

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Tank Yard,  
Thorney on Monday 14 December 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor D. J Buddle

Councillors: J E G. Bartlett, R Bevington, Mrs. C Fuller, E. Gee, R.M. Harlock, P. Murphy,  
B A Ogden, Mrs. S Selby, M. Amps-Woodward.

2 members of the public.

Concern was shown for the grass slope from the footpath to the roadside outside the Discount Store. It was suggested that the steps from near the Fish and Chip Shop should be extended to make this area safer and give better public access. The Chairman explained the original Peterborough City Council scheme where this was allowed but other priorities took over for Peterborough City Council's finance. Suggestion made to budget for improvements.

1. Apologies and Declaration of Interests

Apologies for absence from Mrs. L Sheldrake, W VanDriessche, PCSO Webber

No declaration of interests

2. Minutes

The minutes of the previous Meeting held on 9 November (copies of which had previously been circulated to all members) were signed.

3. Matters arising from minutes.

3.1 Hedge obstruction footpath outside 35 Wisbech Road – occupiers have agreed with Mr. Moore, Peterborough City Council Highways, to cut back the hedge.

3.2 2009 Flooding – plans of the proposed sewage work by Peterborough City Council in 2003 copied and circulated.

3.3 Surface water drains that appear to be blocked on The Green and in Church Street reported to Peterborough City Council for action. Councillor Bartlett reported those on The Green had been cleared.

3.4 Power of Wellbeing Training 25 November – verbal and written apology received from CALC for getting location incorrect – they turned up at Newborough

4. Visit by Mr. David McCabe, Podge Hole Liaison – he explained how the liaison committee was made up and they meet twice per year. Quarry will be open for the next 6 to 7 years. Hedge along Willow Hall Lane to be cut.  
Main Road lighting outside quarry discussed -- improvement considered necessary. Councillor Bartlett asked if Mr. McCabe could check the section 106 contribution status.

5. Visit by Ms. Leonie McCarthy – Neighbourhood Councils and Gypsy and Travellers Steering Group

Chairman explained that the Parish Councils liaison meeting expressed dismay that Neighbourhood Councils were being set up by Peterborough City Council. Ms McCarthy said they were set up to keep residents informed and had been well received in areas that did not have Parish Councils. There will be a list produced to compare Neighbourhood Council and Parish Council duties.

Neighbourhood Councils should draw all the providers (Police, Peterborough City Council, health, etc) together. Chairman explained that this was happening now

without Neighbourhood Councils and a new level of bureaucracy was not necessary. Parish Councils are a democratically elected body.

Peterborough City Councillor David Sanders agreed with the Chairman's view and suggested this new body took away Parish Council and his own responsibilities, and duplicated actions. It is a layer of bureaucracy that would interfere with already established procedures.

Councillor Murphy asked what budget provision Neighbourhood Councils have -- Ms McCarthy did not know what the budget provision was.

Councillor Sanders suggested Parish Councils should be able to vote on Neighbourhood Councils.

Ms McCarthy did not have the statutory instruments to hand to quote that reason for excluding Parish Councils and agreed to request this information from her manager. Councillor Bartlett said that Peterborough City Council was treating inner-city areas and rural areas in the same way – they do not differentiate. He also said that if Parish Councils do not have voting rights there is no point in attending meetings of the Neighbourhood Councils.

Councillor Ogden – what constitutes our Neighbourhood Council in Thorney -- North has three areas one of which includes Thorney -- represented by Councillor Nash (Bretton Ward). Ward Councillors also attend.

What can Neighbourhood Councils bring that Parish Councils cannot?

Parish Councils were not consulted before the establishment of Neighbourhood Councils. Chairman asked for a support system not another level of bureaucracy.

Councillor Bevington explained the Neighbourhood investment plan -- how can we take advantage of funding sources? Neighbourhood Councils could, possibly, fund some projects. Discussion took place concerning replies from Peterborough City Council Senior Officers and the time they took to respond.

Councillor Amps-Woodward could not understand how any organisation could exist if there was no budget provision.

Community fund -- Councillor Sanders did not know if this fund would exist in the future but he had his doubts.

Councillor Ogden -- how do we interact with Neighbourhood Councils? Ms McCarthy said she would feedback the points made and a meeting could be arranged for Parish Councils to meet Neighbourhood Council Managers.

Travellers Steering Group - research commissioned by children's services. Its aim was to identify the group's needs -- one item was more small settlement sites.

Discussion will take place with residents in the area of suggested sites. Ms McCarthy to issue list of criteria.

