reported online to Highways by two Councillors and the Clerk will now follow up the matter in a letter.
Action Point 03.09.15 - 03

9.2 Following a serious traffic accident at the Stoke Ash junction with the A140 on 29 August last it was suggested that the Parish Council contact Highways once more requesting a review of safety measures which could be implemented at the junction – either a reduced speed limit or installation of a roundabout. The Clerk will write to Highways asking that the issue is considered. **Action Point 03.09.15 - 04**

9.3 Mr Deering followed up on the statistics provided by Area Commander Mr J Cook for Suffolk Fire and Rescue at the last meeting which show that increasingly fire engines from Norfolk are attending incidents in this area.

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

Meeting closed to the Public 22.17

10. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 1 October 2015 at 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 22.18

| Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|
| 03.10.14 - 03 | Liase with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated | JH & MR c/fwd to November |
| 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 |
| 02.07.15 - 01 | Contact BT to ascertain the cost of reinstating the public telephone as a payphone | MR |
| 02.07.15 - 04 | Proposed establishment of a working group of local Parish Councils to discuss local planning issues | MR c/fwd |
| 03.09.15 - 01 | Ask Col Lea for the contact details of Mr J Howard who has exchanged contracts to acquire the buildings at Kerrison | PB |
| 03.09.15 - 02 | Write to both Thorndon Town Trust and Chair of Governors as a means of resolving the issue of parking outside the school | AT |
| 03.09.15 - 03 | Write to Highways re blocked gullies causing flooding on A140 north of Brockford Garage | AT |
| 03.09.15 - 04 | Write to Highways re the junction with A140 at Stoke Ash | AT |