

THORNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held at Thorndon Village Hall on 2 October 2014

Present: Cllr Bartlett, Cllr Botwright, Cllr Cattermole, Cllr Farquhar, Cllr Le Gros (Vice Chairman), Cllr Hayward, Cllr Jenkins, Cllr Ravenhill (Chairman) and Cllr Taylor

Also present: Mrs A Thompson (Clerk), Mr A Stringer, Mr C Tilbury, Mr M Sillett, Mrs C Owen, Mrs C Aldous and Mr C Brand

Meeting Opened 20.00

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Apologies for absence: None

Declarations of pecuniary interests: None

Declarations of non-pecuniary interests: None

2. Open Meeting to Public – 20.02

The Chairman asked members of the public to detail which particular agenda item, if any, they had an interest in. No agenda items were specified.

Meeting closed to Public – 20.03

3. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of Thorndon Parish Council held on 4 September 2014

The minutes from the meetings held on 4 September 2014 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		
01.05.14 – 01	Contact Highways Department re posts for the triangle on Thwaite Road and enquire as to the possibility of kerbing the same	Complete
03.07.14 – 01	Inspect Telephone Box	Complete
04.09.14 – 01	Enquire of Royal British Legion as to whether a new representative for Thorndon has been appointed for the Poppy Appeal	JH
04.09.14 – 02	To for ask a volunteer grit shoveller in the vicinity of White Post Corner	Complete
04.09.14 – 03	To investigate the blocked drain on The Street	Complete
04.09.14 – 04	Send copy letter from Kerrison Trust to Cllr Bartlett	Complete
04.09.14 – 05	Ask R Fiebelkorn to include the Play Area car park in the grasscutting remit	Complete

01.05.14 – 01 Cllr Jenkins has now received a draft estimate for the verge protection works to the Thwaite Road triangle from John Simpson (£650.00 if no closure required and circa £1,000.00 of road closure required) which has been circulated to Councillors. If the Parish Council is prepared to pursue this in the light of the costings, Suffolk County Council will provide a firm quotation for the works. A vote was taken agreeing to take this matter

further and Cllr Jenkins will now liaise with John Simpson on this. **Action Point 03.10.14 - 01**

03.07.14 - 01 Cllr Le Gros confirmed that he had looked at the telephone box and that it is working although the side panel is rather unsightly. It was agreed that the Clerk would lodge a complaint with BT requiring them to replace the panel or clean it. **Action Point 03.10.14 - 02**

04.09.14 - 01 Cllr Hayward has contacted the Royal British Legion who have not received any offers of assistance for Thorndon. He will re-advertise for help in this month's Village Life.

04.09.14 - 02 Simon Woods has confirmed that he will volunteer as a grit shoveller.

04.09.14 - 03 Cllr Jenkins has spoken to John Simpson at Suffolk County Council who will arrange to send a sludge clearer to address this problem.

04.09.14 - 04 Cllr Bartlett has been in correspondence with Col Lea about his recent letter to the Parish Council. Col Lea has confirmed that the units at Kerrison are currently being marketed by Savills and Lacy Scott & Knight. There is a good level of interest in the site but no indication as to when completion of any sale may be achieved. In terms of the planning application no further action is to be taken pending a buyer being secured. The Parish Council will review this item at the meeting in December.

04.09.14 - 05 Robert Fiebelkorn has quoted £25.00 to cut down and clear the Play Area car park. This expenditure was agreed by the Parish Council.

Meeting opened to Public 20.30

5. Reports

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

5.2 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Tilbury was present at the meeting and delivered his report, a copy of which is attached.

5.3 Police Report: No representative from the Police was present at the meeting but they did provide a report, a copy of which is attached.

Meeting closed to Public 20.50

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Applications: None

6.2 Listed Planning Applications: None

6.3 Approvals: 1038.14: Installation of swimming pool at Old Rectory Barn High Street Thorndon. This application has been approved.

2497.14: Erection of extension to existing cartlodge outbuilding at Church Farm Barn The Street Thorndon. This application has been approved.

6.4 Refusals: None

6.5 Listed Building Consent: None

6.6 Other: 2314.14: Erection of three two storey detached dwellings with garages, shared access and turning (amended scheme to that approved under 2995.13). This application has been withdrawn.

7. Clerks Report

7.1 Financial Update: The current balance is £16,843.22.

7.2 Payments to be made:

Date Rcvd	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount (£)	VAT/IPT	Total (£)	Agreed/ Declined	Chq No. (& ref)
02.10.14	Mrs A Thompson	Clerk's Salary	£207.12		£207.12	Agreed	100614 (14/15 - 33)
02.10.14	HMRC	PAYE	£51.78		£51.78	Agreed	100615 (14/15 - 34)
02.10.14	Business Services at CAS Ltd	Insurance Premium	£609.00		£609.00	Agreed	100616 (14/15 - 35)
		TOTAL	£867.90		£867.90		

7.3.1 Following the hurricane last October and extended power cut which followed there were a number of elderly villagers who struggled to cope with situation. The Vicar has spoken to Cllr Ravenhill with a suggestion that the Parish Council and Church might get together and make some provision to assist villagers should a similar emergency arise in the future. The Parish Council agreed that this was a suggestion worth pursuing and Cllrs Ravenhill and Hayward will now liaise with the Church. **Action point 03.10.14 – 03**

7.3.2 The Parish Council have agreed to review the Emergency Procedures Guidelines which have not been looked at for a number of years. Cllrs Farquhar and Le Gross will update the same for approval before publication in the Village Life. **Action Point 03.10.14 - 04**

7.4 The annual insurance is due for renewal and the renewal notice has been circulated to Councillors. It was agreed that the insurance cover is adequate for the needs of the Parish Council and that the Parish Council would avail itself of the lower annual premium offered by agreeing to the Long Term Undertaking for 3 years.

7.5 The new Post Office van is experiencing some difficulties securing a broadband connection necessary to operate the equipment. Whilst this problem is not unique to Thorndon the Parish Council feel it might be worth investigating whether anything can be done to improve the situation. Cllrs Bartlett and Ravenhill will pursue this. **Action Point 03.10.14 – 05**

7.6 A villager has enquired as to whether the Parish Council would consider a skateboarding facility at the Play Area. In the first instance it was agreed to ascertain whether there would be sufficient interest in such a facility. Cllr Hayward will place an article in the Village Life inviting interest in such a proposal before this suggestion is taken further. **Action Point 03.10.14 - 06**

7.7 Some 14 years ago flowering bulbs were planted around the village by the Community and Parish Councils for the Millennium. Inevitably some of these bulbs have died and need replenishing. It was agreed that Parish Council funds could be used to acquire replacement bulbs to a limit of £25.00 and in due course volunteer planters will be sought to assist Cllrs Ravenhill and Cattermole in this project.

8. AOB and Meeting opened to the Public 21.10

8.1 It was confirmed by District Councillor Tilbury that a planning application for the retention of the Stoke Ash White Horse Car Park has now been received by Mid Suffolk District Council. Several Councillors voiced disquiet about a lay-by which abuts the car park which is being used by HGVs and which then blocks the visibility splay at this dangerous junction with the A140. County Councillor Stringer suggested that anyone spotting parked vehicles at the lay-by should photograph the scene, forward the photographs to the Clerk for onward transmission to C Cllr Stringer who will pursue the issue with other authorities as parking within 30m of a junction is illegal.

8.2 Cllr Hayward confirmed that the survey by the Highways Department at Suffolk County Council is still awaited as the first step in of the application for a vehicle activated sign.

8.3 Cllr Farquhar identified a potential problem caused by two silver birch trees in Fen View whose leaves are blocking drains. The situation will be monitored

8.4 Mr Brand delivered his report on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch.

Meeting closed to the Public 21.34

9. Next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 6 November, 2014 at 8.00pm.

MEETING CLOSED 21.35

Summary of Action Points for Next Meeting		
04.09.14 - 01	Enquire of Royal British Legion as to whether a new representative for Thorndon has been appointed for the Poppy Appeal	JH
03.10.14 - 01	Liaise with Highways re verge repairs to Thwaite Road triangle	RJ
03.10.14 - 02	File complaint with BT re state of the telephone box	AT
03.10.14 - 03	Liaise with the Church re emergency provisions which can be jointly collated	JH & MR
03.10.14 - 04	Review the current emergency procedures information leaflet	BF & JLG
03.10.14 - 05	To look into improving the broadband connection for the Post Office van	PB & MR
03.10.14 - 06	To establish the level of interest in the provision of a skateboarding facility	JH