

Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council's Meeting
held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd July 2019

Present: Cllrs P Sadler, A Dewar, J Hindle, J Damant, A Sadler

Also present: CCllr A Goggin, DCllr G Scott, DCllr A Wiggins, E Crook (Clerk) & 5 members of the public

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

- 1. **Apologies for absence** - Cllr J Sait
- 2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests** – There were none

3. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th June 2019, having been previously circulated, were agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. **Public questions**

A member of the public asked if he could place an additional plaque on his father's memorial bench at Thorrington Cross in memory of his mother. The Council had no objection to this and Cllr P Sadler thanked the gentleman for asking permission. He also brought attention to the removal of an old oak tree from a property on Tenpenny Hill.

A member of the public asked why no weed treatments appear to have been carried out around the Hazel Close estate area. *Clerk to contact Tendring District Council to find out their weed killing schedule and to ask Highway Rangers to clear the weeds.*

A member of the public, on behalf of the residents on Tenpenny Hill, asked whether a footpath would ever be put in. The Council reported that whilst this had been sought, they had been told that in order to carry out a feasibility study, a health and safety inspection and risk assessments must be carried out first. As it is too dangerous for the workers to carry these out there could be no further progress with a footpath.

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

CCllr Goggin updated the Council that the proposed one-way system in Chapel Lane has been signed off by CCllr Bentley. Concern was raised as it will go on the Local Highways Panel (LHP) list but due to Tendring District Council (TDC) not committing to the LHP budget there may be funding problems.

The Parish Council were asked to email CCllr Goggin with their list of works they require for the pavement initiative as soon as possible.

If a property has a dropped kerb, residents are entitled to ask for a white H Bar to be painted on the road. Previously installed lines that are faded or damaged cost £80. New applications for the lining cost £120. No planning permission is required for this to be done to existing dropped kerbs. Residents can arrange and pay Colchester Parking Partnership direct.

The clearing of weeds on roads used to be the responsibility of Essex County Council (ECC) up until 2 years ago, they then delegated this to TDC. The strength of the solution is watered down due to the weed spraying being close to public gardens, houses and dog walks.

The Chairman thanked CCllr Goggin

DCllr Scott reported that they are spraying the weeds and this will be discussed further in an upcoming Resources and Services Committee meeting.

Ian Davidson, Chief Executive of TDC, will be visiting the ward on 10th July and the Parish Councillors have 45 minutes to discuss any items with him. DCllr Scott will email the Clerks with further information.

Cllr A Sadler was congratulated on the broadband meeting held for the local residents.

Wheelie bins are being distributed to households locally and will include a pamphlet explaining the change to collection days.

DCllr attended the local plan briefing last week and there is new information coming through from the inspector about the local plan.

On 15th July there will be an extraordinary meeting to discuss a motion regarding Essex Libraries where upon TDC Cllrs will debate the issue of libraries before the ECC deadline.

DCllr Wiggins had nothing further to add.

DCllrs Scott and Wiggins were thanked by the Chairman

CCllr Goggin, DCllr Scott and DCllr Wiggins left the meeting at 7.58pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting

6. (a) Planning Applications

19/00885/FUL Proposed 5 bedroomed detached dwelling. Glebe Farm, Clacton Road, Thorrington. *Council had no comment to make*

(b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations

19/00534/FUL Retrospective application for a commercial biomass boiler and associated chimney for supplying heat to commercial greenhouse. **Approval – Full 17.06.2019 D/D**

19/00741/AGRIC Construction of a general agricultural building. Whitehouse Farm, Church Road, Thorrington. **Approval – Full 11.06.2019 D/D**

18/01136/FUL Land to the rear of The Orchards, Station Road, Thorrington. The appeal is dismissed.

7. Proposed Chapel Lane one-way system

This was raised by CCllr Goggin and discussed earlier in the meeting.

8. Tennis Court

A discussion took place around the future of the tennis court including; seeking another club to take it on, the technicalities surrounding the Parish Council running it in some format or whether the land would be better served as more allotment plots in order to raise some revenue for the village.

Cllr P Sadler advised those present that the land belongs to the Parish Council but the tennis court belongs to the tennis club which is now defunct. She also encouraged the Councillors to think carefully about the costs associated with running and maintaining the court, which include taking on liabilities and therefore incurring cover with insurance, etc.

Given the attendance of only 5 people out of a village of 1200 it was felt further information was required before a decision could be made. Cllr A Sadler will contact a tennis court installer for an evaluation of the condition of the court. The Clerk will contact EALC to gain information from other Councils and check with the insurance company with regards possible policy changes and any associated costs. Motion is moved to the August agenda.

9. Accounts

(a) Payments approved/signed at Thorrington Parish Council meeting on 3rd July 2019

Cheque/Bacs	Cheque payable to	Amount	Payment details
300001	Mrs. J Hindle	£38.49	Plants for container for Thorrington in Bloom
300002	HMRC 120PD00297889	£236.20	Tax April to June for Clerk & RFO
300003	Mrs. E Crook	£339.36	Clerk's pay for July, mileage, accommodation & ink cartridges
300004	Mrs. K Fairhurst	£56.16	RFO pay for July & stamps
300005	CPRE	£36.00	Annual membership No. 59423
300006	Heelis & Lodge	£180.00	Annual internal audit fee
300007	Landscape Services	£780.00	Pruning of trees and disposal of waste in playing field
300008	Mr. A Sadler	£36.00	Mileage to EALC for play equipment course
300009	Kendall Facility Management	£374.30	Grounds maintenance for June

Cheques written: £2076.51
BACS: £ None this month
Direct Debits: None to date
Total: £2076.51

Receipts: £ None to date

Balance of accounts with Unity Trust are nil as still waiting for transfer of funds from Barclays bank. Balance at Barclays not known at this time

- (b) Update on change of bank to Unity Trust
Account has been opened and are now waiting for the funds be transferred by Barclays.
- (c) The list of direct debits was emailed to Cllrs Damant, P Sadler and Sait

10. To review the Internal Auditors report year end 31st March 2019

The Internal Auditor's report to year ending 31st March 2019 was reviewed and accepted

11. Risk Assessment

This was reviewed and amendments were made to the Council Management section.

12. Clerk to remind Council on administrative procedures

The Clerk reminded Councillors that when they wish to send emails expressing the view of the Council as a whole it must be sent out through the Parish Council Office. The Clerk also reminded Councillors of data protection concerns regarding email addresses being visible when sending emails to multiple recipients.

13. To approve overtime

(a) Council approved the Clerk to claim overtime of 9 hours for attendance at 2 courses. Proposed by Cllr Dewar, seconded by Cllr P Sadler. All in favour.

(b) Council approved the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) to claim 10 additional hours payment. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour.

14. Clerk's Report

The Clerk has asked the Council how best they can support her whilst she is studying for her CiLCA, which requires 3 hours of study each week, impacting on her 6 hour working week. Cllr P Sadler suggested that they be aware of realistic timescales for her work to be done. The Councillors are all happy to help where possible with fault reporting themselves.

Having reported several issues with the current opening of the noticeboard at Thorrington Cross Cllr A Sadler offered to change the opening around so it opens sideways.

Leaflet from CAB regarding free debt advice for residents to be placed on noticeboard.

An invitation to attend the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) 2019 Annual General Meeting was received.

Kristy Childs from TDC emailed regarding Chapel Lane playground upgrading. Clerk to email Kristy back to clarify details requested.

15. Reports from Amenities Representatives:

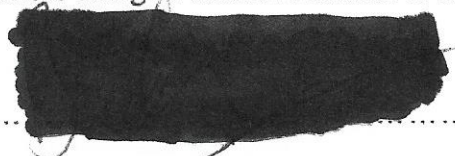
Allotments	A discussion took place regarding children using the allotment area as a play area. Cllr P Sadler requested for a detailed log of incidents to be kept. Clerk to contact 2 holders regarding overgrown plots and uncleared pathways.
Playing Field	Bare patches have been reseeded, trying to locate a bowser to make watering easier.
Tennis Court	No report
Village Hall	Looking into the possibility of holding a film night. Next meeting is in September.
Footpaths	Footpaths off Clacton Road to the field & behind the Scout Camp have been cleared.
Tree Warden	Nothing to report
Hazel Close Open Space	New 'No Dog Fouling' notices have been erected to replace the faded ones.
Thorrington in Bloom	Clerk to approach Sambecks and EWD for their donations to keep their boards at Thorrington Cross.

16. Councillor's Reports

Cllr P Sadler reported that Kathy Fairhurst, the RFO has handed in her resignation.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 7th August 2019

Closure. There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.36pm

SIGNED.....


DATE 7/8/19.....