

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting held in Thorndon Village Hall,
on Thursday, 14th May 2026 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Tim Cherrett, Robert Jenkins, Stephen Marshall, Emma Milton, Andrew Owens,
Will Sherlock, Ian Smith, Jill Wilson

In attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk), District & County Councillor Andrew Stringer and 3
members of the public.

Item ref	Description
26.05.01	(a) Councillors elected Emma Milton as Chair of the Council (b) Councillors elected Tim Cherrett as Vice Chair of the Council (c) Councillors noted that the Clerk is the Responsible Financial Officer
26.05.02	Chairman's welcome The Chairman welcome all to this annual meeting and thanked her fellow Councillors for re-electing her for this council year.
26.05.03	Apologies for Absence (a) Councillors received apologies from Cllr Williamson (b) Councillors resolved to accept the apologies received.
26.05.04	Declarations of Interests: no declarations were made
26.05.05	Dispensations: No requests for dispensations were received
26.05.06	Minutes: Councillors resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the ordinary meeting held on 2 nd April 2026.
26.05.07	Public forum: No questions or comments from the public on agenda items were received.
26.05.08	Planning: Councillors noted decisions reached by Mid Suffolk District Council: DC/26/01236 – Acorn House, Thwaite Road. Works to TPO - granted
26.05.09	Finance: (a) Year end accounts: Councillors resolved to approve the following documents relating to the year end accounts for 2025/26 (i) Year end accounts with explanation of significant variances, plus summary of income and expenditure for 2025-26 (ii) Internal Audit Report – no audit points raised (iii) AGAR Section 1 (iv) AGAR Section 2 (v) Reserves (vi) CIL return (vii) Asset Register (viii) Dates for exercise of public rights – 3 rd June to 14 th July 2026 (b) In month: (i) Councillors resolved to approve the following payments: In month fulfil contractual obligations: Pear Space (Suffolk One) – website hosting and support £120.00

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	121 Computers – tablet computers for Councillors £891.00 Information Commissioners Office – annual subscription £47.00 To be paid in month: SALC – annual subscription £364.53 Dawn Crisp – Internal audit fee £45.40 Unity Trust Bank – monthly bank charges £7.00 Lloyds Bank – monthly card fee £3.00 Clerk to repay £13.48 – wrong clips for signs, had to be returned (will be repaid once refund is received). (ii) Councillors noted receipts in month: Mid Suffolk District Council - 1st half precept £11,870 Barclays Bank – compensation £25.00 (c) Councillors resolved to grant a request for funding towards a bench at the Community Shop - £350.00 agreed.
26.05.10	Clerk's report: (a) Correspondence received by the Clerk. Email received from Kerrison Trust advising that the Kerrison Estate bell would be gifted to the Parish Council. Councillors resolved to accept the ownership of the bell and further resolved that the bell would be kept in Parish Council ownership and displayed appropriately. (b) Updates from Thorndon Primary School: since new Ofsted report published several families have been shown around the school, it is hoped many will join in September. Rev. Debbie Nicholls has agreed to join the governing body as a foundation governor. All Saints Schools Trust have been very helpful and supports the school where it can. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council for its support over the year. (c) LGR/Devolution - no further update for this meeting (d) Land off Clint Road – no update for this meeting. (e) Councillors resolved to approve the following Policies/Procedures: • Standing Orders • Financial Regulations • Risk Assessment • Statement of internal controls
26.05.11	Councillor Training & External meetings or briefings (a) No requests for training have been received. (b) Updates from training or external meetings/briefings - the Clerk attended NALC training on Powering Up Town and Parish Councils and found it disappointing.
26.05.12	Reports: County Councillor and District Councillor <u>County</u> County elections: reduced from 75 to 70 Councillors Reform: 41 Green: 13 Conservative: 9 Labour: 3 LibDems: 2 and Independents: 2 All councillors are currently receiving training. Road schemes: A140/A1120 junction to continue Homes for Ukraine – scheme extended New chair appointed for Suffolk Business Board – linked to ramping up skills

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	<u>District</u> Locality Awards Open Recently taken control of completed Innovation and Skills Centre A website has been launched regarding the 3 unitary authorities following government decision on Local Government Reorganisation. Some funding is being made available for neighbourhood plans – but these must include site allocations, support of local Councillor required. NPCIL money can be used too.												
26.05.13	Highways (a) Councillors received updates on: (i) Lorry Watch – 3 reports in April (ii) SID – no update for this meeting (b) Updates on other highways information on reports previously submitted: (i) Cllr Wilson reported that a broken plan at Fen View has been fixed (ii) Cllr Smith is keeping an eye on the situation at Castle Hill (iii) Cllr Cherrett reported on works to signage in the village.												
26.05.14	Signage at Fen View Cllr Wilson advised that original fittings were incorrect and new ones have been received. Cllr Jenkins advised he would install the sign.												
26.05.15	Emergency plan Bags to be purchased as payment card has been received.												
26.05.16	Play Equipment (i) Councillors agreed that the Community Council is best placed to arrange an opening event for the play area. (ii) Cllr Milton is waiting contact from the contractor to carry out at snagging visit. (iii) A price for 2 new benches will be obtained.												
26.05.17	Meeting opened for brief matters of report/agenda items for next meeting. Dog bin opposite church – Cllr Wilson has looked for an alternative location and cannot find one. Councillors resolved that the bin would be removed temporarily and stored. The community council will be installing planters on the grassed area on 24th May. A member of the public raised concerns about activity at the chicken sheds at Castle Hill. The new house is complete and there are a lot of vehicles parked there. The Council will monitor the situation.												
26.05.18	Neighbourhood Watch report - Mr Brand sent apologies												
26.05.19	Dates of meetings for the Council year (usually 1st Thursday of the month): <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>4th June 2026</td><td>7th January 2027</td></tr> <tr> <td>1st July 2026</td><td>4th February 2027</td></tr> <tr> <td>3rd September 2026</td><td>4th March 2027</td></tr> <tr> <td>1st October 2026</td><td>1st April 2027</td></tr> <tr> <td>5th November 2026</td><td>13th May 2027 (Annual meeting)</td></tr> <tr> <td>3rd December 2026</td><td>May – 2nd Thursday due to elections</td></tr> </tbody> </table> Councillors resolved to approve the dates for the next council year.	4 th June 2026	7 th January 2027	1 st July 2026	4 th February 2027	3 rd September 2026	4 th March 2027	1 st October 2026	1 st April 2027	5 th November 2026	13 th May 2027 (Annual meeting)	3 rd December 2026	May – 2 nd Thursday due to elections
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Meeting closed at: 8.45pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____