

**Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council's Meeting
held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 6th December 2017**

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

Also present: County Cllr A Goggin, District Cllrs F Nicholls & R Heaney
3 Members of the Public & K. Fairhurst (Clerk)

The meeting was called to order at 7.05pm by Cllr P Sadler, Chairman

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Y Webb (illness)

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests** – There were none

3. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 1st November 2017, having been previously circulated, were agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. **Public Questions**

A representative of Scott Properties informed Council of their intention to apply for planning permission to build 29 bungalows on land adjacent to Church Road in Thorrington. The Landowner was also present. They were seeking to open dialogue with Councillors to address specific issues. There was concern from Councillors that the problems already experienced with traffic on Church Road and the sewerage in the area would be greatly exacerbated. Council were informed that Scott properties would be installing a new pumping station and a new substation for the electrics. They suggested that most of the bungalows would be owned by older residents who would not add to the traffic congestion at busy times. Discussions would be held with TDC to ascertain the requirement for affordable homes in the development. Council requested confirmation that the infrastructure would be in place before residents occupied the homes.

5. **Reports from County & District Councillors**

County Cllr Alan Goggin referred to the concerns of residents who live on Tenpenny Hill, Thorrington with regard to motorists exceeding the speed limit and a recent fatal accident outside their property. CCllr Goggin offered to raise this issue at the next LHP meeting and request that a speed survey be carried out at that location. CCllr Goggin then drew attention to the Salting Routes in the area. There were to be changes to the operation of the Park & Ride in Colchester. The opening hours would be extended to open at 5.30am and close at 9pm. It was hoped this would enable people working in Colchester and beyond to use the service. The charges would also be reviewed with the introduction of blocks of tickets for businesses and hospital staff and free travel after 9am for Residents with bus passes. The Park & Ride bus would make a stop at the back of the Hospital. It was hoped these new measures would increase the turnover of the service.

Cllr Sadler thanked Cllr Goggin, who then left the Meeting at 7.50pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council Meeting.

DCllr Nicholls reported that it was hoped progress would be made on the Chapel Lane and Church Road issues at the LHP meeting on 7th December 2017. Sport England had £12million funding to encourage people of all ages to become more active. It was understood that Tendring DC would receive a substantial sum from this fund. DCllr Nicholls reported that Tendring DC now have a 6.4year housing supply and this would mean that some new housing developments could be refused. Anomalies in planning decisions were now being challenged by TDC.

DCllr Heaney reported that 98.8% of homes in TDC will have superfast broadband in the near future.

Cllrs Nicholls & Heaney were thanked by the Chairman

6(a) Planning Applications:-

17/01866/TELLIC. Instal 1no. ground based 1.2 metre satellite dish and install 1no. GPS device on an existing support and all other ancillary equipment inside the existing fenced compound. Telephone Mast Site ESX0356 Whitehouse Farm, Church Road, Thorrington. *For information only. Deemed consent D/D*
13/11/2017

17/01883/FUL Proposed re-build of existing stable block. Brook Farm Stables, Colchester Main Road, Alresford. *Council had no objections to this application.*

17/01949/FUL. Proposed construction of 3 bedroom detached dwelling and associated garaging. Amendment to appn. 17/00403/FUL. Land to rear of Berberis Cottage, Clacton Rd. Mr Green. *Council had no objections to this application.*

17/002003/FUL. Extensions to form additional bar and restaurant areas, new kitchen and extension to first floor flat to form new kitchen, Red Lion, Clacton Road, Thorrington. Mr G Wright. *Council had no objections to this application.*

17/02017/OHL. Proposed erection of additional pole in the existing line. Service pole between Tru-Bern and Dorwyn Street Record Station Road, Thorrington. *For information only – no comments required.*

17/02020/FUL. Resubmission of approval 17/00944/FUL. To allow enlarged ground floor rear extensions and porch, Borel House, Church Rd, Thorrington. Mr Obia. *Council had no objections to this re-submission.*

6(b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations:-

17/01360/FUL. Replacement dwelling, Cross Farm, Station Road, Thorrington. *Application withdrawn 13/11/2017*

17/01453/FUL Two storey rear extension to form new living space. Woodside, Brick Kiln Lane, Thorrington. *Full approval 24/10/2017 D/D*

17/01459/FUL Two storey side and single storey rear extension (Variation) Thorpe House, Brightlingsea Road. *Full approval 17/10/2017 D/D.*

17/01525/LBC. To remove large windows from garden room and replace with smaller windows and rendered timber frame infill. Pear Tree Cottage, Clacton Rd, Thorrington. *Listed Building approval 3/11/2017 D/D*

17/01602/COUNOT. Change of use from agricultural building to residential dwelling house. Silversprings Farm, Tenpenny Hill, Thorrington. *Determination prior approval not required. D/D.*

7. Reports on Highways Issues: Updates

- a. **Proposed Chapel Lane One Way System** – It was hoped that some progress would be made on this issue at the LHP meeting on 7th December.
- b. **Church Road -Traffic Calming** – It was hoped that some progress would be made on this issue at the LHP meeting on 7th December.
- c. **Tenpenny Hill** – Following a meeting with two Residents of Tenpenny Hill to address the issue of excessive speeding past their homes, C.Cllr Goggin would ask for a speed survey to be carried out on this section of road at the LHP meeting on 7th December.

8. Skate Ramp – Cllr Miller reported that negotiations with Radii Ramps had failed to produce a satisfactory resolution to the problems associated with the fabrication for the new ramp and the ongoing progress of the project. The conditions imposed by Radii Ramps for them to continue with the project were unacceptable. Radii Ramps failure to start the installation of the new skate ramp on the agreed date and their inability to proceed with the project in a reasonable manner and time scale had breached the contract. Council, therefore, agreed to cancel the contract and request a refund of the £4,000 deposit paid to Radii Ramps in July 2017. Proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Sait. All were in favour. The Clerk would write to Radii Ramps to cancel the contract. Cllr Miller would contact Tesco Bags of Help and CIF to inform them of the situation and to request an extension of the deadline for completion of the project.

It was further suggested by Cllr Miller that 2 options now be considered for the replacement skate ramp. The first, a DIY option where a local man would fabricate the new skate ramp for a fee of £3580 + VAT and a carpenter would be appointed to complete the project. The completed ramp would be inspected to confirm all necessary safety requirements were in place. The second option was to return the grant monies and obtain new quotes. A vote was taken and 5 were in favour of the DIY option and two were against, with one abstainer. **Therefore, the vote was carried to adopt the DIY option once the issues with Radii Ramps had been resolved and monies paid to them had been returned to the Parish Council.**

9. Reports from Amenities Representatives:

Allotments	Cllr Sait had started clearing the empty manure delivery sacks. It was hoped to hire a digger to tidy up the allotment areas. Andy Sadler, the Council’s voluntary handyman had installed a new water box for the main tap on the allotments.
Playing Field	There was nothing to report.
Tennis Court	There was nothing to report
Village Hall	It was suggested that the lights in the toilets should be operated by a switch rather than having to obtain a key.

Footpaths	The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Glover to request that blackthorn on the pathway from the pond to the Mill be cut back as the pathway was almost impassable.
Tree Warden	There was nothing to report.
Hazel Close Open Space	There was nothing to report
Thorrington in Bloom	Cllr Hindle reported that she and Cllr Miller had started clearing the bindweed from the flower bed on Clacton Road. Cllr Sawyer would source new sleepers to replace the damaged ones.

DCllrs Nicholls and Heaney left the Meeting at 8.50pm

Cheque & Direct Debit payments for December

10(a) Payments approved/signed at Thorrington Parish Council Meeting on

6th December 2017

Cheque No.	Cheque payable to	Amount	Council Minute Ref.
102269	Landscape Services	£138.00	Inv 491Grass cut to Playing Field
102270	EACH	£250.00	Donation. Item 16, November 1 st 2017
102271	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	£250.00	Donation. Item 16, November 1 st 2017
102272	Frating & Thorrington PCC	£250.00	Donation to Graveyard Fund. Item 16, Nov 1 st 2017
102273	Mrs K D Fairhurst	£376.93	Pay for Dec, Mileage, Accom, stamps
102274	The Garden Tamer	£240.00	Clear damaged flower bed on Clacton Rd
102275	Mr A Sadler	£157.21	New water box for allotment, doggy signs
102276	Mr J Sait	£30.00	Manure for Allotment
102277	Mrs J Hindle	£8.00	Bulbs and Plants for flower beds
102278	Ladywell Accountancy Services	£42.00	PAYE service for 2017/18
102279	H M Rev & Customs	£227.20	Quarterly payment of Inc Tax
102280	M & S Bank	£109.99	2yrs subn for McAfee Virus Protection
D/D 120	e.on H1511DFAAF	£145.14	Street lighting for October 2017
D/D 121	A & J Lighting	£382.68	Inv 31082, New Street Light fitting
D/D 122	e.on H152DA2EB5	£24.84	Standing Chrg - Feeder Pillar, Playing Field

Payments for December £2631.99

10(b) Receipts: None

10(c) Balance of Accounts with Barclays Bank:

At 30 Nov 2017: Current Account £200.00, Savings Account £30,683.00

- 11. **Report on TDC Budget Meeting on 9th November**– the Clerk reported that TDC planned to move away from the annual process and adopt an ongoing forecast over 10 years. It was hoped to make savings and efficiencies, control net expenditure and maximise savings over a longer period. Short term deficits would be met from a specific reserve set up for the purpose.
- 12. **To discuss and approve Budget/Precept for 2018/19** – the Clerk had prepared a Budget forecast for consideration. It was noted that some of the street lights in the Village, which the Council were responsible for, were over 30 years old and consideration was given to replacing the old lights with new LED units which would be cheaper to run. It was decided to add £1000 to the annual Precept to include the additional cost of replacing the lights over the next five to ten years. It was therefore proposed that the Precept for 2018/2019 be increased to £21,000. Proposed Cllr Miller, seconded Cllr Sait, all were in favour.
- 13. **Play Equipment** - Cllr Sawyer has obtained the materials for the ground repairs and will action when weather permits.
- 14. **Consultation on Garden Communities** – Council did not wish to respond.
- 15. **RCCE(Rural Community Council of Essex)** – it was decided not to renew the Council’s Membership. Proposed Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Damant. All in favour.
- 16. **Clerk’s Report** – There had been no progress on getting the damaged manhole covers on Clacton Road repaired. The damaged flower bed had been cleared. The Highway Rangers had been asked to clear the overgrown footpath near Silver Springs. It was not felt necessary to make use of the gritting service offered by Landscape Services.
- 17. **Councillor’s Reports**
Cllr Sharpe reported that he and Rita had received many thanks for their work on Grapevine over many years. The Clerk was asked to write and thank Rita on behalf of the Parish Council. It was suggested that enquiries be made to find out if a report from the Parish Council Meeting could be included in the Brightlingsea Chronicle and if there would be a charge. Cllr Sait would make enquiries and feed back at the next Council Meeting.
- 18. **Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 3rd January 2018.**
- 19. **Closure.** There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.10pm

SIGNED..... *P. Sadler*

Actual Signature Redacted

Date... 3/1/18