

# THORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the village hall on  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs P Sadler, A Sadler, G Parks & S Parks

**Also present:** CCllr Goggin, DCllr Scott, E Crook (Clerk), K Lott (RFO) & 3 members of the public

The meeting was called to order at 7.00pm by Cllr P Sadler, Chairman

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Sait & Cllr Dewar.

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022, having been previously circulated, were agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**4. Public Questions**

A resident detailed the history of a situation with a temporary cover over a Highways catch pit opposite his property. The repair has been delayed by difficulty ascertaining who it belonged to and the catch pit cover has now fallen in. CCllr Goggin has attended the site and reported it to Essex County Council (ECC) via email. DCllr Scott explained that the Highways Rangers had attended previously to place the plastic cover as a temporary measure.

The manager of The Orchards, a support living facility, asked whether their long-term residents could maintain the bus shelter at the Cross. As regular users of the bus service they would like to paint it and put up a sign. Cllr P Sadler asked that they outline their idea in writing and along with a risk assessment, forward their plans to the Clerk, noting that the Council need to consider it fully and following a vote, would grant permission. *Clerk to add to next agenda.* The manager also reported that two large oak trees either side of their driveway are making it difficult for vehicles exiting the site and wondered whether they could put up a visibility mirror. The Clerk advised that they should contact ECC, DCllr Scott also mentioned that Clive Dawson, Tree Officer at Tendring District Council (TDC) can also be contacted about the trees.

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

Cllr A Sadler expressed frustration that when DCllr Scott is emailed to chase an issue at TDC, that email is forwarded rather than a separate approach made. DCllr Scott explained the process from his position and how TDC take the requests forward.

Cllr P Sadler asked DCllr Scott for an update regarding the access gates that had been installed by new residents of Avocet Place. DCllr Scott explained that it was passed to planning who then passed it to the Open Spaces team but they have not replied at this time. Cllr P Sadler requested DCllr Scott chase the Open Space team for a response. She noted the history of the same situation with properties in Clover Drive that back onto HCOS, who were told by TDC not to cut through their back gardens into HCOS and that rules must be consistently applied to all residents. Cllr P Sadler requested clarification as soon as possible.

In Thorrington there have been complaints about speeding through the village. There have been residents asking about their Council Tax rebate.

Cllr S Parks advised CCllr Goggin that she had taken photographs of the flooding in Chapel Lane. CCllr Goggin reported that the drains were swept in December, that they are not due to be swept again but he had advised ECC that there continues to be an issue.

Cllr P Sadler asked about the speed reduction in Alresford in his report, CCllr Goggin explained that his notes would now include all his parishes so that everyone can see what is happening.

In Cllr Dewar's absence, Cllr P Sadler raised a concern about a sign obstructing the footpath by the Fir Tree café. CCllr Goggin suggested Cllr Dewar visit the café to ask that it is moved.

CCllr Goggin reported that a large number of Ukrainian refugees had been settled in Essex.

An emergency repair was carried out on the B1029 near Thorrington.

Levelling up and locality grants are available, the Council should think of any areas of need.

The Local Highways Panel (LHP) have some new and revised brochures which are available. CCllr Goggin has asked that they are sent to each Parish Clerk.

**DCllr Scott and CCllr Goggin were thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 7.53pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.**

#### 6. (a) Planning Applications

22/00688/FUL	<b>Glendenning Farm, Tenpenny Hill</b> Demolition of barn and extensive stables and replacement with a three-bed bungalow (in lieu of deemed Prior Approval for conversion of a barn in to a dwelling subject of application 21/02133/COUNOT).
22/00735/FULHH	<b>Farm View, Church Road</b> Proposed single storey rear extension.

#### (b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations

22/00274/FUL	<b>The Coach House, Brightlingsea Road</b> Proposed change of use to residential of gym & workshop to be used as additional living space with alterations to roof.	<b>Approval Full</b>
22/00171/FUL	<b>Apple Blossom Paddocks, Brightlingsea Road</b> Erection of a new timber framed dwelling following the demolition of existing agricultural barn.	<b>Refusal Full</b>
22/00496/FULHH	<b>The Rowans, Station Road</b> Proposed first floor extension over garage, part two storey rear/side extension & single storey rear extension.	<b>Approval Full</b>

#### 7. Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

This was signed by the Clerk and the Chairman

#### 8. Accounting Statements 2021/2022

This was signed by the Chairman

#### 9. Chapel Lane Playing Field improvements

The Clerk noted the TDC Officer had requested the other two quotes which were sent but no further reply has been received at this point.

#### 10. Parish Council Insurance

The RFO raised some requests that concerned the parish insurance. A resident sent in a request for permission to use the playing field to run football coaching sessions. The Council approved but, at the advice of the Clerk, require him to provide details of public liability insurance, a risk assessment and DBS certificate. The Council were advised that the Booking Clerk of the Village Hall had asked to be provided with a current key for the field, suggesting that he had historically held one in order to use it for overflow parking. The RFO noted that there is no

record of this key on any holders list, that any cars parked there would be the Council's responsibility and without Council permission each time they would not be covered by the insurance policy. Cllr P Sadler highlighted that anyone wishing to use the field for parking must ask permission. In light of this, it was noted that no request had been made to the Council from the Village Day Committee and concerns were raised about insurance cover. Cllr A Sadler said the temporary event notice had been submitted and when the Committee was set up it had Councillors on it so it was deemed that it fell under of the Parish Council insurance policy. The Clerk noted that if that was the case the Council would still need to see a risk assessment, traffic management plan, first aid arrangements and ensure the police were notified, in order to be covered. She explained that as a separate organisation they need their own public liability insurance and to submit a request to the Council for permission to use the field. The Clerk noted that she had contacted Parish Councils in similar situations and that they had confirmed these procedures. The RFO reinforced the Council's legal responsibility as a landowner and of the possible ramifications of uninsured events.

