

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornham Parish Council held on Tuesday 20 February 2018 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Thornham.

Present: Cllr A Needham (Chair) Cllr A Brown Cllr B Gulliver  
Cllr A Chesterman Cllr S Greef

Also present: The Clerk & 12 Members of the Public.

**1. Election of Chair for this Meeting.**

**It was resolved for Cllr Needham to be chair for this meeting.**

Cllr Needham thanked everyone for coming and welcomed our two new Councillors with Cllr Chesterman and Cllr Greef. Cllr Needham explained that Miss Emma Cottle who will be Mrs Emma Bett after the weekend has been elected to cover the vacancy. Miss Cottle cannot take up her position until after the election would have happened on the 8 March.

Cllr Needham also apologized for anyone who turned up last Wednesday not realizing that the meeting had been moved. Notices were placed on the noticeboard and in the hall but not everyone had seen the notice including Cllr Watson who had attended.

**2. To receive and consider apologies for absence:**

**It was resolved to accept apologies from Cllr W Brooks.**

**3 To receive Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Needham gave a personal interest in anything concerning Thornham United Charities and Cllr Gulliver gave a personal interest in anything regarding Neighbourhood Planning.

**4. To Receive a Report from the Borough Councillor.**

Cllr Watson had sent her apologies as she is unable to be with us this evening as she has a prior engagement.

**5. Adjournment of Meeting to allow for public questions.**

Website

A Parishioner asked when the website would be up to date. The Clerk advised that it was now up to date. The Clerk explained that she had asked for further training on the page builder part of the website as she only had a brief session and no practice and currently cannot undertake this element. The Parishioner asked for the link to be placed in the minutes. Here is the link: <http://www.thornhamnorfolk.co.uk/parish-council-meetings/>

Road Closure

A Parishioner asked if the road was going to be closed again. Cllr Gulliver said that it was due to be closed 50 yards each side of Staithe Lane between 8.00am to 4.00pm from the 5 March to the 28 March inclusively. A Parishioner advised

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that Cllr Jamieson had used some of his budget to get the job achieved before the Easter Weekend.

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

- 6. Minutes of the Thornham Parish Council Meeting held on 10 January 2018**  
**It was resolved to approve the minutes and for the Chair to sign as a true and accurate record.**

**Matters Arising**

Dyke

Cllr Needham said that the dyke had been achieved and was working well. Cllr Needham said he would have liked to have seen the dyke extended a little further into the marsh but a neat and tidy job has been achieved and working. Perhaps a bit more can be achieved later in the year.

Bench

Cllr Gulliver said that he felt there was room around the next bend from the current bench. Cllr Needham felt that there was not enough room behind for maintenance, but Cllr Needham felt that he had found another possible place. **It was resolved for Cllr Needham and Cllr Gulliver to go and check together and report back.**

**It was resolved to open the meeting to allow Mr Warham to give the Village Hall report.**

- 7. Thornham Village Hall & Playing Field Report**

This month's activity has been focussed on maintenance. The Hall is now into its fifth year of operation. It has been well used and, not surprisingly, shows signs of wear and tear. The Hall floor has been sanded and re-varnished by a firm of specialists, and is now as good as new again. Dickie Sayers has completed a redecoration of the Hall walls, which were very badly scuffed by the rubbing of chair backs and tables. We had to close the Hall for a week while this work was done, and we thank our customers for their understanding and cooperation during this period. The other big improvement work has been to the car park, which had become a complete mess. The Car Park gets extremely heavily usage, not only from Hall customers but also from visitors to the Deli. Making a left hand turn into the brick weave car park has resulted in scouring out of the hard-core and large and dangerous potholes. The Trustees attempted to restore this a year ago by refilling with hard core and dressing with gravel. This didn't work, so we have invested £11,600 in extending the brick weave to cover the critical area, and we hope that this had now solved the problem for the medium term, at least.

