

Minutes of the Thornham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th March 2021
at 7pm via Zoom.

Present: Cllr. C. Venes (Chair) Cllr. A. Chesterman (Vice) Cllr. A. Needham
 Cllr. S. Greef Cllr. B. Gulliver Cllr. I. Barrett

Also present: Acting Clerk – Glynis Allen, Cllr. Jamieson and 6 members of the public.

The Chair went through the rules regarding running a virtual meeting and everyone to stay muted until asked to speak. If you wish to speak please raise your hand. Members of the public only allowed to speak during Parishioners time. Cllr. Venes also advised Parishioners that the meeting was being recorded to assist with the minutes if necessary.

1. To receive and consider apologies for absence.

The Clerk, Sarah Bristow, had sent apologies.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Needham gave a personal interest in anything concerning Thornham United Charities and P.C.C. Cllr. Barrett gave a personal interest in anything concerning Thornham United Charities. Cllr. Greef gave a personal interest in anything concerning the Neighbourhood Plan and the P.C.C. Cllr. Gulliver gave a personal interest concerning the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr. Chesterman gave a personal interest in the Planning Application 21/00299/F

3. Adjournment of Meeting to allow for public questions. (15 mins max – 5 mins per speaker)

Flooding. A member of the public thanked Cllr. Jamieson for his work on the problem including work on the ditches in Church Street which had helped the water flow into the marshes and the member of the public noted the work carried out by Major Rodwell which had made a big difference.

The Chair added his thanks to Cllr. Needham for his work on digging the ditches and also thanked Cllr. Jamieson on behalf of the Thornham Parish Council.

Outdoor venues. A member of the public noted that a number of local authorities were not counting outside gazebos as ‘indoor’.

Parking. A member of the public asked if the proposed 200 space car park would be run in the same way at the Village Hall car park and would it have CCTV.

The Chair advised that there is no firm information on a car park at the Barns site as the plan is still under consideration by the Landowner.

The member of the public also voiced concerns as to who has free parking at the Village Hall. The Chair suggested the question be posed to the Chair of TVH&PF.

4. To receive Councillor Reports.

The Chair invited Cllr. Jamieson to address the meeting.

4.1. Cllr. Jamieson reported that he had spoken to Lord Dannatt and that the Strategic Flooding Alliance Group tackling the flooding issues was moving at a pace. This will see a single flood telephone number attached to emergency service numbers.

Saxon Shore Forum Meeting. Cllr. Jamieson reported that discussions had taken place on short term solutions to the area being flooded with visitors from next month. The Police who had attended the meeting had noted that it is not possible to ‘ticket our way out’ of the problem of parking. Cllr. Jamieson advised of companies who invoice owners

of vehicles parked on private land. He asked the Parish Council to let him know if he should look into this with the idea of the Saxon Shore Parishes joining together on this.

Council Tax on Second Homes. Cllr. Jamieson posed the question of who pays Council tax and who doesn't when it comes to second homes and holiday lets. Some holiday lets had picked up grants during the pandemic but don't pay Council Tax. The Borough Council is unable to change the regulations. Cllr. Jamieson suggested that holiday let owners should have to prove that it is a proper business. Cllr. Jamieson further noted that this issue had been discussed with our Local MP, James Wild, and would require legislation in Parliament to clarify.

4.2 Councillor Lawton was not in attendance.

It was resolved for the meeting to return to closed session.

5. 5.1 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 10th February 2021.**

Resolved (Unanimous). That the Minutes of the Meeting of the 10th February 2021 were agreed and would be signed at a later date when physically possible.

5.2 **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 10th February 2021.**

Staithe Lane. Cllr. Greef reported that the stones and rocks are an obstruction and will be removed following an e-mail to Highways.

Cllr. Needham agreed they should never have been placed there.

6. 6.1 **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th February 2021.**

Resolved. (Unanimous). That the Minutes of the 16th February 2021 were agreed and would be signed at a later date when physically possible.

6.2 **Matters arising from the Minutes of the 16th February 2021.** There no matters raised.

7. 7.1 **Finance Chair's Report.**

Cllr. Barrett reported that at the end of February the Parish Council will have a sizeable legal bill with Hayes and Storr. The exact amount is awaited.

The bank reconciliation and statements are in order to the end of February.

The end of March will see the Parish Council Financial year end.

7.2 **Monthly Accounts for Payment.**

The following payments were resolved:-

- D.H. Digger Hire – Cleaning of the Marsh re flooding. £250.00
- K.L.W.N.B.C. Dog Bin Emptying £659.57
- Norfolk Parish Training & Support – Subscription £168.00

7.3 **Money Received.**

Cllr. Barrett reported that a V.A.T. refund of £1878.93 had been received.

7.4 **Bank Reconciliation – End of February 2021.**

Cllr. Barrett reported having carried this out.

8. 8.1 **Possible Movement of Streetlight** – Deferred to next meeting.

8.2 **Statement on Shore Road from Cllr. Venes.** (Read out by Cllr. Venes at the meeting)

Council met via Zoom with their legal team on 16th February. Council accepted the recommendation to apply for permission to appeal the FTT costs decision. This submission was filed along with a request for an extension to time. This has been agreed by FTT and a further submission re costs has now been made.

The Upper Tier Tribunal has allowed further submissions by all parties with a deadline of Friday 5th March. A further submission to UTT has also been made on behalf of Parish Council. Thus, the process continues and we await the outcomes. Dated 7th March 2021

8.3 Village Noticeboard – Maintenance, Repair and New.

Cllr. Needham reported that no headway had been made on this and that it was a job for early summer.

The Chair advised that a new board would not be purchased and that a temporary repair could be carried out at the moment and then in August, when there is no meeting, the soft board could be renewed and the board stripped and re-varnished.

Cllr. Needham agreed with this proposal and Cllr. Greef confirmed having added it to the Asset Register.

8.4 Village Flooding.

Updates had already been received from Cllr. Jamieson and the public. Cllr. Venes had seen the Natural England representative's e-mail about the posts in Staithe Lane noting work must be completed by 31st March. With the bird nesting season starting at end of March there is a matter of urgency.

Cllr. Venes asked if it was possible for Digger Dave to deal with the ditches before the end of March. Cllr. Needham replied that it was doubtful with the marsh being so wet and the high tides due but that the ditch was ok at the moment so it might be that it should be done later in the year before the winter.

Cllr. Needham noted that the work done by Mr. Bett in clearing out the ditches should be recognised and noted how important it had been with the latest downpour.

8.5 Traffic Management – Parking talking with Landowners/Interested Parties.

Cllr. Venes and Cllr. Chesterman had met with TVH&PF to consider the extension of the car parking at the Village Hall being extended further than already planned. Safety needs to be considered, possibly with some fencing to protect those using the field and keep the traffic away from the public.

He noted that black tarmac would not be the answer but instead use of the green plastic which the grass grows through.

Cllr. Venes suggested that the extra CIL money from KLWNBC could be applied for in a joint application with all parties involved including the Parish Council. Costings are currently being worked out.

Cllr. Barrett considered it an exceeding good idea and Cllr. Needham added that good quality grass would be needed.

Resolved. (Unanimous). That this project should continue to be investigated.

8.6 Census 2021.

It was noted that the Census is on Sunday 21st March 2021.

8.7 Date of Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr. Venes reported that this could not be held in May and nor was it suitable via Zoom.

Cllr. Venes is to ask James Wild MP to ask for Annual Parish Meetings to be allowed to the end of June.

8.8 Defibrillator – Update. This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

8.9 Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Cllr. Venes noted the date of June 2022 for the Jubilee and advised that the Parish Council had been invited to participate in proposed events.

Resolved. (Unanimous). That this would be referred to the next Big Tent meeting and get them to organise a working party.

8.10 Bus Shelter

This was deferred to the next meeting. Cllr. Chesterman to circulate ideas to make the bus shelter more user friendly for discussion at the next meeting.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Gulliver reported that the B.C. are stretched at the moment with the organisation of the Elections and that the Neighbourhood Plan referendum is not urgent so no date had been set.

10. Governance

There were no matter to discuss.

11 .11.1 To receive report from TVH&PF Ltd.

Neither Mr. Staveley or Mrs. Mocatta were in attendance and so no report was given.

11.2 To receive a report from the Saxon Shore Forum

Cllr. Venes had circulated the report and would have it put on the website. He noted that P.C. Lee Anderton was retiring and that the meeting agreed the need to create more parking spaces.

12. Planning Applications and Determinations.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/00137/F. Shires, Ploughmans Piece, Thornham.

Side, front and rear of the property with associated works. New access from highway and removal of existing.

Resolved. (Unanimous). That Thornham Parish Council recommend approval of this application.

21/00157/F. East of West End Cottages, High Street, Thornham.

Construction of dwelling.

Resolved. (Unanimous). That Thornham Parish Council object to this planning application.

21/00299/F. The Lifeboat Inn, Ship Lane, Thornham.

Installation of outdoor covered dining area, fence and associated infrastructure.

Cllr. Venes suggested that the Parish Council vote in favour of the application with two restrictions:-

- That the Lifeboat continue its efforts to extend its parking spaces (and Lee Bye has indicated that this is possible)
- That it is a temporary structure.

Resolved (Two Cllrs. approve – with caveats. 3 Cllrs. approve without caveats. 1 Cllr against) That Thornham Parish Council recommend approval of this application.

20/01759. Stonecroft, Ploughmans Piece, Thornham. Approved by KLWNBC as a delegated decision.

20/00159/F. Lingwood, High Street, Thornham
Construction of new dwelling including annex and separate garage following demolition of existing dwelling.
Resolved (4 Cllrs for. 1 Cllr. against. 1 Cllr. abstention) That Thornham Parish Council approve this application.
A rider would be added to the Thornham Parish Council approval for traffic management during the build.

20/01887/F. The Orange Tree, High Street, Thornham.
Application for Gazebos over existing outdoor seating area.
Resolved. (Unanimous). That Thornham Parish Council approve of this planning application.

DETERMINATIONS.

20/01873/A Tanglewood House, High Street, Thornham.
Two sales boards for new development at the site.
Granted – Cllr. Venes noted that was despite objections from the Parish Council.

20/01882/F. The Lifeboat Inn, Ship Lane, Thornham.
External and internal alterations at the existing hotel.
Granted.

13. **Highway Rangers**
Cllr. Venes reported that currently the Highway Ranger staff had been re-allocated.
14. **Harbour Post/Car Park Full Boards.**
There were no matters to discuss.
15. **Correspondence**
There was no correspondence for consideration.
16. **Items for the Next Agenda**
 - Health and Safety.
17. **Date and Place of Next Meeting.**
Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 14th April 2021, virtually via Zoom.
18. **Tenders for Grasscutting.**
This agenda item was unable to go ahead in the absence of the paperwork.
Cllr. Venes will collect the tenders from the Clerk and copy to the Finance Committee.
The matter to be put on the April agenda. Cllr. Venes will collect the cheque book at the same time.