

# THORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the village hall on  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at 7.30pm



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

**Also present:** CCllr Goggin, DCllr Wiggins, E Crook (Clerk), K Lott (RFO) and a resident

The meeting was called to order at 7.30pm 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 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022, having been previously circulated, were amended at item 15 the cheque payment to Mr A Sadler was amended to £121.15 from £120.00. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**4. Public Questions**

There were none.

**The Chairman motioned for item 14 to be heard next.**

**14. Warm Hub**

Cllr P Sadler explained the concept of a warm hub and noted their need in the current time of high energy prices. She expressed an interest in the Parish Council initiating their own warm hub if there was enough interest from residents but noting that it would be run by volunteers. It was suggested that the former Women's Institute members could be asked to help out. There are grants available from Essex County Council (ECC), Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) and Community Voluntary Services Tending (CVST) to help meet the costs. A representative from the Village Hall Committee suggested that the Farrow Room could be used. CCllr Goggin advised that ECC are encouraging these hubs in the community, but noted their requirement that any grants awarded go to an established organisation, suggesting that the Parish Council or Village Hall would be preferable to an unknown group. *Cllr P Sadler to investigate potential take up.*

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

Cllr A Sadler asked DCllr Wiggins to pass on thanks to DCllr Scott for arranging the meeting with the Open Space team.

DCllr Wiggins reported a complaint had been received from a resident at Avocet Place regarding vehicles speeding through the village.

**DCllr Wiggins was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 8.03pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.**

CCllr Goggin advised that the second round of the pothole initiative will be finalised shortly and he had not yet received any for Thorrington. Cllr P Sadler suggested that none had been noted that fit the criteria.

CCllr Goggin noted that he had spoken to Olive Porter at Essex Highways regarding the issues with gaining permission to install the VAS, she informed him that she was waiting for a response from the Parish Council. Cllr A Sadler suggested to CCllr Goggin that if the Council had known about having to have a removable post from the beginning, they would not have taken on the project. He noted the issue over empty posts and that a post on Clacton Road has been missing its signage for a number of years rendering it redundant. The problem with the Essex Highways proposed solutions were discussed and CCllr Goggin noted that Olive Porter would meet with the Council via a virtual meeting if that would help. Cllr A Sadler asked when the 30mph limit is due to be extended to the Cross, suggesting that the two 30mph signs that are currently there could be incorporated with the VAS. CCllr Goggin advised that Olive had not received a response from her last email, implying it was the Council holding up progress. The Clerk and RFO noted that a response had always been sent up until the last email when the Council had decided not to engage further with a process where Google maps was being used instead of site visits and sensible attempts to find a solution and explain Essex Highways requirements. CCllr Goggin suggested organising a meeting with the Council and the Essex Highways representative. He will liaise with Cllr P Sadler.

CCllr Goggin extended his sympathy on the recent death of local business man Dave Edwards.

CCllr Goggin was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 8.27pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.

#### 6. (a) Planning Applications

22/01661/NMA	<b>Malika, Church Road</b> Non-Material Amendment to application reference 22/00377/FULHH for extended roof overhanging first floor to provide balcony.
22/01656/FULHH	<b>Kingfishers, Clacton Road</b> Proposed alterations to planning approval 21/01801/FULHH to replace garden room with swimming pool.
22/01695/FUL	<b>The Panthers, Station Road</b> Proposed replacement dwelling with ancillary garage/annexe.

#### (b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations

22/01360/FULHH	<b>Little Retreat, Brightlingsea Road</b> Proposed single storey rear extension.	<b>Approval Full</b>
22/01440/FULHH	<b>2 Abbey Cottages, Great Bentley Road, Frating</b> Proposed single storey extension to form garden room.	<b>Approval Full</b>

#### c) Planning appeal

<b>APP/Z1585/W/22/3301961</b>	<b>Auto Spares, Station Yard, Great Bentley Road</b>
Change of use of land to form extension of vehicle breakers yard, inc. processing end-of-life vehicles, new access, erection of new operational building, new internal road & turn, parking & storage of vehicles & metals, landscaping, noise fencing, infrastructure & ancillary works	

#### 7. Co-Option of a Councillor

The Clerk advised the Council that no applications had been received.

#### 8. Portable vehicle activated sign

Discussed earlier in the meeting with CCllr Goggin.

9. **Thorrington Cross bus shelter**  
Motion moved to the December agenda.

10. **Planted area at the Cross**

Cllr A Sadler appraised the Council of the quotes received; the first two quotes included delivery at £4,357.00 and £2,104.64. The third quote of £1,736.00 excluded delivery. The Council decided on the quote of £2,104.64. The RFO advised that funding was available from other budget areas that were now not required and recommended that this should be used before any donations were sought. Proposed by Cllr A Sadler, seconded by Cllr Dewar. All in favour.

11. **Landscaping work required along Clacton Road verge**

Cllr Dewar received two quotes from Landscape Services who had carried out work on the site previously. To level the ground and turf the area the cost would be £450, to reseed it instead would be £200. It was proposed by Cllr A Sadler to have the area turfed, seconded by Cllr P Sadler. Agreed by majority, one abstention.

12. **Chapel Lane Playing Field improvements**

Cllr A Sadler reported on the meeting with the TDC Open Space team who have agreed the scheme in principle and will begin the process their end in order to release the funding.

13. **Annual pay scale review**

Following an appraisal, it was proposed by Cllr P Sadler that the Clerk and RFO be moved up to the next salary scale point. Seconded by Cllr Dewar, all in favour. Having been advised by the Clerk about the variation in pay for Clerks, Cllr P Sadler will contact EALC for guidance on Clerks salaries and the awarding of pay increments.

15. **Donations**

The RFO advised the Council of the remaining donation budget and had previously circulated the requests received from Thorrington Church, Essex & Herts Air Ambulance, Brightlingsea Food Bank and Age Well East. The RFO reminded those present of the current advice concerning Church donations and Cllr A Sadler proposed that £450 be awarded to Brightlingsea Food Bank, with £250 each going to the Air Ambulance and Age Well East. Seconded by Cllr G Parks, all in favour.

16. **Accounts**

Payments for approval and signatures at meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Payment Details
300267	Elizabeth Crook	£535.37	Clerk wages, accom. & expenses
300268	Katherine Lott	£118.28	RFO wages & accom.
300269	Cllr A Dewar	£124.00	Mileage for course at EALC (2 days)
300270	Cllr A Sadler	£127.35	Street light bracket & plastic post for tap
300271	Cllr P Sadler	£39.50	Mileage for course at EALC (1 day)
300272	DM Payroll Services	£66.00	Payroll service for first half 2022/23
300273	EALC	£720.00	Chairman's 3 day training (2 Cllrs)
300274	Landscape Services	£360.00	Grass maintenance
300275	K Lingi	£20.00	Allotment deposit return

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£2,110.50	£0	£45.00	£500.00

**Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £46,181.83**

**17. Reports from Amenities Representatives**

Allotments	No report.
Playing Field	Cllr A Sadler noted the work of those that had cleared the litter from the field and that the initial work to install the new light had been done.
Tennis Court	The net will be stored away for winter shortly.
Footpaths	No report.
Tree Warden	No report.
Hazel Close Open Space	No report.

**18. Clerk's report**

Cadent were contacted regarding the rubbish left at the Cross, despite assuring the Clerk that it had been cleared it is still there. Their customer advisor has been made aware.

A survey has been received from Transport East regarding the local bus service.

The declaration required by the Pensions Regulator every three years has been submitted.

A group from Brightlingsea phoned seeking permission to erect a banner at the Cross advertising their fireworks display. The Clerk informed them of the situation with the metal barrier and maintaining driver sight lines. She encouraged them to send details of any other location to the Council for consideration but did not receive any.

The large roundabout sign on Clacton Road, opposite May Pightle has been reported to ECC, whilst it has been leaning precariously for some time, the fixings are now very rusty.

A new resident has enquired about taking on an allotment plot.

**19. Councillor's reports**

Nothing to report.

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

**Closure.** There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:22pm

SIGNED



Date.....

14/12/22  
8.