

THORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held via conference call on
Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 7pm



28/6

Present: Cllrs P Sadler, A Sadler, S Parks, J Damant & A Dewar

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

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

1. Apologies for absence – Cllr G Parks

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests – None provided

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2020, having been previously circulated, were agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Public Questions – No members of the public present

5. Reports from District & County Councillors

DCllr Scott attended a virtual full council meeting where the housing strategy was discussed and the action plan for climate change was approved.

Recycling boxes have continued to be delivered to new residents in Avocet Place and medicines been delivered within the village. A number of calls have been received about email and telephone scams. A query regarding the schedule for the emptying of the dog waste and litter bins within the village is being looked into.

CCllr Goggin reported that the application for the Happy to Chat bench has been submitted.

The B1027 speed review was presented to the Local Highways Panel (LHP) meeting on 19th November. Cllr Goggin thanked Cllr G Parks for his help with the review.

Speed and Volume surveys that Essex County Council (ECC) carry out have now resumed.

The Morrisons store in Clacton has a staff member who works with local groups to see if they can be of assistance within the community. CCllr Goggin can connect groups with this contact if they know of any causes that have a need for this.

CCllr Goggin has collated statistic on the amount of work carried out in his division. In the last four years there have been 1268 road repairs. In Thorrington, there were 38 in 2016, 25 in 2017, 37 in 2018, 26 in 2019 and 25 (to date) in 2020.

ECC have received £6.3 million in funding from the Government to direct towards food banks and agencies.

The Essential Living Fund is a fund for people in Essex in need, this deals with wider issues like clothing, food and furniture. There are funds available via the County Councillors for any group or organisation to make sure no one goes hungry over Christmas.

Cllr S Parks mentioned to CCllr Goggin that the pot holes on either side of the level crossing have not been done. CCllr Goggin advised that the request has not yet been scheduled.

CCllr Goggin and DCllr Scott were thanked by the Chairman and left the call at 7.52 pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.

6. a) Planning Applications

20/01549/TPO 1 No. Oak (T2) - Reduce crown by 2-3 metres to suitable growth points to all aspects, remove epicormic growth from main stem and remove deadwood >25mm. The tree is causing excessive shading to the dwelling and branches have snapped and fallen during recent high winds. Rectory House, Salmons Lane, Thorrington.

20/01469/CMTR Proposed extension to existing metals recycling facility, including processing of end-of-life vehicles, new access, erection of new operational building, new internal road and turn area, parking and storage of vehicles & metals, landscaping, noise fencing, infrastructure and ancillary works. Auto Spares, Station Yard, Frating Road, Thorrington. **For information only.**

20/01443/FUL Proposed erection of a summer house with veranda and landscaping. Pear Tree Cottage, Clacton Road, Thorrington.

20/01444/LBC Proposed erection of a summer house with veranda and landscaping. Pear Tree Cottage, Clacton Road, Thorrington

20/01602/TPO 1 No. Oak - reduce by 3 metres and remove dead wood. Thorrington Bowls Club, Church Road, Thorrington.

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

7. To approve overtime

Council approved 10 hours of overtime for the RFO for setting up new website. Proposed by Cllr Damant, seconded by Cllr Dewar. All in favour

8. To review hours for Clerk & RFO

a) Council agreed the Clerks hours are increased to 30 hours a month. Proposed by Cllr A Sadler, seconded by Cllr Dewar. All in favour.

b) Council agreed the RFO's hours are increased to 8 hours a month. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr S Parks. All in favour.

9. Street light maintenance contract

After examining the quotes, it was agreed to renew the street light maintenance contract with A&J Lighting Solutions. Clerk to contact the contractor to obtain prices for changing all the lights to LED in one go. Proposed by Cllr A Sadler, seconded by Cllr Dewar. All in favour.

10. Allocating funds to LED street light replacement plan

Following on from item 9, this motion has been moved to the January meeting

11. Maintenance of vacant allotment plots

In order to obtain further information, this motion has been moved to the January meeting

12. Servicing of ride on mower

Having considered the quotes provided Council decided to use the services of Bellets. Proposed by Cllr Damant, seconded by Cllr Dewar. All in favour.

13. Stone Snake

Cllr Dewar to make enquiries with the Village Hall Committee about housing the stone snake made by local families during the first lockdown in order to preserve it as a historical record.

14. Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) membership

The Council approved. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour.

15. Accounts

Payments for approval and signatures at meeting on 2nd December 2020

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Payment Details
300106	Elizabeth Crook	£519.40	Clerk wages, accom. & expenses
300107	Katherine Lott	£179.08	RFO wages & accom.
300108	HMRC	£102.40	Quarterly tax payment
300109	LexisNexis	£119.99	Updated legal reference book
300110	John Peak & Sons	£420.00	Annual hedge cutting at playing field
300111	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	£400.00	Donation
300112	Age Concern Colchester	£400.00	Donation
300113	PKF Littlejohn	£240.00	External audit fee
300114	RCCE	£72.60	Membership

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£2453.47	£0	£269.19	£0

Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £40,982.17

16. Reports from Amenities Representatives

Allotments	No report
Playing Field	Covid-19 warning signs have been installed; equipment can now be used.
Tennis Court	Cllr A Sadler is hoping to apply moss killer to the court soon.
Footpaths	Footpath 14 on Brightlingsea Road blocked by an agricultural trailer which belongs to nearby farm. Clerk to contact Brightlingsea Town Council.
Tree Warden	No report
Hazel Close Open Space	The trees in the middle of the open space need a mild trimming. Clerk to contact TDC to advise them this needs doing.
Thorrington in Bloom	Vacant

17. Clerk's Report

The Clerk thanked Cllr A Sadler for installing the new Covid-19 playground signs.

The overgrown footpath on Tenpenny Hill has been cleared by residents.

The external audit report arrived after the agenda went out and will be discussed in January.

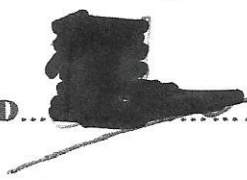
The Census 2021 takes places on 21st March 2021, for the first time, everyone will be encouraged to complete the census online. Help will be available to those who need support to complete the census online and paper questionnaires will still be available if necessary.

18. Councillor's Reports

Cllr Damant asked about planning permission submitted for four dwellings at The Talbots. Clerk advised this had been received after the December agenda went out.

Date of next meeting: 6th January 2021

Closure. There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm

SIGNED... 

Date.. 6/1/21.....