

THORNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Thornham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 7.00 pm at Thornham Village Hall.

Present:

Cllrs S Mocatta (Chair), A Chesterman (Vice-Chair), I Barrett, A Needham, S Greef, D Arthur and Cllr T De Winton (Borough Councillor)

Clerk: Sarah Raven

Members of the Public: 4

1. Apologies for Absence:

It was resolved to accept apologies from Cllr A Jamieson (personal).

2. Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations by Councillors in any of the Agenda items listed:

None

3. Public Participation:

None

4. Councillor Reports:

4.1 County Councillor Cllr A Jamieson – Report Attached.

4.2 Borough Councillor – Cllr T De Winton – Flooding issues in Brancaster, Brancaster wanted to undertake a hydrological survey. Any issues needs to Norfolk ALC be raised with the Norfolk Flood Strategic Alliance. Budget has been set by Borough Council. Discussion on second homes council tax.

5. Minutes of last council meeting 14 February 2024

5.1 **Consider and Approve the Minutes:** The Minutes were circulated before the meeting. The minutes were APPROVED and signed as a true copy by the Chair, Cllr S Mocatta.

5.2 **Clerks Report** – Circulated before the meeting. Updates as follows: PAT test to be completed on laptop; Noticeboard ordered; Light over Giveway at Ringstead Road junction still to be completed; website under construction and to be completed in due course.

6. Finances

6.1 **Finance Chair Report** – Cllr I Barrett reported the bank balances as at 13 March 2024 Current £616.48 Business £62.148.64 .

6.2 Accounts for Payment:

PAYMENTS to be APPROVED	
S Raven (Steward Safety Supplies Telephone box signs)	48.67
Norfolk Parish Training Subscription	213.44
S Raven Mileage and Sim Card	82.95
N Power	113.33
S Raven Wages	1112.48
HMRC Tax and NI	421.23
Westcotec	45.00

These payments were APPROVED.

6.3 Money Received:

Receipts	£
Interest 4 March 2024	236.26

6.4 **Bank Reconciliation February 2024** – Bank Reconciliations for both accounts, Statements and Budget Comparison had been circulated to all Councillors. These were AGREED.

6.5 **SAM2 Repair:** Westcotec have assessed the SAM2. Repair costs would be £905 plus VAT. A new one would be £3554 plus VAT. Clerk to collect from Westcotec tomorrow and just use in the interim without the data. To look at a new one when Parish Partnership Grants are available from Norfolk County Council.

6.6 **EDGE course:** Year End course for £40.00. This was APPROVED for the Clerk to complete.

7. Village Matters

7.1 **Community events in Village Hall** – Entertainments Committee meeting to arrange events. Quiz night on 19th April.

7.2 **Pavilion:** [Report below](#). Discussion on the padel court. This would involve moving the Pavilion position to allow space for a padel court. Discussion on a Football team playing on the field to include nets to safeguard the children's play area. Discussion on the sports pavilion only being for cricket. The grants have been given by England Cricket Board, but other grants are being researched from other relevant bodies.

7.3 **QR Codes** – Discussion for all organisations fund raising having one QR code for people to donation to and then the proceeds are shared between organisations. There are rules for this to be completed by the Parish Council. It was AGREED not to continue.

7.4 **Electoral Role for residence in the parish:** Cllr Jamieson was dealing with this matter for a parishioner via the Borough Council

7.5 **Second Homeowners Council Tax:** This has already been agreed at the Borough Council.

7.6 **Coal Barn:** There are serious concerns with the Coal Barn state of repair. Clerk to contact the owner to discuss repairs.

7.7 **Sluice path on Staithe Lane:** Path before the sluice needs repairing. Clerk to write to landowners and ask for repairs. Discussion on area where cars parks on Staithe Lane as springs underneath the site making it uneven. Clerk to speak with Highways to get repaired.

7.8 **Flooding in the Parish:** Open Meeting had been arranged on Monday 25th March at 6 pm until 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Thornham. Anglian Water, Environment Agency, Highways, Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Flood Strategic Alliance had been invited to attend with Cllr A Jamieson chairing.

8. Governance:

8.1 **Biodiversity Policy** – This is still ongoing.

9. Outside Agencies:

9.1 **Thornham Village Hall & Playing Field Ltd (TVH&PF):** No report.

9.2 **Thornham United Charities:** [Report below](#). Update: work is ongoing on the verge. A few more whips to be placed in. Thanked Drove Orchards for helping with watering the trees in. Norfolk Rivers Trust is now having the Jubilee Meadow as a case study and working with TUC.

Discussion on Cricket Club licence with the Village Hall.

10. Highways:

None.

11. Health and Safety and GDPR Update:

None

12. Planning:

Decisions made by the Parish Council:

Reference No: 24/00198/F Proposal: Proposed refacing existing dwelling, proposed 2 storey rear extension, porch extension, garage conversion and internal remodelling. Location: 3 Hunts Cottages Church Street Thornham Hunstanton Norfolk Object to the application - It is out of character, not in keeping with the surrounding area and overbearing. This is contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan: H5: Residential extensions.

Decisions made by the Borough Council:

24/00001/TPO Thornham Summer House 3 St Georges Court Thornham Hunstanton Norfolk PE36 6NR - G1 constituting of 5 Holm Oaks - Remove epicormic growth on stems up-to a height of 3m. This is for aesthetics purposes. T1 (tag 80) Holm Oak - Large split in main limb stretching 4ft long. The split travels through the other side of the limb. remove limb due to within falling distance of the main drive. T2 (tag 17) Ash - Large elongated limb facing South East subject to limb failure due to excessive length / weight. Suggest reducing limb by 3.5 - 4m back into the drooping growth and bringing it in line with the rest of the canopy TPO Work Approved 26 February 2024 Delegated Decision

12.1 There will be an informal meeting with the Architects for Ringstead Road Barns on 10th April 2024. This will be reported back at the April meeting.

12.2 Drove Orchards Planning – Drove Orchards will be asked to attend at the next meeting on 10th April to do a presentation of the plans.

13. Correspondence:

13.1 Stop the Wensum Link Campaign Group – No comments.

13.2 Advertising – Advertisement board will be placed under the Noticeboard and taken down by 13th April.

13.3 Saxon Shore Meeting – This will be held on 21st March 2024.

14. Reports from Councillors and Clerk.

Clerk attended EDGE budgets webinar. Cllr S Greef and Clerk attended webinar on Parish Online.

15. Items for Next Agenda:

None.

16. Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting and Annual parish Council Meeting on 8th May:

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting at 6 pm with the Annual Parish Council Meeting being held at 7pm. Refreshments will be served from 5.45pm.

17. Date and Place of Next Meeting Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.00pm in Thornham Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Chairman,

You will recall that we already have pledges of £65,000 from entities within the village. The initial bid for £50,000 from the West Norfolk Rural Community Fund has been successful and we are in the process of completing a fuller one. These final bids have to be in by Thu 21 Mar and successful applicants will be announced in May.

The ECB Senior Medical Officer, Dr Nick Price, who owns a house in the village and has supported the TCC on numerous occasions has been approached for advice on funding from the ECB. As a New Sports Pavilion committee member, you are kindly following up on other sources for funding.

At our second committee meeting last week, despite their offer to do the work 'pro bono', Jason Law our Architect, and Andy Arnold our Quantity Surveyor, were asked to work under contract, on the grounds that the project was too big and expensive for the two key players not to be paid for their work. They have generously agreed to contracts well below market price.

The following "next steps" were agreed:

- No let-up in the search for funds.
- Add a ramp on to the veranda for wheelchair users.
- Lay out a possible footprint of the pavilion by end of March.
- Initial Bill of Quantities to be completed by end of March.
- Schedule of Works (to include disposal of old pavilion) by end of March.
- Draft contracts for JL & AA by end of March.
- Continue work on the "Thornham Replacement Sports Pavilion" booklet.
- Ground condition survey by end of April.
- Seek advice on the future of 'on-site' trees by end of April.
- Tenders to three, possibly four, builders around 1 Jun.
- Sign contract with selected builder mid Jul.
- TVH Briefing Day for village (with model?) late Jul.
- Site clearance and repositioning of the three sea containers late Jul.
- Old Pavilion gutted (TCC to lead) and removed – 7&8 Sep.

If all goes to plan, the site should be in the hands of the builders on 9th Sep with an end date of 1 May 25.

AW King-Harman
(Secretary)

Date

Practical Work

The first ten days of March have seen a great deal of activity and real progress on the Meadow. On Monday 4th March Barcham Nursery delivered the first phase of 25 trees. They were accompanied by Janek, leading the JG Gardening team who are regular specialist tree contractors working with Barcham, to set the trees. Species included Maple, Sycamore, Silver Birch, Hornbeam, Whitebeam, Copper Beech, Crab Apple, Cherry, Rowan and Elm. This selection was chosen by the team with assistance from Barcham to provide colour and blossom through the year.

Additionally, again with professional guidance it was agreed that the quadrant of trees in the south-west corner which were planted by village volunteers a number of years ago should be thinned in order to assist their better growth and to supplement the new tree planting. These 15 trees were largely Oak and Chestnut and represent a significant saving as both varieties are expensive to buy as well as improving growth for the remaining trees in the quadrant.

Janek and his team set to work and by Thursday all forty trees were planted, fenced, and mulched. Maintenance advice has been given by Janek. The trees are an impressive sight and we have received compliments from people who have seen the work both walking the meadow and driving along the coast road. Subsequent to the planting Robert has started putting in place the memorial plaques for the trees. Thank you once again to all our donors, supporters and funders who have helped this develop.

A second phase of tree planting, details yet to be confirmed will not take place until 2025 to allow the wildflower meadow time to root and grow.

Other work you may have noticed. Rory Hart, our contractor who laid the new hedge whips and did the very effective hedge-laying between playing field and meadow returned to trim back the wilder growth along the verge on the A149 where the new whips from Woodland Trust and NCC were planted. This should help ensure better spring growth to establish the hedge line. On Saturday 9th March the PGM team came to cut back around benches so they do not get overgrown this season and also we had agreed that the larger trees, which are naturally seeded, within the very sturdy western hedge should be given a better chance to grow. The base areas around them was cut back. All of this work should help the bio-diversity and natural attraction of the meadow.

Longer term Issues

We met with Norfolk Rivers Trust again on 23rd February and they undertook a baseline audit of the landscape of the meadow. This is all part of our work on North Norfolk Landscape Recovery Project. We await copies of the report.

We also now wait to see signs of life in the annual wildflower meadow strip.

CV for Jubilee Meadow Working Party

10.03.24