

THORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the village hall on
Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7.00pm



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

Also present: CCllr Goggin, DCllr Scott, E Crook (Clerk), K Lott (RFO) & 1 member of the public

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

1. Apologies for absence

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2023, having been previously circulated, were agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Public Questions

A tenant farmer who works land in the village asked the Parish Council to make the residents aware that they must walk on the designated footpaths and not on private farmland. He noted that way markers show the correct route but they are often ignored. Cllr Dewar noted the lack of way markers on some routes. The Chairman asked the farmer what he was suggesting the Council do. He asked that a notice be put in the parish magazine or on a noticeboard. He noted that he will pursue prosecution of people found walking on private property.

5. Reports from District & County Councillors

DCllr Scott reported visiting residents in Avocet Place to discuss planning applications.

Recycling boxes will only be issued to new residents going forward.

DCllr Scott reported being contacted about foliage overgrowing the pavement adjacent to the Essex Highways depot. Cllr P Sadler noted that the pavement up to the Cross is also overgrown causing the pavement to narrow.

Cllr A Sadler asked DCllr Scott to contact the department responsible for dog waste and rubbish collections for a copy of the schedule so they could know when the bins should be emptied. DCllr Scott advised this is carried out by Veolia. Cllr A Sadler also reported that the dog waste bin lids are often left open allowing rain to get in and the access panel is not locked properly.

Cllr P Sadler asked DCllr Scott for an update about properties from Avocet Place putting in gates in order to access Hazel Close Open Space (HCOS), DCllr Scott advised he had contacted Planning Enforcement and Ian Taylor but has not yet received a reply

Cllr G Parks mentioned a previous communication from Tendring District Council (TDC) offering the use of mobile cameras to capture fly tippers, DCllr Scott advised that cameras were purchased to monitor hot spot areas in the district. Cllr G Parks asked whether these could be utilised in Thorington, the RFO advised the Chairman of the details received from TDC of an installation charge of £150 and a further charge of £110 if a cherry picker would be required.

Cllr Dewar reported that around 30 car tyres had been fly tipped in Church Road, Frating. DCllr Scott will report the information to TDC.

Cllr A Sadler asked CCllr Goggin when the deadline for the Pride of Tendring nominations for 2024 would be. DCllr Scott advised that nominations will open towards the end of 2023. Cllr A Sadler asked that the Council are made aware once they are open in order to make suggestions, DCllr Scott explained that nominations are rotated so that every village gets a turn.

CCllr Goggin reported that Essex County Council (ECC) are looking at their estate of buildings as working procedures have changed and they are trying to maximise the use of every building.

The Portfolio Holder for Highways has found an extra £9,000,000 for investment next year, found by making people pay their rates on time. £4,000,000 of this will go on an initiative for potholes and footways, £3,000,000 to maintenance and £2,000,000 for micro surfacing.

CCllr Goggin advised that permanent signage on private land is subject to planning permission.

DCllr Scott and CCllr Goggin were thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting at 7.54pm to attend the Alresford Parish Council meeting.

6. (a) Planning Applications

23/00139/FULHH	Meadow Barn, Rosemary Lane Proposed extension to form additional living areas.
23/00167/FULHH	Malika, Church Road Proposed two storey rear extension to provide open plan ground floor accommodation and an additional bedroom to the first floor and new porch to the front elevation (resubmission of 22/00377/FULHH)
23/02061/FUL	Wellsummer House, Brightlingsea Road Proposed replacement of existing garage/store with new detached single storey annex and garage.

(b) Planning Resolutions/Determinations

22/02061/FULHH	Andilla, Church Road Proposed construction of a single storey rear extension (following demolition of existing conservatory), front porch and loft conversion with front and rear dormers.	Approval Full
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7. Memorial plaque

The Clerk reported on the communication received from the gentleman wanting a plaque on a bench on the playing field and relayed the proposed wording. Following a discussion of the situation, the existing plaques and the precedent that would be set, the Council suggested that a plaque in a container similar to Mr Hardy's would be more appropriate. Clerk to contact the gentleman and propose this option and suggest contacting the caretaker of the village hall.

8. Dog waste bags

Having counted the remaining boxes and calculated the strips required, Cllr A Sadler proposed purchasing 30 boxes of dog waste bags. Seconded by Cllr Dewar, all in favour.

