

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING

Monday 11th February 2013 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. Mark Cole (Chair), Cllr Mary Taylor, Cllr. Charlotte Moore, Cllr. Andy Spurr, Cllr. Melanie Staff, Cllr. Ray Goodger, Maggie Beach (Clerk)

Public: 7 members of the public were present

1	Apologies: Cllr Rupert Bursell,	
2	<p>Public Participation session: Ms Conway-Crapp updated on the proposed development at Coombs Farm and demolition of the heritage buildings. TPC has sent a letter in expressing our opposition to the demolition of these buildings. A discussion on heritage buildings and features and how to preserve them followed. This will also be addressed on a future agenda. Thornborough Community Woodland was also raised, especially the possibility of asbestos and the septic tank at the depot.</p>	Clerk to action.
3	Declaration of interest in items on the agenda – None	
4	Minutes of the meeting of 14th January 2013- Agreed	
5	<p>Review of Action Points Item 2 Thornborough Community Woodland Item 7 Public liability for TPC owned trees Item 8 Greens – Byelaws Item 9 Road issues Item 9 Street lighting - all on agenda Item 10 Broadband in Thornborough update – TPC have received a February edition of the Connected Counties Newsletter updating BCC progress. BCC are asking for bids for providing an upgraded service. Broadband suppliers are expected to submit bids in April, which will detail their approach to delivering enhanced broadband to over 115,000 premises in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. Contracts will be awarded in May with works starting this summer and continuing until 2015. There was some discussion about village networks but these are costly. Cllr MC noted that Broadband provision is on the March agenda of the LAF Item 13 Thornborough Parish Website – new policy on advertising Discussed and agreed with the <i>Thornborough News</i> editor Item 14 Dog Waste Collections - on agenda Item 15 Planning issues on agenda Item 16d Finances– Precept request sent to AVDC for amount agreed - £16,162.94 Item 18 A.O.B. Foster Carers item sent to for '<i>Thornborough News</i>' December 2012 Mtg. Item 13 Reedmace and stream – Not yet actioned. Cllr AS says will happen as soon as the weather permits</p>	
6	<p>Street Lighting - update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk has heard that some residents of Thornhill are unhappy with the current lighting situation. A report detailing the history and current situation with regards to the number and placing of the street lights has been circulated. TPC felt that as they had had no direct representation from Thornhill residents at the meeting no action will be taken to increase the current number of lights • The 3 lights currently not working (Bridge Street, Church Lane and the bottom of Nash Road) have all been reported again by the Clerk and E- 	

	<p>on has assured her that they will be repaired this month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk has checked Thornhill. All 4 lights on the road at the bottom are on, only two should be on. There are 3 lights on the older road, but only 2 are currently on. She has reported this to E-on who will sort out lights according to the agreed schedule. • E-on confirms that updating of the lights will be done this month. 	
7	<p>Preservation of historic buildings in the parish As discussed earlier, this is to go on the April agenda and Mrs Claire Conway-Crapp has been asked to address the meeting on the preservation of historic buildings in the parish. Recent concerns have been the historic buildings at Coombs Farm and the Lone Tree. Clerk will confirm TPC's interest with AVDC Councillors, Corry Cashman and Judy Brandis and bring these two properties to their notice.</p>	Clerk to action.
8	<p>Electoral Review of Aylesbury Vale Noted but as it will not affect Thornborough no comment is needed.</p>	
9	<p>Thornborough Community Woodland</p> <p>i. Update The Clerk has contacted Mike Walker at BCC about the agreement. The legal documents are currently with BCC's legal team. The Clerk has also contacted Julie Carey at BCC for further information on the wish list and the management plan. The Management plan is currently being drawn up and will be ready by the beginning of April. Further to the Public Participation discussion on the depot earlier the Clerk will contact Julie Carey about the issues of asbestos and the septic tank. The Clerk will also research the issue of rates to pay on the property. TPC also heard ideas about a heritage orchard and guided walks from Mrs. Claire Conway-Crapp.</p> <p>ii. Funding As several Councillors had been absent Cllr MC reported on the success of the discussion with Councillors from Buckingham Town Council and Padbury Parish Council at our last meeting. Cllrs MT and AS have prepared a bid for £3,000 to the Greenspaces Transition Fund at Buckinghamshire Community Foundation which has been submitted.</p> <p>iii. School Involvement The Clerk has had an e-mail from the school which has used the woodland and especially the quarry and lime kilns as educational topics in the past stating that they would like to continue to be involved with the woodland. TPC are very happy for this to happen.</p>	<p>Clerk to contact Julie Carey re depot and issue of asbestos, also septic tank. Clerk to research rates to pay on depot.</p> <p>Clerk to respond</p>
10	<p>Public liability for TPC owned trees The Clerk presented a report on this issue to the council. Agreed that Cllr MC would approach Dennis King to act as TPC's tree inspector on a consultancy basis. We still need a tree audit so we know what we have. Cllr AS reported that there are a couple of trees at Thornborough Community Woodland that may be a concern.</p>	Cllr.MC to discuss with Dennis King.
11	<p>Greens</p> <p>i. Bye-laws – Update The Clerk has had a meeting with Diana Davis of Chandler Ray. It would be very costly to take the byelaws further through a solicitor and she advised that we do this part of the process ourselves. Agreed that this would be something that Cllr RB would be able to do with his expertise. Cllrs MT and AS confirmed that Cllr RB has said he is prepared to take this forward.</p> <p>ii. Grass-creting TPC have permission to grass-crete a piece of the Green opposite The Two Brewers. Cllr AS suggested that it was now time to do this work as the Green has become very muddy in this particular place. Cllr AS will ask Graham Smith for a quote for the work. It was thought that concrete blocks would be more durable and allow the grass to grow better than the plastic</p>	<p>Clerk to ask Cllr RB to take making the byelaws statutory forward</p> <p>Cllr AS to get a quote for the work.</p>

	blocks used outside the school. Agreed to ask for concrete grass-creting rather than plastic.	
12	<p>Road issues: updates and road closures</p> <p>i. Verges There are issues with several verges throughout the parish: - verge opposite Coomb Farm is being churned up by lorries turning into the farm. Clerk to contact BCC (the owners) about this. - verge opposite Colmar Grange is being churned up by tractor when it parks to deliver hay to the sheep there. Clerk to contact farmer about this - verge opposite the house in Chapel Lane currently being refurbished is being eroded by the builders parking vans and lorries. Clerk to contact current owner about this. - There is snowberry and leylandii encroaching on the High Street as it turns the corner to go up to the Lone Tree. Clerk to contact BCC who are responsible.</p> <p>ii. Gritting There was a letter from a Thornborough resident in the Buckingham Advertiser complaining about no gritting in Thornborough. TPC noted however there have been gritting lorries through the village gritting on several occasions recently.</p> <p>iii. Leckhampstead Road, Flood Depth Indicator. This has been agreed by TfB but not yet installed. Clerk will follow up. Leckhampstead PC. has been contacted and are happy for this to go ahead.</p> <p>iv. Salt bins - update This has not yet been moved but will be done as soon as possible.</p> <p>v. Road Closures Cllr MC reported that he had heard that the B4083 will be closed between Great Horwood and Winslow for bridge repairs with an 8 mile diversion that takes in the Lone Tree junction (a difficult junction at the best of times) in the parish of Thornborough from 4th March 2013. TPC has had no official notification of this closure although it affects us as a neighbouring parish through which the diversion will be routed. Clerk to contact Road Closures for confirmation and details of this road closure, also to ask why we haven't been sent notification of this closure?</p> <p>vi. Flooding at the Nash End BCC Allotments and TfB are still looking into whose responsibility it is to clear the ditch beside the allotment field.</p> <p>vii. Potholes There are several bad potholes in Bridge Street. Also the road has become very muddy. The Clerk has reported this to TfB. Cllr MC drew TPC's attention to the potholes news item in the Buckingham Advertiser.</p>	<p>Clerk to take action on all verge issues</p> <p>Clerk to chase up.</p> <p>Clerk to ask Road Closures for confirmation and details also no notification has been sent to us</p> <p>Clerk to chase up again</p>
13	<p>Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group -update Minutes of the last meeting are available. Noted</p>	
14	<p>Nash Road Children's Playground Clerk has received an e-mail complaining about the state of the Playground and asking about the possibility of an upgrade. The missing swing is about to be replaced. Agreed Clerk should respond to the letter explaining that currently we have not budgeted for further additions to the playground and it is aimed at under 5s, so the equipment level is adequate for their abilities.</p>	<p>Clerk to respond to e-mail as agreed.</p>
15	<p>Dog Waste Collections - update After receiving a quote from the firm who used to be contracted by AVDC to collect dog waste TPC has received a much lower quote from AVDC to continue the service. As it is so much lower than previously, agreed that the Clerk will check the figures and level of service with AVDC but this seems like the better option. If it is the same level of service, TPC will go with AVDC. Proposed Cllr MS, seconded Cllr CM agreed unanimously.</p>	<p>Clerk to check the figures and level of service with AVDC</p>
16	<p>The Jubilee Bench – Cllr RG Cllr RG described the bench that Lee Vernon is working on. He needs some</p>	<p>Clerk to</p>

	money up front for materials. Proposed Cllr AS, seconded Cllr CM - Lee Vernon be given £400 on account.	deliver cheque
17	Easter and summer Play Around the Parishes Last year the 2 sessions we booked were very successful. Proposed Cllr CM, seconded Cllr AS that we ask for two sessions of 2 hours each again for the summer holidays. Agreed unanimously	Clerk to book sessions
18	North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium – report Cllr MC Noted. Attached as Appendix 1	
19	Planning: a) <u>Ref. 13/00044/ATC</u> Cherry Trees, High Street, Thornborough, MK18 2DF Removal of two conifers and 20% crown reduction to one cherry tree. Noted that this application had been sent to Halton PC by AVDC planning who had sent it on to us but we have received it after the date for comments. SUPPORTED b) <u>Ref 13/00066/ALB</u> Home Farm House Chapel Lane Thornborough MK18 2DJ Erection of Limestone wall – Retrospective SUPPORTED c) Cash incentives for parishes - noted d) Buckingham Town Council -Planning for future of town. Community Centre 22 Feb 7.00pm noted e) Local Planning Liaison Group Mtg 13 th February New County Offices, Aylesbury. This is the new date for the cancelled meeting. No Councillors can attend, but the agenda items are not specifically relevant to Thornborough f) Bulletins and other updates - <u>Ref. 12/02748/AGN</u> Cloverick Moor, Clerk has heard from AVDC that planning sent 3 separate letters about the appeal to TPC but we did not receive them. Clerk has pointed out that we have experience of planning information being sent to the wrong parish e.g. <u>13/00044/ATC</u> Cherry Trees, High Street. As detailed above. Bulletins noted.	Clerk to send responses to AVDC
20	Finances: a) Bank Reconciliations – January 2013. Current Account £21,047,64 Reserve Account £18,840,44 Current liabilities:£1,478.80 Total £38,409.28 February 2013 Current Account £19,075,49 Reserve Account £18,840,44 Current liabilities:£87.60 Total £37,828.33 b) Payments Cheques E-on (unmetered supplies) £23.68 Cheque No. 441 E-on Supply and install 3 lights £3693.60 Cheque No 442 Clerk’s Salary cheques – February £350.27 Cheque No 443 HMRC - Clerk’s Income Tax £87.40 Cheque No 444 (PAYE Ref. 475/SA75351 Accounts office Ref. 475PE00369213) Lee Vernon for Jubilee Bench £400.00 Cheque No 445 Buck. Playing Fields Assoc. £20.00 Cheque No 446 Total £4,574.95 Direct Debits E-on (Sports Pavilion supplies) £105.00 Anglian Water still in credit Total £4,679.95 c) Receipts – None d) Buckinghamshire Playing Fields Association request for support	Clerk to raise all cheques

	Request for £10. As we have a long association with the association, proposed Cllr AS, seconded Cllr MS that TPC give £10, agreed unanimously e) Funding available i. New Funding to Revive Rural Communities - noted ii. Reminder - Funding Fair –Tues. 12 th Feb 2013. Cllr MT is attending	
21	A.O.B. , other correspondence and Other Councillor Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KingsAsh Tree Services • The Trusty Spade • Helpful tip for the new year • Latest monthly factsheet – this time on community transport • Gift Aid changes • Thornborough Parish Footpaths letter • Buckinghamshire LINK 19th March 2013 • North Bucks Spring Fair 2013 • Grant support for Lunch Clubs for older people All noted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr MS – bird-scarers currently making a lot of noise pre-dawn. • Cllr AS – reported as an emergency, -a large part of the stream bank on the Sports field has washed away and needs to be rebuilt when possible. • The Anglian water manhole cover just outside the Sports field gate has failed – • The Clerk confirmed that a parish council can take responsibility for a clock. Agreed that TPC will consider taking financial responsibility for repairing the clock as otherwise it will have to be turned off as the wiring is now unsafe. Cllr RG will get quotes for the work and bring to next mtg. 	Clerk to report this to Anglian Water Cllr RG to get quotes for church clock repairs.
22	Date of next meeting; 11th March 2013 at 7.00p.m. The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.	

APPENDIX 1

NORTH BUCKS PARISHES PLANNING CONSORTIUM Winslow, 10 January 2013

I attended the NBPCC, chaired by Cllr Rachel Webb of Stewkley PC.

