

**Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council's Meeting**  
**held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019**

**Present:** Cllrs P Sadler, J Sait, A Sadler, J Damant, J Hindle & A Sadler

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

The meeting was called to order at 7.30pm by Cllr P Sadler, Chairman

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

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 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**

DCllr Scott attended his first Climate Change meeting last month.

At a full council meeting there was a motion to discuss waste and missed collections as there are still areas with issues. The Resources & Services committee meeting has been brought forward to 11<sup>th</sup> November in order to discuss statistics and missed collections. DCllr Scott will ask DCllr Talbot to attend the November Parish Council meeting to discuss the waste collection issues in Thorrington.

DCllr Scott met with Tom Ing from the Local Highways Panel (LHP) to discuss local defects.

**Following thanks from the Chairman DCllr Scott left the meeting at 7.55pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.**

At a cabinet meeting attended by CCllr Goggin a new round of funding allocated to Clacton and Colchester was discussed.

CCllr Goggin also attended a winter preparation meeting. Whilst 2000 miles of roads are gritted, these are only main public routes, there is no facility for side roads. At the September LHP meeting, £50,000 has been given to the Rangers service.

CCllr Goggin met with both MP Will Quince and MP Bernard Jenkins to discuss local issues.

There is a big issue being discussed regarding numbers of children being excluded from school, there is a movement towards schooling some children from home.

The Chelmsford fly over has recently been assessed as unsafe and is due to be taken down.

CCllr Kevin Bentley, who had previously agreeing to sign off the Chapel Lane One-Way trial programme, has reversed his decision. As CCllr Goggin is unclear on why he will investigate.

**CCllr Goggin was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 8.28pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.**

**6. (a) Planning Applications**

**19/01313/OUT** Proposed conversion and extension of existing masonry storage building to form 3-bedroom detached bungalow with new cart lodge and garage. Windyridge, Brightlingsea Road, Thorrington. *Council had no comments to make*

**19/01335/FUL** Variations of conditions 2 and 4 to substitute drawings numbers to allow for an amended site layout and house types, and condition 7 relating to widened footway of application 17/00090/FUL (allowed on appeal APP/P1560/W/17/3175859). Land adjacent Morton House, Station Road, Thorrington. *Council had no comments to make*

**(b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations – There were none**

**7. Clerk overtime for CiLCA course (5 hours) and Law & Procedures course (6 hours)**

Proposed by Cllr Sait, seconded by Cllr Hindle. All in favour.

**8. To renew Adders Beware signs x 2**

Proposed by Cllr Sait, seconded by Cllr P Sadler. All in favour.

**9. To approve payment for cutting hedges surrounding Chapel Lane playing field**

Proposed by Cllr Sait, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour

**10. Council to discuss Village Day Committee’s proposal to purchase a defibrillator**

Following discussion about the rules regarding VAT and donations, the Council decided they could not consider this proposal but in order to aid the Committee in this worthwhile addition to the village offered to donate £400 to the Village Day Committee. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. The vote was unanimous in favour.

**11. Review of external audit findings**

The RFO read out the findings of section 3 of the audit and this was accepted by the Council.

**12. Pay scale point for Clerk to be reviewed**

Following an appraisal, it was recommended that the Clerk’s pay be increased to SCP6, £9.96 per hour. Proposed by Cllr Sait, seconded by Cllr Damant. All in favour.

**13. Accounts**

**Payments approved/signed at Thorrington Parish Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019**

Cheque No.	Payable to	Amount	Payment Details
300018	Pleass Thomson	£180.00	Solicitors fees
300028	Elizabeth Crook	£307.31	Clerk – Oct pay, mileage, stamps & accom.
300029	Katherine Lott	£58.62	RFO – Oct pay
300030	BHIB Ltd	£36.18	Premium increase for tennis court
300031	John Peak & Sons	£384.00	Hedge cutting for playing field
300032	Boyd Sport & Play Ltd	£54.00	Goal nets for playing field
300033	Mrs. J Hindle	£17.97	Plants for Thorrington in Bloom
300034	Kendall FM Ltd	£374.30	Grass maintenance for September
102390	Thorrington PC	£1,900.00	Money transfer, Barclays to Unity

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£1,412.38 (£1,900 transfer)	£0	£388.24 electricity & water	£130 allotment rents

**Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £19,440.13**

**Current balance at Barclays = £2,104.36**

Barclays have refused to send a cheque and close the account, preferring to transfer the money, another letter will be sent requesting this be done. A cheque has been raised to leave minimal funds in the accounts.

**14. Reports from Amenities Representatives**

Allotments	No report as the allotment holders meeting had just been held.
Playing Field	Cllr A Sadler fitted the new goal nets and replaced the seat on the leg squat machine.
Tennis Court	Cllr A Sadler contacted the tennis court repairman regarding the storage of the nets.
Village Hall	No report
Footpaths	No report
Tree Warden	Cllr Dewar will speak to the residents of the Chapel regarding an overgrown tree, the Council agreed the tree could be trimmed lightly if it is blocking out their light. He will also investigate garden waste and branches on the edge of the playing field that are causing grass cutting problems.
Hazel Close Open Space	Cllr P Sadler advised persons unknown had fly tipped tree cuttings in HCOS.
Thorrington in Bloom	The hole in the wall is looking better now the berberis has been removed.

**15. Clerk's Reports**

The overflowing dog waste bins were reported to Tendring District Council (TDC) and have since been emptied. Councillors advised that if fly tipping is seen, then this has to be reported online with as much information as possible including photos.

The clerk contacted other parish councils to find out about speed limit wheelie bin stickers and had a good response. *Clerk to add to November agenda.*

Councillors were reminded that decisions regarding Council owned property must be brought before the Council. Time sensitive matters must be put to the Clerk and Chairman. To minimise exposure to risk, health and safety assessments and insurance must be adhered to.

**16. Councillor's Reports**

Cllr P Sadler attended a Mental Health First Aid course held in Wivenhoe recently.

Cllr P Sadler reported on the Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC) meeting. Cath Bicknell from the TDC planning department went through guidelines on current planning legislation and noted that for the next 5 years TDC will have to provide 550 homes per year. When asked about retrospective planning, she advised that the planning authority must act in the same way as any other application.

Backland developments are a concern but there is a policy looking at site access, harm to the environment and retaining the character of the local area. When new developments are planned councils were advised to build good relationships with the developers in order to minimise issues. Should resolutions not be possible TDC planning enforcement could be asked to intervene. Following a query, it was also noted that dwellings can be built on agricultural land but there are conditions.

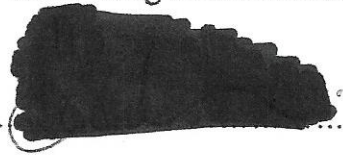
The infrastructure of the local area was discussed, noting that many of the roads are rural. Improvements to the condition of the A120 would bring more investment to the area.

Parish Councils feel they are not listened too when sending in their comments on planning. It was felt that planning arguments can be difficult to understand due to the terminology and a better communication between planning officers and Council members would give clarity to decisions that currently seem to be increasingly inconsistent.

The recent EALC AGM was well attended by representatives, including some mayors, from parishes, towns and cities across the county. The main announcement was the retirement of Joy Derby, the CEO of EALC who steps down in March 2020. The expected announcement about website options following the closure of Essexinfo.net was delayed.

**Date of next meeting - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Closure -** There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.49 pm

**SIGNED.**  ..... **DATE** 6/11/19 .....