

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 5 April 2018

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

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr I Smith, Mr A Stringer, Mr G Horn, Mr M Sillett, Mrs C Aldous, Mr I Wilding, Mr D Youles and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.01

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: Cllr Bridge and Cllr Hayward

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Co- Option of Parish Councillor

Councillors voted to co-opt Ian Smith onto the Parish Council

3. Meeting opened to Public – 20.08

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail in which particular Agenda item, if any, they had an interest. An interest was expressed in Planning Application DC/18/01259.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.09

4. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of Thorndon Parish Council held on 1 February and 13 March 2018

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

5. Action Points/matters arising from those minutes

Summary of Action Points from Last Meeting		
02.06.16 - 02	Liaise with landowner re board walk for footpath	Complete
08.09.16 - 01	Identify landowners of blocked watercourses	RJ c/fwd
08.09.16 - 03	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	PB c/fwd
03.11.16 - 01	Arrange public meeting to discuss neighbourhood plans with a representative from Mid Suffolk District Council	JH c/fwd

05.01.17 - 01	Consider making Freedom of Information request to Post Office Ltd re mobile Post Van	PBr c/fwd
02.02.17 - 01	Report flooding on Thwaite Rd using Suffolk County Council's online reporting tool & speaking directly to Richard Porter at Highways	RJ & PB c/fwd
02.03.17 - 01	Monitor Faster Broadband	PB
13.07.17 01	Consider criteria for self-assessment of new VAS pole on High Street	JH c/fwd
07.09.17 - 02	Compile list of sign in the village which need to be replaced	MR c/fwd
04.01.18 - 01	Land Registry mapsearch snapshot of Thorndon	AT c/fwd
01.02.18 - 01	Arrange for a representative from Lacy Knight Scott to attend a Parish Meeting to discuss management of the 'set aside'	PB
01.02.18 - 02	Write to Galloways re buses driving over the triangle at Stanwell Green	Complete

02.06.16 – 02 Cllr Taylor confirmed that the works are complete.

08.09.16 – 01 Cllr Jenkins has spoken to one landowner about a blocked ditch in the village who readily accepts his responsibility but cannot afford to undertake the works.

08.09.16 – 03 Cllr Bartlett has not had any contact with John Howard or Lacy Knight Scott but does expect that they will be in touch after a meeting at the end of April.

02.02.17 – 01 The ditch at Collingsford Bridge is blocked solid and it was suggested that the Clerk should contact the landowner asking that he clear the same. In addition, the gully which abuts the A140 is blocked. Cty Cllr Stringer confirmed that the problem was reported to Highways using the online reporting tool on 15 February last. Progress of the repair works can be followed online.

02.03.17 – 01 Cty Cllr advised that the deadline for Thorndon, Mendlesham Green and Mickfield has slipped although Mendlesham Green is now placing orders for the upgraded service and he hopes that Thorndon and Mickfield will not be far behind.

01.02.18 – 01 It was suggested that the representative from Lacy Knight Scott be invited to attend the June meeting of the Parish Council.

Meeting opened to Public 20.29

6. Reports

6.1 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Stringer was present at the meeting and delivered his report, a copy of which is attached.

6.2 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Horn was not present at the meeting and delivered his report.

Meeting closed to Public 20.50

7. Planning

7.1 Planning Applications:

- **18.01259:** Application for erection of a two storey rear extension at Rydal House High Street Thorndon. Councillors voted to support this application.

7.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

7.3 Approvals:

- **17.05894:** Erection of a dwelling with garage and new vehicular access on land Stoke Road Thorndon
- **18.00072:** Erection of one 3-bedroom dwelling (material change to granted 3368.15 (outline) and 1001.17 (reserved matter) at land of east Thwaite Road Thorndon
- **18.00118:** Erection of two storey rear extension, single storey rear extension and attached double cart lodge at Millstone Cottage Mill Lane Thorndon

7.4 Refusals:

- Erection of two dwellings garages and vehicular access at land adjacent to 17 Hall Road Thorndon

7.5 Listed Building Consent: None

7.6 Other: The Clerk has received a letter from the Architect instructed by the owner of land lying to the north east of The Street Thorndon. In looking at the possibility of developing the site one issue which has arisen concerns access to the site. The Architect states that an easement over a slither of land owned by the Parish Council would be required and has asked for a meeting with representatives of the Parish Council to discuss the matter. Councillors stated that they are not prepared to entertain the grant of an easement over the land in question as a consequence of which they see no reason to meet to discuss the request. The Clerk will respond accordingly.

