

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornham Parish Council held on Wednesday 11 June 2014 at 7.00pm at the New Village Hall, Thornham.

Present: Cllr C Venes (Vice) Cllr W Brooks Cllr A Needham
Cllr I Barrett

Also present: The Clerk & Mr Jonathan Smith of Pear Technology and 8 Members of the Public

- 1. To receive and consider apologies for absence:**
It was resolved to accept apologies from Cllr Mocatta, Cllr Brown and Cllr Warham.
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest**
All Councillors gave a personal interest in anything concerning Thornham Charities. Cllrs Venes, & Barrett gave a personal interest in anything concerning Thornham Village Hall and Playing Field Ltd.
- 3. Talk and Presentation by Jonathan Smith of Pear Technology Services on Mapping System.**

Mr Smith explained the system and showed the different components of the package and what could be achieved. He explained that he had spoken with Norfolk County Council and their mapping information could be imported onto this system if we decided to go ahead and purchase the system.

Cllr Venes thanked Mr Smith for his presentation and Mr Smith left the meeting.

- 4. Adjournment of Meeting to allow for public questions**
It was resolved for the meeting to return to closed session.
- 5 Minutes of the Thornham Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 28 May 2014.**

Proposed By Cllr Brooks and Seconded by Cllr Needham and **it was resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair after the follow amendment. Under the public time benches should read Mr Hibberd.**

Matters arising from the minutes

All item on the agenda.

- 6 Minutes of the Thornham Parish Meeting held on 28 May 2014**
Proposed By Cllr Barrett and Seconded by Cllr Brooks and **it was resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.**

Matters arising from the minutes

Signed:..... Chair Date:

Drains

Cllr Needham reported that the Drains were in a desperate need for being cleared out with the Jet Wash as promised. The Clerk has taken up with NCC Highways on numerous occasions but it still not has not achieved. **It was resolved for Cllr Venes to draft a letter to NCC Highways explaining that the drains simply cannot wait as they are now causing supplementary problems and copy to Borough Councillor, County Councillor and MP.**

Action: Cllr Venes

Parking in Church Street

Cllr Venes reported that he had attended the holiday homes but the owner was not in residence but some holidaymakers were. The holidaymakers informed Cllr Venes that the Cottage Supervisor was due to attend on Friday. Cllr Venes returned on Friday and talked with the Supervisor who lives in the village. The Supervisor has agreed to put the letter into the information pack left for the holidaymakers and explain on their arrival. The Supervisor advised that it was not only the holidaymakers that parked in the area.

7. Playing Field Update

Cllr Needham reported that very little has happening since the last meeting. The Committee have put Jeyes Fluid on the surface of the Muga around six weeks ago and given it a good brush and the surface is now 100 times better. Cllr Needham explained that it had not been used whilst the Village Hall was being built and this had allowed the moss etc to take hold/build up.

8. Thornham Village Hall and Playing Field Trustees Update.

Cllr Barrett explained that at the AGM of the Trustees the Articles of Association were changed and now there are 10 Trustees. 4 open to all, 3 appointed by the Parish Council and 3 Co-Opted. Cllr Barrett advised that the accounts were in a health situation but this was necessary because of the amount of large equipment involved and replacement programmes needs. The only outstanding issue at present is the air conditioning and a method has been agreed to sort and it is just waiting to be achieved.

9 Thornham Village Hall and Sports Pavilion Committee Report

Cllr Venes gave the following report:

May/June Report – May saw 42 events and there are 42 planned for June at time of writing. The highlight for me was the stunning production of ‘The Curious Incident of the Dog’. An absolutely brilliant set of performances and a very clever design and production combined to produce a wonderful evening’s theatre – thanks again to the team for delivering this into our village hall. Looking forward to Alan Ayckbourn in June. The hall was also used as polling station for the first time in the European elections. The end of May also saw the AGM of TVHPF Ltd. The Trustees for 2014-15 are John Warham, Chair, Ian Barrett, Company Secretary, Sue Hardy, Stephanie Mocatta, Tony Morris and Colin Venes. The audited accounts were adopted and a constitutional amendment agreed. Trustees are now also looking to appoint a part-time hall caretaker, see separate advertisement.

Signed:..... Chair Date:

Incidentally, in the eight months since the new hall opened more than £4,000 has been raised for various charities outside of the hall & playing field via Soup and Sandwich, Football Dinner, Bridge Drive et al. This will grow as we have Lifeboat Quiz and other events imminent. Thank you for your generosity and this commitment to the wider community.

July – Forthcoming events. Village cinema on 16th screens ‘12 Years a Slave’, based on a true story, well reviewed and multi Oscar nominated. Saturday 19th July sees the Sausage Sizzle move from Red Brick House to the hall/field. Tickets are open to all at £10 per head, phone John/Sue on 512546. Soup & Sandwich are holding a Summer Tea Party on Tuesday 22nd, please phone Carolyn to book on 512033. Local artist Bryan Harford is holding an Art Exhibition in the main hall Saturday 26th to Monday 28th. I saw his work in Ringstead and commend this exhibition to you, sure that everyone will find something to enjoy and appreciate. Remember the regular events largely continue through the summer. Table Tennis on Monday at 7.00pm, Zumba on Tuesday at 6.00pm, Pilates on Wednesday/Friday are all open to guests/ holidaymakers –no need to book.

If you prefer to sit and watch then Thornham Cricket Club have had an excellent start to the season, currently top of the league, and are an entertaining team with a strong batting line up and some big hitters. Nets are Tuesday evenings, new members welcome – note there are a number of friendly matches and mid-week cup games as well as Saturday league fixtures, all details on hall web-site. The Tennis Club is now also back in action with exciting developments afoot. Coaching/ Tennis Ladder, kids’ activities and new court booking system. Membership adults £25 per annum, Family £60 pa. For more information go to: tennis@thornhamvillagehall.co.uk .

Thornham Bowls Club, not on the field but just off the High Street, opposite School Row, also is worth a visit and a roll-up in this their centenary year, an excellent green and new members welcome.

Looking further ahead – Children’s activities in the summer - A new and exciting development. For younger children up to 8 years of age, practical activities and fun, with access to field and Play area. Tuesday 15th July to 19th August (subject to confirmation) from 10.00- 12.30. A parent must remain with their child and there will be a small fee. We are also hoping to provide outside sporting activities for older children, Kwik cricket, mini tennis etc. Details to be finalised. Look in August Link, Noticeboards, hall web-site and posters around the village.

Music on the Field 2014 is back bigger and better than ever – **Saturday 2nd August 2.00pm** – late. 8 bands booked Jimmy Rokit, Laura & Sounds Easy Jazz trio, Pennyless, Darling Coreys, Back Pages, Blues Tubes, Rockin Bishop of Lynn and the Festival Ensemble. Kids activities, Real Ale Beer tent, Pimms bar, Refreshments, BBQ .Admission £10 adults, under 14’s free if accompanied by adult. Dogs kept on lead admitted. Contact monclare@btinternet.com .

Family Fun Day - Sunday 24th August 12.00 – 4.30pm. Fun for all the family, a traditional village fete. Adults £1.00 under 14’s free, proceeds support TVHPF Ltd and its various activities.

Mrs Whiting had advised that one of the last two Wednesday’s in June would be an open event at the Bowls Club. Anyone interested please contact Ann on 512004.

Signed:..... Chair Date:

10 Possible New Streetlight

Cllr Venes explained about the request for a new streetlight and explained the Lux radius. **It was resolved for a letter to be sent to all houses within the area and a copy in Link asking for Comments. Cllr Venes to draft a letter.**

Action: Cllr Venes

11 Grit Bin – Ploughman’s Piece/Choosley Road

Cllr Venes reported that the Clerk had contact Norfolk County Council Highways and they had advised that they would not give permission for a grid bin in this area.

12 Signs & Footpath between Drove Farm and Thornham

There was a discussion regarding these signs and not all of them are from Drove Farm and it does seem they are on private land. **It was resolved for no further action to be taken at this time regarding the signs.**

Cllr Needham advised that Mr Bett owned the piece of land where the suggested walkway would go. **It was resolved for Cllr Needham to have a conversation regarding the possible use of the edge of this piece of land being cut to allow for easier/safer walking between Thornham and Drove Farm.**

Action: Cllr Needham

13 Defibrillator- update

The Clerk advised that she had contacted the Anglian Regional Co-Op who is running the “Every Second Counts” Scheme, regarding supplying and maintaining defibrillators in certain areas. They said that they needed to check if the site was suitable for a defibrillator by The East of England Ambulance Trust, and if they were fine with the area of the site then they would be able to put a machine in. The Clerk advised that they had informed her they would get back to her by tomorrow. The Clerk advised that she would chase. **It was resolved for the Clerk to chase an answer in the morning when in the office.**

Action: Clerk

14 Grasscutting –update

Cllr Venes reported that Stephen Grief had volunteered to undertake the cutting of the grass by the Village Sign and by the Bus Shelter. **It was resolved that the Council would provide him with his costs eg petrol and for the Clerk to inform NCC that the Parish had agreed to take over the grasscutting in these two areas.** This leaves the area on Church Lane/Ship Lane. **It was resolved for this to be monitored.**

Action: Clerk

15 Footpath – update

Cllr Needham, Cllr Brooks and the Clerk meet up with Mr David Mills, NCC Footpaths Officer and walk the route of the footpath now and how it should be according to the Parish Council and detailed maps. There was discussion regarding ownership of the Marsh and boundaries etc. Mr Mills agreed that as the Parish Council have agreement from the Trustee of the Marsh, and the necessity of moving the path back to it original route to stop people falling in the outlet pipe hole, he had no problems with the proposal to take back the vegetation and make good the original route and reinstate this as the correct footpath. Mr Mills felt that the work was best achieved in the autumn but if any work was needed prior to for Health and Safety grounds then it needed to be achieved. **It was resolved for this work to take place and for the Clerk to confirm this information with Mr Mills.**

Action: Clerk

Signed:..... Chair Date:

16 Coal Barn –update

Cllr Venes explained that the planning permission for the change of use to residential on the Coal Barn had been refused on Health and Safety grounds due to the risk of flooding from unpredictable tides. Mr Lomax has now taken this to appeal. Cllr Mocatta had agreed to contact Mrs Lawty Borough Planner to see if there was any more information available. Cllr Barrett felt that the views of the Parishioners was necessary and that just because the application has gone to appeal does not mean that the Parish cannot undertake any further action at the end of the day it has not been sold, it is still for sale but under offer and can still be sold to someone else if the bid was more acceptable. **It was resolved for Cllr Barrett to draw up a letter to go out to all Parishioners asking for their views and the possible setting up of a Sub Committee. This item to remain on the agenda.** **Action: Cllr Barrett**

17 Benches

Cllr Venes thanks Cllr Brooks for producing such an excellent letter explaining the situation of the benches that were donated. **It was resolved for the letter to be sent to Birse.** **Action: Clerk**

18 Cul De Sac Sign for Shepherds Pightle.

The Clerk had written to the Borough Council and they were unable to help and had advised the Clerk to speak with NCC Highways as they had the authority to undertake. The Clerk has emailed NCC Highways but has not as yet received a reply. **It was resolved for the Clerk to obtain a cost for putting up a suitable sign if NCC Highways were unable to assist.** **Action: Clerk**

Due to the Internal Auditor being unable to attend this evening the next two items will be deferred to a Meeting on Thursday 19 June at 6.00pm at the Village Hall.

19 Internal Auditor report.

20 Agreement/Signing of External Auditor Form

21 Planning Applications and Determinations:

Applications:

None received

Determinations:

None received

22 Correspondence:

- a. A letter from the Borough Council regarding the AGM of West Norfolk Sports Council tonight at Lynn Sport, King’s Lynn.

Signed:..... Chair Date:

23 Accounts for payment

E-On Energy Street Lighting- June	Direct/Debit	67.76
Clenshaw Minns – undertaking of wages etc	101089	86.40
S Bristow –wages April to June	101090	486.35
HMRC -PAYE	101091	121.40

It was resolved for these payments to be paid.

24 Payment Received

None received

25 Items For Next Agenda

The Coal Barn

26 Date, & Place of next meeting.

19 June 2014 at the Village Hall at 6.00pm – Finance Meeting
9 July 2014 at the Village Hall at 7.00pm

It was resolved for these payments to be paid.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Action List

Cllr Venes

- Draft letter re New Streetlight
- Draft letter re Drains
- Draft letter re Ploughman’s Piece

Cllr Needham

- Speak with Mr Bett re possible easy walkway.

Cllr Barrett

- Draw up Letter to go to Parishioners re the Coal Barn.

Clerk

- Confirm situation on the Footpath with Mr Mills
- Chase answer re defibrillator
- Inform NCC Highways re Parish cutting two green areas
- Send letter of to Birse re benches
- Obtain a cost for Cul-de-sac Sign.
- Enquire about the state of the road at Burnham Deepdale
- Make Payments

Signed:..... Chair Date:

POINTS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Drainage in Ploughman’s Piece

A Parishioner advised that there was concern regarding the two drainage pipes that go into the pit to help prevent flooding in Ploughman’s Piece. The Parishioner explained about having two pits and now having the one and if these pipes are not straight/free flowing as per the planning permission there will be a greater risk of flooding. The Parishioner is requesting that the Parish Council arranges a meeting with the contractor, the Parish Council and NCC Highways so that these pipes can be checked prior to the house being sold and it is currently on the market and if the inspection of these pipes is not achieved before it is sold it may not be so easy to inspect in the future. Cllr Brooks asked if flooding has occurred recently since the new houses have been build? The Parishioner had advised that no flooding had occurred. Cllr Venes said that the Parish Council do not have any rights over this issue other than helping Parishioners. Cllr Venes asked if any Councillor had a problem with the Parish Council setting up the meeting. All Councillors were of the opinion that acting as a go between would be acceptable. Cllr Venes to draft a letter, which will be sent round for approval and the Clerk to send off if everyone is in agreement. **Action: Cllr Venes**

Dog Attack

Cllr Brooks wished to advise all dog owners to keep their dogs on leads near any private land and to not allow the dog to enter. Cllr Brooks advised that a dog was injured in an legal snare recently.

Road Surface

A Parishioner advised that the road surface on the A149 at Burnham Deepdale was a mess with patching happening and the contractor not lifting the drain covers and the tar etc not allowing for the water to drain. The Clerk to advise Highways of the situation. **Action: Clerk**

Signed:..... Chair Date: