

At a meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Tank Yard,
Thorney on Monday 9 June 2008 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor D. J Buddle

Councillors: J E G. Bartlett, R Bevington, P. Murphy, R.M. Harlock, C Evans,
M. Amps-Woodward, Ms M Herdman and Ms. S Knight
PCSO Webber

Mr. Heath-Brown, Mr. R Smith Peterborough City Council

11 members of the public present.

Before the meeting 10 minutes was allowed for public discussion.

1. Apologies and Declaration of Interests
Apologies from E. Gee, W VanDriessche

There were declarations of interest from: Councillor Bartlett concerning planning
application 08/00655 and 08/00519 Old Hall Farm French Drove

Councillor Harlock for Integrated Growth Statement (he did not arrive until &.30pm
so as to miss the agenda item)

2. Minutes

The minutes of the previous Meetings held on Monday 12 and 19 May, 2008 (copies of
which had previously been circulated to all members) were signed.

3. Matters arising from minutes.

3.1 Causeway Bridge – Mr. Green will be looking into the suitability of using trief
kerbing to replace the safety barrier and, if favourable, work on a scheme so as to
achieve an estimate for the works. This will then be communicated to Thorney
Parish Council to raise funds if they wish and see if Stuart Mounfield has any
funding to help with the works. If no funding is available the scheme will be
prioritised accordingly along with all the other works awaiting implementation for
structures. This prioritisation is heavily based on safety issues and the lack of
disabled access on the SE Corner will be taken into consideration

4. Visit by Mr. Heath-Brown – Integrated Growth Statement

From a previous meeting it was noted that Councillor Bevington explained that the
IGS recommended 120 new homes for Thorney which would now become a Key
Service Centre (because of the facilities it has – shops, post office, school, surgery,
etc). Peterborough City Council recommends 700 homes split between Eye and
Thorney (340 are already built or have permission to be so). This seems to conflict
with the Community Planning currently being undertaken. Industrial sites in Eye and
Thorney now open to housing development. The school at Thorney has spare
capacity.

Mr. Heath-Brown explained the Local Development framework would be complied
and gave out a leaflet explaining this further.

The IGS has been completed and effort is being given to the Core Strategy. This will
be eventually submitter for Governmental approval.

Peterborough has a policy of growth mainly around the city of Peterborough, but also includes Hampton and Stanground. Other areas will be New Haddon and north of the new A1073 road.

Eye and Thorney will have some growth as key service centres. About 300 more dwellings will be needed between these villages.

Some sites are already known about but other areas will be needed. These will be identified by the Site Specific Allocations.

Key Service centre – the services and facilities afforded in the village are assessed, then ranked. Councillor Buddle explained the demise of various services and facilities in Thorney that had been occurring over recent weeks.

Growth in other villages were discussed – particularly Castor.

Is the 700 proposed homes a fixed upper limit? Mr. Heath-Brown said this was not a control target. Areas of land for development would be controlled via the Site Specific Allocations procedure both for employment and housing. There are no grant offers available for employment development.

Flood risk assessment would be a major consideration when development is considered.

Councillor Bartlett said the amount and rate of growth must be controlled otherwise Thorney could be swamped by rapid development

Councillor Amps-Woodward asked if economic considerations were taken into account and Mr. Heath-Brown said care must be taken not to saturate the market with particular types of property.

Some of the smaller villages would only attract infill development

Councillor Bevington highlighted the Community Planning activity at present being undertaken – Peterborough City Council will listen to local views but do have a Government target to meet. Unlikely compulsory purchase options would be considered in rural areas.

Peterborough City Council can subsidise buses.

Peterborough City Council Core Strategy likely to be put to full Council early 2009
Chairman thanked Mr. Heath-Brown and Mr. R Smith for attending.

5. Planning

5.1 Planning Applications outcome

Planning Applications Passed/Refused/withdrawn/before committee

| | |
|----------|---|
| 08/00275 | Poplar Farm Cottage, Thorney Dyke – replacement dwelling – passed |
| 07/01902 | Rear 46 Park Crescent – outline for bungalow – refused |

5.2 Current Planning Applications

08/00655/FUL For Conversion of Conversion of grain barn to 5 bed dwelling at Old Hall Farm French Drove – no objections but query why only 1 bathroom for 5 bedrooms

08/00519/FUL For Conversion of barn to dwelling at Old Hall Farm French Drove – no objections

08/00707/NAGR For Two replacement agricultural buildings at Grange Farm Green Drove - no objections

08/00642 The Old Laundry and Stables, Abbey Place – conservatory and external repairs – no objections

5.2 Request for Parish Poll concerning Memorial

5.2.1 Likely cost to Thorney Parish Council. A election for office normally costs about £800 but for a “one of” the cost will be considerably more.

5.2.2 Legalities of Poll

LGA 1972, sch 12, para 18 (1-4) outlines the process for requesting a poll, the request must be received prior to the end of the Parish meeting i.e. a subsequent request is invalid. That request MUST include agreement on a question which can be answered in a yes/no format.

For it to be valid, LGA 1972, sch 12, para 15 needs to be invoked, i.e. a parish meeting needs to be requested by six electors. Those requesting a poll will be advised that;

- a) A public meeting needs to be requested
- b) There is no provision for a poll to be requested outside of a meeting
- c) The issue to be discussed must be included on the notice
- d) The poll must be requested at the meeting, and agreed in accordance with the thresholds outlined in the legislation. The meeting must also agree on the wording of the question, and the Chairman is responsible for ensuring that the request is forwarded to the Returning Officer and that the question can be answered in a yes/no format.
- e) The Returning Officer for a parish poll is appointed by the council within which the parish is situated. In Peterborough the Returning Officer is the Chief Executive who is also the person appointed as Returning Officer for city and parish elections.
- f) The Notice of poll has to be published not later than the fifth day before the day of the poll.
Polling is between the hours of 4 pm and 9 pm on the day fixed by the Returning Officer, which shall not be earlier than the fourteenth day nor later than the twenty-fifth day after the day on which the poll was demanded.
There is no provision in connection with parish polls for the issue of poll cards or for postal votes, proxies or postal proxies. Only voting in person is allowed and only local government electors for the parish are entitled to vote.
- g) The cost of the Poll will likely fall on the Parish Council and this will cause an unexpected financial burden on the parish council. Next years’ precept would have to be increased to take account of this spend.
- h) Although the result of a parish poll represents the view of the local electorate, a parish council is not bound by that result.

There is nothing precluding a Parish Meeting being called outside of the March-May window.

At this point the meeting was suspended to allow for public discussion

These above points were discussed with the members of the public present and a question and answer session took place. A long discussion again took place concerning the memorial, its placement, whether or not it should be erected. The Chairman told them it was now upto them to reconsider their position and let Thorney Parish council know if they still wished to go ahead with a Poll.

At this point the meeting was reconvened.

5.3 Other matters

Councillor Bartlett asked for Peterborough City Council to be informed that condition C2 referring to the Gas Lane development stated that a 5m access should be provided but much of Gas Lane was in private ownership.

6. Crime Report

6.1 Police Report. PCSO Webber gave a report of calls to service and a resume' of the more serious incidents

Quarterly Panel meeting agreed to

1. Tackle speeding in the Station Road and Wisbech Road in Thorney.

Also on the Crowland Road in Eye.

2. Act upon the Wisbech Road/Gas Lane anti social behaviour problems.

3. Combat vehicle crime in Eye and Thorney.

Anti-social behaviour in Wisbech Road was discussed – alcohol abuse by some youngsters in the village highlighted .

Control of dogs discussed

Councillor Knight explained the recent meeting she had with Sgt. Bradshaw concerning perception that Thorney had with the Local Police service

7. Allotments

7.1 Feedback from inspection – much better than in previous years. Suggestion that units 13 and 14 be levelled and hard cored for vehicle parking and turning
Smiley Faces asked to keep their allotment in good order.

7.2 Review of rents – after discussion it was proposed by Councillor Harlock, seconded by Councillor Bevington and unanimously agreed that the allotment rent should go up to £20.00 for the renewal period 2008/2009 and then be £30.00 for the period 2009/2010.

8. Roads and Footpaths

8.1 Street lighting – units already reported that needed attention.

8.2 Footpath outside Cheriton House. Request put to Councillor Sanders for his Community contribution of footpaths to be put to maintaining this path. He will liaise with Peterborough City Council but it is likely that Thorney Parish Council will have to contribute to the costs associated with the whole project. Richard Ewing to be contacted concerning maintenance and Councillor Bevington to find out maintenance procedures for York Stone.

8.3 Other matters

Gullies blocked in Church Street (Abbey Close end), Wisbech Road at Park entrance and Station Road near crossroads. Also flooding again junction Woburn Drive and Wisbech road after last heavy rain.

Councillor Harlock to continue to liaise with the Highways Authority concerning outstanding by-pass issues.

9. Burial Board

9.1 Feedback from inspection – overall impression good. Map of drainage system new produced. Councillor Gee to ask NLIDB to install concrete outlet from cemetery drain into dyke to make it less susceptible to blockage.

Letter of thanks to NLIDB for their actions when problem of grave flooding was noticed also asking if they can install a concrete outlet header to the discharge drain.

9.2 Other matters

New agreement signed with Singh Skips for bin at Cemetery
Cemetery gates to be locked

10. Household Recycling Centre - update

It was proposed by Councillor Amps-Woodward, seconded by Councillor Evans and unanimously agreed that all the Thorney Parish Council equipment in the centre should be cleared

11. Vacancy on Parish Council

Notices displayed advertising vacancy. Two applications so far.

12 Correspondence/Any Other Business

12.1 Post Office Closures – briefing Monday 14th July at the Town Hall

12.2 Department of Transport leaflet “How to use a Puffin Crossing Safely”

12.3 Copy letter from residents to Stagecoach asking for bus to Spalding

12.4 Peterborough Green Festival 2008 poster displayed

12.5 Councillor Sanders has some Community Fund money available – list of priorities to be produced and passed to Councillor Sanders

12.6 Councillor Evans explained that no Parish Council liaison meeting had occurred since last January – net one 23 July.

12.7 CALC assembly report given

12.8 Report on Standard committee given

12.9 Wren fund (Hazel Williams) – fund available for Church repairs and other purposes

12.10 St. Marys Close and Sandpit Road – overhanging branches across footpath

12.11 Crass cutting left on footpath between Mill Garage and the roundabout

12.12 Councillor Harlock to remove old village sign base

12.13 Closure of local shops discussed. Committee to be formed to look into possible solution

12.14 Churchyard still to be cut

12.15 Meeting concerning Core Strategy 23 June. Community Planning 40 June

12.16 Teasers Garage – Enforcement Officer to be asked to look into parking and increased number of vehicles for sale

12.17 Councillor Amps Woodward to look into future bus services.

13 Finance

13.1 Request for donation Thorney Football Club. Following the request for assistance from the Thorney Football Club it was proposed by Councillor Harlock, seconded by Councillor Herdman and unanimously agreed that a grant of £600.00 should be made to encourage this sporting facility. (The Local Government Act 1976 Section 19 to provide such recreational facilities as it thinks fit and under Section 19(3) (a) a Parish Council may contribute by way of grant or loan towards the expenses incurred by any voluntary organization in providing these recreational facilities).

The following sums had been received:-

| <i>From</i> | <i>Reason</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| J G Cross | Memorial Mrs Davidson | £17.00 |
| Cambs Fire Service | Grass cut Fire Station | £100.00 |
| Yorkshire Bank | Interest | £1.70 |
| EDF Energy | Wayleaves | £42.22 |
| Anglia Reg Coop | Memorial Mr. Dunthorne | £15.00 |
| Peterborough City Council | Park Inspection | £500.00 |

The following Cheques were drawn and signed:-

| <u>Payee</u> | <u>Reason</u> | <u>Cheque No.</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Mr. A Hovell | Telephone, postage, travel | 001586 | £60.59 |
| Shanks Waste Management Ltd | Skip at Cemetery February | 001587 | £108.78 |
| NFU Mutual | Tradesman Insurance | 001588 | £296.73 |
| Grounds Maint. Services | Cut Abbey Lawns | 001589 | £188.00 |
| Colemans of Peterborough | Stationery | 001590 | £117.87 |
| Mr. C Evans | Members travel costs | 001591 | £104.65 |

The next full meeting will be held on 14 July 2008. Community Planning meeting 30 June, Core Strategy meeting 23 June. The meeting closed at 9.38 pm