

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 2 June 2016

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr A Stringer, Mr G Horn, Ms C Clarkson, Mr M Sillett, Mrs C Aldous, Mr M Steele, Mrs J Steele, Ms J Wilson, Mr C Lock, Mrs J Lock, Ms A Montgomery, P Castle, P M Castle, Ms J Easter, Mrs S Barry, Mr I Baker, Mr J Hartwell, Mr C Muskett, Mrs H Muskett, D Wilding, Mr N Ferrari, Mr N Ward and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.00

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: Cllr Bridge and Cllr Jenkins

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Meeting opened to Public – 20.04

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail in which particular Agenda item, if any, they had an interest. No specific interest was expressed.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.05

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 12 May 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		
03.10.14 – 03	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
02.07.15 – 01	Contact BT to ascertain the cost of reinstating the public telephone as a payphone	MR c/fwd
04.02.16 – 03	Ascertain whether the 'Heart of Suffolk' fingerposts are to be replaced	AT c/fwd
04.02.16 – 04	Write to Highways re blocked gully at junction on U5305 and A140	AT & JH
07.04.16 – 02	Apply to Community Fibre Partnerships	PB c/fwd
12.05.16 – 01	Set up a meeting with Galloways, a representative of the Bowls Club and representatives of the Parish Council re bus route	Complete

03.10.14 – 03 Costings from Robin Moore are still awaited.

04.02.16 – 04 The Clerk confirmed that to date she has not received a response. Councillors noted that following the storm on Monday night the gully was flooded again. Cllr Hayward will speak to John Simpson at Highways to see if this matter can be progressed.

12.05.16 – 01 Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that the normal bus route had been restored and that the Chairman of the Bowls Club has asked members of the club to ensure that they park in such a way as to afford passage of buses down Thwaite Road.

Meeting opened to Public 20.15

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 for the meeting.

Meeting closed to Public 20.25

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: None

6.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

6.3 Approvals:

0161.16 Application for approval of details ('reserved matters') relating to access, appearance, layout and scale (in respect of a detached dwelling and garage, construction of vehicular access) pursuant to outline planning permission 3363.15 on land off Thwaite Road Thorndon. This application has been granted.

6.4 Refusals: None

6.5 Listed Building Consent: None

6.6 Other: None

Meeting opened to Public 20.28

7. Specific Agenda Items:

7.1 Mr N Ward from Mid Suffolk District Council ('MSDC') attended the meeting to give a presentation on community led planning. MSDC like all local authorities is facing pressure to provide additional housing. The need emanates from a number of factors including, inter alia, smaller households, longevity and an under supply of housing. All applications are assessed on the basis of the National Planning Policy Framework which states that there is a presumption in favour of 'sustainable development'. It is, therefore, unrealistic to think that proposed development can be resisted, rather communities should consider the ways in which they can influence such proposals. There are a number of mechanisms which can be adopted:

- Village Design Statement – Can be used to influence the design and appearance of new developments, but has limited ability to control such developments and is impotent to protect local services.
- Parish Plan - In these plans communities set out their aims and aspirations for their village based on objective data from reliable sources. These plans have limited weight and have no formal status.
- Community Led Plan - These are an amalgamation of Village Design Statements and Parish Plans carrying limited weight as they are not statutory documents.

- Neighbourhood Development Plan – These plans can be used to identify where development can take place and state what type of development is appropriate. These plans concern the use and development of land and can include parish projects. Robust evidence to support the policies and proposals is required, taking 18/24 months to prepare. Following a referendum, if adopted by a majority of 50% + 1 these plans have weight
- Neighbourhood Development Order – This can relate to a particular parcel of land, site or building and requires a referendum supported by a majority of 50% + 1 before the same can be adopted
- Community Right to Build Order – This is similar to a Neighbourhood Development Order and can be produced by a community organisation irrespective of the area covered by a town or parish council. It can be used for small scale proposals requires a referendum supported by a majority of 50% + 1 before the same can be adopted

Preparation of these plans is a 7 stage process and once adopted need to be reviewed every 5 years. The costs involved in their preparation range from £4,000 - £5,000 to £18,000 - £19,000.

Mr Ward took questions from those present at the meeting.

It was agreed that this topic would be placed on the Agenda for further discussion at the next meeting on 7 July.

Meeting closed to Public 21.40

8. Clerks Report

8.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £28,100.98

8.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
02.06.16	MSDC	Litter & Dog Bin Emptying	£370.00	£74.00	£444.00	Agreed	100703 (16/17 - 10)
02.06.16	Thorndon Village Hall	Village Hall Hire Charge N0ve '15 - April '16	£72.00		£72.00	Agreed	100704 (16/17 - 11)
02.06.16	HMRC	PAYE	£51.78		£51.78	Agreed	100705 (16/17 - 12)
02.06.16	Mrs A Thompson	Clerk's Salary	£207.12		£207.12	Agreed	100706 (16/17 - 13)
		TOTAL	£700.90	£74.00	£774.90		

8.3 The Clerk confirmed that the verges around the village are scheduled for cutting during the week commencing 4 July next.

8.4 The Clerk has received a letter from the Royal British Legion and Fields in Trust about The Centenary Fields Programme, a project designed to secure recreational spaces in perpetuity in memory of those who died in the Battle of the Somme 100 years ago. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate this letter to all Councillors for further consideration.

Action Point 02.06.16 - 01

9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.50

9.1 Mobile Post Office Van: Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that she together with a number of villagers has filed a complaint about the attendance of the van in Thorndon. Cllr Ravenhill has received confirmation that a request for an investigation has now been sent to the Regional Area Office

9.2 Public Footpaths: Cllr Taylor has been contacted by Peter Brooke who volunteered with an MSDC organised walk between Needham Market and Hoxne which passed through Thorndon. This route identified that the Public Footpath running from the playing field at the bottom of Fen View through to Clint Road was waterlogged/boggy in parts making it impassable. Peter Brooke has asked for the support of the Parish Council to provide a board walk over the affected areas. The project will, all being well, be in conjunction with Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. Councillors voted unanimously to support this suggestion on the understanding that all requests for assistance would be considered on their own merits. Cllr Taylor will now liaise with Peter Brooke on this. **Action Point 02.06.16 - 02**

9.3 Overgrown Hedges: Cllr Botwright identified that overgrown hedges at the junction of Clint Road with The Street are seriously impairing visibility for motorists. The Clerk was instructed to write to the relevant occupiers requesting that their hedges are cut back.

9.4 Play Area: Cllr Cattermole confirmed that his initial quotation for the reparation works to the Play Area Car Park has now been received in writing in the sum of £2,000.00 + VAT. The works were authorised by Councillors.

9.5 VAS: Cllr Hayward confirmed that the posts for the VAS will be installed on 8 June next.

9.6 Parking on The Street: A question was raised as to why traffic on The Street has been allowed to become single file. Councillors reiterated that the problem is largely caused by staff at the school who do not want to park in the Church car park notwithstanding this facility has been made available to them. No offence is being committed and thus the Police are unable to take any action. Councillors confirmed that they have had a meeting with the Head of the school and school governors to highlight villagers concerns but in reality are unable to take the matter any further.

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

Meeting closed to the Public 22.05

10. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 7 July 2016 at 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 22.06

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
03.10.14 - 03	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR c/fwd
02.07.15 - 01	Contact BT to ascertain the cost of reinstating the public telephone as a payphone	MR c/fwd
04.02.16 - 03	Ascertain whether the 'Heart of Suffolk' fingerposts are to be replaced	AT c/fwd
04.02.16 - 04	Write to Highways re blocked gully at junction on U5305 and A140	AT & JH
07.04.16 - 02	Apply to Community Fibre Partnerships	PB c/fwd
02.06.16 - 01	Circulate details of The Centenary Fields Programme	AT
02.06.16 -	Liaise with Peter Brook re board walk for footpath	PT