South East Plan: Main item on the agenda was the South East Plan, which has effectively been revoked as the government's localism initiative comes into effect. The government is replacing it with a new plan, but this has been delayed until the end of March, leaving local authorities in something of a planning vacuum.

Although this does not directly affect Thornborough at this time, there are areas of concern which we should be monitoring. AVDC has before it an application for 2200 new houses at Fleet Marston, which would extend the existing Berryfields development towards Waddesdon along the A41 north of Aylesbury. We were told that AVDC has opposed this as inappropriate, as it would swallow up further countryside; an appeal is to be heard in April.

If the development is refused, then builders would almost certainly look towards the north of the AVDC area to build new housing, in particular Salden Chase between Milton Keynes and Newton Longville. Another developer has already proposed an 1850-home development there, along the A1421 between Bottle Dump Roundabout and Windmill Hill, Bletchley, although the site is not in MK's core planning strategy, and a 5300-home development there was previously thrown out.

The NBPCC was told “Milton Keynes is watching the government before deciding on its local plan from 2015 until 2031, and AVDC is watching Milton Keynes before deciding on its plan. We urge North Bucks parishes to watch such developments closely, or one day they may find that Milton Keynes and Stewkley are joined by housing estates.”

The spectre of the Greenway development between Great Horwood and Winslow was raised again; although an original application for 2000 houses was refused last year, the meeting was warned “this one isn’t going to go away.”

Calvert Incinerator: The controversial Calvert waste incinerator has been given planning permission after a long battle against it. However, environmental certificates have been withdrawn following the discovery of bats and greater-crested newts on the site, and further investigation is needed. There is also an on-going judicial review, and Bucks County Council has said that it will not sign the contract with operator until it is completed.

Wind farms: A proposed wind turbine at Ford, near Aylesbury, has been recommended for refusal by AVDCV because of the environmental impact. But proposals for a four-turbine wind farm at Cowpasture Farm, Mursley has rallied the village; a public meeting to hear the plans was attended by 88 parishioners, 90% of whom were against it. There is already a 10-metre meteorological mast on the site, but the turbines would be 125 metres high (85 metre masts plus 40-metre blades). AVDC does not yet have a policy over wind turbines, and if this application goes in it could become a test case.

East-West Rail: Work on the East-West Rail link reopening the Oxford-Bletchley-Cambridge line is due to start by March 2014, and should be running by 2017. The decision has been taken to electrify it at an additional cost of £130 million, taking the total to £352 million. Winslow Station will be built in a cutting, along with car parking. The link will also mean that travellers can go from Winslow to Heathrow by train.

Winslow: a new 400-pupil ‘non-selective’ secondary school is to be built in Winslow to cope with the increasing school-age population. Currently Winslow children not attending grammar school have to travel to secondary schools in Buckingham or Waddesdon. Winslow Town Council – which “is no longer working with AVDC over growth plans, and is preparing its own Local Development Plan” - is taking over the running of the town’s Youth Club from AVDC, and has £25,000 funding for it over the next five years.

Buckingham: Both ASDA and Sainsbury are making planning applications to open stores in Buckingham, ASDA at the old Focus site, and Sainsbury on the Chandos Cinema site. ASDA will not, however, be bringing fuel to Buckingham, so the town’s extortionate petrol and diesel prices are expected to continue. The meeting was told that the troubled Watersreach housing development behind The White Hart has not yet been given building regulation approval because of the repeated flooding of the 77-apartment block’s underground car park; interestingly, developer Guinness South has denied this in today’s *Buckingham Advertiser* (11 January).

New Homes Bonus: It has been confirmed that the New Homes Bonus (the contribution made by developers for local amenities) will be collected by AVDC, and the expected net bonus offered to parishes on whose patch houses are built will be 12 per cent, the rest being retained by AVDC. Right-To-Buy is expected to part of the government’s localism initiative, offering more social housing for sale to tenants, even though no more is currently being built.

AVDC Communication: Continuing poor communication from AVDC Planning was reported by most parishes present, and I raised its failure to notify us of the Lone Tree appeal result,

which was left to the successful applicant to inform us of two months later. The short 21-day timescale for comments on planning applications – and seven-day tree preservation orders in particular – were cited. We were told that AVDC Planning will generally extend the response period if it has fallen between PC meetings, but if there are problems they should be addressed directly to AVDC Head of Planning John Byrne.

MARK COLE

Chairman, Thornborough Parish Council