

## THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### Minutes of Meeting held by Zoom on 7 January 2021

**Present:** Cllr Bridge, Cllr Cattermole, Cllr Hayward, Cllr Jenkins, Cllr Page, Cllr Ravenhill (Chairman) and Cllr Taylor (Vice Chairman)

**Also present:** Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr A Stringer, Mrs C Aldous, Ms J Wilson, Mr & Mrs L Andrews and Mr I Smith

#### Meeting Opened 19.34

#### 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 – 19.41

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail in which particular Agenda item, if any, in which they have an interest. Interest in planning application for the poultry units at Castle Hill Farm was expressed.

#### Meeting closed to Public – 19.35

#### 3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Thorndon Parish Council held on 10 December 2020

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>08.09.16 - 03</b>	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	RJ
<b>02.09.20 - 03</b>	Investigate smell of sewage near bungalows adjoining the Play Area	PT
<b>02.09.20 - 04</b>	Contact Highways re tree in triangle opposite the Church	JH
<b>08.10.20 - 01</b>	Research CCTV options for Play Area	JH Defer to Jan/Feb '21

<b>04.11.20 - 01</b>	Contact Post Office concerning the Post Box at Stanwell Green	MR c/fwd
<b>04.11.20 - 02</b>	Contact John Howard and Suffolk County Council re bus shelter at Kerrison	RJ

**08.09.16 – 03** Cllr Jenkins advised that there is no update to report following the Christmas break.

**02.09.20 – 03** Cllr Taylor confirmed that a works order was issued on 18 December last.

**02.09.20 – 04** Cllr Hayward advised there is nothing to report.

**08.10.20 – 01** Cllr Hayward has endeavoured to make contact with a company in Bury St Edmunds but he and the contact there missed each other on a couple of occasions before Christmas. He will now pursue the matter.

**04.11.20 – 01** Cllr Ravenhill confirmed she has contacted the Post Office who already have the matter in hand. Evidently, following the grant of planning consent, the applicant approached the Post Office asking for the Post Box to be relocated. Cllr Ravenhill will keep the matter under review.

**04.11.20 – 02** Cllr Jenkins confirmed that he needs to prepare a plan for the location of the proposed bus shelter for Highways.

## **Meeting opened to Public 19.42**

### **5. Reports**

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

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

## **Meeting closed to Public 19.47**

### **6. Planning**

#### **6.1 Planning Applications:**

- **DC.20.05293:** Application for the erection of a swimming pool building and construction of indoor swimming pool at Hestley Hall Thorndon. Councillors voted to support this application.

**6.2 Listed Planning Applications:** None

**6.3 Approvals:** None

#### **6.4 Refusals:**

- **DC.20.02052:** Re-consultation of planning application to erect 3no poultry houses (following demolition of 3 existing houses) with associated admin block, store, feed bins and alterations to vehicular access (accompanied by environmental statement) at Castle Hill Farm Castle Hill Thorndon has been refused. Cllr Ravenhill expressed her thanks to Cllr Stringer and Cllr Hayward for their support and assistance in opposing this application. She also advised that she has had a message advising that an appeal against this decision has already been lodged, although has not been able to verify the accuracy of this information.
- **DC.20.04774:** Application for outline planning permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered) Town and Country Act 1990 for the erection of 4no sustainable dwellings has been refused.

#### **6.5 Listed Building Consent: None**

#### **6.6 Other:**

- Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Page confirmed that an issue relating to recognition in the Neighbourhood Plan with the Joint Local Plan had arisen but that the same has now remedied and was submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council on 24 December last. Otherwise concentration is on preparation for the referendum
- Cllr Ravenhill confirmed that comments on the Joint Local Plan relating to agricultural buildings and activities therein had been fed back to Mid Suffolk District Council.

#### **7. Specific Agenda Items:**

- Quiet Lanes: Cllr Page reiterated the fact that he has registered an interest in having some roads in the village designated as Quiet Lanes and asked for confirmation from Councillors that they are happy for him to progress the project. Whilst there is no need to hold a public meeting, information must be published. Cllr Page suggested disseminating details via the village website, Village Life magazine and email. If approved, the signage required should cost £1,060.00 for which a £600.00 grant might be available. Councillors confirmed their approval of the project.
- Following a road traffic accident on The Street on New Years Eve, the outstanding work to the white lines at the junction with Clint Road was raised. Cllr Stringer confirmed that the trimming back of hedges had helped visibility at this junction. Concerning the realignment of the white lines, Cllr Stringer advised that when this matter was first raised in 2018, Paul Gant at Highways felt that, unless or until there was a change in circumstance, there was no reason to undertake the work. This accident and grant of planning consent for a new dwelling on the opposite corner of the junction does constitute a change in circumstance and Cllr Stringer will now refer the matter back to Paul Gant for review. Cllr Stringer will also re-report the works to Threeways which were also discussed in 2018. Cllr Jenkins will oversee this matter.

## 8. Clerks Report

**8.1 Financial Update:** The current balance is £52,317.46 of which £9,908.57 are the neighbourhood portion of Community Infrastructure Levy giving a net balance of £42,408.89.

### 8.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
07.01.21	Mrs A J Thompson	Clerks Salary	207.12		207.12	Agreed	100944 (20/21 - 26)
07.01.21	HMRC	PAYE	51.78		51.78	Agreed	100945 (20/21 - 27)
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£258.90</b>		<b>£258.90</b>		

**8.3** The Clerk and Cllr Page have considered the precept for the next financial year summarised as follows:

- The precept for the current financial year was £15,000.00.
- The bank balance will be circa £40,000.00 at the end of March after deduction of £10,000.00 CIL monies held.
- Expenditure for the current year is £14,500.00 exclusive of donations which are usually in the region of £1,500.00, total £16,000.00.
- MSDC are working on a 3.4% increase for the next financial year which would raise the precept to £15,510.00
- There are a couple of additional factors which need to be taken into account:
  - Clerks salary. This has not been reviewed for the past 9 years and is now below minimum wage level
  - Quiet Lanes. If approved there will need to be £1,060.00 spent on the project in respect of which a £600.00 grant may be available
  - Play Area. The possibility of installing CCTV and barrier at the entrance have an estimated cost of £6,000.00

Overall, we would propose an increase in the precept to £19,000.00 to allow for annual increase of expenditure ( $£16,000.00 \times 3.4\% = £16,544 + \text{Clerks salary}$ ) together with a contribution towards proposed projects set against the current balance of £40,000.00.

Following a discussion of the proposal, Councillors voted 5:2 to settle the precept at £19,000.00.

**8.4** The Clerk confirmed she has received a response from Mendlesham Health Centre concerning patients waiting outside to collect medication in inclement weather. It was confirmed that the practice has had many discussions on this matter but that in order to prioritise patients with appointments and keep staff safe whilst adhering to Government regulations, there is no alternative.

## **9. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 20.45**

**9.1** Cllr Taylor in his capacity as Footpath Officer advised that the netting on the boardwalk is beginning to lift, and that he has reported the same to Mid Suffolk District Council.

**9.2** Cllr Jenkins noted that the fencing between the play area and cycle facility has fallen down again. He has tidied the area and in so doing found a homemade smoking bowl for drug users which has been removed.

**9.3** Cllr Hayward raised the issue of sign cleaning around the village, a matter he mentioned to Scott Regan who has previously provided a quotation for the work. Mr Regan, in turn, advised that he would review the quotation and notify Cllr Hayward of any variation to the same. The Clerk will contact Mr Regan to confirm his costings before discussing the proposal at the next meeting. **Action Point 07.01.21 – 01**

**9.4** Cllr Hayward suggested a third party be contracted to remove the fencing and flatten the former cycle facility. Cllr Taylor confirmed that he would undertake the task.

**9.5** Cllr Hayward reference the new houses adjacent to Rose Cottage Hall Road and fact fencing and hedging required as a planning condition have not been installed or planted. Cllr Stringer will report the same to Enforcement to ensure compliance prior to occupation of the vacant units.

**9.6** The state of the verges along Thwaite Road was raised with advice that the matter should be referred to Highways using the online reporting tool.

**9.7** Fallen signs which have been lying around the village for months was raised. Cllr Stringer confirmed this matter is a bane for the County Council and that what is needed is an appraisal in conjunction with Parish Councils to ascertain which signs need repair/replacement or removal. In the meantime the matter can be reported to Suffolk County Council using the online reporting tool.

## **Meeting closed to the Public 21.01**

**10.** Next meeting date is 4 February 2021.

## **MEETING CLOSED 21.02**

<b>Summary of Action Points for next Meeting</b>		
<b>08.09.16 - 03</b>	Seek update on Kerrison redevelopment	RJ
<b>02.09.20 - 03</b>	Investigate smell of sewage near bungalows adjoining the Play Area	PT
<b>02.09.20 - 04</b>	Contact Highways re tree in triangle opposite the Church	JH
<b>08.10.20 - 01</b>	Research CCTV options for Play Area	JH Defer to Jan/Feb '21
<b>04.11.20 - 01</b>	Contact Post Office concerning the Post Box at Stanwell Green	MR
<b>04.11.20 - 02</b>	Contact John Howard and Suffolk County Council re bus shelter at Kerrison	RJ
<b>07.01.21 - 01</b>	Contact Scott Regan re village sign cleaning	AT