

THORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the village hall on
Wednesday 7th June 2023 at 7.00pm



Present: Cllrs P Sadler, Dewar, G Parks, S Parks & A Sadler

Also present: CCllr Goggin, DCllr Scott, E Crook (Clerk) & K Lott (RFO)

The meeting was called to order at 7.03pm by Cllr P Sadler, Chairman

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Krinks

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2023, having been previously circulated, were agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Public Questions

There were none.

5. Reports from District & County Councillors

Both District Councillors attended a meeting where the new roles within Tendring District Council (TDC) were decided. DCllr Mark Stephenson was appointed as the new leader and DCllr Gary Scott takes on the role of Chairman.

Cllr A Sadler advised DCllr Scott that Chapel Lane playing field had been litter picked twice since the bins were last collected, meaning it had been almost three weeks since the bins had been emptied. The schedule provided for emptying the bins is not being adhered to by the operatives, DCllr Scott advised that other areas are having similar issues and that he has emailed the CEO of Veolia for a response.

Cllr G Parks noted that the small bin liners being used fall into the bin and do not get collected, another bag is put on top and rubbish then sits in the bottom of the bin. DCllr Scott was shown photographs of the problem and he asked that they are forwarded to him.

Cllr A Sadler asked who the new Head of Open Spaces is, DCllr Scott will pass on the details.

DCllr Scott was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 7.16pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.

Cllr P Sadler asked CCllr Goggin if his meeting with new Councillors was well attended, he replied that seven were present but he was shocked had how little information they had been given. When asked about the availability of training, Cllr P Sadler advised that the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) run Councillor training but that some find it difficult to attend.

At a recent Kent & Essex Fisheries meeting, reports from fishermen noted issues with the fish caught recently, with some suggestion that water companies may be adding to the problem.

At the quarterly review for Essex Highways performance, it was noted that between January and March this year 12,149 new defects were reported with only 3,898 being fixed.

CCllr Goggin was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 7.40pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.

6. (a) Planning Applications

23/00656/FULHH	The Rowans, Station Road Proposed two storey rear extension.
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(b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations

23/00139/FULHH	Meadow Barn, Rosemary Lane Proposed extension to form additional living areas.	Approval Full
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7. Risk assessments

No changes to be made. All in favour.

8. Annual Internal Audit

The report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and the RFO noted the remarks on the tender process not being followed for the play equipment. The Council were made aware of the need to use the Government Contracts Finder process for expenditure exceeding £25,000 when the s106 funding was first discussed but did not choose to use it. The Council reviewed and accepted the audit report. The Chairman thanked the Clerk and the RFO for their hard work.

9. Annual Governance Statements 2022/2023

This was reviewed and signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

10. Accounting Statements 2022/2023

This was reviewed and signed by the Chairman.

11. Council email communication

The Clerk advised the Council of the options available for gov.uk and org.uk domains. After a lengthy discussion, the Council decided to set up separate webmail addresses to use purely for Council business. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr G Parks. All in favour.

12. Chapel Lane playing field

Cllr A Sadler suggested the surface for the youth shelter should be renewed, ideally to match the other new surfaces. *Cllr A Sadler to source quotes. Clerk to add to July agenda.*

13. Report from the TDALC meeting

There were no questions or comments made concerning the report that had been circulated.

14. Accounts

The RFO advised the Council that the VAT rebate has been received and that it will be added to the next agenda to be allocated within the budget. It was suggested that Councillors should consider projects that the money could be spent on.

Payments for approval and signatures at the meeting on 7th June 2023

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Payment Details
300317	Elizabeth Crook	£449.58	Clerk wages & accom.
300318	Katherine Lott	£147.08	RFO wages & accom.
300319	Mr A Sadler	£58.90	Hi-Vis and ear defenders
300320	HMRC	£17.40	Quarterly tax payment



300321	Tendring District Council	£100.00	Unused Coronation event funding
300322	Landscape Services	£720.00	Grass maintenance
300323	CPRE	£36.00	Membership
300324	Essex Playing Field Association	£30.00	Membership
300325	Heelis & Lodge	£260.00	Internal audit fee
300326	Landscape Services	£198.00	Work to tree on allotment boundary

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£2,016.96	£0	£285.68	£18,295.30

Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £57,427.87

15. Reports from Amenities Representatives

Allotments	Cllr Dewar reported that Plot 1 is in the process of being cleared and once it is returned the Clerk can make the next person on the list aware.
Playing Field	Cllr A Sadler reported that there is a lot of litter being left by users. The goals keep getting moved. The official opening will be on 1 st July.
Tennis Court	No report.
Footpaths	Cllr A Sadler has reported the footpath by Station Road and taken a photo of the overgrown hedge by footpath number 8.
Tree Warden	Cllr S Parks advised of overhanging tree branches along Station Road, after discussing the work it was noted that she will cut the growth back.
Hazel Close Open Space	Cllr P Sadler noted that some owners are still not clearing up after their dogs.

16. Clerk's report

The vacant flat in Edwards Drive has now been let by English Rural Housing Association.

The Standards team at TDC have return signed DPI forms from four Councillors. The Clerk advised that some may have to be revised and resubmitted as some details are missing.

TDC are running Code of Conduct training at Clacton Town Hall on 26th June and 3rd July.

A purchase order has been raised for the Grafo therm, to enable Portable Space to carry out the specified works to the container.

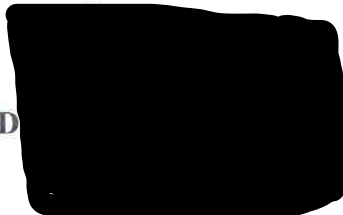
The water bill for the allotments is due to arrive within the next few days and will be looked at in light of the recent reported leak around the meter.

17. Councillor's reports

Cllr Dewar suggested that residents should be consulted about how the VAT rebate is spent. Clerk to post a notice on Facebook and in the shop.

Date of next meeting 5th July 2023

Closure. There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:43pm

SIGNED 

Date 5/7/23