We are now looking to see what needs to be done to improve the condition of the Playing Field. The remainder of the Sport England grant of £65,000 will be spent on improving the cricket outfield. We are looking at buying better grass cutting machinery and may look at taking on a part-time groundsman. Sadly, the Cricket Pavilion was vandalised again. We are looking to install CCTV and unbreakable glass to try and prevent this happening again. There will be a cricket Task Force

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workday on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> March which is the annual spring clean. We need volunteers to help for a couple of hours this morning. All are welcome.

We are delighted to have the support of Thornham Taverners, a small but enthusiastic group of cricket supporters who are holding a fund raising dinner on 23<sup>rd</sup> March at which the former England cricket captain, Graham Gooch will speak. This event is sold out, but, if you would like to be wait listed, do let me know.

During the month, we received the resignation of Rev. Susan Bowden-Pickstock as a Trustee. Susan found it impossible to give enough time to TVH as well as to her other main role as Rector in the community. The Trustees are grateful to Susan for her input over the past three years. It might be useful, particularly as the PC is considering a nomination to the Board of TVH, to give a brief outline of how the Board works. We have a Chairman, and six Board Members. Each of the Board Members has a specific portfolio of responsibilities e.g. Finance, Hall Committee, Grounds Committee, Fund Raising, Health & Safety and so on. The most necessary requirement needed is an enthusiasm and commitment to the Aims of the Village Hall – basically to create and sustain a viable centre of activity for the whole community. Each Board director reports to the Trustees Meeting on activities under their responsibility. There are six Board Meetings a year, plus an AGM and annual Strategy Meeting. In addition, separate sub-committees meet to handle Hall and Grounds matters. Meetings are the tip of the iceberg. On average, Trustees can easily spend up to 20 hours a week on Hall associated business. Trustees need to bring the requisite set of skills to the Board to enable them to operate effectively. This is not a commitment to be entered into lightly. The village is fortunate to have a group of Trustees who are as active and committed as the current team.

**It was resolved to return to closed session.**

Cllr Needham said that the hall looked good after its facelift and the car park was much improved. Cllr Gulliver said that a big thank you from the table tennis club especially for the car park.

**8. Coasthopper Bus**

Cllr Gulliver advised that Stagecoach is pulling out of the King’s Lynn Depot as soon as possible. Where that will leave our service no one knows.

Cllr Gulliver explained that that Stagecoach are going to put on a Shuttle Bus to cover Thornham, whilst the road works are taking place during March.

**9. Registering CL56 & 41**

The Clerk advised that no further information has been received. **It was resolved for the Clerk to speak with Land Registry.**

**10. Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Needham thanked all the team for a very successful Open/Presentation Day. Cllr Gulliver said that it was a real team effort. Cllr Gulliver said that around 83 people attended the session excluding the team. 50 of these were residents, 25 second homeowners and 8 genuine visitors mainly from Old Hunstanton who came because they are hoping to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan themselves.

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Cllr Gulliver said that he was very pleased and it was very informative. The Team are now analysing the findings, then also talk with organisations around the village.

**11. Trustees to Thornham Village Hall & Playing Field Ltd**

Cllr Needham advised that he felt this appointment should not be made until the Council were complete . The Clerk advised that it could be achieved at the Annual Parish Council meeting. **It was resolved to appoint at the Annual Parish Council Meeting.**

Cllr Needham wanted to ask Mr Warham why was the decision made to reduce the number of representatives from three to one. Cllr Needham advised that when the Parish Council were advised to hand over the land to Thornham Village Hall and Playing Field Ltd it was only agreed because of the level of input from having three representatives. Now that it has been reduced to one this input has been lost. Cllr Needham advised that he felt that there was a good relationship between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Trustees and did not want this to be lost and a them and us scenario happening.

**It was resolved to open the meeting to allow Mr Warham to speak.**

Mr Warham advised that it was down to two main reasons forward planning of the Trustees and the continuity of Trustees and the ability of the Parish Council to provide three representatives. The other reason was down to workload and the need for each Trustee to put around 20 hours work a week in. Mr Warham advised that a Trustee is a Trustee first before any other appointment. The Clerk advised that the Council Representatives also have a legal right to act in the best interest of the Parish Council and they should have advised the Council of this meeting and what was being proposed. Mr Warham said that if the Parish Council needed any help with their appointment he was more than willing to help and advise.

**12. Footpath Changes – Norfolk Coast Path**

The Clerk advised that Mr Wakes-Miller as the Norfolk Coastal Path Representative was talking it up on our behalf. **It was resolved for the Clerk to ask if there was any update.**

**13. Temporary Building at Deli - AB**

The Clerk advised that she had received an email earlier today advising that a planning application has been received so it is on longer an enforcement issue. The Clerk advised that the number is 18/00083/F. It is felt that Cllr Watson would call the application in so that it went to Committee.

**14. Administrative Assistant’s Post for Neighbourhood Plan**

**It was resolved for an interview panel to be agreed and the Clerk to invite applicants for interview.**

**15. Grit Bin - Clerk**

The Clerk advised that it has been checked before and a suitable position could not be achieved, but the Clerk agreed to re-check with Highways. The Clerk was also informed that the grit bin in Castle Cottages is full of rubbish and has never been filled. **It was resolved for the Clerk to check and report to Highways.**

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**16. Planning Applications and Determinations:**

Applications:

18/00203/LB McGurk Application Ground floor - Remove bath, add shower. Replace boiler with a range in kitchen. Widen opening in chimney and add wood burner burner in living room. Replace wooden window in kitchen. First floor - Change bathroom/WC/Landing (shape), remove bath replace with shower. Make cupboard off bedroom 1 into en-suite. Build en-suite off bedroom 2 - including moving door and liner Chestnut Cottage High Street Thornham . **It was resolved that no comment was to be made.**

Determinations:

None received.

**17. Correspondence:**

a) Email from Development Company re moving Streetlight. The Clerk advised that the development company want to move a Parish Streetlight because it is in the wrong position for their development. The Clerk has asked for the request to be put in writing. **It was resolved for this item to be placed on the next agenda.**

**18. Accounts for payment**

E-On Energy Street Lighting – (Feb)	Direct/Debit	35.77
Tec Tamers Maintenance Direct Debit (Feb)	Standing Order	25.00
Whitley Press Neighbourhood Plan	Direct Payment	103.75
Christine Jones Neighbourhood Plan	Direct Payment	135.97
Sam Staveley Neighbourhood Refreshments	Direct Payment	24.35
Clenshaw Minns – Wages	Direct Payment	150.00
Thornham Village Hall & Playing Field Ltd	Direct Payment	22.00
Whitley Press Neighbourhood Plan	Direct Payment	41.00
SLCC Membership	Direct Payment	41.30
NALC Conference – Training	Direct Payment	55.0

**It was resolved for these payments to be made.**

**19. Payment Received**

**None received.**

**20. Items For Next Agenda**

Current Agenda plus Rubbish by The Coal Barn, Development Firms movement of Parish Streetlight.

**21. Date, & Place of next meeting.**

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 14 March 2018 at the Village Hall, High Street at 7.00pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 7:50pm

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## Action List

### Cllr Needham

- Look for position for a Bench with Cllr Gulliver

### Cllr Gulliver

- Look for position for a Bench with Cllr Needham

### Clerk

- Find out regarding the Village Hall Trustees.
- Chase regarding changes to the Norfolk Coast Path
- Speak with Land Registry regarding CL56
- Report Castle Cottages Grit Bin
- Check out Choosley Road Poss Site for Grit Bin
- Invite Applicant to Interview
- Organise Councillor Training
- Make Payments
- Make sure items for the next agenda go on agenda.

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