9. Dog waste bins

Cllr A Sadler reported that he had inspected the bins near the allotments and on Brightlingsea Road more closely and they can be left as they are for the time being. Also, potentially

10. Additional storage

Cllr Dewar explained that the storage container at the allotment site is full and he would like to suggest that the Council look into purchasing an additional storage facility to be placed on

Chapel Lane playing field. If the Council agreed that it was feasible, he would look into it further. Cllr A Sadler detailed prices (including VAT) that he had obtained, explaining the option of an additional roof coating to reduce condensation. Portable Space, who supplied the existing container has an 8ft x 8ft container costing £3,008.40, Qube Containers comparable products start at £2,895.00 and Containers Direct have an 8ft x 8ft for £3,234.00. Cllr A Sadler proposed purchasing a container from Portable Space, seconded by Cllr Krinks. All in favour. *Clerk to add an item to the April agenda to discuss the position of the container.*

11. Chapel Lane playing field trees

Cllr A Sadler provided the Council with the quotations that he had received. They decided on the price from Ian Allston Tree Surgery for £1,800 and agreed to add on work to the oak tree by the children's roundabout. Proposed by Cllr A Sadler, seconded by Cllr S Parks. All in favour.

12. Chapel Lane playing field

a) Cllr A Sadler noted that metal nets for the basketball hoop are all about £15. It was proposed by Cllr Krinks to purchase one, seconded by Cllr Dewar. All in favour.

b) Cllr A Sadler reported that the Playground Inspector had explained the need for goals to be weighed down to prevent them falling forward. Weights can be purchased from the supplier for £79.00. Cllr Dewar proposed the purchase, seconded by Cllr S Parks. All in favour.

c) Cllr A Sadler explained that he had approached the owner of Glebe Farm who had offered to roll the whole of Chapel Lane playing field. Cllr Krinks will purchase the required grass seed.

d) Cllr A Sadler suggested rewording the donations sign for the gym equipment to take into account the recent additional pieces. He also noted that a sign needs to be made up stating that the gym equipment must be used as intended for insurance purposes. The old donations sign has not weathered well and the RFO suggested that the new sign could go on the same post as the new sign for the gym equipment. The signs should be made of aluminum. It was discussed that a sign at the entrance was also needed, around 600mm wide by 900mm tall. Proposed by Cllr A Sadler, seconded by Cllr Krinks. All in favour.

13. Internal Auditor

Cllr A Sadler proposed using Heelis & Lodge, seconded by Cllr Krinks. All in favour.

14. Internal Controls

It was agreed that the current system is working and no changes are needed.

15. Accounts

Payments for approval and signatures at meeting on 1st March 2023

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Payment Details
300294	Elizabeth Crook	£412.68	Clerk wages, accom. & expenses
300295	Katherine Lott	£147.08	RFO wages & accom.
300296	HMRC	£84.00	Quarterly tax payment
300297	Creative Play	£94,075.19	New play & gym equipment
300298	Broxap Ltd	£3,019.20	Four new benches for playing field
300299	Bellet Ltd	£468.90	Lawn mower & strimmer service

Cheques written	BACS	Direct Debits	Receipts
£98,207.05	£0	£18.00	£94,075.20

Balance of accounts with Unity Trust = £131,259.33

16. Reports from Amenities Representatives

Allotments	Plot 3 has removed the tyres and membrane and placed them by the storage container as requested. Cllr Dewar noted an issue with a tree that is on the boundary behind plot 23 but understood to be on Council land. He will obtain a quotation from Landscape Services for its removal.
Playing Field	No report.
Tennis Court	Cllr G Parks will start weed spraying this month.
Footpaths	No report.
Tree Warden	No report
Hazel Close Open Space	No report

17. Clerk's report

St Helena Hospice sent through details of their new charity shop located in Old Road, Clacton.

Nomination forms have been received from the TDC elections team. The deadline to hand them in is 4pm on 4th April. Cllr G Parks asked about the election process. The RFO gave a brief explanation of the upcoming timeline, including the need to delay the May meeting.

An invitation was received from CVST for their 50th anniversary party.

No further information has been received about the VAS licence application.

A resident contacted the Council about a vacant allotment plot, as no plots are available, he is the first name on the waiting list.

The new benches are due to be delivered on Thursday 2nd March 2023.

An email was received after the agenda had been set from the Open Space Officer at TDC about the annual Chapel Lane playing field inspection. The cost will be £54.95 and a response is required by 10th March. The Council agreed in principle. *To be added to next agenda.*

18. Councillor's reports

Cllr Dewar has been approached by Paul Gaffney from Cottage Landscapes and asked that the Council keep him in mind for any landscaping work. Cottage Landscapes already carry out the grass maintenance for Frating Parish Council and could potentially offer a reduced rate in the future if both councils had the work carried out at the same time.

Cllr A Sadler mentioned that the tree in Chapel Lane playing field by the Chapel will be dealt with in the next phase of tree work later in the year.

Cllr A Sadler mentioned that the memorial bench on HCOOS is in need of some attention.

Cllr Krinks will deal with this. S.

Date of next meeting 4th April 2023

Closure. There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:43pm

SIGNED



Date

S/4/23