

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornham Parish Council held on Wednesday 22 June 2016 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Thornham.

Presents	Cllr S Mocatta	Cllr I Barrett	Cllr A Brown
	Cllr B Gulliver	Cllr A Needham	Cllr C Venes
	Cllr W Brooks		

Also present: The Clerk, Cllr E Watson & 3 Members of the Public.

- 1. To receive and consider apologies for absence:**
Everyone Present.
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Mocatta, Cllr Barrett & Cllr Venes gave a personal interest in anything concerning Thornham Village Hall and Playing Field Ltd.
- 3. Adjournment of Meeting to allow for public questions**
It was resolved for the meeting to return to closed session.
- 4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 May 2016.**
It was resolved to approve the minutes and for the Chair to sign as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising from the minutes.

Asset Register

Cllr Barrett reminded Councillors of the Inspection Schedule. Cllr Barrett had undertaken an inspection. (Please see copy attached). It was noted that several benches needed cleaning etc. **It was resolved for Cllr Brooks to undertake the bench in Green Lane, Cllr Brown & Cllr Needham to undertake the bench in Church Street, and Staithe Lane. Mr Warham kindly agreed to undertake cleaning the bench around the Village Sign. Needham Builders to be paid to paint the phone box, mend the noticeboard, re felt the roof of the bus shelter at Green Lane and treat the main bus shelter. The work to be undertaken a.s.a.p. but before the September Meeting. It was also resolved for the Clerk to update the form and schedule and make a note of who and when inspections were needed and remind the Councillor concerned.**
Action: Cllrs Brooks/Brown/Needham/Clerk

5. Grounds Committee Update

Cllr Mocatta advised that due to the recent bad weather and water fast flowing from the fields through the cricket nets they were in a state of disrepair. Cllr Mocatta has contacted Notts Sports who supplied the nets and has asked about warranty and also spoke to the insurance company and is waiting for responses. Cllr Needham advised that the nets were never put in to satisfactory condition from the start. Cllr Miata reply stating that this was the cheaper version installed which needs constant treatment to ensure proper use. Cllr Mocatta then went on to say she had asked the question regarding the Sport England grant about what work could be achieved within the grant. There were three things that needed to be achieved and the money would not cover all three. They are flooding of the field, surfaces of the wicket and football pitch or new cricket wickets. Cllr

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Mocatta advised that the Case Officer is on leave until the 28 June when Cllr Mocatta will be in contact. Cllr Mocatta also advised that she had emptied the honesty box for tennis and had found £35.00.

- 6. TVHPF Ltd & Village Hall & Sports Pavilion Committee Update JW-SM**
It was resolved for the meeting to go into open session to allow Mr Warham to speak.

Mr Warham advised that Mrs Ali Chesterman was standing down as Marketing and Publicity Officer. Mr Warham said that he wished to thank Mrs Chesterman for all the hard work that Mrs Chesterman has achieved whilst in this post. The Trustees adverted for a slightly different position of Events Co-Coordinator/Marketing Manager and have appointed Mr Paul Murrell who was previously involved in organizing events such as the Sandringham Flower Show. Mr Warham said that he was sure Mr Murrell would get to meet everyone soon and he would be given our support as he finds his feet in this new role.

It was resolved for the Council to go back into closed session.

- 7. Community Emergency Plan – IB & AN**

Cllr Barrett reported that the Clerk had gone through the responses and made a basic list then a more detailed spreadsheet. Cllr Barrett advised that he was very pleased with the response and surprised about the help available in the village and hoped that it would never be called upon but if needed he was pleased to know that the village would cope very well. Cllr Needham advised that this list was not to be used for general things, if someone needed a Doctor then no one from the list should be called but call your usual Doctors Surgery or 999. This list was to be used for a real emergency eg the village was cut off due to flooding or a plane going down etc. Cllr Barrett advised that he did not know what the next step was but felt that acknowledgement to the responders was needed. The Clerk advised that Kevin Kent (Borough Council Emergency Planner) needs informing of the relevant co-ordinator and felt that Mr Kent may be able to do a briefing with the co-ordinator and volunteers. **It was resolved for the Clerk to organise this for September.** **Action: Clerk**

- 8. Registering CL56- Clerk**

The Clerk advised that it had been agreed not to pursue the Crown land, our Solicitor had been informed and had passed onto Land Registry so it should be a straightforward process of registration. **It was resolved for this item to remain on the agenda.** **Action: Clerk**

- 9. Ship Lane - SM**

SM has spoken to John Rodwell (JR) with regards to Ship Lane.

The current position is as follows:

JR had heard nothing from Sally Bettinson with respect to Ship Lane and the bays. SM explained that Highways were challenged for financing and while the bays were an issue, they were unlikely to be a priority.

JR pointed out that the boundary between Ship Lane and the Marsh runs along the centre line of the hedgerow and therefore the curb and the bank belongs to

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the Highway Authority up to the centre of the hedge line. He also reminded SM that he was the person who managed the Marsh on a day-to-day basis but that it was in fact jointly owned with three other parishioners, one of whom lived opposite the pond in Ship Lane.

JR explained he was happy to fence along this centre line if that was thought by the Parish Council to be desirable, the Marsh co-owners bearing the costs, but had been interested in knowing if the PC was

- A) Willing to supply whips to fill in some of the spaces, including a bit of help to plant them.
- B) Agree to keep the resulting hedge trimmed to a height that people could see over and not be inclined to hack it back to ground level.

His reason for carrying out this work would be in order to deter owner/occupiers of Ship Lane cutting down, shaving and possibly weed killing the bank, hedge and marsh up to the cattle fence in order to secure a view from their windows. Sadly his experience tells him that new whips might well be pulled out, cut down or weed-killed.

SM said she would raise the issue of whips once again with the council, as we do have some spare. Further JR and SM discussed those owner / occupiers of Ship Land who had previously cut trees and hedges to ground level. SM explained she had talked to some of these people without any move forward. JR and SM agreed that if any trees were planted then they would not be planted in front of the pond for reasons alluded to earlier.

JR stressed his only agenda was to assist and would do whatever the PC preferred, including nothing, if that was the feeling of the Council.

Can we discuss and answer:

Do we think that, if JR puts up a fence (as he is entitled to do) the PC would like to donate some whips along the fence line?

Can the PC agree to cut the resulting hedge, probably twice a year, to keep it to an acceptable level that prevents further vandalism?

Would we rather that JR does nothing, saves himself some money and hope that the bank and hedge will regenerate themselves? Post and wire fencing will cost about £1,500.

After discussion **It was resolved for the Clerk to write to Major Rodwell informing him that the Council appreciates all his help and support but the Council were unable to help with maintaining/cutting hedges but would speak with Ms Bettinson regarding reinstating the verge. Action: Clerk**

10. Donated Bench – for Norfolk Coast Path towards Holme – Clerk

The Clerk advised that Cllr Needham had received the bench this evening and Cllr Needham had liaised with Cllr Gulliver and they would go and position the bench and Cllr Needham would fix as per the permit. **It was resolved for the Clerk to email Cllr Needham the details of the purchaser. Action: Clerk**

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11. Permissive Path to Drove -SB

Cllr Mocatta apologised but she had not been able to contact Holme but would undertake as soon as possible. **It was resolved for this to stay on the agenda.**
Action: Clerk

12. New Noticeboard – IB

Cllr Barrett said that he was unsure of the Bag Ladies requirements. Cllr Venes said that putting the large poster up on the Bus Shelter for the Open Gardens was a great idea and if a backboard and frame were fitting there then there would not be a need for a freestanding noticeboard. **It was resolved for this item to remain on the agenda and the Bag Ladies to advise of their requirements.**

13. Coastal Path - RG

Cllr Gulliver said that he had not received a reply regarding the signage but some signage was being put up. The Clerk advised that she had acquired the email address of the overall Manager of the Trials Team. The Clerk asked Cllr Gulliver if he would give her a report of things needing to be undertaken and she would email the Manager. Cllr Needham advised that Mr Goddard was making a lovely job of cutting and keeping the paths in order, and he wished it to be minute a thank you on behalf of the village to Mr Goddard for his hard work and effort on this project.
Action: Cllr Gulliver

The Clerk advised that she had received emails from David Mills County Council Footpath Officer regarding the repair to the path. She had advised that Natural England were fine but she had received another reply implying that the work was not urgent was not a risk to Health & Safety and should have waited for his approval. The Clerk advised that she is meeting up with Ms Bettinson soon and would discuss with her. **It was resolved for the Clerk to take up with Ms Bettinson.**
Action: Clerk

14. Land Registry Letters –Clerk

CL41

Cllr Mocatta advised that she had received an email from a Parishioner regarding the registration of CL41 and the Parishioner was accusing Cllr Mocatta of working with Mr Bett and Mr Morgan. Everyone knows this is not true and a letter was sent to the Parishioner asking her to retract her statement and apologies to Cllr Mocatta. This was several weeks ago and no acknowledgement for apology has been received. Cllr Mocatta advised that a few days ago she was given a draft sales notice which appears to have come from Strutt & Parker. Mr Bett has asked for a valuation but nothing further. Cllr Mocatta read out the following statement, which had been prepared.

CL 41 / CL 56

Statement from Thornham Parish Council, 22nd June 2016

We are aware that there has, again, been a considerable amount of concern in the village. The current position is as follows:

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- 1) The Parish Council is on the process of registering its interest formally in CL 56 with the Land Registry. This is in line with our goal of registering all of the PC's assets; to prevent us losing them, as has happened in the past.
- 2) CL41 is being registered by the Trustees of the Cattlegate Holders with the Land Registry. Yes, the document does state Stephen Bett and John Gethin – they are the Trustees and according to the 2000 Court Order this is the correct way to register the land, in the name of the Trustees, not in the name of the Cattlegate Holders, or as “in Trust” for the cattlegate Holders.
- 3) With respect to the roads etc, Highways have been consulted about the registration, and have told the Land registry what is theirs, the Trustees have agreed.
- 4) Currently nothing is on sale.
- 5) Stephen Bett, as owner of 46/49th is entitled to sell his own share at any point
- 6) The PC owns 2/49th and cannot stop Stephen Bett selling his 46/49th if he so chooses.
- 7) Stephen Bett has talked informally to Strutt and Parker about a potential sale, as he wanted to know the value of his shares. Strutt & Parker were in Thornham and took a picture of the marsh to show how a brochure might look. Nothing is up for sale at the moment and any draft brochure being circulated is not authorised by either Stephen Bett or Strutt & Parker. It is not clear where this document came from.
- 8) At all times the Trustees of CL41 (Cattlegate Holders) look to the best interests of all the Stint Holders.
- 9) The RSPB have expressed an interest in the purchase of the marsh, should it become available, Stephen Bett knows this as do Strutt & Parker.

At some point, when the land is registered and if Stephen Bett decides to sell his 46/49th it will be appropriate for the Parish Council to discuss their position with respect to the 2/49th and CL56. This could either be:

- At a normal parish council meeting, as an agenda item
- At a separate Parish Council meeting, with only one item on the agenda
- At a full public meeting.

We will look to our Clerk to give us advice as to the most appropriate way forward, should this position arise.

After discussion **It was resolved for the Clerk to put a copy of the statement within the minutes. A copy of the Statement and a copy of the Council reply sent to the Parishioner is sent to all recipients of the original email and Mr Boal.**

Action: Clerk

Mr Patrick's Registration

Cllr Mocatta handed round a photograph of Mr Bett and herself marking out the 20ft from Shore Lane, which is owned by the Parish Council. Cllr Mocatta also handed round a copy of the copy of the Commons Commissioner's Decision on the 18 December 1975 stating that the 40 feet width belonging to the Parish Council. The Cattlegate holders are taking up the other issues because this involves land owned by them. **It was resolved for the Clerk to formally object**

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to the registration with Land Registry with regards to Shore Lane and the 40ft. It was also resolved for the Clerk to email Mr Bett and ask if he needs support with objecting to the land owned by the Cattlegate Holders.

Action: Clerk

15. Parish Partnership Scheme – Clerk

The Clerk advised that Norfolk County Council are opening the scheme again this year with a total pot of £300,000. Cllr Venes said that he could not think of any trod etc that was needed. Cllr Barrett advised that could everyone work in partnership regarding flooding of the playing field. NCC need to do something regarding the flooding on the road after rainfall, TVH need to stop the field flooding. A pipe put under the road was the best solution using a mole, it would be costly but with the possible grant money for the field's drainage, TVH, the Partnership scheme with the Council enough funds might be available and everyone was a winner. The Clerk advised that plans/costing's needed to be in for December. **It was resolved to wait for an answer re Sports England for any further work could be achieved. It to be left on the agenda.**

