

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC)

Minutes of the Parish Council Remote Meeting on Monday 16 November 2020

Present: Cllrs Steve Tribe (Chair); Emily Cooke; Ray Goodger; Carol Laurence; Charlotte Moore (items 1 – 8); Mary Taylor; Allen Williamson.

Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier; Warren Whyte (items 1- 11).

In Attendance: Alison Robinson (Clerk) and one member of the public.

1 Apologies

1.1 There were no apologies.

2 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

3.1 The minutes of the meeting on 15 October 2020 were **approved** as an accurate record.

4 Public Participation Session

4.1 The member of the public who had put forward various suggestions, which TPC discussed under the next agenda item, elaborated on those suggestions.

5 Covid-19 Second Wave

5.1 TPC discussed at some length the suggestions put forward by a resident concerned about the implications of the ongoing pandemic for parishioners without internet connectivity and/or those adversely financially impacted.

corona virus noticeboard

5.2 TPC **resolved** not approve funding for the suggested corona virus noticeboard and instead undertook to:

- (a) Put the latest Buckinghamshire Council poster signposting sources of official information and help on the TPC noticeboard.
- (b) Talk to the Village Hall Committee about the community noticeboard.
- (c) Make appropriate use of the functionality of the replacement website once it was built.

regular hardcopy delivered updates

5.3 The importance of the role of television and radio in keeping residents without internet connectivity informed was stressed. The pitfalls of duplication and /or inaccurate unofficial information were also stressed. TPC undertook to consult the co-ordinator of the volunteer Covid-19 support group about whether another leaflet should be distributed¹.

local volunteer walk leaders

5.4 The resident who had been in the process of setting up a Thornborough walking group when Covid-19 struck had recently confirmed s/he intended to progress the matter when it was permissible and safe to do so.

lists of various relevant phone numbers

5.5 It might be helpful to include the local Buckinghamshire Council Support Hub phone number in the next edition of Thornborough News.

central record of those in financial hardship, over 60s, vulnerable, living alone

5.6 The Chair explained why this would be inappropriate and fraught with difficulties.

¹ Post meeting note: although because of the previous leaflet drop c30 volunteers came forward only one resident asked for help. S/he continues to receive support.

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC)

fund for addressing future issues caused by current crisis

- 5.7 Local councils were not permitted to give grants to individuals. As agreed (minute 5.2), the Buckinghamshire Council and central government support would be again be signposted.

other village organisations

- 5.8 The Chair mentioned the councillors who were also members of the PPC (Parochial Church Council) and the Village Hall Committee.

- 5.9 TPC thanked the member of the public for sharing her/his ideas and attending the meeting.

Action: Clerk to take forward.

6 Planning

20/03613/APP - 2 Palmers Moor, MK18 2HP - demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension.

- 6.1 TPC **resolved** not to oppose the planning application.

Action: Clerk to respond to the consultation.

Ongoing planning matters

- 6.2 TPC **noted** the report about ongoing planning matters.

Other planning matters of relevance to TPC - Faccenda Chicken Thornhill Poultry Farm - demolition of 11 existing poultry houses and erection of 2 replacement poultry houses and associated infrastructure

- 6.3 The previous planning application was withdrawn. A new planning application had been submitted and was circulated to TPC on 14.11.20. Although the planning application had been received too late for the agenda, an extension could be requested so it could be dealt either at the additional meeting in December or at the January meeting. The Chair reported he had been in touch with the local community whose initial assessment suggested little additional information had been provided in the new planning application. Cllr Taylor suggested it might be helpful to involve the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trusts (www.bbwt.org.uk).

Action: Chair to have further discussions with the local community in the first instance and decide in consultation with the Clerk how best to take matters forward.

7 Bourton Solar Park Proposals

- 7.1 TPC discussed the proposals, **resolved** to confirm its support for green energy and asked the Clerk to investigate whether the company concerned might make a financial donation for the community. The TPC Councillors were also encouraged to respond individually.

Action: Clerk to respond on behalf of TPC.

8 Finance

- 8.1 TPC resolved to approve the following payments:

Payment Date	Payment Method	Recipient	Description	Amount
1.10.20	SO	Liz Julier	Storage	£15.00
1.10.20	DD	Bulb for Business	Pavilion electricity	£101.00
5.10.20	BACS	WAVE Anglia Water Business	Pavilion water	£28.71
5.10.20	BACS	WAVE Anglia Water Business	Allotment water	£45.45
14.10.20	BACS	Alison Robinson	Error refunded 6.11.20	£59.99
14.10.20	BACS	eon	Streetlight lighting September	£31.83
26.10.20	BACS	Cllr Charlotte Moore	Wreath reimbursement	£15.00
26.10.20	BACS	Fire Guard Services	Fire extinguisher service/replacement	£204.00
Total				£500.98

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC)

8.2 TPC **noted** the financial position as of 31 October 2020:

Bank Statement Balance as at 31.10.20		
Current Account	85516813	£12,626.87
Reserve Account	85516821	£9,207.49
Total Bank Accounts		£21,834.36
Less Unpresented Payments		£0.00
Total Liabilities		£0.00
Plus Unbanked Cash		£0.00
Net Bank Balances		£21,834.36
Cash Book Receipts		
Opening Balance as at 1.10.20		£22,335.34
Add Receipts		£0.00
Less Payments		£500.98
Closing Balance as at 31.10.20		£21,834.36

9 Financial Year 2021/22 Budget and Precept Setting

9.1 The Clerk explained:

- (a) The paper was an updated version of the paper discussed at the October meeting.
- (b) TPC was asked to give further advice to help finalise the budget build. For example, had anything been missed; was there anything to be added; were changes needed?
- (c) There was currently no provision for duck food or shredding.
- (d) The tax base calculator was expected to be published in early-December. TPC would therefore need to hold an additional single agenda to approve the precept preferably in December or the first week of January.

Post meeting note: The deadline for precept submission has been extended until 31.1.21 by Buckinghamshire Council. The precept can now be approved by TPC at its meeting on 18.1.21 which means the additional meeting on 14.12.20 is not required

- (e) In addition to covering the anticipated budget requirements, the precept needed to be increased to help build the reserve as previously agreed by TPC. The current reserve was too low by sector standards, ideally it should be nearer to the equivalent of the annual precept.
- (f) TPC had also previously agreed the precept should also be increased to recoup the cost of the new website (£850). TPC was asked to advise whether additional funds might be needed to for the unexpected and/or if the plan to seek grant funding and sponsorship was unsuccessful.
- (g) The relatively small amount of money involved meant precept % increases looked dramatic despite the actual monetary increase being modest.

9.2 The Chair raised the possibility of fitting the streetlights with replacement LED bulbs.

9.3 TPC **resolved** to:

- (a) Continue to cover the cost of duck food (maximum £30-£40 per annum) purchased by the resident who looked after the welfare of the village ducks.
- (b) Ask the Clerk once the tax base calculator was received to model precept increases of 10%, 12.5% and 15%.

Action: Clerk to progress.

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC)

10 Environment and Facilities

Allotments

10.1 There was nothing to report.

Action: Cllrs Tribe and Goodger still to investigate water metre leak when time permits.

Sports Field and Pavilion

S106 funded pavilion project

10.2 Cllr Taylor reported a decision about the plans submitted to Buckinghamshire Council Building Control was expected on 14.12.20.

Playground

10.3 The Clerk explained the semi-permanent Covid-19 signs for the playground had been donated by Format Graphics Ltd. She said she would include a formal acknowledgement in the next edition of Thornborough news and also thanked the Chair for installing the signs.

The Pond Vegetation

10.4 The work had now been undertaken.

11 Buckinghamshire Council (BC)

11.1 Cllr Sir Stanier undertook to renew his efforts to get Buckinghamshire Council to deal with the litter problem in the old Thornborough Bridge picnic area and cut back the overgrown vegetation to help prevent future problems. He also talked about the savings made over time by the former AVDC and Whaddon Parish Council from LED bulbs.

11.2 Cllr Whyte asked TPC to encourage parishioners to sign up to the Buckinghamshire Council eNews - residents are able to sign up by going to: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/signup.

11.3 Cllr Whyte also mentioned the Transport for Bucks (TfB) winter programme and encouraged the use of Fix My Street to report issues and problems. In response queries, he confirmed Thornhill was included in the TfB 5 year plan and that it was the tree/hedge owners who were responsible for clearing the pavements of leaves outside their property.

11.4 TPC **resolved** to use Thornborough eNews to ask residents to clear leaves from the pavements outside their properties.

Action: Cllr Cooke to take forward.

11.5 Cllr Whyte said further information about Bart (Buckingham Area Rural Transport) Community Bus for North Bucks would be circulated shortly.

12 Buckingham and Villages Community Board (B&VCB)

12.1 The Chair reported on the B&VCB meeting he attended on 10 November 2020. He talked about the Community Area Priority projects that had received funding and said B&VCB was keen to involve more young people.

12.2 TPC **noted** the application for permission and match funding for Back Street parking project had been submitted as agreed. TfB would review it and produce a Project Initiation Document (PID) probably in February 2021. The application would then be considered at first Community Board meeting in the 2021-22 financial year.

13 Current and Ongoing Activities

13.1 TPC **noted** the document which would be updated again for the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to update the current and ongoing activities document.

14 Urgent Matters for Reporting and /or the Next Agenda

Post meeting note: The Chair has now reported the road flooding signs issue he mentioned on Fix My Street.

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC)

15 Date of Next Meeting

15.1 The next meeting would take place on Monday 18 January 2021 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at: 8.42 pm

Chair's signature

Date: