

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Tank Yard, Thorney  
on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor J E G Bartlett

Councillors: Mrs. M Long, R. Bevington, A Butt, Mrs C Lewis, K. Parrish, Mrs. D Halfhide,  
R. Wood, A Bunyan, N. Potts, Mrs S Reeves

7 members of the public

**1434/18-19 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Thorney Parish Council members N Simons (Cllr Simons joined the meeting after item  
1442/18-19, 6

Peterborough City Councillor N Simons, S Allen

**1435/18-19 To receive Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Declarations**

To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations in any items on the agenda – If during  
discussion an interest becomes apparent it is declared at that time

Councillor Bartlett Tree removal Abbey burial ground

**1436/18-19 Parish Council Vacancy**

The vacancy would have been filled by election if any ten local government electors for the Parish  
had submitted a written request. No such request had been made therefore the Parish Council will  
fill the vacancy by co-option.

It was agreed to co-opt Mrs Reeves who then signed the declaration of acceptance of office and  
members interest form

**1437/18-19 Public Discussion**

Two members of the public complained about the poor bus service. Two buses left for Peterborough  
within minutes of each other and then there was nothing for an hour.

One member of the public blamed council cuts. He said bus subsidies had gone down

Cllr Halfhide said she would take this up. She used the bus herself and had been canvassing opinion  
through the Thorney Post Community Forum Facebook page. She said it was clear that what might  
have seemed like a minor change was having a big effect on people who use the bus. Those people  
who are directly affected should write to the bus company to express their concern and how it is  
impacting on the lives

Another member said the bus was only saving four minutes by not stopping in Thorney.

Thorney Parish Council will send a letter in support of a campaign to reinstate the half-hourly service.

Trees overhanging footpath at near Park entrance, Wisbech Road. Highways Officer to be asked to  
contact resident

A member of the public is seeking Thorney Parish Council support for a campaign for a walkway  
alongside the main road to the east of the village. He said there had been a footpath, but this was  
removed when the road was widened. The Parish Council said this was a Highways Agency matter  
and he should write to his MP as Thorney Parish Council had little influence with the Highways  
Agency.

**1438/18-19 To approve minutes of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 December 2018 were confirmed and signed

**1439/18-19 Matters arising from minutes**

## 1440/18-19 Matters for Information and Reports

1. Bedford Hall Management Committee – no meeting
2. Bedford Hall working group – damp in museum again brought to Peterborough City Council attention

## 1441/18-19 Report from City Councillors.

## 1442/18-19 Finance

The following were received in December/January

Peterborough Funeral Services	Inter Mr Vollum	£300.00
Yorkshire Bank	Interest	£406.52
Ms Morton Rowell	Allotment rent	£40.00
Mr Jones	Reserve grave space payment 10	£50.00
H E Bull	Inter Mrs Orr-Burns	£150.00
Coop Funeral Services, Eye	Inter Mrs Fountain	£150.00

To approve the following paid in January

Salaries		£2992.00	LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50
Office, email and ISP payment		£70.17	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cambs County Council		£553.01	LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50
Inland Revenue		£847.10	LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50
Veolia	Skip at cemetery	£128.82	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
Thorney Parochial Church Council	Donation to tree removal	£1300.00	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
Cemetery	Fuel for grass machinery	£20.50	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.

1. To approve accounts for Payment – approved.
2. Monthly bank reconciliation – approved
3. Mandate to match-fund Architectural Heritage Fund Project Viability Grant – delayed to next meeting. Still awaiting some costing figures
4. Additional notice board. Delayed until next year's budget although suitable board selected
5. Precept considerations – This item was discussed at length. The cemetery extension is now well underway and needs finalisation with fencing and tree planting; it had been previously agreed to pay for heritage street lights around the historic Abbey area, match fund the Architectural Heritage Fund Project Viability Grant, fund the deficit in the Community Fund for gym equipment in the park, and remove the very large red horse-chestnut tree in the cemetery that started to drop branches without any warning signs. These are/were necessary or worthwhile Community projects/assets that took finance from the reserves in 2018/19 and need finance in 2019/20. It was unanimously agreed to accept the balanced budget proposals for 2019/2020 to give a total precept income of £77164. However, it was acknowledged this will give a headline grabbing figure of a 24.4% rise in Parish precept although this equates to only £12 per year per household increase in the Parish precept
6. Tree removal Abbey burial ground – request from Abbey for assistance in meeting the cost of the sycamore tree removal that has been deemed dangerous by the Peterborough City Council Tree Officer. Councillor Bartlett declared an interest in this and took no part in the discussion.

Following discussion, it was agreed the graveyard is a major village amenity, tourist attraction and is used by many people to walk through to the park and that Thorney Parish Council would donate the difference of the removal cost of £1800 less the £500 donation and amount of £1300. Part of the order from Peterborough City Council was for a replacement tree to be planted and Thorney Parish Council thought this should be an orchard-type tree that wouldn't grow too tall.

Holly tree 'advised removal is not necessary and pruning would suffice'

7. Kingsline Close railway gates - A local tradesman will be asked if it's possible to repair the gates on site by using wood filler or splicing in new wood.

8. The village sign near the school is to be taken down to obtain quotes from a specialist company to provide new signs in cast aluminium. It was suggested that the four signs might be replaced by one on The Green although there was an alternative suggestion that the grassed area next to the traffic lights would be a better location. A decision will be made once alternative costs have been obtained.

### **1443/18-19 Planning Approvals and Refusals**

18/02034/CTR - T52 Holly Tree removal, Thorney Abbey Churchyard - approved

18/001920 - 52 Topham Crescent - Single storey side extension - approved

### **1444/18-19 Planning Applications and other matters**

19/00003/CTR – Riddings, 2 Orchard Court - Sycamore tree- crown Lift to 5/6 m, remove branches facing dwelling in lower crown no longer than 120mm in diameter back to main stem and reduce branches over dwelling by 1.5/2m - no comments on or objections to the works

18/02158/FUL 39 Station Road – Proposed new dwelling. A majority of Councillors voted in favour of this application being permitted by the City Council. The changes that have been made to the orientation of the house, the improved garden space and the street side parking met with approval. It is hoped this house will provide the village with a new build one-bedroom home that could make an ideal starter home at an affordable price

18/02044/MMFUL Pode Hole Quarry, The Causeway - Importation of up to 1,807,000 cubic metres of inert waste soils to restore Pode Hole Quarry. Thorney Parish Council letter to planning: "Thorney Parish Council confirm no objection to the infill of the quarry and its reinstatement as agricultural land.

We are, however, concerned about the need to import such a colossal amount of waste soil and the impact the number HGV lorries needed to fulfil this task over a 6-year period will have on the A47 immediately to the west of the village. This is estimated at about 207 vehicle movements per day, over an 11 hour working day which equates to 19 vehicles per hour.

Coupled with these extra HGVs on the A47 is the possibility that the major roadworks scheduled for the A47 at the Willow Hall Lane junction will coincide with the vehicle movement increase at Pode Hole. Traffic flow problems and congestion are anticipated during the Willow Hall Lane junction works without the substantial increase in HGVs for the Pode Hole infill.

It would seem ridiculous if the Pode Hole works and the Willow Hall Lane junction works overlap in anyway.

We request that one or the other is completed before the other is started.

If the Willow Hall Road junction works are given priority this will lead to the new Pasture Farm House quarry becoming active with its own flow of HGVs during the 6-year Pode Hole infill period. This may further increase road safety factors on the stretch of the A47 between Thorney and the first roundabout at Eye.

We request that all vehicles leaving the Pasture Farm House quarry do so by turning left onto the A47 on exiting Willow Hall Lane. This would avoid vehicles making a right-hand turn and thereby crossing the traffic flow. This left-hand turning is how Pode Hole operates and we feel it would be reasonable to expect the same of Pasture House Farm.

