

## THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2022 starting at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Peter Bridge, Cllr Tim Cherrett, Cllr Robert Jenkins, Cllr Emma Milton, Cllr Marion Ravenhill, Cllr Peter Taylor, Cllr Jill Wilson

**In attendance:** Odile Wladon (Locum Clerk), Cllr Andrew Stringer (County & District), Claude Brand and 1 member of the public

Item Ref	Description
22.02.01	The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.
22.02.02	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> There were no apologies received.
22.02.03	<b>Declarations of Interests – in subsequent agenda items</b> (a) Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests – Cllr Wilson: 22.02.09 (DC/21/06625, Castle Hill). Cllr Wilson confirmed she would not comment during the agenda item. (b) There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared.
22.02.04	<b>Dispensations:</b> No requests for dispensations were received.
22.02.05	<b>Councillor vacancy:</b> there were no applications to review.
22.02.06	<b>Minutes:</b> Councillors reviewed and approved the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.
22.02.07	<b>Reports:</b> (a) County Councillor – copy appended to minutes (b) District Councillor – no report for this meeting (c) Additional comments: The report on the outcome of the MSDC Planning Peer Review is awaited. SCC is being encouraged to use their responses to planning consultations to promote bio-diversity schemes.
22.02.08	<b>Public forum:</b> There were no comments.
22.02.09	<b>Planning:</b> (a) Councillors agreed the following responses to planning consultations: <b>DC/21/06625</b> Erection of 1no. Agricultural Workers dwelling with attached double garage for farm manager. Castle Hill Farm, Castle Hill, Thorndon Councillors discussed the application and noted that an existing property was already on the site. Some concerns were raised about future applications and usage of the proposed dwelling. Councillors voted to <b>SUPPORT</b> the application and commented that the conditions noted by the statutory consultees should be included. <b>DC/22/00162</b> Erection of infill extension to first floor balcony area (existing undercroft) to create habitable room as part of dwelling. Blue Sky Barn, The Street, IP23 7JR Councillors reviewed the details and voted to <b>SUPPORT</b> the application. (b) Councillors noted the following outcomes of planning decisions reached by Mid Suffolk: DC/21/05675 – Town Farm, The Street GRANTED DC/21/06244 – Hope Barn, Stoke Road GRANTED DC/21/05979 – Thorndon Hill Farm, Rishangles Road CONDITIONS DISCHARGED (relating

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	to DC/17/04154 – Condition 4: Visibility Splays and Condition 5: Historic Asset Assessment)
<b>22.02.10</b>	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>(a) Councillors noted the bank accounts balances and the bank statements were initialled by the Chair.</p> <p>(b) Councillors approved the following cheque for payment: Lonsdale Direct Solutions – printing of referendum leaflet (Localism Act 2011) Gross £48.00 VAT exempt</p> <p>(c) Councillors agreed that following a decision at the November 2021 meeting to support the Village Hall defibrillator project, a donation would be made to the Village Hall committee for the cost of a defibrillator cabinet. A cheque would be raised as soon as the amount was known.</p>
<b>22.02.11</b>	<p><b>Clerk's report</b></p> <p>(a) Joint Local Plan – the Examiner has advised that the Plan should be split into 2 parts. Part 1 will be the policies used to determine planning applications with Part 2 being site allocations. MSDC plan to consult on Plan 1 as soon as possible.</p> <p>(b) Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter from a resident seeking information on the Neighbourhood Plan – Clerk had responded with links to websites.</li> <li>• Letter from Sue Ives – will be circulated to Councillors.</li> <li>• SARS update was noted.</li> <li>• Healthwatch Suffolk – request to circulate details of surveys. Information will be circulated to the community via the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.</li> <li>• Friends of Thorndon School – are seeking help with funding replacement equipment and a multi weather astro area on the field behind the school. Councillors agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>22.02.12</b>	<b>Training:</b> There were no updates at this meeting.
<b>22.02.13</b>	<b>Bus shelter:</b> There were no updates at this meeting.
<b>22.02.14</b>	<p><b>Quiet Lanes</b></p> <p>Cllr Hayward noted he had not received an update. County Cllr Stringer advised he would chase the matter and circulate correspondence he has on the on the matter.</p>
<b>22.02.15</b>	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>(a) Report on highway signs in the Parish – Councillors noted that costings have not yet been received. County Cllr Stringer has been chasing this on Thorndon's behalf.</p> <p>(b) Councillors agreed to site the Lorry Watch warning signs on the existing 7.5t weight limit signs.</p> <p>(c) SCC Lorry Route review – there has been no update received on this matter.</p> <p>(d) Speed limit issues – County Cllr Stringer has received representations to extend the 30mph zone due to the development at Kerrisons. After detailed discussion, Councillors agreed that a review of safety of the stretch of road leading to the Kerrison development should be undertaken, including the potential extension of the 30mph zone, replacement "horse" warning signs and the centre white line which was not repainted after the last resurfacing.</p>
<b>22.02.16</b>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Councillors noted that the referendum will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> February and that information</p>

