

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Tank Yard, Thorney
on Monday 11th June 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor J E G Bartlett

Councillors: Mrs. M Long, R. Bevington, A Butt, R. Wood, Mrs. D Halfhide, Miss S Godley,
Peterborough City Councillor Steve Allen
members of the public,

To be a closed meeting until agenda item 1317

1295/18-19 To receive and approve apologies for absence

K. Parrish, Nigel Simons, N. Potts, Peterborough City Councillor Nigel Simons, Richard Brown

1296/18-19 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

**1297/18-19 Public Discussion James Collingridge, Head of Environmental Partnerships,
Peterborough City Council**

Park Grass cutting – originally 10 cuts now down to 8 cuts per year. No cut and collect

Price can be obtained from Amey for additional cuts when required

Much criticism since number of cuts reduced. Small play area near Smithfield has been cut – but only once this year.

Mr Collingridge to obtain price for additional cuts. There is no problem with private cutting of grass in the park so long as Peterborough City Council know and can inform Amey. This year has been particularly challenging with rain/sun combination making excessive grass growth.

Suggestion that Park was not fit for purpose because of long grass.

Long grass is cut by rotary mower, short grass by gang mowers.

Mr Collingridge to obtain estimate of contribution that would be payable for Thorney Parish Council to take on park grass cutting.

Hot Air Balloons should not take off from Park until Strategic Property department at Peterborough City Council has given permission. Peterborough City Council state no company/individual has been granted permission for hot air balloon take off from Park

Lock on gate – alleged balloonists have key for access. Lock to be changed

Speeding Woburn Drive – much concern of vehicles exceeding limit. Possibility of CIL money from future development to assist in alleviating the problem. Speed watch volunteers to be asked for again. Suggested that a 20mph limit, although not enforceable, could slow vehicles down.

1298/18-19 To approve minutes of the meeting of 14 and 29 May 2018

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 and 29 May 2018 were confirmed and signed

1299/18-19 Matters arising from minutes

Delivery drivers are finding it difficult to locate premises in French Drove as it is so long, but the postcode is the same for the entire length. As there are three sections of French Drove it was suggested names for West, Central and East French Drove. This was rejected by Peterborough City Council.

1300/18-19 Matters for Information and Reports

1. Crime report

Crowland Rd, Thorney 3-5/5: Interference with MV – car entered, searched and some damage caused.

Thorney bypass PE6 7/5: Criminal Damage – door window on lorry smashed.

English Drove, Thorney 4-8/5: TFMV – Fuel taken from tank on vehicle.

English Drove, Thorney 10-11/5: TFMV – Fuel taken from tank on vehicle.

English Drove, Thorney 16/5: TFMV – Fuel taken from tank on vehicle.

English Drove, Thorney 17-18/5: TFMV – Fuel taken from tank on vehicle.

English Drove, Thorney 18-19/5: TFMV – Fuel taken from tank on vehicle.

Willow Hall Lane, Thorney 14-16/5: Criminal Damage – water supply maliciously tampered and left running to flood property.

North Bank, Thorney 6-16/5: TFMV – Index plates stolen from vehicle.

Abbey Place, Thorney 17-18/5: TOMV – Sprinter van stolen overnight from outside house.

1. Bedford Hall Management Committee – AGM postponed due to Futures meeting later in month

2. Bedford Hall working group: Options: Bedford Hall Ownership/Management – deferred

Brief report on meeting with Cambs ACRE. Agreed solicitor should be engaged to look at existing lease and determine responsibilities from that lease

At this point Councillor Simons joined the meeting

1301/18-19 Report from City Councillors.

Thorney Futures Group - progressing

Dealing with concern from residents in St Marys Close about possible water run-off from bund on new development. Drain to be installed at base of bund

Hedge overgrowing footpath adjacent to school on Sandpit Road – school responsibility (birds nesting?)

1302/18-19 Agree Policy concerning Social Media and Communications

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to adopt the social media and communications policy contained in the presented paper

1303/18-19 Finance

The following were received in June

Mr Jones	Reserve grave space	£100.00
Mrs Fountain	Inter and Reserve space	£1100.00
J G Cross	Memorials	£250.00
Community Account		£201.49
Community Account		£1227.27

To approve the following paid in June

Salaries		£2992.00
Office, email and ISP payment		£70.17
Cambs County Council		£553.01
Inland Revenue		£847.10
Glazewing	Skip at cemetery	£50.02
RTC Plant Services	Repair mower, purchase strimmer	£487.20
Screwfix	Safety barriers around tree	£155.00
Cambs ACRE	Payroll Services	£86.40
Viking Direct	Stationery	£40.08
NFU Mutual	Tradesman Insurance	£444.23
Concrete Company	Skip hire allotments	£190.80
Andrew Belson	Tree inspection cemetery	£192.00
Wave	Water charges cemetery	£16.16
Wave	Water charges allotments	£49.97
Fuel and Travel	Cemetery	£118.52

1. Monthly bank reconciliation – signed

2. Agree use of Peterborough City Council website hosting and email addresses. As part of the Digital Connectivity Project, Peterborough City Council has financed and purchased the domains and email addresses for the Parishes / Clerks.
The overall strategy of this project is to enable Peterborough City Council and Parish Councils to have a more unified approach when communicating, and it puts us in line with the GDPR changes which came into effect from 25th May 2018.
Licences are £33 per email per year.*
The domains will incur an annual charge of £79.00*
The clerk licences will be subject to an annual charge of £79 each
It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to accept the Peterborough City Council proposals for future email communication and website hosting
3. Purchase replacement strimmer. Our existing strimmer has a faulty engine that cannot be repaired because parts are not available.
It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to purchase a new strimmer

1304/18-19 Planning Approvals and Refusals

18/00489/FUL for Demolition of 2no. existing dwellings and construction of 2no. replacement dwellings
At 4 And 5 Park Farm Sandpit Road : Permitted

18/00550/CLP for Use of dwelling as 3-bed children's home within Class C3 at Thornberry Lodge New Cut :
Withdrawn by Applicant

18/00555/FUL for Proposed dwelling at 39 Station Road : Refused

18/00725/PRIOR for New building for grain and machinery storage at Lodge Farm Black Drove : Not Required

18/00880/CTR for Locust Tree- Fell at Parkgate Wisbech Road : Withdrawn by Applicant

1305/18-19 Planning Applications and other matters

Scheme being developed to stop historic wall on Whittlesey Road being damaged by water from ponding near road side

1306/18-19 Burial Authority

Red Horse Chestnut Tree. Following the inspection from Mr Belson he writes

" I have been to site to inspect Red Horse Chestnut 2660. My findings are as follows:

The limb failed due to decay in the main branch

The decay is likely to have progressed due to the bark striations created by infection with Horse chestnut Bleeding Canker

It is possible that other parts of the tree are in a similar condition

Setting - I noted that there are two recent graves to the south of the tree but on the whole, I would assess the use of the area as 'Low'.

Level of Risk - It is possible that further parts of the tree could fail; with the most likely conditions being during a period of high wind. Despite the likelihood of failure being high, the area is in low use the likelihood of an incident is low.

Recommendations

1. It is possible to control the level of risk on a short-term basis by fencing the area off to a radius of 12m from the centre of the tree (completed by Clerk)
2. If the Parish Council is 'risk averse' the tree must be felled and replaced as soon as practical.
3. Pruning could offer a way to retain the tree in a safe condition, but I don't think it's worth spending the money on pruning a diseased tree

Three Quotations were obtained for the tree's removal

£1250 from Northborough Tree Services. They also included details of their public liability insurance, waste carrier licence and tree surgeon's qualification,

£1200 from Jeff Rowlett, £1450 from Welland Valley tree services

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to accept the Northborough Tree Services quotation as this has with it the waste carries licence, qualifications of tree surgeon and insurance liability documentation

1307/18-19 Roads and Footpaths

1. Street lighting faults – to be reported.

1308/18-19 Allotments

1. Clearance of detritus – on going. Complaints that top soil was being lost so ground clearance halted at present. There was a suggestion that maybe allotment holders would like to clear the rubbish themselves. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to provide a large skip so that material from the allotments could be disposed of. An allotment tenant to co-ordinate.
2. Request for taking on two allotments for the cubs, scouts & beavers, preferably next to each other. In discussion members said that Some of our plots are overgrown and have various debris on them so there would need a full risk assessment completed before becoming a tenant. Thorney Parish Council would need a copy of this risk assessment. There was a positive attitude from Councillors eager to encourage children to the outdoor life

1309/18-19 Village Matters

Neighbourhood Watch – talk in September concerning home security
New “Bobby” scheme being introduced

1310/18-19 Youth Activity in the Village

Mick George grant decision soon. Location of equipment in Park discussed.
Still awaiting section 106 agreement contribution from Peterborough City Council.

1311/18-19 Co-option to fill Vacancies – agree process

Agreed that applicants should be seen in a closed meeting and individually every 5 minutes

1312/18-19 Correspondence

1313/18-19 Matters as agenda items for future consideration

1314/18-19 Any other business

Information regarding the street signs for the heritage area – roughly £60 to £80 per sign. It was questioned if they were wanted, do they need planning consent as in a conservation area.
Councillor Bevington declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

Tavistock Road – tree removal. Peterborough City Council response “The tree that was felled in Tavistock Close was notified on the Council website along with Ward Councillor, the reason that the tree was felled was that there was a shear crack at the main stem”

Date of next meeting

The meeting closed 8.59pm

Next Meeting of the Parish Council 9 July 2018 starting at 7pm