

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (TPC)

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16 September 2019

Present: Cllrs Steve Tribe (Chair); Emily Cooke; Ray Goodger; Estelle Graham; Carol Laurence; Mary Taylor; AVDC Cllr Billy Stanier (items 9 - 16).

In Attendance: Alison Robinson (Clerk); no members of the public were present.

1 Apologies

1.1 BCC Cllr Warren Whyte.

2 Public Participation Session

2.1 No members of the public were present, and therefore no matters were raised.

3 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

3.1 Cllr Taylor, as Secretary of the Thornborough and Coombs Woodland Enterprise Trust, declared an interest under the relevant section of agenda item 9 (minute 9.8).

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4.1 The minutes of the meeting on 2 September 2019 were **approved** and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

5 Thornborough Infant School

5.1 The Chair of Governors had advised there was currently nothing substantial to report.

6 Planning

19/03284/APP – Land adjacent to New Inn, High Street, Thornborough. Erection of a dwelling with parking and associated amenities

6.1 The Chair explained the application had previously been opposed and then refused on appeal. The latest application addressed the reasons given for why the appeal was rejected.

6.2 TPC **resolved** to again oppose the planning application because of concerns about the inadequate size of the plot; access from the road; the risk of flooding and the negative impact the building would have on the village view.

Action: Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk to prepare a response on behalf of TPC.

7 VE Day 75th Anniversary Friday 8 May 2020

7.1 Cllr Taylor reported she was helping with the risk assessment and road closure application and would be attending the next meeting of the Committee on 25 September 2019.

8 TPC Website

8.1 The Chair explained which sections of the website fell under the responsibilities of the Clerk and reported arrangements had recently been made with the Editor of Thornborough News for the updating of that section. He asked for volunteers to review and suggest updates / redrafting for the following sections:

VALP	Cllr Tribe
Local Information	Cllr Cooke
Sports Field and Local History	Cllr Moore
Village Hall	Cllr Cooke
TACWET	Cllr Taylor
Thornborough Village Plan	Cllrs Moore and Taylor
Village Organisations	Cllr Laurence
Events Calendar	Cllr Laurence
Local Footpaths and Nature	Cllr Goodger

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Action: as detailed in minute 8.1.

8.2 TPC **resolved:**

- To make use of the Thornborough eNews Facebook group, rather than try to maintain a TPC Facebook group.
- The domains should be transferred to the Clerk and renewed.
- To thank the former chair for all his help.

Action: Clerk to take forward as detailed in minute 8.2.

9 Environment

Sports Field and Pavilion

9.1 The Clerk reported she had sought quotes from three electrical companies and received one. She had also sought and received three quotes from companies which supplied and maintained fire extinguishers.

9.2 TPC **resolved** to check whether:

- the quote from MK Electrical Breakdown was like for like with the quote received from DCI Electrical Contractors, and if so to proceed with the former;
- the quote from Fire Guard Services was like for like with quote received from Red Box, and if so to proceed with the former.

Action: Clerk to take forward as detailed in minute 9.2.

9.3 Cllr Taylor reported on the meeting she had with a parishioner who had been involved in the building of the Pavilion; the notice she had circulated on Thornborough eNews seeking volunteers for the project and said there were possible sources of funding which would be explored when the project reached that stage.

9.4 The Clerk reported quotes were being sort from contractors for the hedge and gate post.

Action: Clerk to circulate the quotes to TPC when received.

Allotments

9.5 The Chair reported positively on his recent visit to the allotments and said he expected the plot holders nominated to examine the new licence to meet shortly.

9.6 The Clerk reported Buckingham County Council had granted TPC devolved authority to approve the erection of sheds subject to the conditions circulated in advance of the meeting. She said permission had been granted for the erection of sheds on plots 6 and 9.

9.7 It was suggested the sheds on the allotments should ideally be slightly raised off the ground to reduce pests and help preserve the shed bases.

Action: Clerk to include the raising of sheds off the ground when granting future permissions for sheds on the allotments.

Thornborough and Coombs Woodlands

9.8 Cllr Taylor said the transfer of the title had still not been completed.

Playground

9.9 The playground retaining wall had now been built.

Action: Clerk to write on behalf of TPC to say thank you.

9.10 Cllr Cooke reported she was still waiting for one of the fence quotes she had arranged. TPC again **resolved** to defer a decision until all the quotes were available.

Action: Cllrs Cooke to send the outstanding quote once received to the Clerk for circulation.

9.11 The new bin was scheduled to be delivered this month.

Action: Clerk to follow up with AVDC next week if still no news.

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10 Road and Drainage Issues

Gates at Coombs

- 10.1 Some additional information had been requested and provided for the LAF match funding.

Increased Traffic

- 10.2 The Chair reported the member of the public who had provided the written submission about traffic in Thornborough, which TPC had considered in August, had declined to join the proposed SpeedWatch Group. The concerns he raised were outside of remit of a parish council. TPC **resolved** to pass the written submission to Cllr Whyte for onward transmission. Cllr Taylor reported that she was arranging SpeedWatch training for herself and the Chair.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Whyte. Cllr Taylor to further progress the training when she returned from her forthcoming trip.

