

Report on the Annual Meeting of the Parish on Monday 19th May 2014 in Thornborough Village Hall

The meeting was attended by 17 parishioners, BCC Councillor Warren Whyte and Cllrs. Stuart Mitchell (Chairman), Mark Cole, Andy Spurr, Mary Taylor, Ray Goodger and Charlotte Moore. Notes taken by Thornborough Parish Council Clerk, Maggie Beach.

1. Councillor Melanie Staff had sent her apologies. Apologies also received from Bernard Garbe, Biddy Howard, Madge and Pater Carey.
2. The report of the meeting dated 10th June 2013 were accepted as accurate. There were no comments or questions.
3. Maggie Beach, the Clerk, gave a statement of the annual accounts of Thornborough Parish Council for the end of the financial year as follows:
 - i. Current account - £10,560.31
 - ii. Reserve Account - £11,657.55,
 - iii. Total Liabilities - £361.39 making a
 - iv. Total - £21,856.47
 - v. Total Fixed Assets - £379,851.78

The Clerk explained that TPC has now used some of the reserves to upgrade street lighting and put net-paving on the Green at the top of Bridge Street to protect the Green from parking cars.

The Fixed Assets reflects the original prices paid for assets as required for the annual audit, not the current values for insurance purposes.

Full copies of the annual accounts are available from the Clerk on request.

4. **Reports to the Annual Meeting from the following organisations were presented:**
 - Thornborough Parish Council Chairman on the previous year's work in the Council.
 - Thornborough Infant School.
 - St Mary's Church
 - Thornborough Chapel
 - Village Hall Trust
 - Thornborough Sports and Social Committee
 - Thornborough Pre-School
 - Thornborough and Thornton W.I.
 - Gardening Society

Copies of reports submitted are available on request and on the web site.

5. **The Village Pond.**

Cllr Charlotte Moore had presented the extension of the village pond as a way of making the pond look more like a pond and as a possible aid in flood relief for the village. There were pictures of the pond in previous times extended out to the road with a picket fence. This was not the intention behind the idea. Instead the pond could be discussed halfway out to the path. There was much discussion. It was suggested that an impact assessment and cost analysis should be done before any work is undertaken. Madge and Pater Carey had sent a letter opposing the idea. The idea remains to be further explored but the meeting was reassured that nothing would be done without further consultation with the electorate.

6. **Thornborough Community Woodland** – Cllr MT gave a summary of the history and update of the current position. We have signed the lease but are still waiting for the lease to be signed by Buckinghamshire County Council before we can officially take over the management and this is causing some problems, the grass rides now need cutting. Cllr MT explained that Thornborough Community Woodland was a great asset but Thornborough

Parish Council were planning that it would be self-financing. She encouraged people to visit, offered to take new people to the woodland round it and asked people to consider volunteering to work on the woodland and/or help with fund raising.

7. **1914 – 18 Centenary Commemoration Events for Thornborough.** Bernard Garbe is coordinating a visit to Duxford. The Clerk gave out details. There is now a dedicated page on the Thornborough web site where people can find information about events and records of memories. If anyone would like to put something on this page, they should send it to the Clerk through the tpcadmin@thornboroughvillage.co.uk e-mail address (on the web site)
8. **Any other issues Parishioners would like to be discussed to be tabled and discussed:**
 - The issue of the planning application for a solar park at Millmount Farm on the A421 was discussed. This is not an issue that the parish felt it should respond on, but it would encourage anyone who wants to respond either objecting or supporting the planning application to South Northants DC, The relevant planning authority.
 - **Grass cutting** was discussed at length. Cllr Warren Whyte explained that BCC had taken the contract back from Aylesbury Vale District Council but were not happy with the work done last year by their contractors. Only two cuts were planned last year but some areas did not get two cuts (Thornborough was one of these who only received one cut or none in some places). This year BCC have new contractors but the current quality of their work is not satisfactory and needs to be improved. (Thornborough had had a cut today). BCC has now appointed an in-house quality control position for this issue.
 - **Drainage** was another issue that was raised. Drainage is the responsibility in most cases of the landowner and Transport for Bucks is currently running a campaign to get landowners to clear their ditches.
9. There were no further comments on the meeting, which closed at 9.20.