

Report on the Annual Meeting of the Parish on Monday 22nd May 2017 in Thornborough Village Hall

The meeting was attended by 16 parishioners, and Cllrs. Stuart Mitchell (Chairman), Andy Spurr, Charlotte Moore and Ray Goodger. Notes taken by Thornborough Parish Council Clerk, Maggie Beach.

1. Apologies received from Cllrs. Melanie Staff, Mary Taylor and Deborah Hosein; BCC Cllr Warren Whyte, AVDC Cllr Sir Billy Stanier, Rev Gussie Walsh and Mark Walsh, Louise Springall, Sue and John Kenyon and Bernard Garbe.
2. The report of the meeting dated 16th May 2016 were accepted as accurate. There were no comments or questions.
3. Maggie Beach, the Clerk, gave a statement of the annual accounts of Thornborough Parish Council for the end of the financial year as follows:
 - i. Current account - £13,839.81
 - ii. Reserve Account - £14,174.84
 - iii. Total Liabilities - £54.78 making a
 - iv. Total - **£27,959.87**
 - v. Total Fixed Assets - £489,290.28

Insurance values – this is what we currently have in our schedule. We do not have street lighting included and although I have included the five new lights (included under fixed assets), I have no figure for the other 17 lights we currently have. At the end of the Financial Year 2016-17 we have: 7 new lights 9 upgraded lights that are currently on at night and a further 6 lights that are not currently used (and haven't been upgraded). There is also a very old light (now obsolete but still working and about to be upgraded) at the Green end of Church Lane. Total lights in all is 23. This is the same situation as last year. Two new lights in the High Street are not included in this financial year but will increase the eventual total to 23.

Full copies of the annual accounts are available from the Clerk on request.

4. **Reports to the Annual Meeting from the following organisations were presented:**
 - Thornborough Parish Council Chairman on the previous year's work in the Council.
 - Thornborough and Coombs Woodlands Enterprise Trust
 - St Mary's Church
 - Thornborough Fund Raisers
 - Thornborough Chapel
 - Thornborough Infant School
 - Village Hall Trust
 - WI

Copies of reports submitted are available on request and on the web site.

5. **Update on Nash Road Playground – from the Playground Working Group Council Members**

Councillors Mary Taylor and Andy Spurr updated the meeting about the WREN grant submission for money for the upgrading of the playground. We are waiting the outcome of the application. We also agreed to earmark £12,000 over the current and next year for improving the Nash Road Playground. A further £5,600 in the reserves being donations from Lark energy of £5,000 as a contribution with regards to their installation of a Solar Farm at Thornborough Grounds and £600 collected by parishioners, both donations specifically for playground and Sports field improvements.

The plans for the upgraded playground were presented to the meeting and explained.

6. Church Clock – Cllr Ray Goodger

Cllr Ray Goodger gave a very interesting presentation on the Church Clock. He covered the history of the clock and its historical links and how it worked. He also showed aerial views around the Church collected by a drone. This led on to the discussion about the sweet chestnut tree on the Green outside the Village Hall, which can be clearly seen to be severely diseased and dying from the aerial view. Thornborough Parish Council has decided that the tree is so diseased and potentially dangerous that sadly it should be re-moved.

7. Thames Valley Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021 and the Victims First website

The Clerk gave an update on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021 and the Victims First website

8. Any other issues Parishioners would like to be discussed to be tabled and discussed:

- **Planning.** Future development in the parish was discussed. The Clerk updated the meeting on the current situation with the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) and its impact on local communities. **Last year** TPC had got Aylesbury Vale District Council to re-categorise Thornborough from a larger settlement in the settlement in the hierarchy document to a smaller settlement, considerably reducing the target number of new houses for the village from between 150-200 to 6. However, the VALP criteria for settlements has been changed. The small, medium and large village categories taking a proportionate amount of new housing have been replaced with a 'sustainable village' concept, sustainable villages will take more housing, but no-one is sure what criteria for a 'sustainable village AVDC will be using. There is currently concern that there will only be 6 weeks of consultation on the newest draft of the VALP
- **Roads and Fly-tipping.** It was noted that the roads generally throughout the parish continue to deteriorate. A resident reported 52 potholes between Nos 6 and 12 Thorbhill. The Clerk explained that potholes can be reported to Transport for Bucks by anyone through their website, as can incidents of fly-tipping which also continue to happen. She will also report these issues if they are reported to her.
- **Street Lighting.** There have been a total of 2 new street lights erected in the village recently to add to the 5 in the last four years.
- **There was a brief discussion about insurance and village organisations sharing insurance.** While agreeing that this could be a profitable idea, as a local authority Thornborough Parish Council has to have its own insurance.

9. Comments on meeting

Parishioner considered that the meeting went well. Thornborough Parish Council thanked Thornborough and Thornton WI members who had provided teas during the meeting which were much appreciated.