

MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

08th September 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: Tim Nichols, Andy Spurr, Alex Keeling, Neil Walton, Mark Cole

1.1 Apologies for absence

Anthony Lawrinson, Charlotte Moore

1.2 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

None

1.3 To agree minutes of the meeting dated 11th August 2008

Agreed and signed

1.4 1.4.1 Parking on the Green

Chandler Ray has written saying that they need Statutory Declarations from villagers who are or have been councillors and have a long association with the village. When they have received these they can go ahead with the registering of the greens. Chandler Ray has been contacted and has told us their charges so far.

Action: Sue Reeder

1.4.2 Ken Horne of Highways has visited the village to look at areas of concern. The Parish Gang has been to the village again to carry out repairs. Areas of the Green were made good by Highways only to be spoilt again by inconsiderate drivers. We have been advised by Bucks County Council that we may not need full quality status to be able to carry out some repairs ourselves as long as we satisfy certain criteria. The subject could not be discussed at the meeting and is to be put on the next agenda for discussion and any action required at the September meeting.

Action: Anthony Lawrinson

1.5 Planning

08/01972/APP Rose Cottage Nash Road - Two storey rear extension and single storey side garage - No comment

08/01917/ALB Langmead Bridge Street - Paint exterior of red brick extension white - No comment

08/01795/APP Spindles Bridge Street - Two storeys side extension - No comment

08/02013/AOP Land to SW of 5 Coomb Cottages Padbury Road - Erection of 1 dwelling - Permission for AOP supported, parish council concerned regarding the height of the building and the effect on cottages opposite, recommend height of two storeys maximum

08/01998/AOP Land to NE of 5 Coomb Cottages Padbury Road - Erection of one dwelling - Comment as above

08/01969/APP Meadow Valley Farm - Demolition of existing house, erection of two storeys dwelling and widening of existing access - No comment

1.6 Finances

1.6.1 Monthly income/outgoing report approved by councillors

1.6.2 Monthly bank reconciliation approved by all councillors

1.6.3 The following cheques were approved and signed with the appropriate powers considered

201	e.on	Street Light Maintenance	168.74	PCA 1957 s3(1)
202	Mazars	External Audit	158.62	

203 Mrs S Reeder Salary 128.64 LGA 1972 s112

01.09.08 DD Anglian Water 7.00

01.09.08 DD E.on 30.00

1.7 Councillors Issues

- 1.7.1 In the long term we may be eligible for a grant to grasscrete the grassed area outside the village hall. It was resolved that we are to find out whether a grant is available (Action: Anthony Lawrinson).
The issues in Back Street such as parking and traffic are still to be reviewed and discussed (Action: Andy Spurr/Neil Walton).

Damage has been caused to verges at Lower End by contractors; they are to be asked not to park on verges (Action: Anthony Lawrinson).
We may request that as a condition of planning permission any damage caused to verges are to be made good.

Action: As Above

- 1.7.2 Alex Keeling met with the police when the subject of travellers was discussed. Anyone who has travellers on their land should contact the police who are compiling a database for reference. In future the police will be able to act quickly to remove travellers with an s61 order.
A further meeting has been arranged for 16th September in the village hall when the subject can be discussed again.

Action: Alex Keeling

- 1.7.3 Affordable Housing Approaching Landowners: We have so far been unable to contact the landowner of site 4 but will continue trying. Jean Fox has been contacted and will approach the landowners of the remaining potential sites.

Action Andy Spurr/Alex Keeling

- 1.7.4 Blocked Streams: Andy Spurr is to walk Charlotte Moore's field to check whether there are any blockages. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to riparian owners every twelve months reminding them of their responsibilities and liabilities and that a letter is to be sent to Bucks CC regarding the silt blocking the drain in High Street opposite the school. It was agreed that a letter is to be sent to Bucks Highways asking them to investigate culverts in High Street which may be blocked (Action: Anthony Lawrinson) and to see whether any money is available to employ a consultant who would identify any problems and who would refer back to the Water Company and Bucks CC with any issues. The owners of New Inn and Sturdy Cottage are to be contacted regarding the blocked stream in High Street.

Action: As Above

- 1.7.5 It was decided that the quotes for ornamental railings in the village were too high and we were to look into the possibility of obtaining a grant. Some councils employ people in a commission based role to look into all grants available to councils. It was agreed that we should investigate the availability of any grants for parish councils and that Anthony should be contacted for any available details.

- 1.7.6 The Community Sustainable Energy Programme: A consultant has been engaged who will provide us with options and quotes on sustainable energy. We will then be able to apply for a feasibility study grant. It was agreed that street lights could be replaced with solar energy footpath

lighting - 25 - 30 altogether, to be installed at locations including the village green and the school.

Action: Neil Walton

- 1.7.7 Highways have been informed about the blocked drains in High Street. We also need to inform them about the blocked drains in Lower End and Chapel Lane.

Action: Anthony Lawrinson

- 1.7.8 Village Magazine: A draft magazine will be presented at the October meeting. (Action: Mark Cole)

There is a Community Chest fund which grants up to £1,000 for small projects, it was decided to apply for a grant to fund the cost of producing of a magazine. (Action: Anthony Lawrinson).

Action: As Above

- 1.7.9 Partly Built House in High Street: No more information has been found.

Action: Neil Walton

- 1.7.10 Agreed: That the unmetered electricity supply agreement from E.on is to be signed and returned.

Action: Sue Reeder

- 1.7.11 A welcome letter to all new residents is to be drafted for approval at the October meeting.

Action: Tim Nichols

- 1.7.12 We have been asked to consider the purchase of a container for the duck food to prevent vermin from getting to it. It was agreed that we will purchase a strong plastic container for storing the duck food. The legislation used for the expenditure will be the Local Government Act 1972 s137.

Action: Andy Spurr

- 1.7.13 Criteria for Gaining Approval to Take on Services: The criteria were noted and apart from one it was found that the parish council met them. It was agreed that BALC should be contacted regarding the clerk's experience.

Action: Sue Reeder

- 1.7.14 All regulatory documents - Risk Register, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and the Code of Conduct were revised to take into account recent legislation, approved and adopted by the council.

- 1.7.15 Sports Field Agreement: This is to be shown to the cricket club and discussed at the October meeting.

Action: Andy Spurr

- 1.7.16 Cricket balls entering nearby properties: It was agreed that we will contact BALC to ask what the official position is and whether the parish council have any responsibility. We will also inform the owners of the property which have had cricket balls entering their garden that we have contacted BALC.

Action: Sue Reeder

- 1.7.17 Railings at bridge near village hall: It was agreed that the white railings should be painted black. We decided at a previous meeting that we should seek grants to replace the existing railings at other locations in the village.

Action: To be agreed

1.7.18 Future Closures of A421/A422: Plans are in place to divert traffic via Great Horwood when there is an accident on the A421/A422. We are concerned that traffic officers may not be aware of the diversion route and will divert traffic through Thornborough. The issue is to be raised at the Police Advisory meeting.

Action: Alex Keeling

1.7.19 Erecting a shed on allotment nine: It was agreed that the allotment holder can erect a small shed on allotment nine.

Action: Sue Reeder

1.7.20 Overgrown vegetation: It was agreed that we will inform Highways of overgrown vegetation obscuring road signs on the Leckampstead Road.

Action: Sue Reeder

1.7.21 Grants for Play Areas: It was resolved that we should apply for funding for cricket coaching for youngsters and the purchase of cricket nets.

Action: Sue Reeder

1.7.22 Grass Cutting Responsibilities: The parish council is not sure whose responsibility it is to cut the grassed area in High Street outside Swandon and the Pound. It was agreed that we will ask Cartwright's to cut the area this time and will contact Bucks Highways to find out who is responsible for that area for future grass cutting.

Action: Andy Spurr/Sue Reeder

1.8 Correspondence

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm