

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 6 June 2019

Present: Cllr Baker, Cllr Bridge, Cllr Cattermole, Cllr Hayward, Cllr Jenkins, Cllr Ravenhill (Chairman) and Cllr I Smith

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr A Stringer, C Aldous, Ms J Wilson, Mr M Sillett, Mr C Coulson, Mr S Marshall and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.00

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: Cllr Bartlett and Cllr Taylor (Vice Chairman)

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of non-pecuniary interests: None

3. Meeting opened to Public – 20.02

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail in which particular Agenda item, if any, in which they have an interest. No interests were expressed.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.03

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 9 May 2019

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		
08.09.16 - 03	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	Defer to July 2019
04.10.18 - 02	Contact Mr R Lockwood about the Lych Gate	JH c/fwd
09.05.19 - 01	Invite Clare Horton to the June meeting to discuss the state and condition of the Cycle Facility	Complete

09.05.19 – 01 The Clerk confirmed that, having invited the parents and young people to the meeting, had received a response from one of the parents apologising for the fact they were unable to attend this evenings meeting. The respondent suggested that the Parish Council should advertise the facility around the village so the other young persons are aware of the same and are encouraged to utilize the same. Councillors noted that the cycle facility is overgrown and asked why the same has not been mown. It was stated that the nature of the area is not easy to cut with

a mower, rather the same should be strimmed. The Clerk will ask Mr Fieblekorn for a quotation to strim this area. In addition, one of the newly installed signs has been destroyed. It was agreed to replace the same on this occasion, but that Councillors should consider a timeframe for the facility, assuming, going forward, the same is not used. **Action Point 06.06.19 – 01**

Meeting opened to Public 20.14

6. Reports

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

6.2 District Councillor's Report: D Cllr Stringer was present at the meeting and provided his report, a copy of which is attached.

Meeting closed to Public 20.40

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications:

- **DC.19.02122** Planning application for the erection of a single storey side extension and insertion of roof lights at the Old Barn Cottage High Street Thorndon. The application was unanimously supported by Councillors.

6.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

6.3 Approvals:

- **DC.19.01484:** Consent for the erection of a new dwelling (dwelling previously granted under outline planning permission 1834.16) incorporating improvements to vehicular access at Croft Cottage, Clint Road, Thorndon.

6.4 Refusals: None

6.5 Listed Building Consent: None

6.6 Other:

- Cllr Hayward advised that the recent open meeting at the Village Hall was well attended and that a significant number of surveys have been completed. The Planning Consultant is now progressing the project to the next stage. Apparently the Consultant needs access to the 'Parish Online' software, only available to Parish Councils at a Licence fee of £60.00pa. Councillors voted unanimously to pay for this.
- Counsellors have been invited to provide comments to the Eye Neighbourhood Plan. They are to let the Clerk have the same before the closing date of 5 July next
- Cllr Hayward asked that as and when the Clerk is advised of the planning meeting for Kerrison, if he is away, she should advise Mr S Page of the same.

7. Specific Agenda Items:

7.1 Cllrs Bridge and Baker need to attend a new Councillor training course. Notwithstanding he only attended such a course 10 months ago, Cllr Smith expressed a strong interest in attending one of these courses again together with Cllr Jenkins. The Clerk will liaise with the relevant parties to arrange attendance on the course and clarify with SALC as to the necessity for Cllr Smith to attend.

7.2 The Clerk has received an email from Local Service Solutions, a new start-up business offering to clean village signs including removal of any overgrowth obscuring any sign and clearance in the vicinity of the sign. The business states that it would also carry out a condition survey and report defective signs to Suffolk County Council. The fixed price for this service would be 625.00. Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that she had asked for clarification that this sum was an annual payment. In the meantime Cllr Jenkins will count all the village signs and this item will be placed on the Agenda for July for further discussion.

7.3 Cllr Smith drew Councillors' attention to building materials which are currently on Clint Road. He advised that he has received an anonymous letter complaining about the same. The landowner in question was in attendance at the meeting and was able to confirm that the building materials are being stored on his own property. This being the case, it is not a matter of concern for the Parish Council.

8. Clerks Report

8.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £41,143.58 of which £10,120.29 are the grant monies received for the Neighbourhood Plan and the neighbourhood portion of Community Infrastructure Levy giving a net balance of £31,023.29.

8.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
06.06.19	Thorndon Village Hall	Village Hall Hire	102.00		102.00	Agreed	100867 (19/20 - 13)
06.06.19	Mrs A Thompson	Clerks Salary & Expenses	207.12		207.12	Agreed	100868 (19/20 - 14)
06.06.19	HMRC	PAYE	51.78		51.78	Agreed	100869 (19/20 - 15)
06.06.19	Wel Medical Limited	Defibrillator Cabinet	464.95	92.99	557.94	Agreed	100870 (19/20 - 16)
		TOTAL	£825.85	£92.99	£918.84		

8.3 Councillors approved the annual audit which has now been passed by the internal auditor and completed the Annual Governance and Accounting Statements. As a result of comments made by Cllr Smith during this process, it was agreed that the Clerk will review the Parish Council's Finance Policy. **Action Point 06.06.19 - 02**

8.4 Cllr Smith has previously suggested that the Parish Council could be securing a better rate of interest on its deposit account than that currently being received from Barclays Bank plc. The Clerk pointed out that headline rates of interest obtainable did not necessarily apply to community accounts, of which the Parish Council is one. Councillors discussed the matter at length suggesting that the role of the Parish Councillors was not to 'play the market' with parishioners' money rather to utilise the monies received for the good of the village. Councillors voted 1:6 no retain the status quo.

9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 20.35

9.1 Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that Councillors would like to avail themselves of D Cllr Stringer's offer to hold an informal meeting to discuss responses to planning applications. D Cllr Stringer will liaise with the Clerk as to dates etc.

9.2 Cllr Smith asked Cty Cllr Stringer when the white lines would be painted on The Street at the junction with Clint Road. Cty Cllr Stringer reiterated his previous advice, namely that the same have been entered on the schedule of works for the highways engineers which, in turn, are being undertaken in order of priority. No further advice is available.

9.3 Cllr Smith asked D Cllr Stringer about the presence of Gypsy caravans on Brockford Road. D Cllr Stringer assured Councillors that Mid Suffolk District Council was aware of their presence and has initiated enforcement action. He did warn that such action is a time consuming process lasting about 2.5 – 3 years to run the whole course and that this site was 9 months into the process.

9.4 Cllr Hayward raised concerns about the number of 'road closed' and 'diversion' signs which are erected to give advance warning of road works as well as remaining in situ long after the road works have been completed. Cty Cllr Stringer said he was aware of this issue and that concerns should be reported online particularly as there is a mechanism in place to fine Network Assurance for a failure to collect the signs once works are complete.

9.5 Cllr Hayward advised that if individuals look to access the village website using Google Chrome they habitually receive a message 'this site is not secure'. Google Chrome will for £10.00pa provide the necessary certificate to avoid this message appearing. Councillors agreed to this annual payment.

9.6 Cllr Cattermole reported that remedial works are required for the Play Area and affirmed that he is authorized to spend £50.00 on materials without prior authorisation from Councillors.

9.7 Mr Brand delivered his report for Neighbourhood Watch.

Meeting closed to the Public 21.44

10. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 4 July 2019 at 8.00pm

MEETING CLOSED 21.45

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
08.09.16 - 03	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	Defer to July 2019
04.10.18 - 02	Contact Mr R Lockwood about the Lych Gate	JH c/fwd
06.06.19 - 01	Order replacement sign for cycle faciliy	AB
06.06.19 - 02	Review Parish Council Finance Policy	AB