**11. Vacant Allotment Plot**

Cllr P Sadler proposed that a vacant allotment plot is offered to a Ukrainian refugee family staying in the village, the Council would cover the fees. Cllr P Sadler to approach the local resident who is hosting refugees to make the offer. Seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour.

**12. Planted area at the Cross**

Cllr A Sadler reported that the picket fence has been damaged and has been propped back up temporarily. He proposed replacing it with a recycled plastic alternative and will obtain prices.

**13. Social Media**

A discussion took place regarding comments on Facebook about the Parish Council and speeding problems in the village. Some Councillors expressed an interest in the Clerk setting the record straight. The Clerk noted that Councillors could comment but that it must fall in line with the Code of Conduct. Cllr P Sadler noted that speeding is a Police matter and the individuals concerned need to contact the Police directly with their concerns. Cllr P Sadler advised Council that the only person to comment on posts about the Parish Council is the Clerk.

**14. Chapel Lane Playing Field**

Cllr A Sadler proposed that Peakes & Son be instructed to cut the hedges, seconded by Cllr S Parks. All in favour. Cllr S Parks asked if the corner hedge by the Chapel could be included as it is blocking the view for road users. The Clerk advised that this is the owner's responsibility.

**15. Accounts**

Payments for approval and signatures at this meeting. Cllr A Sadler noted that signatories should ensure that they attend meetings and that perhaps the number should be increased.

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Payment Details
300224	Elizabeth Crook	£568.14	Clerk wages & accom.
300225	Katherine Lott	£88.52	RFO wages & accom.
300226	Mr A Dewar	£12.67	Items to maintain allotment noticeboard
300227	Mr A Sadler	£103.05	Mower fuel, strimmer line & mileage
300228	HMRC	£3.00	Quarterly tax payment
300229	BHIB Ltd	£959.80	Insurance premium
300230	Landscape Services	£360.00	Grass maintenance
300231	Tendring District Council	£151.86	Litter bin installation and service fee
300232	EALC	£216.00	Playground inspection course
300233	EALC	£216.00	Playground inspection exam
300234	CPRE	£36.00	Membership

300235	Phasor Electrical Ltd	£569.43	Street light & fixtures for field
300236	Bellet Ltd	£397.68	Mower repair & new leaf blower

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£3,682.15	£0	£184.74	£0

Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £38,361.08

16. Reports from Amenities Representatives

Allotments	In Cllr Dewar's absence, Cllr P Sadler reported no work had been carried out to Plot 23 and notice should be served, those present agreed. The Clerk noted other tenants are granted leniency and the rules should be consistently applied. Plot 1 to be emailed to take down the rowan tree in his plot. Plot 3 has a non-produce tree growing by the standpipe, <i>Cllr Dewar to remove</i> . Cllr Dewar requested permission to buy spray paint to mark extra tyres and sprayable glyphosate to deal with weeds around untended plots. A site neighbour had noted the use of petrol mowers and strimmers early in the mornings. It was suggested that the Clerk could email tenants asking for them to be considerate and not do this before 9.00am on Sunday mornings. Cllr P Sadler suggested putting a notice in the allotment noticeboard first.
Playing Field	No report
Tennis Court	No report
Footpaths	Cllr P Sadler has noticed the footpath sign is down between Church Road to Station Road. Cllr G Parks to report to ECC.
Tree Warden	No report
Hazel Close Open Space	Cllr P Sadler reported collecting eight excess bags of dog waste in one day caused by people not picking up after their dogs.
Thorrington in Bloom	Vacant

17. Clerk's report

TDC have replied back regarding the newly installed rubbish bin in Station Road advising they are the fixings they provide and if the Council want a more robust strapping, they cost £26 per bin.

The application for the VAS licence for both locations has been submitted after answering a number of extra questions from the Highways department.

The resident from Clifton House has still not had the tree work carried out from the storms earlier in the year, even though the contractor has been contacted about this. *Clerk to chase again*.

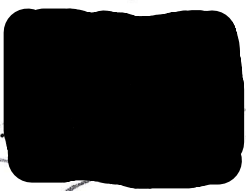
18. Councillor's reports

On behalf of Cllr Dewar, Cllr P Sadler raised the issue of the advertising board outside the Fir Tree Café that is blocking the pavement. *Cllr Dewar to contact the owners requesting that it is moved*.

Cllr S Parks noted a number of pavements around the Cross that are becoming very narrow and difficult to walk down because of overgrowing vegetation. The Clerk noted that overgrown hedges can be reported on the ECC Report It website, any vegetation along a field is up to the landowners.

Date of next meeting 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Closure. There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:06pm

SIGNED.....  


Date... 6.7.22 .....