We propose that it may be prudent to impose a strict speed limit on the A47 between Thorney and Eye to reduce the possibility of accidents.

We request that a condition of any approval this application may receive is that none of the HGVs carrying the infill material for Pode Hole are permitted to travel through any part of the village of Thorney. The village already has a considerable amount of quarry traffic passing through and any increase would be completely unacceptable.

Apart from the increased safety risks to traffic on this length of the A47 we are concerned about the welfare of cyclists travelling between Thorney and Eye. We request again that serious consideration is given by the planners to extending the A47 cycle path beyond Willow Hall Lane to connect with Thorney Road.

Although we know the proposal for a new quarry on the north side of the A47 opposite Pode Hole is yet to be offered for formal comment we can foresee that this may further compound traffic safety problems on the A47. We realise that the proposal suggests that the ingress and egress to this new quarry take place on Bukehorn Road but we are aware that there may be considerable objections to this in Thorney Parish. This could lead to the A47 being considered for the access into and out of this quarry. This would mean 3 quarries operating in close proximity to each other which we feel is a very hazardous possibility. We, therefore, request that this is also taken into account in any decisions about HGVs on this stretch of the A47 and in the layout of the Willow Hall Road junction as it may be the case that complete reconfiguration of the A47 in this area will be necessary.

We do not consider ourselves, by any means, to be road engineers or road safety experts but these are genuinely felt concerns about the safety of users of this stretch of the A47 in Thorney Parish and we would like to receive your comments on the points we have raised”.

18/02199/LBC 16 Wisbech Road - Installation of thermal insulation to underside of arch and passageway - no comments on or objections to the works

Peterborough Local Plan now back with Inspectors recommendations

Sandpit Road development will generate CIL. Some of this money will come to Thorney Parish Council but will be conditional.

#### **1445/18-19 Burial Authority**

Community hedge planting 26<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **1446/18-19 Roads and Footpaths**

1. Street lighting faults – to be reported. End Park Crescent damaged column
2. The extended 30mph speed limit on Whittlesey Road is not being adhered too. Cars travel fast and there was nothing from the end of the village to tell drivers it was still a 30 limit. When the road is resurfaced by Peterborough City Council, they will be asked to paint 30-signs on the road.
3. Cllr Wood asked if the Parish Council could see the surveys on the state of Woburn Drive. He was concerned that the road had not been resurfaced following completion of the Thorney Meadows estate. Peterborough City Councillors Allen and Brown liaising
4. Cllr Wood also raised concerns about parents parking illegally when picking their children up from the Duke of Bedford School. Parking enforcement to be asked to visit
5. Thorney in Bloom information circulated
6. Knarr Fen Road sign on Thorney Dyke knocked down and needs replacing on opposite side of the road from where it was originally installed

#### **1447/18-19 Allotments**

Access track – Allotment holders are finding it difficult to access the allotments by car due to the muddy track across the field at the bottom of Gas Lane. The field is owned by Peterborough City Council and rented to a farmer who would object to a permanent track being laid. City Councillors to be asked for their help in resolving this issue

**1448/18-19 Village Matters**

Station Road speed watch carried out. Extra speed watch volunteers needed  
Fenland District Council has started an awareness campaign highlighting the anti-social aspect and dangers associated with allowing dogs to foul public places when pet owners are not clearing up the mess.

**1449/18-19 Youth Activity in the Village**

Report given. Valentine ball in February.

**1450/18-19 Facebook Posts**

Comment given.

**1451/18-19 Correspondence****1452/18-19 Matters as agenda items for future consideration**

Website update to comply with disabled access regulations

**1453/18-19 Any other business**

Thorney Parish Council to write to the police thanking them for their efforts when a man went missing in the village last week. Along with numerous villagers who turned out to help after seeing an appeal on Facebook, a thorough search of the village had been done. Cllr Halfhide said the police had been surprised and impressed by the village's response. The missing person was safe.

**Date of next meeting**

The meeting closed 8.54pm

Next Meeting of the Parish Council 11 February 2019 starting at 7pm