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	leaflets have been circulated to all households. 10 printed copies of the plan are available to borrow by residents for reference.
<b>22.02.17</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Watch report</b> Councillors received a report from Mr Brand.
<b>22.02.18</b>	<b>Meeting opened to the public for brief matters of report</b> – no matters were raised.
<b>22.02.19</b>	<b>Playing field – fence repair</b> In accordance with s. 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 - Councillors voted on a motion to close the meeting to members of the public and press to review commercially sensitive quotations received for works to the fence at the playing field. Councillors agreed to move forward with replacing the existing fence with metal powder coated metal fencing. An additional quote will be sought.
<b>22.02.20</b>	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022

Meeting closed at: 9.15pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:**

### **Levelling up!**

At midnight on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, the government announced that Suffolk had been given the go ahead to negotiate a “county deal” although no agreement has been reached regarding if this deal will include a mayor, or the needing to have unitary government etc. The leaders of Suffolk County Council are at pains to declare that no decisions have been made etc, but governments rarely relinquish power and funding to the regions without strings attached.

### **Budget Scrutiny Meeting, 11<sup>th</sup> January**

The Scrutiny Committee met on 11<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the Conservative’s budget proposals for this year. Our Group believes the budget did not raise the Social Care Precept tax to the necessary amount. Suffolk GLI believes this needs to be raised to a 3% increase instead of the proposed 2%, to aid in Suffolk’s social care crisis. This recommendation was rejected by the Conservatives.

Furthermore, the administration did not provide the Carbon Budget to work alongside the core budget. The Carbon Budget is aimed to help us understand the level of emissions the Council are responsible for and helps to achieve the Council’s ambition of being carbon-neutral by 2030. It is important the Carbon Budget is scrutinised, as there are many issues with data collection and performance measures that are yet to be addressed.

### **Cabinet Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> February**

The Cabinet has met to discuss the core budget, and vote on whether to pass the budget through to Full Council to be finalised on 17<sup>th</sup> February. The Cabinet are also voted to approve adoption of the Carbon Budget, as well as the recommendations to enhance Suffolk Biodiversity – making this a key priority moving forward.

### **Transport East**

Suffolk County Council’s regional transport body, Transport East, has drafted its new strategy for the future. It explains the investment and priorities Transport East aims to provide, to develop a leading transportation network.

Suffolk GLI are concerned with the emphasis on profit and growth. Instead, a strategy for the future should focus on improved public transportation, greener energy, and walking and cycling infrastructure. Suffolk GLI submitted their comments to Transport East, in the hope they reconsider their strategy. Visit the Suffolk GLI website for our response.

### **New Discovering Suffolk App**

As part of the two year ‘Discovering Suffolk’ project, Discover Suffolk has launched a free mobile app to help access and enjoy the countryside. The app provides over 100 guided walking, cycling and riding trails to explore.

### **Suffolk Libraries Day 2022**

Suffolk Libraries Jumpstart January wellbeing campaign ran again throughout January. Working with Wellbeing Suffolk, Suffolk Libraries offered a programme of free online fitness activities and wellbeing drop-ins. Hundreds of people enjoyed the activities already which include yoga, pilates, and creative dance.

Suffolk Libraries is running an online book festival in March, as part of Suffolk Libraries Day 2022. Suffolk Libraries Day is a celebration of the county’s library service and the organisation’s main fundraising event. Libraries will also be confirming special events nearer the time.