16. Finance & Staffing Committee Report –SM

Cllr Mocatta wished to congratulate the Clerk on gaining her CiLCA. (Certificate in Local Council Administration). Cllr Mocatta advised that the Clerk had not had an increase in salary scale for 8 years. Cllr Mocatta said that it was felt that 2 increments as a pay increase and two increments for gaining her CiLCA Award. **It was resolved for this item to remain on the agenda and Cllr Mocatta to take back to the Finance & Staffing Committee and make a recommendation at the next meeting.**

Cllr Mocatta

17. Footpaths Seminar - Clerk

The Clerk advised that she had attended a Footpath Seminar and one of the main points was getting forgotten Footpaths and Bridle Ways registered on the definitive map. All Footpaths/Bridleways not registered by the 1 January 2026 will be lost forever. The British Horse Society is funding obtaining the necessary evidence. Old maps are available on line and also the need for Parishes to look at old Tithe Maps, old OS maps etc and find footpaths that are not on the current definitive map and research and get them registered. Cllr Brooks said that the History Society had just been given a 1905 OD map. **It was resolved for Thornham History Society to help with this.**

18. Planning Applications and Determinations:

Applications:

16/00980/F Mr Rufus Harper, Application for two storey extension and alterations at The Chequers Inn, High Street, Thornham. **It was resolved to recommend approval.**

16/00980/LB Mr Rufus Harper, Application for two storey extension and alterations at The Chequers Inn, High Street, Thornham. **It was resolved to recommend approval.**

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Determinations:

- 16/00694/F Mr & Mrs T Townsend, Application for proposed garage at Old Drill Hall, Ringstead Road, Thornham. – **Granted**
- 16/00570/F Thornham Village Hall & Playing Field Ltd. Application for retention of 2 external air conditioning units at Thornham Village Hall, High Street, Thornham. – **Granted**
- 16/00648/F Mr & Mrs A Needham. Application for a Replacement Porch at Trees Cottage High Street Thornham. – **Granted**

19. Correspondence:

- a. Burnham Market Community Car Scheme Minutes
- b. Letter from Clenshaw Minns re work-based pension. **It was resolved for the Clerk to reply and informed them the she has opted out.**

20. Accounts for payment

June Payments		
E-On Energy Street Lighting – (June)	Direct/Debit	28.16
Tec Tamers Maintenance Direct Debit (June)	Standing Order	25.00
TVH&PF LTD Room Hire (June)	101194	50.00
K & M Lighting Services (June)	101195	22.40
NALC Good Councillor Guide 2016	101196	3.70
NCC – Solicitor – CL56	101197	126.00

It was resolved for these payments to be made.

21 Payment Received

£8.30 from Recycling Bin

22 Items For Next Agenda

23 Date, & Place of next meeting.

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 20 July 2016 at the **Church** at 7.00pm

Please note change of Venue.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Action List

Cllr Mocatta

- Speak with Holme re Permissive Path Signage

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- Hold a Finance & Staffing Committee to allow a recommendation to be made to Full Council regarding the Clerk's Salary.

Cllr Gulliver

- Provide Clerk with condition report of Coastal Path.

Cllr Brooks

- Undertake cleaning of the bench in Green Lane by September's Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr Brown

- Undertake cleaning of the bench in Staithe Lane & Church Street by September's Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr Needham

- Undertake cleaning of the bench in Staithe Lane & Church Street by September's Parish Council Meeting.

Clerk

- Update schedule and form of Asset Register Condition Report.
- Co-Ordinate meeting regarding Community Emergency Plan
- Write Letter to Major Rodwell re Ship Lane
- Speak with Sally Bettinson re Ship Lane and Footpath 4
- Email Trail's Officer Manager re Coastal Path Issues.
- Email Cllr Needham re donated bench
- Write to Land Registry objecting to Mr Patrick's Registration of Shore Road
- Email Mr Bett offering support re Cattlegate Holders objection to Mr Patrick's Registration.
- Email statement and letter regarding Parishioners email re CL41
- Speak with Clenshaw Minns re Pension
- Make Payments
- Make sure items for the next agenda go on agenda

POINTS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Norfolk Coast Partnership Conference

Cllr Watson reminded everyone regarding the above Conference, which is due to take place on 14th July at Binham Village Hall from 9:30 to 16:00.

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