

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held in Thorndon Village Hall,
on Thursday, 3rd September 2026 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Tim Cherrett (c), Bob Jenkins, Stephen Marshall, Andrew Owens, Will Sherlock,
Ian Smith, Nigel Williamson

In attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk), Cllr Andrew Stringer and 4 members of the public

Item ref	Description
26.09.01	Chairman's welcome The Chairman Cllr Milton was not present and Cllr Cherrett as Vice Chair, chaired the meeting.
26.09.02	Apologies for Absence (a) Councillors received apologies for absence from Emma Milton and Jill Wilson. (b) Councillors resolved to accept the apologies received.
26.09.03	Declarations of Interests: Councillors declared the following interests: (a) Pecuniary Interests – Cllr Cherrett 26.09.09 (a) payments (b) Other registerable interests - none (c) Non-registerable interests - none
26.09.04	Dispensations: None received.
26.09.05	Minutes: Councillors resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 2 nd July 2026.
26.09.05	Public forum: Thorndon School - just got back after summer break, doing well after Ofsted report. More children on roll than in the past. Beautiful display at the front for Thorndon in Colour. Fully staffed and children are flourishing. Liaising with the toddler group has led to pupils joining the school.
26.09.07	Planning: (a) Councillors to review the following consultation and review a response: DC/26/03678 - Change of use of land for solar panel array installation. Mill House, The Street. Councillors resolved to support the application. (b) Councillors noted decisions reached by Mid Suffolk District Council: DC/26/03011 - Hope Barn, Stoke Road. Non material amendment to condition 11 GRANTED DC/26/02172 - Heron Chase, Hestley Green. Discharge of condition 2 REFUSED (c) Any other planning matters – Mid Suffolk have advised that an EIA responded that Cranswick
26.09.08	Finance: (a) Councillors resolved to approve the following: <u>Payments made since last meeting</u> Archer Signs – play park sign £54.00 MSDC – bin emptying (part charge) £309.00 Cllr Cherrett - refund for battery and pads for defibrillator £319.19 Lloyds Bank – monthly fee x 2 £6.00 Unity Trust Bank - monthly fee x 2 £14.00 Anglian Security – CCTV service £396.00

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	Community Shop – Grant £350.00 <u>Payments to be made in month:</u> Anglian Security - call out to replace CCTV SIM £270.00 O Wladon – stationery and boxes, plus return of credit £65.45 PKF Littlejohn – external intermediate audit £756.00 Robert Lockwood - repair to post near Church £180.00 Donation for Neighbourhood Watch - £200 Cllr Cherrett abstained from the vote. (b) Councillors noted receipts in month – credit paid in error by Clerk £14.47 (c) Councillors reviewed Section 3 of the AGAR and noted that there were no except for comments received and therefore no action is required. (d) Councillors to note that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been published.
26.09.09	Clerk's report: (a) Councillors reviewed the following correspondence received by the Clerk and agreed actions: • Destruction of woodland – Cllrs noted that dead trees are being removed and the area is being tidied rather than destroyed. • Kerrison Bell – TC spoke with Oliver at Burgess Homes. Burgess Homes are happy to display the bell in a prominent place and will carry out the works. TC will arrange pick up, WS will help if required. • Request for SID on Clint Road – Cllrs suggested the member of the public contacts the police. (b) LGR/Devolution - no update. (c) Land off Clint Road Name suggestions received: • Glebe Farm / Thorndon Glebe Farm / The Glebe (Nature Reserve) • Brackenham • Set a Side Councillors agreed to move forward with Glebe and Brackenham for a public vote, Clerk will liaise with Mid Suffolk District Council. (d) Land adj Church – Town Estate Graham Bowthright was asked about any constraints, he pointed out that it is a grazing field and has historically been used as such. Allotments could be difficult. There is over an acre of land and will require hedgerow and maintenance. Councillors pointed that there is no other green space in the village and it would be good to have some space for children to at least kick a ball around.
26.09.10	Councillor Training & External meetings or briefings (a) No requests for training were received from Councillors. (b) Clerk attended 2 x town & parish liaison briefings: Regarding the Joint Local Plan, Mid Suffolk District Council officers advised that they hoped to have a more up to date figure on housing by the end of the year. Officers presented updates on funding opportunities, holiday activities for younger residents and a brief update on the new bin collection regime.
26.09.11	Highways (a) Councillors received the following updates on:

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	(i) Lorry Watch – 3 reports made in August. (ii) SID – Cllr Williams carried out downloads recently. There is no pattern of when speeding occurs, random across all areas. Most of the speeding is within the 30-40mph. Information will be shared in Village Life if possible. (b) Other highways information and updates on reports previously submitted. • Damage to areas will be discussed in closed session. • Parking in Fenn View – District Cllr Stringer is dealing with this matter • Castle Hill – Cllr Smith is still chasing this and will ask for the Parish Council to submit a complaint if it a date for the works is not received soon. • Cllr Smith has reported both the missing 30mph and national speed limit signs to Highways.
26.09.12	Signage at Fen View: All signage is now in place, remove from agenda
26.09.13	Emergency plan: Councillors to advise the Clerk if they want to be on the call out list. Once that is known a decision on how many bags will be purchased.
26.09.14	Play Area at Fen View: No update on harness. Cllr Smith to monitor the mound and edges. Clerk is obtaining a quote for the new fencing. An update is needed on the new benches. Trees - this is being monitored
26.09.15	CCTV: The camera needs to be replaced and quotes are being obtained.
26.09.16	Reports from Cllr Stringer: County Council Dunwich Heath – many fire teams arrived to help. Houses were offered for those evacuated and help was provided to get radio signals sorted. A full debrief is going to take place to see how equipment can be improved. Learning about how water is held up on land. New scheme to get households away from oil and gas and grants are available for this work. Cuts to the Healthy Child Service - promise that there will be no reduction in service. A trial of a JCB pothole repair machine is being undertaken – the results from other areas where these have been used have been mixed. Ongoing drainage issue on Castle Hill - no date has been set. All projects are currently under review. District Council The Council has been nominated for a national award for nature recovery. New wind turbine proposed on Oaksmere Business Park. A 3G pitch in Stowmarket has been opened – mostly recycled cork. Affordable housing allocations policy has been changed – local connection now has a

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	greater prominence. New NPPF has been issued – there is a restriction on call in possibilities for Councillors. Some other areas need to be reviewed. There will be training sessions within the District Council. There will be an election next May. If Unitary Authorities move forward Thorndon will no longer be in Mendlesham Ward. Parking at Fen View – has not heard from Officers as yet. No update on LGR at this point. Plans for devolution are still moving ahead.
26.09.17	Action Log: Cllr Smith will pull together a list and send to Cllr Cherrett. The purpose of the list will be as a prompt for actions outstanding, it will not to be used hold anyone to account.
26.09.18	Meeting opened for brief matters of report/agenda items for next meeting. No new agenda items. A member of the public raised concerns about the activity at the chicken farm on Castle Hill - previous visit by Cllr reported that there was nothing untoward. The member of the public asked if this could be regularly monitored.
26.09.19	Neighbourhood Watch report When people move away from the village they are advised that their data will be removed. Mr Brand read out a response from one villager who recently moved. Police Drop in – Eye Library Tuesday, 8th September 10am till noon. PSCO Hasler will be in attendance. Several parcels have been redirected. Found a mobile phone and a cat's collar, 2 sets of keys and a vape charger. New neighbours - 7 new residents have been signed up. Note on out of control dogs. Litter picking every Friday – very little litter recently. Lots of families using the play area. Thanks to the Parish Council for the donation.
26.09.20	Date of next meeting: 1st October 2026
26.09.21	Closed session: (i) Councillors resolved to review the following items in closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. (ii) Councillors noted that there has been damage caused by vehicles to a railing at Fen View and the white posts on the grass triangle opposite the Church. Quotes are being obtained for the works which will be paid for by the insurance companies of the drivers or the drivers themselves. (iii) Staffing matter: Councillors noted that the candidate offered the role to start 1st September, withdrew on 27th August. (iv) Councillors agreed to contact a late applicant from the last round of advertising, if this proved unsuccessful, then a new advert would be issued. (v) Clerk to stay will end of September on contract, further decisions will be reached at

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	that point.

Meeting closed at: 21.11pm

Signed: _____ Date: