

Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council's Meeting
held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 7th December 2016

Present: Parish Councillors. P. Sadler, Y. Webb, J. Hindle, K. Miller, and J. Sait.

Also present: Cllr A Goggin (Items 1 to 5), Cllrs R Heaney & F Nicholls, K Fairhurst (Parish Clerk) and 3 residents.

The meeting was called to order at 7.10 pm by Cllr P. Sadler – Chairman

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr K Sharpe

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2016 having been previously circulated were then agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Public Questions

Two issues were brought to the attention of the Meeting.

R Harvey informed the Meeting that he had submitted form LTEN1Farm 62041 requesting the Local Highways panel to review their plans for Frating Abbey Farm Road. Councillors supported Mr Harvey in this request. Mr Harvey then left the Meeting.

A resident reported serious concerns among local residents regarding the proposed Sale by Auction of areas of sub soil in the roads around Hazel Close. The Resident reported that he had received information from ECC, which had been reassuring.

5. Reports from County & District Councillors

Cllr Goggin informed the Meeting that a Grant of £1650 had been awarded to the Skate Ramp fund from CIF. He expressed his support for the application by R Harvey for a review of ECC plans for Frating Abbey Farm Road amid safety concerns. Cllr Goggin informed the Meeting that money had been set aside by ECC in the 2017/18 budget for a Feasibility Study into the proposed Chapel Lane One way system. Cllr Goggin informed the Meeting that there was no restriction on normal household waste and green waste at re-cycling centres under the new Waste Strategy. With regard to fly tipping, the General Public should be aware that if a contractor takes away their waste for disposal the householder should be given proof that the contractor has a licence to dispose of the waste legally. If this is not given and the waste is subsequently tipped illegally, the householder will be financially liable. It was also noted the ECC will pay a landowner the cost of removing domestic waste tipped on their land.

Cllr Sadler thanked Cllr Goggin. Cllr Goggin left the Meeting at 7.40pm.

Cllr Nicholls reported that it was almost certain that free parking would continue. There was a possibility that Ward changes in the future would reduce the number of District councillors. Work is scheduled to commence next summer on the A120 roundabout. The speed cameras would remain.

Cllr Heaney reported on the development plans for the Elmstead Garden Village. It had been agreed that the infrastructure would be completed before the properties were built. The project would take many years to complete.

Cllr Sadler thanked Cllr Heaney and Cllr Nicholls.

between
Coldhays &
Elmstead

6. Planning

(a) Application No. 16/01732/FUL. Proposed single storey and first floor extensions together with detached Cart Lodge, Old Rectory, Church Road, Thorrington.

TPC had no objections to this planning application.

(b) Retrospective Application No. 16/01767/FUL. For change of use of land to residential use and erection of single storey flat roof garage to land rear of Brook Cottage and Westside, Tenpenny Hill, Thorrington.

There were no objections to this Retrospective Application.

(c) Application No. 16/01802/FUL. Demolition of existing bungalow, annexe and outbuildings and construction of three 4 bedroom detached houses and associated garaging, Heathfields, Clacton Road, Thorrington.

Councillors expressed concerns with this application. However, as the deadline for objections had passed Council felt unable to raise their concerns.

Planning Decisions - None received.

Planning Appeal – None received.

7. Reports on Highways Issues:**a. Proposed Chapel Lane – One Way System – Update**

This had been discussed under Item 5. It was noted that money had been set aside by ECC for a feasibility study on this issue under the 2017/18 programme. Councillors would continue to press for action on this issue.

b. Church Road Footpath –

Council had been informed by e.mail that the proposal to install a footpath on Church Road had been rejected. Reasons given for this decision were: there would be insufficient land to safely implement footpath and it would cost more than TDC budget allowed for. Council felt their questions on this issue had not been answered and further information was required. It was agreed that the portfolio holder be approached for more information before arranging a site meeting.

8. Reports from Amenities Representatives:

Allotments	Cllr Sait reported that the grass had been cut. The new Notice Board now displays the Rules and Regulations. A new site plan is now required.
Playing Field	Cllr Webb reported that the special surface beneath the play equipment needed replacing. She would get quotes for the work.
Tennis Court	No report.
Village Hall	No report as Cllr Sharpe unwell.
Footpaths	There was nothing to report..
Tree Warden	There was nothing to report
Hazel Close Open Space	Cllr Sadler and Cllr Sait would take action to install the “Do not let your Dogs Foul” signs.
Thorrington in Bloom	Cllr Hindle confirmed that planting of winter bulbs had been completed.

9. **Correspondence:**
None this month

10. **Accounts - Cheques approved and signed:**

Cheque no.	Cheque payable to	Amount	Council Minute Ref.
102204	Marie Curie Nursing Service	£225.00	Donation
102205	Essex Air Ambulance	£225.00	Donation
102206	Landscape Services	£558.00	Inv 232 Grass cuts to recreation ground & allots. Inv 240. Lifting lower branches in playing field
102207	J A Baker	£200.00	Cleaning bus shelter in 2016
102208	Mrs K D Fairhurst	£285.06	Clerk's pay, mileage, stamps, stationery, accommodation allowance for Nov.
102209	Landscape Services	£96.00	Inv 247 Allotment & Hedge Station Road
102210	HMRC 120PD00297889 1709	£168.20	Tax paid for Clerks
102211	J Sait	£40.00	Manure for Allotment
102212	J Hindle	£20.00	Plants & bulbs.
D/D	e.on	£132.70	Charges for electricity
D?D	A & J Lighting	£130.80	Repair to light on Clacton Rd near footpath from Heathlands.

11. **To consider the Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of Tendring District Council: Warding Arrangements.**

Changes to the number of District Councillors were being proposed with the intention of delivering electoral equality for voters. Council agreed they would prefer to keep things as they are. Clerk to write to Tendring DC with this observation.

12. **To Review Amenities representatives.**

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

13. **Local Highways Panel had invited requests for new or improved/replacement Passenger Transport Infrastructure in Thorrington.**

There was none needed.

14. (a) **To approve application for Grant under the Transparency Code**

This was approved.

(b) **To approve fee for Clerk's training session on the Transparency Code.**

This was approved.

amended
4/1/17

15. To review & Approve Budget for 2017/18

As funding was now in place for the Skate Ramp project to go ahead, the previously prepared Budget forecast for 2017/18 needed adjustment to take account of the promised donation of £2150, from TPC funds, ~~for the removal of the old Skate Ramp~~. This had been approved at the Council Meeting in February 2016. The Clerk was requested to show items of income and expenditure, relating to the Skate Ramp project, in the Budget figures. Consideration was given to the reduction in government funding to local Councils and the possibility of Capping being introduced. It was felt prudent to increase the Precept at this time to avoid extra costs in the future. After discussion, Cllr Sait proposed the Precept be increased to £20K. Cllr Miller seconded this, and all were in favour.

16. Skate Ramp - to acknowledge award of £8,000 from Tesco Bags of Help & discuss how to take the Project forward.

Cllr Miller reported that with the award of £8000 from Tesco, £1650 from CIF and other donations there was now enough promised funding to start the Project. Cllr Webb would get quotes for the cost of buying and installing a new Skate Ramp. It was noted that the maximum costs should not exceed £12,000. It was also noted that regular maintenance would be required and this would need to be included in future budgets when the costs were known. Cllr Miller would respond to offers with thanks.

17. To discuss TDC's Local Plan for 900 houses around Gt Bentley

There had been concern among local residents regarding future developments in the area. It was noted that no decisions had been made as yet.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Hindle was concerned that Post Office vans, which were often parked on grass verges and by the roadside posed a danger. Cllr Sait would speak to the Post Office.

It was noted that overgrown shrubs on Church Road were blocking the Road sign.

Cllr Hindle also reported that the bench in the bus shelter had been damaged. She had repaired the damage and re-varnished the bench.


19. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that a representative of Thors Park was investigating the incident in the Playing Field and would be in touch by end of December. The Clerk requested that reports for Grapevine be sent to her by 12th Month so she could review and forward them to Rita by 15th of the Month. It was noted that Council Meetings should remain on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception that there would be no meeting in August.

20 Closure

There being no further business the meeting was called to a close at 9.15pm

Date of next meeting - Wednesday, 4th January 2017 at the Village Hall in the Main Hall at 7pm

SIGNED...  Date 4.1.17
Chairman