

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (TPC)

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 16 December 2019

Present: Cllrs Steve Tribe (Chair); Ray Goodger; Emily Cooke; Carol Laurence; Charlotte Moore (items 1 - 5); Mary Taylor; Allen Williamson (Items 6-16).

In Attendance: Alison Robinson (Clerk); 3 members of the public were present.

1 Apologies

1.1 BCC Cllr Warren Whyte.

2 Public Participation Session

2.1 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 agenda items 7 (b) and 11 (c) (minutes 7.2 and 11.6).

3.2 Cllr Tribe declared an interest under agenda item 6 (a) (minute 6.1) because the planning application had been submitted by his neighbours. Cllr Tribe said he had not discussed the planning application with his neighbours and would not participate in the decision-making for item 6 (a).

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4.1 The minutes of the meeting on 18 November 2019 were **approved** and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

5 Co-option to Casual Vacancy

5.1 The Clerk reported one of the candidates who had submitted an expression of interest had withdrawn after the co-option paper had been circulated.

5.2 TPC considered the remaining two expressions of interest. A secret ballot was held to determine the co-option – the outcome of which favoured Allen Williamson.

5.3 The new councillor completed the required paperwork, was congratulated and joined the meeting.

Action: Clerk to inform the unsuccessful candidate; complete the legal requirements; arrange for an email account to be created for the new councillor and circulate updated councillor contact information.

6 Planning

**19/04188/APP - Coomb Cottages Padbury Road, Thornborough, MK18 2EB.
Conversion and extension of stable to form dwelling**

6.1 TPC **resolved** not to object to the application.

Action: Clerk to respond to the consultation on behalf of TPC.

19/04229/APP - 2 Nash Road, Thornborough, MK18 2DP.

Demolition of single storey rear extension and erection of two storey rear extension

6.2 TPC **resolved** not to object to the application.

Action: Clerk to respond to the consultation on behalf of TPC.

6.3 The Clerk reported AVDC had granted an extension until 24.1.20 for a response to the planning application (19/04387/APP) which had arrived too late for consideration.

Action: Clerk to circulate (19/04387/APP) on 17.12.19 and add to the next agenda.

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (TPC)

7 Financial Matters

The ongoing standing order for storage (£15.00 pcm)

- 7.1 TPC **resolved** to approve the ongoing storage standing order until such time as either the price increased, or the facility was given up.

Request from TACWET for a £100 donation for the Christmas tree

- 7.2 TPC **resolved** to approve a £100 donation for the Christmas tree.

Current financial position

- 7.3 The Clerk reported the following:

Bank statements as at 29.11.19

Current Account: £7,297.19
Reserve Account £12,196.20

Net bank balance £19,439.39

Payments for authorisation and monies received

- 7.4 Payments for authorisation:

E.on	Street-lighting	£31.83
AVDC	Dog waste service	£327.17
AVDC	Playground bin	£68.08
Alison Robinson	November salary	£466.84
HMRC	November PAYE	£116.60
Alison Robinson	Expenses (stationery, other consi	£11.52
Alison Robinson	Expenses (mileage, training)	£79.17
Archdeacon Russell	TACWET title transfer (balance)	£1,010.00
BMKALC	The Village Survival Guide	£5.00
Wave	Allotment water	£41.67
Total		£2,157.88

- 7.5 TPC **resolved** to authorise the payments detailed above.

- 7.6 The allotment water bill was discussed. Cllrs Goodger and Tribe undertook to check the meter for leaks.

Action: Cllrs Goodger and Tribe to take forward.

Monies received

- 7.7 The Clerk reported a £4,438.87 VAT refund for the period 1.4.19 – 31.10.19 had been received. She said the refund was high because of the equipment purchased for the Cricket Club which, apart from the VAT, had been funded by grants and a contribution from the Cricket Club.

Action: Clerk to take forward the approved finance matters.

8 Neighbourhood Watch

- 8.1 The Chair talked about on the Neighbourhood Watch Group meeting held on 2.12.19. He reported co-ordinators had now been recruited to cover the parish. The next step was to sign up members to the scheme. Another meeting would be held late-January.

- 8.2 There was an inconclusive discussion about the best use of the £100 community leadership grant which had to be spent by 31.3.20.

9 Emergency Plan

- 9.1 The Chair reported the proposal to extend the role of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme to provide additional support for the 'vulnerable' in the village had not been adopted. Instead TPC was now asked to reconsider developing an emergency plan.

- 9.2 TPC **resolved** to appoint a small group to work on the development of an emergency plan with support from the Clerk.

Action: Cllrs Cooke, Laurence, Goodger and Williamson to take forward with the Clerk.

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (TPC)

10 TPC Website

Redrafting and/or updating

10.1 The Clerk reported on the limited progress she had made.

Website host

10.2 The Clerk reminded TPC BucksVoice.net, which currently hosted the TPC website, was closing on 31 March 2020.

10.3 TPC discussed possible ways forward and **resolved** to appoint a small group comprising Cllrs Laurence and Tribe, and the Clerk to develop proposals for the future of the TPC website.

Action: The Chair and/or Clerk to arrange an initial meeting for during the day on a Thursday in the New Year.

11 Environment

Sports Field and Pavilion

11.1 The Chair of the Pre School reported the first stage grant application submitted to BCC Early Years had not been successful because the Pre School did not own the Pavilion. The Chair encouraged the Pre School to involve TPC when future fundraising opportunities arose and talked about the role played by TPC in the equipment grant for the Cricket Club.

Action: Clerk to request inclusion in the BCC Early Years distribution list.

11.2 The Chair of the Pre School confirmed septic tank friendly cleaning products had been ordered. After an inconclusive discussion, it was agreed the bacterial treatment and septic tank friendly cleaning products should be introduced and monitored for effectiveness before any other action was considered.

11.3 Cllr Goodger reported the new step was under construction and would be fitted with draught excluders during the Pre School Christmas holiday.

Action: Cllr Goodger to rebuild and fit the new step with draught excluders before the Pre School reopened in the New Year.

11.4 The Clerk reported the Cricket Club had agreed to repair the shed roof.

Action: Clerk to find a definitive answer about the ownership of the shed on the parish laptop and/or in the archives.

Allotments

11.5 The Clerk reported the new licence had been issued to the plot-holders for signature.

Action: Clerk to follow up any outstanding signed licences in the New Year.

Thornborough and Coombs Woodlands

11.6 The title transfer, which had proved much more complex and expensive than anticipated, had finally been completed.

Playground

11.7 Cllr Goodger reported the fence had been delivered and would be installed with the new sign during the Christmas period.

11.8 TPC **resolved** to approve the expenditure for the post crete so Cllr Cooke could purchase it from Wicks and the Clerk could do a bank transfer to reimburse her on the day of purchase.

Action: Cllrs Cooke and Goodger, and the Clerk to take forward.

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (TPC)

11.9 Cllr Taylor reported she was investigating why another repair to a piece of equipment was needed. She said a villager had volunteered to do the repair. The Clerk talked about the SLCC meeting she had attended which had included a presentation from Came and Company (TPC's Insurance broker).

11.10 TPC **resolved** to develop more robust playground inspection arrangements.

Action: Clerk to take forward with input from Cllrs Taylor and Laurence as needed.

11.11 The Chair undertook to remove the old bin with Cllr Goodger as a matter of urgency.

Action: Cllrs Goodger and Tribe to remove the old bin on 17.12.19.

12 Road and Drainage Issues

Streetlighting

12.1 The Clerk reported she had now received the information requested from E.on during the site visit. She was currently arranging a site visit with Zeta.

12.2 TPC **resolved** to revisit the streetlighting policy because the version on the website was not as expected.

Action: The Chair and Clerk to attend the Zeta site visit. Clerk to add the streetlighting policy to the next agenda.

Dead cherry tree

12.3 Cllr Goodger reported as no further action was required the item could be removed from future agendas.

The village streams and rivers

12.4 Cllr Goodger said new legislation was forthcoming and advised TPC to wait for its publication before further action was undertaken.

Action: Clerk to investigate the new legislation.

Thornhill

12.5 The Clerk said her attempt to raise the recent repair of the potholes with the BCC Technician had been unsuccessful.

Action: Clerk to try again.

A421 junction at the top of Bridge Street

12.6 The Chair reported the complaint received from a resident about the overgrown vegetation which made the already dangerous junction at the top of Bridge Street even more dangerous. The Clerk had reported the matter, but no action had been taken.

Action: Clerk to try to contact the BCC Technician to request urgent action.

Access to Back Street for construction delivery vehicles

12.7 The Chair reported the complaint received from a resident because a villager had told a driver access must not be from the centre of the village across the ford but must come from the direction of Lower End.

12.8 TPC **resolved** to remind villagers that vehicles could not be denied access and to thank them for their understanding of the disturbance caused by construction vehicles.

Action: Clerk to include in the next edition of Thornborough News.

Village Gardening Event

12.9 Cllr Cooke explained the history of the proposal and suggested she contacted the Gardening Society ask if it would lead the initiative.

Action: Cllr Cooke to contact the Gardening Society.

12.10 During the subsequent discussion it was suggested the initiative could be extended to verges and TPC should consider arranging a litter pick when the weather improved.

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (TPC)

13 Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC); Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) and the New Unitary Authority - Buckinghamshire Council Aylesbury Vale Association of Local Councils (AVALC)

13.1 In the absence of the BCC and AVDC Councillors, Cllr Laurence and the Clerk confirmed there was nothing significant for report.

14 Current and Ongoing Activities

14.1 The Clerk undertook to update the document for the next meeting - completed activities would be deleted and add the new activities added.

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

15 Any Other Business

Football on The Green and road safety

15.1 Cllr Williamson raised concerns about children running into the road to retrieve their footballs without looking.

Action: Clerk to add to the next agenda.

Wildflowers

15.2 Cllr Cooke suggested wildflower areas in the village.

Action: Clerk to add to the next agenda.

Thank you

15.3 The Clerk thanked TPC for the support she had received in her first (nearly) six months in post and encouraged feedback if there were things anyone would like approached differently and/or changed.

16 Date of Next Meeting

16.1 Monday 20 January 2020 at 7 pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 8.50 pm

Chair's signature:

Date: