

## **MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

**12th October 2009 at 7.30pm**

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

**Public:** Mr Garbe, Mr Hart, Mr Payne

**1.1 Apologies for absence**

Anthony Lawrinson, Charlotte Moore

**1.2 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda**

None

**1.3 Public Participation:**

Mr Payne raised the subject of affordable housing asking when and where the houses would be built. We replied that we do not know when the houses will be built but that the site will be adjacent to the playground in Nash Road. We said that there will be a consultation day after the plans are approved when villagers will be invited to come along. The council will ask that preference can be given to local workmen where possible when the houses are being built.

Mr Payne also raised the subject of the speed limit in Coombs which is in Area 12 and was informed of any proposed speed limit changes.

Mr Garbe and Mr Hart of the Village Hall Trust spoke of the Trust's role. It is a charitable trust and is responsible for letting the hall, cleaning, maintenance and insurance. Its mission is to keep the hall open to rent out to villagers. It has had problems finding the funds to cover all expenses in the last few years and is seeking long term support in the form of grants from the parish council. The parish council wants to see the Trust's account balance, details of its accounting system and to know what can be done to improve utilisation of the hall.

It was resolved that the subject is to go onto next month's agenda for debate and resolution at that meeting.

The members of the public then left the meeting.

**1.4 To agree minutes of the meeting dated 14th September 2009**

Agreed and signed

**1.5 1.5.1 Ownership of the Greens**

The documentation for our statutory declaration should be with us by the end of the week. The Registration application can then be submitted to Land Registry.

Registration is expected to take about five weeks once Land Registry has the papers; costs are currently £1,100.00 + VAT with another £200.00 approximately to be added.

It was resolved that we will ask Chandler Ray whether we need to insure the Greens, once registered, against Public Liability.

We are still awaiting any progress on the above.

**Action: Tim Nichols**

**1.5.2.** An audit of repairs is still to be put together to give to Highways.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

## 1.6 Planning

09/01609/AOP - The Lone Tree PH, Bletchley Road - Refurbishment, alterations and extensions of existing pub and restaurant to form 12 new hotel bedrooms and formation of new access - Comments: From a safety point of view the planned new access should be reviewed; increased traffic coming out onto the road to Thornborough.

## 1.7 Finances

**1.7.1** Monthly income/outgoing report approved by councillors

**1.7.2** Monthly bank reconciliation approved by all councillors

**1.7.3** It was resolved that the council will pay Alex Keeling's travelling expenses to the Aylesbury Vale Transport Symposium

**1.7.4** The clerk's salary rise backdated to April 1st and rise to SCP17 on the pay scale was approved

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

256	E.on	Street Light	24.34	PCA 1957 s3
257	K Warner	Duck Food	12.60	
258	AVDC	Dog Bin Emptying	348.04	Litter Act 1983 s5 and s6
259	S Reeder	Salary	151.22	LGA 1972 s112

01.10.09 DD Anglian Water 44.00

01.10.09 DD E.on 21.00

## 1.8 Councillors Issues

**1.8.1 Grasscreting:** We still need to obtain the final quotation of one of the tenders.

It was resolved that we will spend a maximum of £4,000 on repair of the verges and grasscreting the Dole Tree and outside the village hall.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

**1.8.2 Affordable Housing:** At the last meeting the council learnt that draft layouts have been submitted to AVDC planning, that when they are happy the plans will be sent to the parish council. Comments from us or the landowner will then be taken into consideration where possible. A village consultation day will be arranged when villagers will be invited to come along. Members of the Housing Association, parish council and the architect will be on hand to answer questions. There has been no further development.

**1.8.3 Culvert at bridge in Bridge Street:** Beryl Kemplen of AVDC has been in touch with us and we will contact her again.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

**1.8.4 Village Post Office:** Funding for the post office is still to be resolved.

**1.8.5 Footpath from post box to pond:** No-one has come forward with an offer of storage space for community payback workers' tools. The purchase of a tool shed as storage with a key controlled entrance that the workers could open themselves was suggested. It was resolved that the sports

clubs would be asked whether the sports pavilion which has toilets and coffee/tea making facilities could be used for storage.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

- 1.8.6 **Tourist sign for The Two Brewers:** This is still in the process of application. The parish council has agreed to part fund the cost of the sign.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

- 1.8.7 **Light at Lower End:** We have asked E.on if the light at Lower End could have a lower wattage bulb and have been told that it is not normally possible to just change the bulb and that a complete change of fitting would be needed. There is a version of the lantern which is half as bright and they will let us know how much this will be when they have the costing.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

- 1.8.8 **Micro Grant Application for Cricket Nets:** The Community Chest Micro Grant for the purchase of cricket nets has been applied for and we are awaiting approval.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

- 1.8.9 **Skate Ramps at Playing Field:** As there has been no opposition to the removal of the skate ramps at the playing field, it was resolved that they will be removed and adapted to be used as part of the new cricket nets.

- 1.8.10 **Memorial Bench and Tree:** The placing of a memorial bench on the Green, by Mr and Mrs Allen, is under way.

The former resident who has kindly offered to purchase a new tree for the green has ordered a Mulberry Tree which will be dispatched to us for planting.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

- 1.8.11 **The Lone Tree:** A planning application has been received; the matter was discussed and resolved in 1.6

**Action: Sue Reeder**

- 1.8.12 **Rural Policing:** The precept for police services has been increased but some parishes have had their full-time officer cover removed and replaced by a part-time officer. We resolved to write to Thames Valley Police about the matter.

**Action: Alex Keeling**

- 1.8.13 **Grant Request from Village Hall Committee:** Discussed during the public participation session.

**Action: Tim Nichols**

- 1.8.14 **Street Lights:** It was resolved at a past meeting that when funds allow and electricity undergrounding works are completed that footpath lighting would be purchased. In the meantime we will look at various street lighting brochures.

- 1.8.15 **Reserves:** It was resolved that the discussion on what to spend the council's reserves be deferred to the November meeting.

- 1.8.16 **Sports Pavilion:** The sports pavilion has been broken into leaving the entry doors insecure. They will need repairing or replacing. It was resolved that a quotation for the work required will be obtained.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

**1.9 Correspondence**

Matters Arising

Police letter; anti-social behaviour

Posters re Trick or Treat - Halloween

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm