

Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council's Meeting
held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 3rd February 2016

Present: Parish Councillors. P. Sadler S. Sawyer, K. Sharpe, K. Miller, J. Sait, S. Turner, J. Damant, Cllr J Hindle and Y. Webb

Also present: O. Bradstock (Parish Clerk), ECC Cllr Goggin (Items 1 to 5) and 1 member of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 7.00pm by Cllr P. Sadler – Chairman

1. Apologies for absence
TDC Cllrs R Heaney and F Nicholls

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests
None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting
The minutes of the last meeting, having been previously circulated were then agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Public Questions
A resident asked about the situation of Chapel Lane One way system. It was confirmed that it was on the LHP list. It is unclear if this project has been validated. There is confusion over as to whether the footpath along Church Road is on the LHP list. Cllr Goggin stated that even with the LHP rejecting the extension of the pavement down Tenpenny Hill due to the expense, there still is a need for this path for safety reasons.

A resident requested a vote through the Grapevine magazine whether to keep or remove the Skate Board Ramp. The parish council confirmed that it had already been decided at a previous meeting that their aim was to replace the current Skate Board Ramp.

A resident requested that the hedge by the Village Hall be cut back. It was confirmed that the resident has already trimmed the hedge back to the road edge, so are not able to pursue this matter any further. The clerk will respond to this resident.

5. Reports from County & District Councillors
ECC Cllr Goggin stated that ECC were proposing a 1.99% increase in council tax for 2016 / 2017 year. He confirmed that he did not know if the Police contribution was increasing. Cllr Goggin recommended the public report any crime that concerns them, even if a response is not achieved, which will contribute to the statistics for the area. He is proposing to setup a regular meeting with the police in the TDC area where parish councils could attend. The parish council were in agreement with this proposal. Cllr Goggin agreed to enquire where the parish council's requests for pavement clearance could be pursued to.

Cllr Nicholls email stated that TDC were proposing a 1.99% increase in council tax for 2016 / 2017 year.

- 6. **Planning**
 15/01908/FUL – Rear extension at 5m deep and 3.35m in height at Birchwood Clacton Road Thorrington. TPC have no comments on this planning application.
 16/00038/FUL – Proposed extensions and re-construction of first floor at Willow Cottage Tenpenny Hill Thorrington. TPC have no comments on this planning application
 16/00065/COUNOT – Conversion of existing structure in a single dwelling at Rookwood Stables Brightlingsea Road Thorrington – For information only

Planning Decisions – None received.

Planning Appeal – None received.

7. **Reports on Highways Issues:**

- b. **Proposed Chapel Lane – One Way System – Update**

This was discussed under Item 5.

- c. **Footpaths - Update**

The issue of path clearance was raised at the last LHP meeting. The clerk has reported all the issues again on the ECC Highways web reporting system. As stated above Cllr Goggin agreed to enquire where the parish council’s requests for pavement clearance could be pursued to.

8. **Reports from Amenities Representatives:**

Allotments	Cllr Sait reported that the notice board is beyond repair. Cllr Sawyer will investigate an alternative replacement. The clerk confirmed that there is one and half plots vacant. It was confirmed an additional tree is being cut back which a resident has agreed to pay for.
Playing Field	Cllr Sait confirmed that the “No Dogs Allowed” and “Gate is Heavy” Signs have been reattached. The clerk has reported the bin post by the vehicle access gate for repair to TDC. It was agreed Cllr Sait would be the contact for access to the electric box for meter readings.
Tennis Court	Cllrs Sait and Sawyer are planning to obtain a new padlock and keys.
Village Hall	None.
Footpaths	None.
Tree Warden	The replacement Oak and two Maple trees have been ordered. It was reminded that the TDC Tree Planting Grant 2015 / 2016 Invoice claim needs to be with TDC by 26 th February 2016.
Hazel Close Open Space	None.
Thorrington in Bloom	None.

9. **Correspondence:**

- ECC – Public Notice – Various Road closures from 15th February 2016 for 2 weeks– Noted.
- ECC – Public Notice – Road closures Hazel Close Thorrington 11th February 2016 for the duration of the works – Noted.

10. Accounts

a) Cheques approved and signed:

Cheque no.	Cheque payable to	Amount	Council Minute Ref.
102159	P Bradstock	£272.73	Clerk's Salary – February 2016 & Expenses
102160	Landscape services	£360.00	Tree cutting at the Allotments
102161	Information Commissioner	£35.00	Data Protection Registration
DD	A&J Lighting Solutions	£69.60	Streetlight repair
DD	A&J Lighting Solutions	£700.80	Streetlight replacement

11. To review the grass cutting contract for 2016

The contractor is able to keep the same prices as for 2015. It was agreed to renew the contract with Landscape Services for 2016. It was agreed to an extra cut to all areas for 2016 due to the growth over the winter.

12. To discuss any further correspondence from TDALC with regards to asking for support to do a deputation to the Home Secretary with reference to policing
No further correspondence has been received.

13. To receive an update on the replacement Skateboard Ramp

Cllr Miller supplied a draft copy of the CIF grant application form and budget. Some highlighted points were - three priced option of ramps have been supplied, flood lighting included and a new bin. There is currently a shortfall in match funding. The parish council agreed to contribute £2,150 to the project which equates to the cost of dismantling and disposing of the present ramp and a replacement litter bin which would be required if the current Skateboard Ramp is not replaced. Local businesses and individuals are being approached for financial support and/or sponsorship.

14. Councillor & Clerk's Reports

Cllr Webb commented that a dog from a local residence has been wandering the streets. It was suggested that the TDC dog warden may be able to assist. .

Cllr Hindle was concerned about the horse mess being left on pavements and footpaths.

Cllr Miller confirmed that Thorrington Village Day will be on Saturday 13th August 2016.

It was confirmed a tree and the refurbishment of the circular bench will be the commemorations for the Queen's 90th birthday.

Cllr Miller confirmed that the failed streetlight along Station Road had been repaired. Also the path outside Sliversprings care home, Tenpenny Hill had been cleared.

Cllrs Sait and Sawyer will arrange for some colour signs to be attached on footpaths where adders are known to be found.

Cllr Sharpe confirmed that he is the Thorrington neighbourhood watch organizer.


It was agreed to consider placing a new parish notice board on the side of the post office in Chapel Lane. The clerk will contact the Post Master to enquire if this would be possible.

It was agreed that Cllr Turner will put an item about horse mess on paths and dog mess bags not being put in the disposal bins in the next Grapevine to be distributed around the village.

15. Closure

The meeting was called to a close at 9.20pm

Date of next meeting – Wednesday, 2nd March 2016 at the Village Hall in the Main Hall at 7.00pm.

SIGNED...  ... Date 2/3/16.....
Chairman