Councillor Sanders said the sites were of immense concern -- he said that Eye and Thorney had enough sites -- have pitches been suggested by Peterborough City Council for this area? Ms. McCarthy has identified sites meeting Government criteria. Ward Councillors should have this information before public consultation. Places can be made available under the local development framework.

Councillor Murphy asked about Gypsy owned land and development took place illegally -- Ms McCarthy suggested that the steering group should recommend all the statutory powers available should be recognised and used.

Councillor Fuller said the Western part of the City had no sites.

Councillor Bartlett said that he understood one site in this area had already been highlighted and earmarked.

Transit size camp about 10 pitches.

The question was asked if Peterborough City Council had commissioned new consultants to look into travellers sites - Ms. McCarthy said that to her knowledge no new consultants had been commissioned.

6. Reports

- 6.1 Crime report. Councillor Gee reported that farms are under siege by thieves and vandals. Support is not coming from Police. Very few crimes are solved or properly investigated.

Councillor Bartlett reported on the Rural Crime panel meeting at the Duke of Bedford School.

Councillor Selby could not understand why residents were being asked to carry out Police duties by using speed check devices.

It was suggested that at the next Police liaison meeting a written question should be asked about successes in prosecution against crimes committed.

- 6.2 Bedford Hall Management Committee – Councillor Fuller – lounge painted, new furniture ordered, carpet to be replaced

- 6.3 Report by Chairman on his visit to Eye Parish Council concerning recent road closures – vicious meeting. List of future road works read to meeting – email to follow.

7. Planning

7.1 Planning Applications outcome

09/01220/FUL For 2 storey side extension at 95 Wisbech Road – passed

09/01120 Construction of Cattery at Laurel House, Thorney Dyke – passed

09/00435 Rear 81 Wisbech Road and 14 Topham Crescent – 4 bungalows – passed

08/01218 Pigeons Off Farm, Wisbech Road – conversion buildings to dwellings - passed

08/01365 French Drove – 2 wind turbines and control building – appeal made to Secretary of State.

Current Planning Applications

09/01351 Paddock House, French Drove – garage, workshop and garden room – no objections

- 7.2 Site Specific progress – letter from Ms. Wildman, Peterborough City Council Principal Planning Officer Strategic Planning and Enabling, circulated. During 2009 a detailed assessment has been undertaken of all sites submitted to the Council and identified in the Issues and Options Site Allocations Document (October 2008) and Additional Sites Document (January 2009). This included site visits and desk base assessment. A comprehensive database has been created to record all information and site assessment. Each site has been scored against a wide- ranging list of criteria, this is to ensure that the most appropriate and sustainable sites are selected. Existing infrastructure and capacity have formed an important part of the site selection process, and highlight where improvements may be required.

It is anticipated that the Site Allocations Preferred Options stage will be available for public consultation in late February or early March 2010. This will include the Site Allocations Document which will list the preferred allocations as well as a

supporting Evidence Report which will set out the scoring for each site and the justifications for either allocating or not.

The Core Strategy states that "Key Service Centres will deliver an additional 400 homes between 2009 and 2026". Broadly this equates to 200 homes per village. However the exact numbers will be determined through the Site Allocations Document and based on the detailed site assessments that are being carried out. The Water Cycle Study is a particularly complicated report that is designed to guide an overarching water cycle strategy for the authority area; it has been designed to encompass all aspects of water services infrastructure, including;

- Environmental capacity of receiving watercourse;
- Water resources and supply systems;
- Foul water sewerage and treatment provision including foul network capacity;
- Water quality;
- Surface water drainage;
- Flood risk management and mitigation;
- Opportunities for environmental and biodiversity enhancements;
  - Environmental protection measures.

The study, which focuses on growth areas, is being prepared by Opportunity Peterborough, the Environment Agency and Peterborough City Council, in conjunction with key stakeholders;

- Anglian Water Services (AWS);
- Internal Drainage Boards (IDB);
- Natural England.

Thorney Parish Council appreciates such an undertaking demands the collation and analysis of a vast depth of data. Final details are currently being worked through, and it is anticipated that the report will be completed by the end of the year. To this end Peterborough City Council expect to be able to make public the document in the New Year, and will ensure Thorney Parish Council is informed of its availability.

7.3 Online Planning – now a live system. Access information circulated to members

7.4 Parish Notice boards – 2 out of the 3 are only partially visible. There should be one down near the school

7.5 Concrete Company – rubbish from site coming through fence and onto nearby agricultural land. No screening carried out following Thorney Parish Council request.

7.6 Section 106 – Councillor Bevington explained changes may be taking place – has asked about Peterborough City Council procedures for allocating money

7.7 Mr. Daley asked if he has involvement in planning applications within the village.

8. Allotments

Only 5 outstanding rents – tenants given final warning to pay

9. Roads and Footpaths

9.1 Street lighting - units already reported that needed attention. Letter of thanks from Thorney Running Club to Councillor Bartlett for his action in restoring the Park lights.

9.2 Update on Causeway Bridge - work should be complete by 18 December. Visual impact much improved.

9.3 Lee Moore and Councillors to have "Village walkabout" on 16 December.

- 9.4 Footpath in Park breaking up and becoming dangerous at the Tavistock Close end.
- 9.5 Councillor Harlock reported on the meeting with the HA on bypass landscaping – roundabout maintenance being investigated.

10. Burial Board

Request from Mrs Elliot to erect wooden cross on husbands grave – design acceptable but material should be stone.

Wooden fence around Medicine Pond removed – hedge to be trimmed.

11. Park Footpath and Multi Use Games Area

11.1 Progress so far – quotes obtained to provide new footpath and prices ranged from £7500 to £18000.

MUGA – fencing £28000, other quotes awaited for flood lighting, new tennis nets.

Writing bids – suggested that material drawn together then a group effort made following advice from Peterborough City Council

12. Christmas Lights – Councillor Fuller. Erected and working. Children congratulated on the work submitted in the competition to turn on the lights.

13. Correspondence/Any Other Business

13.1 The Clerk will be on holiday from 17 December to 28 December – Councillor Gee will attend to any funeral arrangements that become necessary.

13.2 Recent power failures discussed

13.3 Councillor Bartlett reported on various meetings he had attended and asked for other Councillor support in attending future meetings.

13.4 Parish Magazine – list of Councillors is out of date and time of meeting incorrect.

13.5 There have been some thefts of wreaths from the cemetery.

14. Finance

14.1 Agree Precept for 2010/2011

The discussion was led by Councillor Harlock who explained how the budget was compiled. The Clerk explained his estimate for the precept forecast.

It was proposed by Councillor Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Murphy and unanimously agreed to accept the budget proposals for 2010/2011. This will give a total expenditure figure of £63150 for the year 2010/2011 and a precept £68000 – the increase is to replenish the reserves that have been depleted over the past 2 years by the extra work carried out in the Community by Thorney Parish Council.

14.2 Wind Farm Trust – Councillor Harlock said various regulations are changing and income sources need a trust fund to be managed correctly. Section 106 contributions need to come to the Parish in which the development takes place.

Chairman asked if there were changes that suggested that section 106 money would come to the Parish.

Councillor Fuller said wind farm section 106 would go to Peterborough City Council educational services.

Councillor Ogden said a developer could make a contribution to a community that would offset section 106 contributions.

Councillor Bevington read his e-mail to Peterborough City Council that would clarify the issue.

Councillor Bartlett said we should see the Peterborough City Council policy before proceeding.

The trust fund should look at managing income and the chairman suggested we have the information from Peterborough City Council first before finalising on setting up a trust fund. To be followed through at a future meeting

14.3 The following sums had been received:-

<i>From</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Anglia Reg. Coop Soc.	Memorial Mr. Canham	£22.00
Mr. J Richardson	Allotment rent 8 and 9	£60.00
Mrs. Molesworth	Allotment rent 26	£30.00
Mr. P Fovarge	Allotment rent 27	£30.00
Dr. A Knights	Allotment rent 37	£30.00
Anglia Memorials	Inscription Mr. Berridge	£5.00
Anglia Reg. Coop Soc.	Inter Mr. Bradshaw	£400.00
TRUFC	Loan repayment	£125.00
Anglia Reg Coop Soc	Inter Mr. Cousins	£50.00
Mr. Goodchild	Allotment rent 30	£30.00
Mrs. Dawson	Allotment rent 36	£30.00
Anglia Reg Coop Soc	Inter Mr. Jeffs	£200.00
Anglia Reg Coop Soc	Inter Mr. Beeton	£100.00
Mr. Beeton	Reservation of grave spaces	£100.00
Ms. E Collen	Allotment rent 16	£30.00
T V H M C	Contribution to Lights	£1956.73

14.3 The following Cheques were drawn and signed:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mr. A E Hovell	Postage, Travel, telephone	001687	£46.25
Colemans	Stationery	001688	£177.05
Festival Lighting Co.	Bedford Hall Lights	001689	£2250.24

The next full meeting will be held on 11 January 2010 with a Community Planning meeting  
18 January

The meeting closed at 10.01pm