

## THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 1 December 2016

**Present:** Cllr Bartlett, Cllr Bridge, 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, Mr G Horn, Mrs C Aldous, Mr I Baker, Ms J Wilson, Mr & Mrs M Steele 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. Meeting opened to Public – 20.01

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail in which particular Agenda item, if any, they had an interest. Interest in the item 'BT Infrastructure' was expressed.

#### Meeting closed to Public – 20.02

#### 3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 3 November 2016

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		
<b>03.10.14 – 03</b>	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
<b>02.06.16 – 02</b>	Liaise with Peter Brook re board walk for footpath	PT c/fwd
<b>08.09.16 – 01</b>	Identify landowners of blocked watercourses	RJ
<b>08.09.16 – 03</b>	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	PB Defer to Mar '17
<b>06.10.16 – 01</b>	Prepare costings for a neighbourhood plan	Defer to Feb '17
<b>03.11.16 – 01</b>	Arrange public meeting to discuss neighbourhood plans with a representative from Mid Suffolk District Council	Defer to Feb '17

**03.10.14 – 03** Cllr Hayward has met with Julia Lall, the new senior warden, Tim Rowe and other wardens at the Church and he reported on the items discussed at that meeting as follows:

- Generator

Robin Moore has advised that he has been unable to source a second-hand generator and so someone else needs to look into this further. Cllr Hayward himself has looked on internet sites and is confident that a suitable generator is available

- Funding Donations

In recent years the Parish Council has not received any requests for financial assistance from the Church and so no payments have been made. The Church are now wanting to repair the path from the Church entrance to the Lych Gate which would include cabling to improve the

current lighting and, in the future, to install lighting of the car park. The proposed repair works are estimated to cost £800.00. Councillors agreed to make a donation of £800.00 to the Church to fund these works.

- Car Parking

Reference was made to a proposal to extend the car park by filling in the ditch fronting The Street. Any such works would need to ensure that the ditch is piped. The Church advised that the ditch does not belong to it and the Clerk confirmed that she would do a Map Search at the Land Registry to see whether title to the ditch is registered thereat. **Action Point**

**01.12.16 – 01**

- Church Bells

The Church advised that there is a potential major problem with the Church bells, namely the floor in the Church tower is no longer strong enough to hold the same. Tim Rowe has been sent a copy of a report prepared when the bells were rung for the Millennium which recommended that the same should not be used as the frames holding the same are beyond repair. The tower is to be inspected in January 2017 and this may result in the bells having to be taken down which will be a costly exercise. The Church will need to investigate sources of funding to assist with this.

**02.06.16 – 02**

Cllr Taylor has met with Peter Brooke and David Hughes (MSDC) and walked the route after a prolonged spell of rain. David Hughes did not recommend a boardwalk but suggested that drainage works need to be undertaken and the possibility of creating small diversions considered. It was confirmed that the landowner is responsible for these works, save for the surfacing responsibility for which falls to Suffolk County Council. Cllr Taylor will now contact the landowner to discuss that works need to be undertaken and the logistics of executing the same.

**08.09.16 – 01**

Cllr Jenkins has spoken to George Georgiou who confirmed that he is in the process of cleaning the ditch which runs north/south. John Havers was supposed to clear the other ditch after harvest, but has now re-sown the field. George Georgiou is to check his deeds to see if ownership of the ditch down to the Dove can be established.

**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, a copy of which is attached.

**5.2 District Councillor's Report:** Cllr Horn was present at the meeting and delivered his report to the meeting.

**Meeting closed to Public 20.54**

**6. Planning**

**6.1 Planning Applications:**

- **4133.16:** Application to erect a detached two storey dwelling utilising existing vehicular access on land adjoining The Maples Thwaite Road Thorndon. The application was supported.
- **4714.16:** Application to vary conditions 2 (Approved Plans) & 14 (Parking/turning Provision) following grant of planning permission of 3701/15. (Conversion of Kelly House to residential use, Conversion of the Old Chapel to Residential Use, Demolition of workshop adjoining the Old Chapel, Demolition of free-standing workshop building and the erection of 7No new houses at Kerrison Conference and Training Centre, Stoke Ash Road, Thorndon, Eye, IP23 7JG. The application was supported

**6.2 Listed Planning Applications:** None

**6.3 Approvals: 3445.16:** Application for removal of condition 6 of planning permission 1251.00 – Erection of 3 houses with garages and construction of new vehicular access to enable the partial removal of the hedge at 3 Town Garden The Street Thorndon has been granted

**6.4 Refusals:** None

**6.5 Listed Building Consent:** None

**6.6 Other:** None

**7. Specific Agenda Items:**

- BT Infrastructure

Following a request by Cty Cllr Stringer for those affected to provide him with details of the problems they have been encountering for months with landline telephone services and individual efforts to seek a restoration of those telephone services, Cty Cllr Stringer submitted a full report to the area management at BT and some success has been achieved with a telephone service having been restored at Fen View. However, this issue must be kept under review although it is acknowledged that the problem will, in all probability, not be resolved until superfast broadband is available in the village. Cty Cllr Stringer is to submit a dossier of all residents who are still encountering problems to BT and will follow this up asking for confirmation of progress of all complaints.