8. Specific Agenda Items:

- The Clerk has received an email from a resident of Finningham whose car was damaged by a large pothole, the size of a football 5 inches deep, on the road out of Thorndon towards Stoke Ash. She is now processing a claim against Suffolk County Council for the damage. She enquired whether any other residents have encountered a similar misfortune and asking if her details could be forwarded to any such person or persons. Whilst Councillors are aware of the pothole in question no one was aware of anyone whose car had been damaged. This topic led onto a wider discussion on potholes and their repair. Cty Cllr Stringer advised that once a report of a pothole is made using the online reporting tool, the same is inspected by Highways who assess the timeframe for the need for the same to be repaired. Once this assessment has been undertaken, any legal action taken against Highways by a driver whose car has been damaged by that pothole within the timeframe, will fail. It is for this reason 85% of claims are rejected.

On a related topic, Cty Cllr Stringer referred to the recent questionnaire received by Parish Councillors from a Communications Officer at Highways

asking about whether Parish Councils undertake any works such as sign cleaning or cutting verges. The questionnaire was worded in such a manner that most Parish Councils thought the same was designed with a view to imposing obligations of such a nature onto Parish Councils. Apparently this was not the case, rather it arose following a fatality last year as a result of one of Highways sub-contractors and was an attempt by Highways to assess whether any training was required for Parishes.

9. Clerks Report

9.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £27,909.30

9.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
05.04.18	Suffolk Cloud	Website hosting	£100.00		£100.00	Agreed	100787 (18/19 - 01)
05.04.18	Mrs A J Thompson	Clerk's salary & expenses	£207.12		£207.12	Agreed	100788 (18/19 - 02)
05.04.18	HMRC	PAYE	£51.78		£51.78	Agreed	100789 (18/19 - 03)
		TOTAL	£358.90	£0.00	£358.90		

8.3 The Clerk confirmed that she has received letter of thanks from the various organisations to whom donations have been made.

8.4 The Clerk advised that the annual audit is now due. Councillors confirmed that they were happy to appoint Dawn Crisp as internal auditor once more.

8.5 The Clerk advised that the branch of Barclays Bank in Eye will close on 21 September next.

9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 20.52

9.1 Cllr Smith raised the issue of visibility at the Clint Road/Thwaite Road crossroads. Cllr Ravenhill asked that the same be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

9.2 Cllr Smith asked whether the erection of a mobile telephone mast in the Church tower was something which had been considered as the strength of a mobile signal in the village is poor. Again, Cllr Ravenhill asked that the matter be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

9.3 The Local Government Bounday Commission for England has published new draft recommendations for the future electoral arrangements for Mid Suffolk District Council for which the public consultation ends on 30 April next. The draft recommendations can be seen at www.lgbce.org.uk.

9.4 Mr Brand delivered his report for Neighbourhood Watch.

Meeting closed to the Public 21.30

10. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 3 May 2018 at 8.00pm with the Annual Parish meeting starting at 7.30pm.

MEETING CLOSED 21.31

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
08.09.16 - 01	Identify landowners of blocked watercourses	RJ c/fwd
08.09.16 - 03	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	PB c/fwd
03.11.16 - 01	Arrange public meeting to discuss neighbourhood plans with a representative from Mid Suffolk District Council	JH c/fwd
05.01.17 - 01	Consider making Freedom of Information request to Post Office Ltd re mobile Post Van	PBr c/fwd
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04.01.18 - 01	Land Registry mapsearch snapshot of Thorndon	AT c/fwd
01.02.18 - 01	Arrange for a representative from Lacy Knight Scott to attend a Parish Meeting to discuss management of the 'set aside'	PB Defer to June/July