

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Tank Yard,
Thorney on Monday 13 July 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor D. J Buddle

Councillors: R Bevington, Mrs. C Fuller, Mrs. S Selby, E. Gee, R.M. Harlock, P. Murphy,
J E G. Bartlett,

PCSO Webber for the item on crime.

0 member of the public. Before the meeting 10 minutes was allowed for public discussion.

1. Apologies and Declaration of Interests

Apologies for absence from W VanDriessche, B A Ogden

Declaration of interests declared at the item number

2. Minutes

The minutes of the previous Meeting held on 8 June (copies of which had previously been circulated to all members) were signed after amendments.

3. Matters arising from minutes.

3.1 Corner Farm Cottage – enforcement officer investigating untidy state and dumping.

3.2 Application from Mrs. Sheldrake to fill vacancy on Thorney Parish Council. There were no other applications. It was proposed by Councillor Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Murphy and unanimously agreed to invite Mrs. Sheldrake to join Thorney Parish Council.

3.3 Letter sent to Mr. Lucken congratulating him on his work in the cemetery.

4. Reports

4.1 Crime report by PCSO Webber. 41 incidents with 11 crimes that included burglaries, criminal damage and arson. The incidents were road related, rowdy behaviour and cause for concern.

Some windows had been broken in Bedford Hall.

Damage to equipment at HQ Forklifts.

Councillor Gee expressed his concern that always at this time of year the countryside seems to be under siege from farm burglaries, particularly of diesel. PCSO Webber to ask if more patrols can be carried out.

Motion to Exclude the Public: It is hereby resolved in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted namely “Concern for a village resident” it is advisable in the public interest that the Public and Press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and they are herewith instructed to withdraw. It was agreed after discussion involving PCSO Webber that Thorney Parish Council will cooperate with local views and the Police.

4.2 Bedford Hall Management Committee – Councillor Fuller – next meeting 23 July.
Survey report received.

Christmas lights on tower – estimates to be obtained by Councillor Fuller. Local businesses and societies to be approached concerning donations.

Sign at entrance to Bedford Hall vandalised.

5. Planning

5.1 Planning Applications outcome

- 09/00473 4 Wisbech Road – satellite dish – approved
- 08/00982 4 Acres Bungalow, Northside – sale of cars and caravan storage – appeal dismissed
- 07/01296 Memorial The Green – application withdrawn
- 09/000033 Park View, Northey Lodge – erection 3 bedroom bungalow – passed
- 08/01365 Two wind turbines French Drove – refused.

5.2 Current Planning Applications

09/00586 Variation condition 11 The Concrete Company, Station Road - no objections in principle but noise may be an issue for local residents. Could a trial period be used to assess noise impact? Challenge not effectively screened. Reverse alarms causing concern early in morning for local residents.

5.3 Community Planning – article to be placed in next village magazine and copy of document on website. The three items to concentrate on were approved at the last meeting and are:- Park sports facilities (being designed for the youth of the village), Bedford Hall interior, footpath extension in Park to children’s play area. Councillor Bevington has written to Mr. Marsden, Peterborough City Council Parks Officer, asking for his views on Thorney Parish Council proposals for the Park.

Councillor Sanders has approached Peterborough City Council Parks and Leisure and they have drawn up a costing schedule for the pavilion upgrade – circulated.

Councillor Bartlett said that other sports organisations should be involved in pavilion refurbishment consultations.

It was agreed that Councillor Sanders should pursue this with Peterborough City Council and sports and social organisations in Thorney.

Councillor Harlock said that Government proposals are that section 106 money should go to the area in which development takes place.

5.4 Wooden garage at 132 Wisbech Road – has planning permission been granted? Councillor Bartlett declared an interest in this item. Councillor Bevington to contact enforcement officer.

5.5 Tap Room – roof deteriorating. Thorney Society in conjunction with Thorney Parish Council (Councillor Bevington) to talk with Mr. Daley

6. Allotments

6.1 Value of land – discussion as to the way forward. Criterion for disposal circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Bartlett and agreed that should the allotment area be included in Peterborough City Council sites specific approval then Thorney Parish Council will obtain a land valuation with a view to disposal. New land will be purchased that will have better access for

allotment holders and the surplus money raised will be used for the benefit of the village.

Councillors Gee and Harlock declared an interest in this item.

6.2 Judges for best kept allotment competition – Councillors Gee and Selby to report back to September meeting.

6.3 Other matters

Tenancy agreement signed for Mr. Erridge (34), Mr. Patman (20)

1. Allotment number 15 withdrawn from tenant. Councillor Harlock to clear
2. There had been some work on numbers 16 - Councillor Harlock to clear
3. 17 and 18 have been cleared by tenant
4. Lock on gate stolen – replacement to be welded to support post.

7. Roads and Footpaths

7.1 Street lighting - units already reported that needed attention

7.2 Update on Shambles Footpaths – work in City centre behind schedule so that York paving not yet released. As soon as it is, and it may be September or October, Peterborough City Council will carry out the reconstruction of the footpaths.

7.3 Update on Causeway Bridge – work still scheduled to be carried out by Peterborough City Council and Councillor Sanders is coordinating finances and arrangements with Paul Green.

7.4 Gravel lorries again travelling along Whittlesey Road in breach of planning consent for reservoir excavation.

7.5 Abbey Place/Church Street – tree obstructing light to nearby property – to be discussed at next Parochial Church Council meeting.

7.6 Hedge at entrance to Doctor's Surgery obstructing footpath

7.7 Crowland Road verge edge markers still not replaced after recent grass cutting.

7.8 Russell Close sign still needs erecting

7.9 Buke Horn Road repair has left the road in a worst state than before the edges were reconstructed.

7.10 Wheelie bins outside 60 and 62 Wisbech Road causing an obstruction.

7.11 Classic Cars, Wisbech Road – complaints again concerning inconsiderate parking, particularly on a Saturday. Vehicles also being washed down on main road.

7.12 Letter from Peterborough City Council concerning parking at the front of the Abbey – suggest placing bollards and signs when Abbey needs the parking space kept clear (for funerals, etc)

7.13 Councillor Harlock made the point that recent road diversions meant more traffic on the side roads that in turn will lead to more road deterioration. He hoped Peterborough City Council would remember this for future maintenance considerations.

8. Burial Board

9. New Power of Wellbeing Act – discussion concerning adoption

The power of well being for a local authority is that they can do anything which they consider is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area.

However, before using the new power a minimum of two-thirds of vacancies on the council must be filled at the last ordinary elections (Thorney has 67% so qualifies), 80% of councillors must be trained in the use of the well-being power, there must be a resolution published of intent as to community engagement

It was proposed by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Selby and unanimously agreed that the power of wellbeing act be adopted to give Thorney Parish Council the opportunity to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social and environmental well-being of our Parish.

10. Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act - implementation of Government's Rural Strategy

The Act is primarily intended to implement key aspects of the Government's Rural Strategy published in July 2004; it also addresses a wider range of issues relating broadly to the natural environment.

The Act established an independent body - Natural England - responsible for conserving, enhancing and managing England's natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations. Natural England brings together the functions of English Nature and certain functions formerly performed by the Countryside Agency and the Rural Development Service (a DEFRA Directorate). Natural England works in close partnership with other organisations and bodies that have a major role in relation to the natural environment, in particular the Environment Agency, the Forestry Commission, English Heritage and local authorities.

From October 2006, Parish Councils have a new duty to conserve biodiversity under Section 40(1) of the NERC Act. This should not be an onerous duty, but an opportunity to protect and enhance the wildlife assets within the Parish. Parish Councils can now spend money on biodiversity, managing their land for the benefit of biodiversity or enacting bylaws to protect it. Parish Councils should consider biodiversity in their responses to planning applications and should set out how they wish to conserve and enhance the wildlife resource of the parish in their Parish Plan.

11. Correspondence/Any Other Business

11.1 Invitation from North Level Drainage Board to attend open day 12 October 2009 – Councillors Fuller, Selby and Murphy wish to attend.

11.2 Request from Thorney Football Club for a donation – referred to minute of 8.5 of March meeting – no loans or donations for this financial year. Mr. Shelton inform of Thorney Parish Council decision.

11.3 Rural Working Group update – next meeting 22 July at Newborough to look at ways to split the housing allocation expected in rural areas between different villages.

11.4 Thorney Park – email from Mr. Shuster. Councillor Sanders spoken to the Parks representative at Peterborough City Council and produced and estimated cost of repairs. He will arrange a site meeting to discuss the way forward with Mr. Shuster, Thorney Football Club Chairman, Chairman Thorney Parish Council and Councillor Bevington (if they are available).

11.5 A resident has raised with the Parish Council the neglected state of many of the backs to the Wisbech Road cottages. Many are overgrown but they also get used as a dumping ground for rubbish (including an abandoned car). Councillor Bevington to contact enforcement officer.

11.6 Household waste site – letter from Mr. Dighton and Peterborough City Council concerning ownership and lease. Chairman to respond.

11.7 Park Gates, Tavistock Close - lock missing. Damaged surface matting in children's area.

11.8 Bus service changes discussed. Route 7 should be extended to include Thorney.

11.9 Rubbish left on bypass roundabouts.

12. Finance

12.1 The following sums had been received:-

<i>From</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Anglia Reg. Coop Soc.	Inter Mr. Page S25	£800.00
EDF	Wayleaves	£43.96
	Grass cutting Fire Station	£100.00
Cambs Fire Service		
Peterborough City Council	Park inspection	£500.00
Anglia Memorials	Memorial Mr. Dolby	£17.00

10.2 The following Cheques were drawn and signed:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
			£56.61
Howsafe	Protective boots Mr. Lucken	001658	
Colemans of Peterborough	Stationery	001659	£185.85
Grounds Maintenance Service	Cut Abbey Lawns	001660	£138.00
Columbaria Company	Memorial Mr. Page	001661	£86.25
Mr. A E Hovell	Software upgrade	001662	£85.95
Mr. A E Hovell	Postage, Travel, telephone	001663	£36.82
ESPO	Paper Shredder	001664	£296.70

The next full meeting will be held on 14 September 2009. The meeting closed at 9.20pm