

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held in the Village Hall,
on Thursday, 2nd April 2026 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Stephen Marshall, Emma Milton (c), Ian Smith, Jill Wilson, Nigel Williamson

In attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk), District & County Cllr Andrew Stringer, Mr Claude Brand – Neighbourhood Watch and 3 members of the public.

Item ref	Description
26.04.01	Chairman's welcome
26.04.02	Apologies for Absence (a) Councillors received apologies from Cllrs Cherrett and Sherlock (b) Councillors resolved to accept the apologies received.
26.04.03	Declarations of Interests No councillor declarations were made.
26.04.04	Dispensations No requests for dispensations were received.
26.04.05	Minutes Councillors resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 5 th March 2026.
26.04.06	<p>Reports</p> <p>Mid Suffolk District Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land off Clint Road – fencing, planting and mulching have taken place. • Grant funding for Neighbourhood Development Plans has been agreed – more details to follow. • A14 litter – was suspended due to health & safety concerns. Some works have taken place during planned road closures. • 8 acres of land have been purchased in Stowmarket to help with biodiversity. • Locality grants will be available after the County elections in May. • A Nature Recovery Grant is currently available. • Help for heating oil purchases is available through the County Council. <p>Suffolk County Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New SID device has been installed on the approach to Thorndon. • Site visit from highways officer has taken place a Castle Hill. All drains are blocked and a plan of works is being looked into. • Potholes on Clint Road should be repaired within 8 weeks. • Smaller issues should be reported on “report it” tool. • Local Government Reorganisation – Government have decided on 3 unitary authorities for Suffolk. It is possible there could be a legal challenge to this decision. All officers are preparing for the changes, guidance from the Government is being sought on disaggregation of services currently operated by the County Council. • A motion was supported regarding support for victims of sexual harm with sign posting and social media information. • The library decision has been reviewed by scrutiny committee. Number of volunteers appears to be static, some money has been saved but cost of IT has been high.

Item ref	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to an upturn in children with measles – vaccine promotion is underway. <p>A member of the public thanked the parish and district councils for the works off Clint Road.</p>
26.04.07	<p>Public forum</p> <p>No questions or comments were received from the public.</p>
26.04.08	<p>Planning</p> <p>Councillors to review any planning consultations received:</p> <p>DC/26/01236 – Works to trees with TPO. Acorn House, Thwaite Road. No objections</p> <p>Clerk to respond to the following application under delegation:</p> <p>DC/26/01154 – removal of roof and addition of room in the roof. Internal arrangement reconfigured. Extension to rear kitchen and garden room with balcony above. Erection of new car port. Oak Haven, Thwaite Road</p>
26.04.09	<p>Finance</p> <p>(a) Councillors resolved to approve payments due in month or paid in month to fulfil contractual obligations.</p> <p>Made in month to fulfil contractual obligations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> O. Wladon – salary 4th qrt 2025/26: £1,254.28 HMRC – PAYE/NI 4th art 2025/26: £361.05 <p>Payments to be made in month:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Community Council: donation towards village tidy £600 SALC: payroll fee £22.80 ICO: annual subscription £47.00 Graeme Cann: adding name to honours board £15 Anglia Security: CCTV maintenance £225 O. Wladon reimbursement for Your Security Sign: signs for play area £38.98 Thorndon Village Hall: room hire fees £96.00 Unity Trust Bank: monthly fee £7.00 <p>(b) Councillors noted receipts in month.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> MSDC: CIL123 £93,056.99 MSDC: s.106 £6,413.56 Unity Trust Bank: Credit interest £485.04 <p>(c) Any other financial matters.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors resolved to purchase tablets for all Councillors to use for Parish Council email and business. Agreed budget £1,000 net of VAT. Councillors resolved to appoint Dawn Crisp as the independent internal auditor for the financial year 1/4/25 to 31/3/26, in accordance with the terms of reference.
26.04.10	<p>Clerk's report</p> <p>(a) Actions agreed for correspondence received by the Clerk.</p> <p>Community shop – consider grant funding for a new bench £350. Agenda item for the next meeting.</p> <p>Request for a mirror on the road at Threeways and White Post Corner. Clerk advised that highways would not give permission for this. Suggestion will not be taken further.</p> <p>Anglian Security & Fire – CCTV report noted</p> <p>Cllr Cherrett report of foul litter at the car park noted.</p> <p>Dog fouling has been spotted inside the play area, gates not closing properly. Will be investigated.</p>

Item ref	Description
	<p>(b) Thorndon Primary School. Has received a successful outcome from the recent Ofsted inspection. 6 x strong outcomes (equivalent to previous outstanding). Recognises the good leadership and hard work of staff and pupils. Chair of Governors thanked the Parish Council for help with the funding of a sensory play areas. A question was raised concerning funding from Kerrison development and whether there is anything available. Congratulations were expressed from the Parish Council to the school for the fantastic Ofsted report.</p> <p>(c) LGR/Devolution: see County Council report (26.04.06)</p> <p>(d) Land off Clint Road: see District Council report (26.04.06)</p> <p>(e) Councillors resolved to approve the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Model Publication Scheme and TPC info ii. Data Protection & Information Management iii. Data Protection Policy
26.04.11	<p>Councillor Training & External meetings or briefings No updates for this meeting</p>
26.04.12	<p>Highways</p> <p>(a) Councillors received the following updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Lorry Watch the following reports were submitted w/e 21/3: 1, and 28/3: 2 (ii) SIDs SID at Rishangles has been installed. Cllr Smith has handed over responsibility for the SID data to Cllr Williamson. (iii) Post repair – before works are finalised the Council will review moving the bin to a different location. Sites will be scoped. <p>(b) To receive any other highways information on reports previously submitted - none</p>
26.04.13	<p>Access to area at Fen View The works have been completed and thank were expressed to Mark Atkins for his attention to the matter.</p>
26.04.14	<p>Signage at Fen View New sign has been purchased and will be installed shortly – shows for use up to age 12. Further signage informing users of the Parish Council’s contact details will be investigated.</p>
26.04.15	<p>Post box Unlikely to progress, to be removed from future agendas.</p>
26.04.16	<p>Emergency Planning Once council payment card is received, emergency bags will be purchased – it was agreed that only one DAB radio was needed.</p>
26.04.17	<p>Play Equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All works completed • Harness for disabled users of the merry go round are in transit. • Area being well used. • Concerns were raised about the wet pour, particularly that areas of grass remain. Chair advised this was deliberate, particularly around the mound/slide area. • It was noted that the fencing had not been replaced straight. Chair will investigate.
26.04.18	<p>Honour Board Councillors noted that the Community Council have arranged for the works and will be reimbursed by the Parish Council.</p>

Item ref	Description
26.04.19	Meeting opened for brief matters of report/agenda items for next meeting. Grant for bench at shop
26.04.20	Neighbourhood Watch report A report on the birthday of the shop published by Plunketts was circulated. A vehicle which had been SORN has been moved. Police drop-in sessions continue at Eye Library New bins are being delivered, and where houses have been missed Mid Suffolk have returned. Village Life has a new editor, Tim Cherrett 3 misdelivered parcels were sorted. Litter picking - all volunteers have the necessary equipment. Fly tipping in the village was reported and cleared away by Mid Suffolk. Parking on grassed areas at Fen View is being addressed by Mid Suffolk. Leaking inspection cover on footpath has not yet been repaired. Some rubble has been placed on a footpath. Last TLC took place today – thanks to volunteers who provide this service. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Stringer and officer from Highways who visited Castle Hill to look at the flooding issues.
26.04.21	Date of next meeting: 14 th May 2026, preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7pm

Meeting closed at: 8.45pm

Signed: _____

Date: