

**MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

**11th August 2008 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Alex Keeling, Andy Spurr, Neil Walton, Mark Cole

**1.1 Apologies for absence**

Tim Nichols, Anthony Lawrinson, Charlotte Moore

Chairman Tim Nichols and Vice-Chairman Anthony Lawrinson being absent Andy Spurr, Neil Walton and Mark Cole proposed that Alex Keeling should chair the meeting; Alex Keeling agreed and it was resolved that Alex Keeling would be chairman for the meeting.

**1.2 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda**

None

**1.3 To agree minutes of the meeting dated 14th July 2008**

Agreed and signed

**1.4 1.4.1 Parking on the Green**

Chandler Ray has written saying that they need Statutory Declarations from villagers who are or have been councillors and have a long association with the village. When they have received these they can go ahead with the registering of the greens. It was agreed that we will contact Chandler Ray asking them to advise us of their charges so far.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

**1.4.2** Ken Horne of Highways has visited the village to look at areas of concern. The Parish Gang has been to the village again to carry out repairs. Areas of the Green were made good by Highways only to be spoilt again by inconsiderate drivers. We have been advised by Bucks County Council that we may not need full quality status to be able to carry out some repairs ourselves as long as we satisfy certain criteria. The subject could not be discussed at the meeting and is to be put on the next agenda for discussion and any action required at the September meeting.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

**1.5 Planning**

None

**1.6 Finances**

**1.6.1** Monthly income/outgoing report approved by councillors

**1.6.2** Monthly bank reconciliation approved by all councillors

**1.6.3** The following cheques were approved and signed with the appropriate powers considered

199	S. Reeder	Salary	128.64	LGA 1972 s112
200	Busiprint	Parish Paths Leaflet	405.38	

01.08.08 DD Anglian Water 7.00

01.08.08 DD E.on 30.00

**1.7 Councillors Issues**

1.7.1 Bucks Highways have told us that we can place boulders on the Green a

little way from the edge. The insurance company have reviewed the information given to them and have confirmed that the action of putting boulders on verges is acceptable. It was resolved that boulders are to be placed around the Green by the village hall. This is to be a temporary measure to allow the area to recover. In the long term we may be eligible for a grant to grasscrete the area outside the village hall. It was resolved that we are to find out whether a grant is available (Action: Anthony Lawrinson). A note has been put in the newsletter and on the notice board to explain that after consultation with Highways and the Insurance Company we have decided to put boulders on the green as a temporary measure during the summer. (Action: Tim Nichols) The issues in Back Street such as parking and traffic are still to be reviewed and discussed (Action: Andy Spurr/Neil Walton).

**Action: As Above**

- 1.7.2 Alex Keeling met with the police when the subject of travellers was discussed; this item is to be put on the next agenda for discussion at the September meeting. Some councils hire young people to carry out traffic surveys. If we did this it would tell us how much and what type of traffic is using the roads. A note asking for young people willing to undertake accessing of traffic through the village has been put in the newsletter

**Action: Alex Keeling/Tim Nichols**

- 1.7.3 The subject of dualling of the A421 is in the Buckingham Plan; we have written to Bucks County Council advising them that the parish council is against any dualling of the A421 referring to the PFA report and the parish plan. It was also decided that we should formally respond to the speed limit review consultation to register our interest, and to support the 40mph speed limit recommended for Coombs.

**Action: Sue Reeder/Anthony Lawrinson**

- 1.7.4 The churchyard has been tidied but it was agreed that a request for volunteers to help in the future is to be put in next month's newsletter.

**Action: Charlotte Moore**

- 1.7.5 Affordable Housing: Jean Fox of Bucks Community Action has been in contact. The next step is to approach the owners of the land at the potential sites for affordable housing. It was agreed that we will contact the owner of the land at Nash Road next to Nash End Farm and that we will ask Jean Fox to contact the remaining landowners.

**Action Andy Spurr/Alex Keeling**

- 1.7.6 Agreed: That Andy Spurr is to walk the field alongside the stream at Lower End to check whether there are any blockages. This could be done on a six monthly basis. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to riparian owners every twelve months reminding them of their responsibilities and liabilities and that a letter is to be sent to Bucks CC regarding the silt blocking the drain in High Street opposite the school. It was agreed that a letter is to be sent to Bucks Highways asking them to investigate culverts in High Street which may be blocked (Action: Anthony Lawrinson) and to see whether any money is available to employ a consultant who would identify any problems and who would refer back to the Water Company and Bucks CC with any issues.

**Action: As Above**

- 1.7.7 It was decided that the quotes for ornamental railings in the village were too high and we were to look into the possibility of obtaining a grant. Some councils employ people in a commission based role to look into all

grants available to councils. It was agreed that we should investigate the availability of any grants for parish councils and that the subject would go onto the next agenda for discussion at the September meeting.

**Action: Neil Walton**

- 1.7.8 The Community Sustainable Energy Programme: Two types of grants are available; up to £5,000 is available to fund development studies which must be carried out by an approved consultant and capital grants are available for installing energy efficient measures. A consultant has been engaged who will provide us with options and quotes on sustainable energy. We will then be able to apply for a feasibility study grant. If we are eligible for a grant energy efficient measures could then be installed in the sports pavilion; street lights could be replaced with solar energy footpath lighting - locations and design to be agreed.

**Action: Neil Walton**

- 1.7.9 Highways have been informed about the blocked drains in High Street. We also need to inform them about the blocked drains in Lower End and Chapel Lane.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

- 1.7.10 Village Magazine: It was agreed that a working party would be set up and that Sandie Davies should be invited to be involved. Any profit from a magazine would go to the Friendship Club (Action: Mark Cole). We were unable to discuss this at the meeting and the subject will go onto the agenda for discussion at the September meeting. There is a Community Chest fund which grants up to £1,000 for small projects, it was decided to apply for a grant to fund the cost of producing of a magazine. (Action: Anthony Lawrinson).

**Action: As Above**

- 1.7.11 It was agreed that if the parish boundary had not changed we were to have 350 copies of the parish paths leaflet printed. The parish boundary has not changed and the copies have been printed. These are to be available from The Two Brewers and the Post Office. (Action: Andy Spurr/Sue Reeder) It was also agreed that we should put a note in the newsletter and on the web site to inform parishioners that they are available. (Action: Mark Cole/To be agreed)

**Action: As Above**

It has been agreed that we should apply for a Micro Grant from the Community Chest (Action: Anthony Lawrinson) for the printing of the Parish Paths leaflet.

**Action: As Above**

- 1.7.12 After investigating whether the Lone Tree is a listed building; we now know that it is not.

**Action: Andy Spurr/Charlotte Moore**

- 1.7.13 There is a partly built house in High Street. Work was stopped because planning permission had not been obtained. So far we have not been able to find out any more information. The subject will be put on next month's agenda for discussion at the September meeting.

**Action: Neil Walton**

- 1.7.14 Agreed: That the unmetered electricity supply agreement from E.on is to be investigated further.

1.7.15 Resolved: that each new resident to the village should be sent a welcome letter and information on contacts and facilities and that a letter is to be drafted for approval.

**Action: Tim Nichols**

1.7.16 We have been asked to consider the purchase of a container for the duck food to prevent vermin from getting to it. It was agreed that we will purchase a strong plastic container for storing the duck food. The legislation used for the expenditure will be the Local Government Act 1972 s137.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

## **1.8 Correspondence**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00pm