**8. Clerks Report**

**8.1 Financial Update:** The current balance is £30,806.65

**8.2 Payments to be made:**

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
01.12.16	A Waterfield & Sons Limited	Resurfacing of Play Area car park	£2,000.00	£400.00	£2,400.00	Agreed	100720 (16/17 - 28)
01.12.16	Business Services at CAS Limited	Insurance Premium	£655.59		£655.59	Agreed	100721 (16/17 - 29)
01.12.16	Mrs A Thompson	Clerk's Salary	£207.12		£207.12	Agreed	100722 (16/17 - 30)
01.12.16	HMRC	PAYE	£51.78		£51.78	Agreed	100723 (16/17 - 31)
01.12.16	Thorndon Church Restoration Fund	S137 Donation	£800.00		£800.00	Agreed	100724 (16/17 - 32)
01.12.16	Royal British Legion	S137 Donation	£100.00		£100.00	Agreed	100725 (16/17 - 33)
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,874.49</b>	<b>£400.00</b>	<b>£4,214.49</b>		

**8.3** The Clerk has received notification from the Naming and Numbering Services at Mid Suffolk District Council confirming their policy that Parish and Town Councils, not the developer, be invited to suggest new road names as these tend to have historical or geographical significance. However, this process can cause delays for the street naming and numbering workflow as decisions can take some time to be reached. MSDC have, therefore,

asked that Parish Councils provide a list of appropriate street names which can be held on file and referenced when a request from a developer is received.

On a similar note, the Naming and Numbering Services has received a request from the developer at Kerrison to name the access road 'Kerrison Garden' and were asking for the Parish Council's view on this, at the same time putting forward their own suggestion 'Kerrison Gardens'. Councillors agreed with Kerrison Gardens.

## **9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.00**

**9.1** Cllr Ravenhill reported on the meeting which she and Cllr Jenkins attended with Nigel Minter of Anglian Water. Mr Minter is to review the current arrangement for switching on the back-up pump at the pumping station as at present the same does not trigger automatically, rather an operative must attend in person. It is the delay between requesting attendance at the pumping station and the actual turning on of the second pump which has exacerbated the problems in the village, as once the second pump is operational, the overflow disappears rapidly. As to the capacity of the pumping station to serve the needs of the village including the new developments for which planning permission has been granted, Mr Minter confirmed that he is confident that the same is sufficient for the village's needs (when such pumping stations are installed, their capacity is usually 6 times that actually required), but that the position vis a vis the second pump needs to be assessed.

Mr Minter confirmed that he will arrange for a camera investigation of the of the new water main to ascertain whether or not the same is interfering with the sewerage works. Highways issues are to be reported to Richard Porter.

Mr Minter provided some Anglian Water maps for the village and will send another map from the Environment Agency as an overlay to the Anglian Water map which should then show areas of responsibility.

**9.2** The Clerk has received a letter from The Post Office confirming the result of the Local Public Consultation which is to proceed with its proposal to restore mobile Post Office services to Great Finborough and retain changes in the hours at Gislingham and Thorndon. Cllr Ravenhill considers it might be worth making a Freedom of Information request to see the facts on which this decision was made and asked The Clerk to confirm the costs involved in making such a request. District Cllr Horn confirmed that he would assist in any way he can on this. **Action Point 01.12.16 - 02**

**9.3** The Clerk confirmed that drainage contractors are scheduled to attend The Wash on 7 December next to attend to all highway drainage at this location.

**9.4** Cllr Jenkins confirmed that Richard Porter is sorting out a replacement sign for Stanwell Green.

**9.5** Cllr Jenkins was attacked whilst dog walking on the set aside. Whilst there are some signs advising that dogs should be kept under control permission will now be sought from Frank Lee to erect another warning sign at Kerrison.

**9.6** Cllr Hayward confirmed that the cost of the buffers for the see saw will be circa £75.00. Cllrs authorised this purchase.

**9.7** Cllrs authorised a donation of £100.00 to the Royal British Legion.

**9.8** Cllr Hayward reported that the initial speed data collected from the VAS are stark and clearly establish that there is a speeding problem in the village. He is keen to submit the same to the Police and it was agreed that the same should be sent to both the Chief Constable and Tim Passmore, the Police Commissioner.

**9.9** Cllr Ravenhill reported on the Parish Liaison Meeting which disclosed that MSDC are considering charging for pre-planning advice; the new Local Plan should be finalised by Spring 2017; there are no Neighbourhood Plans in Suffolk albeit Mendlesham's Neighbourhood Plan

is nearly finished and planning permissions for 2,000 new houses have been granted but none of these permissions have been implemented.

**9.10** A question was raised as to the cordoned off area in The Street outside The Shielings protecting a hole in the road although no reparation works are being undertaken. Cllr Jenkins will include this in his list of matters for reference to Richard Porter.

**9.11** Mr C Brand delivered his report to the meeting on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch.

**Meeting closed to the Public 21.53**

**10.** Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 6 January 2017 at 8.00pm.

**MEETING CLOSED 21.54**

<b>Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting</b>		
<b>03.10.14 - 03</b>	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
<b>02.06.16 - 02</b>	Liaise with Peter Brook re board walk for footpath	PT c/fwd
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<b>03.11.16 - 01</b>	Arrange public meeting to discuss neighbourhood plans with a representative from Mid Suffolk District Council	Defer to Feb '17
<b>01.12.16 - 01</b>	Map Search at the Land Registry re ditch at front of Church	AT
<b>01.12.16 - 02</b>	Ascertain cost of raising a Freedom of Information request	AT