

# THORNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Thornham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10 April 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

Clerk: Sarah Raven

Members of the Public: 3

## **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. Presentation by Drove Orchards:**

Oscar Jamieson gave an update on new orchards for Drove. [Map below](#). Drove Orchards is a diversified farming business. It is arable, livestock, fruit and conservation. It also has a commercial business of retail, including juices and cider which support the farming side. The Drove is a traditional orchard. 160 varieties of apples together with pears and cherries grown. Drove Orchard is now transitioning to a fully organic growing system. Another 20 acres in new orchards are being planted. The first is next to Jubilee Meadow and will grow a variety of cider, cooking and eating apples. All apples will be gathered and crushed to make cider. A Cider Club to be formed to help pick apples, crush and taste. On the other sites a project is being completed with Natural England and will divide the field with a new hedgerow. There will be lots of different varieties grown. There will be improvements to the permissive path and a pond included. Permissive path will allow walkers to go through Jubilee Meadow and then a path through orchards towards Drove Orchards.

## **4. Public Participation:**

- House on Choseley Road driveway:- Has a permanent driveway been approved by the Borough Council – Clerk to action with Borough Council.
- Parking on the A149 opposite Deli – A near miss of an accident with all the cars parked. Site Foreman has stopped parking on the pavement. Parking is allowed on this road. This was discussed at the Saxon Shore Meeting. Parish Council has liaised with the Site Foreman and the Village Hall to allow car parking at the village hall. Discussion on yellow lines being placed along the A149. This would involve Highways agreeing a Traffic Regulation Order and up to £10,000 to complete. Yellow lines would only move cars to other roads to park.
- Path from Church Street to Harbour Road :- This needs cutting. It was discussed that the owners of the field were arranging for hedges and the field to be cut together with the path. Cllr S Mocatta to follow this up.

- Harbour Road – The verges need to be cut from corner of Staithe/ Ship Lane down to the Harbour. Clerk to liaise with Cllr A Jamieson.
- Telephone Box – This had been vandalised and reported to the Police. New containers for the leaflets will be provided.

**5. Councillor Reports:**

- 5.1 County Councillor Cllr A Jamieson – None.  
 5.2 Borough Councillor – Cllr T De Winton – None.

**6. Minutes of last council meeting 13 March 2024**

- 6.1 **Consider and Approve the Minutes:** The Minutes were circulated before the meeting. One amendment, spelling mistake. The minutes were APPROVED and signed as a true copy by the Chair, Cllr S Mocatta.
- 6.2 **Clerks Report** – Circulated before the meeting. Updates as follows: PAT test to be completed on laptop; Light over Giveaway at Ringstead Road junction still to be completed being investigated by Highways; website under construction and to be completed in due course.

**7. Finances**

**7.1 Finance Chair Report** – Cllr I Barrett reported the bank balances as of 10 April 2024 Current £469.38 Business £95248.64. This includes the 2024/25 precept from Borough Council of £35,000. Total £95718.02 of this £18589.83 is CIL monies with General Reserves of £77128.19. Advisory Group meeting planned for later this month to cover preparation of the AGAR, Internal and External audits plus a review of the internal controls and grant payments policies. Any recommendations from the Advisory Group will be given at the May meeting.

2023/24 figures have been distributed and show that there had a cash reduction during the year of £3201.63. VAT to be reclaimed is £142.22 leaving with a trading deficit of £3059.41 shown in the Budget Comparison report.

The CIL expenditure is for the new streetlights and the post-box paint. 2024/25 figures are being set up and analysed in a more detailed manner by the Clerk and able to give a breakdown of the numbers more easily.

**7.2 Accounts for Payment:**

<b>PAYMENTS to be APPROVED</b>	
S Raven (Defib Pads)	58.55
S Greef (Mileage to Seminar Norwich)	31.50
K & M Lighting Services (Red House Bracket)	96.00
Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk (Dog Bins)	1038.71
Npower (Streetlight Energy)	117.32

These payments were APPROVED.

### 7.3 Money Received:

Receipts	£
Interest 4 March 2024	236.26
Precept	35000.00

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

## 8. Village Matters

8.1 **Community events in Village Hall** – Quiz night on 19<sup>th</sup> April. There is a new Noticeboard on the caravan site which organisations can use to advertise events.

8.2 **Coal Barn:** Clerk had spoken with the owner regarding safety of the Coal Barn. Owner will visit the site to have a look and meet with Councillors to discuss the situation.

8.3 **Sluice path on Staithe Lane:** Highways had been contacted to arrange a site visit to discuss.

8.4 **Flooding in the Parish:** Cllr S Mocatta thanked Cllr A Jamieson for arranging the open meeting and arranging for the representatives to attend. Thanked Clerk for completing the notes. Discussion on the Open Meeting. Anglian Water had not been to attend the cleanup of the field on Church Street. Clerk to chase this. Clerk had asked for a map of the Parish from Norfolk County Council regarding ditches/dyke responsibility. Property owners had discussed various ways of ditches and drainage of fields to help with water levels. Clerk to liaise with Highways for the plan of the village and then co-ordinate with Cllr Needham to have a site visit regarding ditches and dykes. A parishioner agreed to assist with marking various points on the map which he had knowledge of.

## 9. Governance:

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

## 10. Outside Agencies:

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

10.2 **Thornham United Charities:** [Report below](#)

10.3 **New Sports Pavilion:** [Report below](#)

## 11. Highways:

11.1 Update on Ringstead Road, Give Way light: Highways are investigating a new post to hold the give way sign and speed sign so that it is not connected to the streetlight.

## 12. Health and Safety and GDPR Update:

None

## 13. Planning:

13.1 **Informal Meeting regarding new development at Ringstead Road:**

Discussion regarding new development on Ringstead Road. The revised plans have dropped the height of the houses to those in the surrounding area. Materials being used are in keeping with other properties. It will have its own entrance. Six properties in total.

1 x 3 bedroomed and 2 x 2 bedroomed in a terrace and then 3 x 3 bedroomed detached properties. Options were to have 3 houses as market value and 3 smaller ones as social housing or another option to have 3 principal houses and 3 market value houses. Plans have not formally been submitted to Borough Council.

This is outside the parish boundary. Discussion on the options available especially in line with Neighbourhood Plan policies. Discussion regarding shared ownership/sociable housing by a registered provider. Discussion on whether these properties are required in the village.

Very pleased with the changes of the designs. The Neighbourhood Plan policies must be taken into account and match what it is in the plan in relation to outside the boundary of the parish.

- 13.2 Informal Meeting with Drove Orchards with Holme-next-the-sea Parish Council: This took place with Thornham Parish Councillors and Holme-next-the-sea Parish Councillors with Drove Orchards. Discussion on the location of the 5 holiday lodges and the access requirements. Questions were raised and answered satisfactory.

**Decisions made by the Parish Council:**

Reference No: 24/00264/F The addition of five holiday lodges to the existing glamping provision plus associated car parking. Location: Wild Luxury - The Wild Glamping Company Drove Orchards Thornham Road Holme next The Sea Norfolk - SUPPORT the application

Ref: 23/01983/F Proposed Extension and Alterations to existing dwelling at The Stables Ringstead Road Thornham Hunstanton Norfolk- Support the application.

**Decisions made by the Borough Council:**

24/00038/F Thornleys Barn High Street Thornham Hunstanton Norfolk PE36 6LX - Extension and Alterations Application Permitted 11 March 2024 Delegated Decision

**14. Correspondence:**

- 14.1 Parking problems along A149 outside the Deli: - Correspondence between member of the public and Highways Manager about vans parking on the road. Highways Engineer to attend.
- 14.2 Correspondence received regarding clarification on a bank discrepancy. Clerk to action a reply.
- 14.3 SAM2's have been collected from Speed Watch Team. Clerk to check why they are not working.
- 14.4 King's Coronation Photo has arrived. Clerk to liaise with Village Hall for this to be placed in the Village Hall

**15. Reports from Councillors and Clerk.**

Cllr A Needham attended Saxon Shore. Minutes circulated.

**16. Items for Next Agenda:**

None.

**17. Date and Place of Next Meeting Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 5.45 pm for refreshments then 6pm for the Annual Parish Meeting and at 7pm for the Annual Parish Council Meeting in Thornham Village Hall.**

Meeting closed at 9 pm

## Drove Orchards :- Map of new location for Orchards



## Thornham United Charities – Jubilee Meadow Working Party

### Report to Thornham Parish Council 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

#### Practical Work

The last two weeks have been quieter in terms of activity on the Meadow. There has been some additional work on the western hedge. It was suggested by our advisors that trimming the area around the trees within the hedge would enable them to grow more successfully. The small quadrant of trees in the south west of the meadow which had a number of its trees transplanted was also trimmed to further assist tree growth. These tasks done by PGM while Rory Hart continued to work to improve the hedgerow alongside the A149.

While we understand the issues resulting from the exceptional levels of rainfall we have experienced this has at least been helpful in reducing the need to water in the new trees since they were planted. We need to monitor this carefully over the next year.

Good news items include the regular sighting of male and female kestrel on the meadow – it does look likely that they will nest, possibly in one of the Owl boxes. We have also seen clear signs of blue tits nesting in the smaller bird boxes around the field. Red Kites are being more regularly spotted and we are hopeful that some ground nesting birds will settle. We have had a significant number of people telling us how pleased they are with the tree planting and memorial plaques. There will be another limited tree planting session, either end of 2024 or early 2025 so further opportunities may be available. We are aware of the keen interest this has generated.

Jan Mitchell has volunteered her services as health and safety expert to undertake a review of the meadow. Trustees gratefully accepted this offer as with increasing public usage comes increased risk.

### **Longer term Issues**

Norfolk Rivers Trust undertook the baseline audit of the landscape of the meadow and have now sent us a detailed report. This will prove very helpful as we look to how we maintain and manage the various aspects of the meadow landscape going forward.

Some of our local gardeners think they can see encouraging signs in the annual strip of wildflowers. As spring develops through May and June into summer we have our fingers crossed for a show of colour.

CV for Jubilee Meadow Working Party

04.04.24

### **Report from A M King-Harman (Secretary)**



#### **Thornham Village Hall – New Sports Pavilion**

#### **Brief for Thornham Parish Council Meeting** **8 Apr 2024**

Chairman,

The main emphasis, over the last month, has been on Fund Raising and we have approached or are approaching the following:

Hornsea3 (£50K) – submitted. Decision by 8 Aug 24.  
WN Rural Community (£50K) – submitted. Decision in May 24.  
Sports England (£15K) – submitted. Decision by 27 Jun 24.  
Garfield Weston (£25K) – completed and will be sent once we have 50% of overall costs.  
GOV-UK Community Ownership (£50) – Opens May 24.  
ECB – advice being sought from Norfolk Rep.  
WNKLBC CIL (£50) – Opens Jul 24.

S Mocatta is following up on a dedicated QR Code to be used for flyers, publications and the booklet for distribution within the village and elsewhere. A date for the Sporting Dinner in the Village Hall later this year has yet to be finalised. We have an auctioneer but are trying to tie a potential speaker to a date when the Hall is free.

Jason Law (Architect) and Andy Arnold (QS) continue to refine the overall costs prior to going out to tender to four builders. Once the weather improves, JL will oversee the employment of a company to test the ground over which the Sports Pavilion will be built. JL has also approached Quadrant Building Control to oversee the project.