Streetlighting

- 10.3 Cllrs Taylor and Tribe had identified a preferred location. A site meeting was now being arranged with the E.on Engineer.

Action: Cllrs Taylor and Tribe and the Clerk to meet with the E.on Engineer.

Dead Cherry Tree

- 10.4 A date for removing the dead tree had yet to be arranged.

Action: Cllr Goodger to progress.

The Village Stream and Rivers

- 10.5 Cllr Whyte had provided the document 'Guidance for Riparian Owners' following the discussion at the TPC meeting in August. Cllr Goodger had distributed it.

Action: Cllr Goodger to do the inspection he had previously agreed to undertake and report back to the next meeting of TPC.

Unsafe Manhole Cover

- 10.6 The Chair reported the unsafe manhole cover on the village green had been fixed.

The Old Standpipe Fence

- 10.7 TPC **resolved** to use Thornborough eNews to ask if anyone would be willing to repair the Old Standpipe Fence.

Action: Cllr Cooke to progress.

11 Financial Matters

Bank reconciliation as at 30.8.19

- 11.1 The Clerk reported the following:

Current Account	£9,839.83
Reserve Account	£192.42
Net Bank balance ¹	£10,032.25

¹ No unrepresented cheques.

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Payments for authorisation and monies received

11.2 The Clerk reported the following:

Payments for authorisation

Came & Company	Insurance 1.10.19 - 30.9.20	£1,384.67
E.on	Street-lighting	£1.06
Alison Robinson	August salary	£466.64
HMRC	August PAYE	£116.80
Alison Robinson	NALC conference fee	£310.76
Mary Gavigan	Contribution (50%) to hedge cutting	£25.00
Microsoft	Annual renewal of Office 365	£59.99
Stewart Mitchell	Renewal of domain name	£11.99
Wave	Sports Field water Q3	£91.37
Wave	Allotments water Q3	£37.56
	Total	£2,505.84

Monies received by BACS

Plot 9 rent (pro-rata) £10.00.

11.3 TPC **resolved** to authorise the payments detailed above.

Action: Clerk to make the authorised payments.

12 Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC)

Community boards consultation

12.1 Cllr Laurence gave a presentation about the consultation currently being undertaken by BCC. She said:

- The community boards were being created to provide a bridge between parish and town councils and the new unitary authority which would come into force on 1.4.20.
- The consultation asked for views on who should be permitted to vote and the number of community boards to be established.
- The number of community boards determined where the boundaries were drawn.

12.2 TPC **resolved** to respond to the consultation favouring local voting rights and 11 community boards because that boundary would keep Thornborough with surrounding villages, such as Nash and Padbury. TPC **resolved** to publicise the consultation on Thornborough eNews.

Action: Cllr Laurence to take forward as outlined above.

Council tax reduction consultation

12.3 Cllr Laurence gave a presentation about the consultation currently being undertaken by BCC. She said explained the four district councils, which will become part of the new unitary authority on 1.4.20, had different scheme which gave slightly different levels of council tax support for low income households. The amount of support provided varied, depending on the financial circumstances of the claimant. The consultation was a legal requirement.

12.4 TPC **resolved** to encourage individual responses to the consultation and to publicise the consultation on Thornborough eNews.

Action: Cllr Laurence to take forward as outlined above.

13 5G Coverage in Rural Areas

13.1 The Chair explained the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) was leading a joint consultation with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on extending 5G mobile provision in rural areas. He said the impact was potentially far reaching.

13.2 TPC **resolved** to ask the Chair to respond to the consultation and to publicise it on Thornborough eNews.

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Action: Cllr Tribe to respond to the consultation and Cllr Cooke to publicise it on Thornborough eNews.

14 Neighbourhood Watch

14.1 The Chair said progress was slow but gradual. The Clerk reported Cllr Whyte had recently confirmed he had submitted a bid for a £100 grant to help (re)establish the Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Thornborough.

15 Current and Ongoing Activities

15.1 The Clerk thanked Cllr Taylor for suggesting and starting the spreadsheet, she explained it was intended to help TPC keep on top of activities and share some of the workload. Volunteers came forward to cover the following unallocated activities:

AVDC Parish Forum	Clerk and Cllr Taylor
BCC Liaison Meetings	Clerk and Cllr Taylor
Buckinghamshire Association of Local Authorities	Clerk and Cllr Tribe
Planning (scrutiny of applications for TPC decision)	Cllr Graham.

15.2 The Chair talked about how other parish councils dealt with some of their business by email between meetings. Cllr Stanier said of the six parish councils he attended only TPC met monthly and more frequently on occasions.

Action: Clerk to check whether the frequency of meetings was covered in the TPC Standing Orders and to circulate information about the Nash Parish Council mode of operation.

16 Any Other Business

AVDC

16.1 Cllr Stanier reported the business of the forthcoming AVDC meeting included:

- A motion for the Council to declare a climate emergency and to commit to asking the future Buckinghamshire Unitary Authority to become carbon neutral by 2030.
- A motion opposing the Cambridge to Oxford Expressway.

16.2 Cllr Stanier also reported on Extinction Rebellion meeting he had recently attended.

17 Date of Next Meeting

17.1 Monday 21 October 2019 at 7pm in the village hall.

Meeting closed at: 9.00 pm

Chair's signature:

Date: