

Minutes of Thorrington Parish Council's Meeting
held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 6th March 2019

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

Also present: CCllr A Goggin, DCllr F Nicholls, E Crook (Clerk) & K Fairhurst (RFO)

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Cllr P Sadler, Chairman

1. **Apologies for absence** - DCllr R Heaney & 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 6th February 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 came to the meeting to seek advice regarding planting cherry tree saplings on the verge in Clacton Rd. Council advised that as a courtesy anyone wanting to plant something should come to the Council meeting to seek advice and then they can deal with it as a matter of business. Cllr P Sadler advised the resident that as the Council have been told about it that it's fine but as a courtesy if someone wants to do something on parish council-maintained land they should ask.

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

CCllr Goggin informed the Council that he and Cllr P Sadler had attended a discussion at Clacton Library about the alternative roles of libraries, community libraries in particular, on the 25th February.

Pride of Tendring Awards Ceremony is 22nd March 2019.

Of Essex County Council (ECC) total budget, £939 million is the expenditure to operate ECC, which excludes benefits, housing, and education. Another £249 million spent on capital expenditure which ranges from a school to a road.

Thorrington residents will see an increase of 2.99% plus 1% going towards Adult Social Care. Lately there has been increased effort to recover unpaid rates.

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An extra ~~£7,000~~ ^{£700,000.00} has been allotted for repairing footpaths and pavements. Another £250,000 for people sleeping rough, an extra £1 million on mental health, £500,000 to help police combat county lines. The libraries budget was approved at £12.4 million slightly more than last year.

The initiatives about potholes have been quite successful. CCllr Goggin advised Cllr P Sadler that the Council need to discuss which potholes are in need of attention and to put them in order of priority then to pass him a list but he had no way to know if they would get done.

CCllr Goggin went to a meeting regarding Chapel Lane, where he was informed that it is a step before being signed off by the portfolio holder and they have to go through a procedural set of circumstances. He hopes to come back with some good news the next time he is here.

The next LHP meeting is 14th March 2019.

Cllr Sadler thanked Cllr Goggin.

D.Cllr Nicholls

DCllr Nicholls contacted Tendring District Council (TDC) waste services having a concern about an increase in the number of incidents of fly tipping. He was given the following figures for fly tipping cleared by TDC in recent years:

Year	Number of incidents
April 2016 – March 2017	1426
April 2017 – March 2018	1300
April 2018 – March 2019	1027

The numbers have declined and since the closure of Martin’s Farm Refuse and Re-cycling Centre there has not been a significant impact on fly tipping in the area.

There is a meeting on 20th March regarding County Broadband in the village hall.

DCllr Nicholls advised he will not be able to attend the April meeting and with the forthcoming elections in early May wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Parish Council for their support over the last 8 years.

Cllrs Nicholls was thanked by the Chairman.

C.Cllr Goggin left the meeting at 7.55pm to attend the Alresford PC Meeting

6. (a) Planning Applications: - None received

(b) Planning Resolutions/ Determinations: - None received

7. Reports on Highways Issues: Updates

Proposed Chapel Lane – One Way System

Cllr P Sadler informed the Council that Frank Belgrove will ask a number of questions at the next LHP meeting to see what is happening he will especially find out if there is definite confirmation that work on the project will start and ask for the engineer’s report.

8. Correspondence

Letter received from Lambert Smith Hampton notifying the Council of the forthcoming sale of Thorrington Tide Mill by ECC. There resulting discussion established that the Council does not have the monies to obtain the property. The National Trust and English Heritage only deal in bequests. Alternative options to the sale to private ownership would be welcomed in order the keep the mill as a historical landmark.

9. Reports from Amenities Representatives:

Allotments	No change, manure delivered
Playing Field	Cllr A Sadler to liaise with Cllr Dewar as the top end by the pointed section requires clearing of twigs and branches as this is causing difficulty for the mower. Cllr A Sadler suggested that Cllr Dewar would need to speak to a tree surgeon to see what needs doing and ask for a quote of the works.
Tennis Court	Nothing to report.

Village Hall	Nothing to report.
Footpaths	Nothing to report.
Tree Warden	Nothing to report.
Hazel Close Open Space	Nothing to report.
Thorrington in Bloom	Cllr Hindle reported that Thorrington Cross has been tidied up but not all the daffodils have opened up.

10. To propose Parish Council purchase lawn mower at a cost of £3,550.
 The purchase of the lawn mower was approved. Proposed by Cllr Sait, seconded by Cllr Hindle and all in favour.

11. Review of Standing Orders/Financial Regulations
 No changes.

12. Review effectiveness of Internal Controls
 No changes.

13. To appoint internal auditors for the account's year ending 31st March 2019.
 Resolution: - "It was resolved that Heelis & Lodge be invited to carry out this audit".
 Council were in agreement to continue.

14. (a) To approve purchase of The Good Councillors Guide at a cost of £3.99.
 The purchase of The Good Councillors Guide was agreed.

(b) To approve purchase of Local Councils Explained at a cost of £50.
 The purchase of Local Councils Explained was agreed.

(c) Approval to either borrow or purchase approximately 100m of plastic security type fencing and stakes to cordon off the grass areas which need reseeding.
 The purchase of the pins, barrier fencing and grass seed for £137.20 was agreed.

15. To approve purchase of dog waste bags at a cost of £838.50 excluding VAT
 Cllr A Sadler calculated that based on last year's usage 39 boxes would be needed. JRB Enterprise Ltd offer a reduced price per box for orders over 20 boxes. RFO will contact JRB to see whether a further discount could be given for an order of 40 boxes. If no extra discount can be arranged the purchase of the 39 boxes of dog waste bags at £838.50 excluding VAT was agreed.

16. Distribution of election packs to Councillors
 The Clerk handed to each Cllr their election pack, Cllr Sait will deliver Cllr Dewar's. Due to the election rules a discussion took place around the May meeting and the dates of the Annual meetings. The Council decided that the May meeting will be on 1st May. The Annual Parish meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting will take place on 15th May, all were in agreement.

17. Accounts
Cheques signed at Thorrington Parish Council Meeting on 6th March 2019



Cheque No.	Cheque payable to	Amount	Invoice & Reason for Payment
102358	EALC	£53.99	Clerk's course & Good Councillor book
102359	Mrs. E Crook	£418.56	Clerk's pay for Mch, Accom, Mileage
102360	Mrs. K D Fairhurst	£139.69	RFO pay for March
102361	HM Revenue & Customs	£277.40	Q.Income.Tax payts for Clerk & RFO
102362	Broxap Ltd	£5,678.40	Outdoor Gym Equipment
102363	Broxap Ltd	£2,427.60	Installation of Outdoor Gym Equipment
102364	Bellet	£3,550.00	Purchase Lawn Mower

Total cheques written: £12,545.64

Other Payments for March:

Direct Debits: - £215.16. (Street Lighting Maintenance for Q Mch to May 2019 & Electricity for Feeder Pillar on Playing Field)

(b) Receipts: - £ None

(c) Balance of Accounts with Barclays Bank as at 28th February 2019

Current Account £200, Savings Account £31,184.82 Total: £31,384.82

18. Grass cutting

Only one quote received so no decision could be made. Clerk to add to April agenda.

A discussion took place around Hazel Close grass cutting, TDC ownership and TPC grass maintenance. Cllr A Sadler to liaise with the Clerk to request a donation from TDC towards the cost of cutting the grass.

19. Outdoor gym – Cllr A Sadler

All works completed and the equipment is already being well used. The Council discussed having a plaque made to recognise the kind donations received. RFO to provide Cllr A Sadler with a definite list of all the donators.

20. Tennis Court – Report from RFO

A discussion took place regarding the Tennis Court and it was decided that due to the complexities involved Cllr Sait and the RFO would seek legal advice.

Cllr A Sadler thanked the clerk, RFO and the clerk's assistant, Katherine, for their time spent at Essex Records Office diligently researching this matter.

21. Clerk's Report

Photos of the outdoor gym equipment have been added to the Spotted Thorrington Facebook page by Cllr A Sadler and there were lots of positive comments.

A survey has been emailed to the Clerk from CVST and commissioned by the NEE Health and Wellbeing Alliance to undertake a mapping of voluntary and community services in the Tendring area. This is the biggest survey undertaken in Tendring's history.



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A resident emailed the Clerk regarding the removal of the skate ramp and subsequent replacement of the outdoor gym equipment. Clerk to email resident inviting them to attend the next meeting if they wish to ask the Council about the decision.

A cheque of £50 was received from Peter & Erica Collard requesting a flower bed be planted in memory of Wayne Hardy who lived in Thorrington for 37 years.

22. Councillor's Reports

Cllr Sharpe asked about the lack of a Grapevine report in February, Cllr P Sadler advised that the clerk had been busy with other matters assuring it would be sent out this month.

Cllr A Sadler put forward a vote of thanks to the Clerk and Katherine. After raising concerns over minutes missing on the TPC website, particularly the whole year of 2014, to his surprise the following day all years had been corrected. The TPC website now has links to minutes for each month in every year when a meeting was held back to 2006.

Cllr Sait advised the Council that the tree on Station Road had been cut back, but that a hedge belonging to a property on Church Road needs cutting back as it is dangerous. Clerk to write to new owner requesting they do this.

Cllr P Sadler reminded all Cllr's that following the last TDALC meeting they had been asked to put some planning questions in writing ready for the representative from the TDC Planning Department later on in the year. Having yet to receive any, Cllr's were encouraged to send her their comments via email before 20th March, ahead of the next TDALC meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 7pm

Closure. There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm

SIGNED



Date

3/4/19