

# THORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the village hall on  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 7.00pm



**Present:** Cllrs P Sadler, A Sadler, Dewar, Sait, G Parks & S Parks  
**Also present:** CCllr Goggin, DCllr Wiggins, E Crook (Clerk) & K Lott (RFO)

The meeting was called to order at 7.01pm by Cllr P Sadler, Chairman

**1. Apologies for absence**

There were none.

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022, 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**

Cllr P Sadler asked DCllr Wiggins whether Tendring District Council (TDC) have an update regarding the access to Hazel Close Open Space (HCOS) from the new surrounding properties. DCllr Wiggins advised there is no update as yet.

TDC are escalating the situation with the catch pit on Clacton Road. Cllr Dewar asked what the time scale might be, DCllr Wiggins noted it was a case of keeping in contact the relevant department.

Letters have been posted to residents encouraging them to check their electoral register details.

Cllr Sait mentioned to CCllr Goggin that there has been an increase in fly tipping locally. CCllr Goggin noted that this was not connected with the closure of Martin's Farm, as that was open for commercial waste disposal. The current fly tipping is more likely unregistered individuals offering to dispose of residents' waste and not handling it correctly. Cllr G Parks asked whether mobile cameras could be used as a deterrent, CCllr Goggin replied that TDC purchased these cameras some time ago for this type of situation.

Essex County Council (ECC) have granted a temporary speed reduction for 18 months from 60mph to 50mph to accommodate the ongoing works to Wyvern Wood's entrance. Following a recent speed survey, the average speed recorded on this stretch was 47mph.

Some residents hosting a Ukrainian refugee family had noted the complexity of the situation.

ECC are looking how best to use County Hall due to it not being fully utilised following Covid.

CCllr Goggin said he is against the electrical pylons through the Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk areas and would like them to look closer at underwater options.

Cllr G Parks reported that footpath 14 is completely unpassable and although he has reported it wondered if it could be diverted due to coming out in a dangerous place.

**DCllr Wiggins was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 7.24pm.**

## 6. (a) Planning Applications

22/00987/FULHH	<b>Reeves Grove House, Tenpenny Hill</b> Proposed single storey extension & extension above existing roof to form atrium.
22/01082/FULHH	<b>The Oaks, Tenpenny Hill</b> Proposed extension to provide single story enlargement to main bedroom with walk-in wardrobe and en-suite bathroom. Connecting to work studio with shower room. With extension to kitchen to form new dining area.
22/01188/COUNOT	<b>Cross Farm, Station Road</b> Proposed conversion of two agricultural buildings into two dwellings.
22/01205/FULHH	<b>Croft, Tenpenny Hill</b> Proposed front porch to existing bungalow.
22/01249/TPO	<b>20 Clover Drive</b> 1 No. Oak - cut back by 30%

## (b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations

22/00735/FULHH	<b>Farm View, Church Road</b> Proposed single storey rear extension	<b>Approval</b> Full
22/00109/FUL	<b>The Panthers, Station Road</b> Proposed demolition of existing buildings on the site, erection of 4 dwellings with associated garages, hard & soft landscaping & redeveloped entrance gates.	<b>Refusal</b> Full
22/00982/TPO	<b>10 Heathlands</b> 2 No. Oak - reduce overhang to previous points.	<b>Approval</b> Full
22/00992/VOC	<b>Acacia House, Brightlingsea Road</b> Variation of condition 2 of 21/01609/FUL to substitute approved plans to introduce a veranda.	<b>Approval</b> Full
22/00909/FULHH	<b>3 Chapel Lane</b> Proposed single storey rear extension.	<b>Approval</b> Full

## 7. Chapel Lane Playing Field improvements

The RFO reported the Open Spaces Officer is on annual leave until 15<sup>th</sup> August. *Clerk to chase.*

## 8. Planted area at the Cross

Item moved to the September agenda.

## 9. Chapel Lane Playing Field tree

After a discussion the Council decided that Landscape Services cut back the overhanging tree foliage as one-off goodwill measure, any further requests would need to be carried out by the owner of the Chapel. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour.

## 10. Streetlight in Chapel Lane

Cllr Dewar explained that the previous agreed upon supplier had gone out of business and provided 3 new prices, explaining that a bracket would also be required. Cllr Dewar had also contacted the street light contractor to obtain a quote, so the light would match the existing lights. Cllr Dewar proposed the option costing £489, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour.

**The Chairman motioned for item 14 to be heard next due to this requiring CCllr Goggin.**

#### 14. Portable Vehicle Activated Sign

Cllr Dewar mentioned that Alresford have installed fly tipping cameras which are pole mounted and wondered why Thorrington were having so much trouble with permission for the VAS. CCllr Goggin noted that some of the cameras in Alresford were located on private land and therefore do not require a licence. Cllr A Sadler raised concern that despite providing all the information required, Essex Highways have delayed installation with extra regulations, stating that they wish to reduce the number of empty poles along the highway. Cllr A Sadler mentioned that a moveable pole is not safe and less secure, noting that if the Council had known about this from the start, they could have made a far more informed decision. Following discussion about the stipulation that anyone moving the device would have to be accredited to work on the highway, CCllr Goggin noted that the handyman at Alresford has recently undergone this training. CCllr Goggin suggested that a sign could be installed on the post when the VAS is not in place to avoid the empty pole and allow it to be permanently fixed. *Clerk to contact Essex Highways to ask whether this would be acceptable.*

**CCllr Goggin was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 8:07pm.**

#### 11. Play Equipment Annual Inspection

Cllr P Sadler advised that having read the report, a sign needs to be installed advising of the ownership of the field and the contact details. The Clerk noted that an email address would be better than the telephone number as the Council do not have a fixed office. It was suggested that the sign should read "This playing field is owned and maintained by Thorrington Parish Council, in case of contact please email the Clerk or in an emergency dial 999", 3 signs needed. *Clerk to obtain prices for signs.*

#### 12. Allotment plot

- a) Cllr Dewar suggested that as plot 5 empty and no one from the village was waiting, he would like to take it on. Proposed as acceptable by Cllr S Parks, seconded by Cllr Sait. All in favour.
- b) Council to purchase the more robust hose reel at a cost of £104.99. Proposed by Cllr P Sadler, seconded by Cllr A Sadler. All in favour.
- c) Cllr Dewar proposed a third compost bay is installed and has received a quote for an operative with a digger at a cost of £243.00 plus VAT. *To be added to September agenda to enable time for other quotes to be received.*

#### 13. Use of the playing field

a) The Clerk explained that the Village Day Committee had submitted an updated risk assessment and whilst there were no major changes, it had to be noted that the Council had been made aware. The RFO asked about the sign at the Cross, in light of the Council blanket "no signs" policy, in case anyone enquired. Cllr A Sadler explained that it was not on the railings and does not restrict a drivers' vision so it has always been acceptable. Cllr Sait raised concerns that the Village Day organiser had not been invited to the meeting. The RFO noted that invitations are not required because it is a public meeting and anyone is welcome to attend. Cllr Sait verbally resigned from the Council stating that they are against Village Day and that the paperwork that they had been asked for had not been necessary in the past. The Clerk explained that it was a requirement of her position to study for the CiLCA qualification and that she had learnt about risks, insurance and how committees of the Council operate. The Village Day Committee do not operate within the requirements of a Parish Council Committee and so they are a separate organisation. The RFO noted other committees that run events operate this way and explained the benefits but that there was a need their own insurance for the day. A risk assessment would be required even to comply with the Parish Council insurance policy. The Clerk and RFO noted that they were not acting against Village Day but in the interests of everyone so that cover was in place. Cllr Sait repeated again he resigned from the Council.

*Cllr Sait expressed his total disillusionment with all aspects of council business.*

b) It needed to be determined what arrangements would be made for opening the gate and monitoring the use of the electricity for anyone using the playing field. Cllr Sait noted that he had a gate key and may have an electricity box key, if not he would arrange collecting one.

#### 15. TDALC meeting

There were no questions arising from the previously emailed report.

#### 16. Accounts

Payments for approval and signatures at meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Payment Details
300246	Elizabeth Crook	£367.80	Clerk wages, accom. & expenses
300247	Katherine Lott	£88.52	RFO wages & accom.
300248	Mr A Dewar	£4.95	Hose connector
300249	Mr A Sadler	£65.18	Mower fuel & new handle for hose reel
300250	Julie Willets	£40.00	Allotment deposit
300251	Carol & Frank Beardsell	£40.00	Allotment deposit
300252	Landscape Services	£360.00	Grass maintenance
300253	Tendring District Council	£56.80	Playground inspection
300254	John Peak & Sons	£420.00	Playing field hedge cut

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£1443.25	£0	£0	£500

**Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £36,355.40**

#### 17. Reports from Amenities Representatives

Allotments	Cllr Dewar requested an email is sent to all plot holders to ask for any spare produce to be dropped at his back gate on a Monday night to take to the Brightlingsea food bank. The padlock has been left on the gate open with the code showing. Plot 3 is still not being worked, Cllr A Sadler to speak to the tenant.
Playing Field	No report.
Tennis Court	No report.
Footpaths	Cllr Dewar asked if bark wood chippings were sourced, could they be placed on the footpath where the tree roots are protruding. <i>Clerk to liaise with Public Rights of Way Team.</i>
Tree Warden	Cllr S Parks received a complaint from a resident in Clover Drive who has a tree preservation order (TPO) oak tree regarding the amount being cut off of another TPO oak tree, Cllr S Parks emailed Clive Dawson, TDC Tree & Landscape Officer. He replied that works were carried out in accordance with the permission granted although it appears the applicant has maximised the opportunity to cut back branches, so therefore consent for similar works is unlikely to be granted in the near future to allow the tree to regrow. At Cllr S Parks request, her name has been added to the distribution list for the weekly application determined list, a more up to date TPO list is at present unavailable, it was last updated in 2015. Cllr S Parks has been invited to join a distribution list for local tree wardens.

Hazel Close Open Space | Cllr P Sadler reported she is still picking up piles of dog waste.

**18. Clerk's report**

A resident requested traffic calming measures be put in place on the Brightlingsea Road because of speeding and careless driving. The Clerk directed them to the local Police team, CCllr Goggin and offered the option to sign up for any new speed watch but they did not reply.

An email was received concerning a number of vehicles parked on grass verges and the pavement at the top of Station Road. The informant was directed to the Parking Partnership and TDC. After forwarding the details to Parking Partnership they replied that it is a Police matter.

Another resident contacted the Clerk regarding the hedges around HCOS, this was forwarded to both District Councillors and Cllr P Sadler. The hedges are due to be cut shortly by TDC.

An email was received from a member of the public regarding a dead badger along the side of the road and this was passed to TDC Environmental Services department.

**19. Councillor's reports**

Cllr G Parks asked whether the care home was thanked for their works to the bus shelter at Thorington Cross. *Clerk to email the manager.*

Cllr S Parks & Cllr G Parks visited 20 Heathlands and let the resident know about the condition of their wall that borders Clacton Road. The resident was grateful for being made aware of this.


Cllr S Parks advised she has 12 remaining Jubilee coins left and asked what to do with them, the Council decided to pass them to the residents at the care home as a thank you.

Cllr A Sadler suggested a Thank You was sent to John Peakes & Sons for the recent hedge cut, the RFO advised she usually sends a thank you note with their cheque and will do so again.

Cllr Sait reported that the Fir Tree Café have placed their advertising signs along Station Road.

**Date of next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Closure.** There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:20pm

SIGNED...  .....

Date. S/10/22 .....