

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Tank Yard, Thorney on Monday 14 May 2012 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor J E G Bartlett

Councillors D. J Buddle, R Bevington, J Brooks, B A Ogden, E. Gee, P. Murphy, Mrs. D Halfhide, J Rowe

Inspector Rob Hill for item on crime and discussion concerning community police vehicle

Peterborough City Councillor D McKean

0 members of the public.

**20/12-13 To elect Chairman of the Council for the municipal year until the Annual Meeting in 2013.**

It was moved by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Buddle and unanimously agreed that Councillor Bartlett be elected Chairman for the municipal year 2012/2013.

**21/12-13 Declaration of Acceptance of Office Chairman**

Councillor Bartlett signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**22/12-13 To Appoint the Vice Chairman for a similar period.**

It was moved that Councillor Brooks be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2012/2013.

**23/12-13 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Mrs. S Selby, Mrs. L Sheldrake, J Bellamy, Peterborough City Councillor D Sanders

**24/12-13 To receive declarations of interest**

- a) Councillors to declare any personal interest in any items on the agenda
- b) Councillors to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest in any items on the agenda and to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter.

**25/12-13 To approve minutes of the meeting of 2 April 2012**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 2 April and 23 April (copies of which had previously been circulated to all members) were agreed and signed.

**26/12-13 Matters arising from minutes**

**27/12-13 Public Participation and discussion with Inspector Rob Hill concerning use of Community Vehicle**

Inspector Rob Hill introduced himself and his role in the recent Police reorganisation. He also explained the new role of PCSO Webber who he recognised was a good PCSO, the valuable work that she had carried out in Thorney, and that Thorney Parish Council valued her input to the community very highly.

A discussion then ensued concerning the Newborough and Thorney sponsored PCSO car that was now being used in Eye despite their objection to contributing to the original funding. Councillor Murphy explained that it should not be used in Eye as was the original agreement. It is on a yearly renewal contract.

Inspector Hill was sympathetic to Council views but explained he had no alternative as the sponsored car was the only means of transport for this area.

Councillor Buddle asked that the PCSO's attend future meeting and bring with them the vehicle mileage log sheet so that Councillors can see where the car is being used the most.

### 28/12-13 Matters for Information and Reports

1. Crime report given by Inspector Hill – 10 crimes – theft, metal theft, domestic violence, diesel theft, and burglary.

Chairman asked if more speed checks could be carried out in Station road and Whittlesey Road

2. Bedford Hall Management Committee – no representative. Kitchen equipment in poor state Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May – to be taken up directly with TVHM Committee.
3. Neighbourhood Committee – no meeting
4. Village talk with Enterprise - Mr. Richard Pearn in charge of Enterprise contract. Meeting was with Mr. Mark Horsley who was unsure about Enterprise funding for waste bins. Applications can be made for extra trees in the Park. It was made clear that areas seeded with wild flowers (Wisbech Road towards Pigeons Off Farm) should not be cut. Grass cutting in Park is now very good.

### 29/12-13 To receive reports from City Councillors

New Peterborough City Councillor to represent Thorney is Mr. Dale McKean email: dmck@cyberware.co.uk

Mr. McKean read out a petition he had received for residents between 6 and 18 Wisbech Road who requested that the parking arrangements outside their properties to be altered in their favour.

Chairman explained the problems caused by Classic Cars abusing the arrangements with their vehicles. Some of the properties mentioned do have rear access for vehicles Councillor Bevington explained the history and proposals that were circulated some time ago.

Thorney Parish Council would like the bins that have gone missing at the junction Sandpit Road and Wisbech Road, and the unit in Sandpit Road replacing - also a larger bin at the shelter/MUGA in Thorney Park

Dog waste can be placed in normal bins – stickers can be applied to indicate this. Chairman to request stickers

Chairman asked Mr. McKean if he would investigate alternative arrangement for the wheely bins that reside on the footpath near the Crossroads.

### 30/12-13 Finance

1. To approve accounts for Payments and note income

Income From	Reason	Amount
Peterborough City Council	Precept	£31215.00
T.V.H. Management Committee	Donation towards toilets	£11,985.00
Mrs. Spriggs	Inter Mrs Horsfall	£450.00
Anglia Regional Coop Soc	Memorial Miss Bacon	£5.00
Miss Steward-Brown	Reserve space Miss Steward-Brown	£200.00
Anglia Regional Coop Soc	Memorial Mrs. Odam	£5.00
J G Cross	Memorial Mrs. Kilham	£35.00
Mr. A E Hovell	Postage, telephone, travel	001843 £22.10
Mr. A E Hovell	Antivirus renewal/end of year	001844 £145.96
Came and Co	media	001845 £741.24
	Parish Council Insurance	

Mr. R Wright	Internal Audit	001846	£275.00
Mr. J Bartlett	Chairman's Allowance	001847	£200.00
Walters Ltd	Repair of printer	001848	£97.80

2. Monthly bank reconciliation – presented and signed
3. To fix the Chairman's allowance – At this point Councillor Bartlett left the room. It was proposed by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Buddle and unanimously agreed the Chairman's allowance should be £200
4. Payments to village organisation for Queens Jubilee  
It was proposed by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Murphy and agreed that the following donations should be made to organisations to help fund celebrations for the Queens Jubilee

Thorney Abbey	Thorney PCC	£100.00
Cheque number 001850		
Barn Dance/Bedford Hall	Thorney Society	£88.27
Cheque number 001851		
Notices	Art Infusion	£40.00
Cheque number 001852		
47 <sup>th</sup> Scout Group		£300.00
Cheque number 001853		
Fenlands Family Church		£110.00
Cheque number 001854		

5. Match Fund initiative by the Cambridgeshire Community Fund – information concerning this was circulated. To receive this funding the organisation must be charity registered. It was agreed that as the Cambridgeshire fund had been exhausted Thorney Parish Council could not contribute.
6. Parish Council Insurance – yearly or 3 year contract. It was proposed by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Buddle and unanimously agreed that we should again enter a 3 year contract with Came and Company and benefit from a 5% reduced premium.
7. Thorney Parish Council investment – following the closure of the National Savings account there is £22,000 that can be reinvested. It was proposed by Councillor Murphy seconded by Councillor Brooks and unanimously agreed that £22,000 should be invested with Yorkshire Bank for a period of 12 months at an interest rate of 3.2%

### **31/12-13 Planning Approvals and Refusals**

12/00348 104 Wisbech Road – installation of skylight in upstairs bathroom - approved

### **32/12-13 Planning Applications and other matters**

#### 1. Planning Applications

12/00485 The Concrete Company, English Drove – replacement offices – no objections

12/00506 removal of conditions concerning French Drove wind farm

Thorney Parish Council objects to this application because:

1. We are constantly reminded in the press and on TV that windfarms are inefficient, that they rarely reach 50% capacity and are recorded as low in their production as 20%.
2. Windfarms are by their very nature unreliable. They are dependent on wind and this is unpredictable, often blowing too little and on occasions too much.
3. Placing wind turbines near properties is the equivalent of building a hundred metre high industrial complex next door. It wouldn't be tolerated in towns so why is it acceptable to do this in the countryside?

4. Windfarms are much more efficient when they are built on higher ground. Flat fenland is not the place for them.
  5. Off-shore windfarms are much more efficient so build them there.
  6. Nuclear Energy is vastly more efficient and reliable, and in spite of all the hype to the contrary it a clean energy when it is properly controlled as it is in this country.
  7. The fenland countryside has a beauty all of its own. 100 meter high towers and blades ruin the whole vista. These turbines would be visible over a great distance and to be frank we find them ugly and they are a blight on the landscape.
  8. Some communities are already surrounded by small wind farm developments.
  9. If windfarms are built there should be compensation for the resulting drop in property values and the shattering of livelihoods. To ignore this surely infringes on people's rights.
  10. The blades of a turbine have several effects on the immediate vicinity some of which are related to public health. There is a constant noise issue when the blades are turning. Sleep patterns can be interrupted. Light flicker can affect residents living and working within range of the turbines.
  11. A referendum of the whole community should be held under the terms of the new Localism Bill. It is only right that a community should be heard and expresses its view.
  12. Thorney lies close to a number of RAF stations and whilst there is a reduction in the flying of Harrier Jets from Whittering, this base and others are still in use with Typhoon aircraft and others. Wind turbines do interfere with electronic signals and it would be short sighted of the MOD to waive the conditions it has previously set on wind farm development as in the case of Nuts Grove Farm.
  13. The ground in this part of the fenland is unstable. Recent road and bridge building displays this. The height of these masts, the movement of the blades and the vibration which is inevitably caused may result in instability of the units.
  14. We are concerned about the traffic that would be generated by both schemes. Fenland roads in this area are notoriously unstable and liable to subsidence. The haulage of materials from local sources might lead to a huge increase in through traffic in the village centre before it reaches the bypass. We already have concerns about vibration caused to listed properties in the village centre from current haulage contracts.
- 12/00616 15 Chestnut Drive – creation living area in roof space with dormer windows front and rear – could it be planned for windows to face north rather than south – this would give less impact to the change amongst the existing homes of the same type
- 12/00677 4 Topham Crescent – extension planning permission granted in 2009 for demolition garages and construction of extension with dormer to rear and 2m high boundary fence – no objections

Site allocations document – some adjustments may have to be made because of recent Government legislation

Councillor Bevington outlined the discussion he had with Mr. Shaw (architect) concerning Causeway Lodge. He summarised the history of the site.

### **33/12-13 Burial Authority**

1. Date of inspection – 28 May at 6pm. Meet at cemetery
2. Grass cutting Churchyard and Methodist Chapel – resolution to continue to maintain. Councillors Bartlett and Murphy declared a personal interest and took no part in the voting.  
It was proposed by Councillor Gee, seconded by Councillor Bevington and unanimously agreed to continue with the grass cutting at the Churchyard and Methodist Chapel.
3. Review of fees – to next meeting
4. Other matters – recent H& S check carried out on Mr. Lucken – all satisfactory
5. Church Yard trees – Peterborough City Council tree officer has agreed removal of the tree on the corner of Whittlesey Road and Church Street. Councillor Ogden to obtain quotes and liaise with Parochial Church Council

### **34/12-13 Roads and Footpaths**

1. Street lighting – report faulty lights
2. Use of The Green for Jubilee Celebrations – agreed
3. Village road and footpath inspection with Lee Moore – Councillor Bevington gave a resume' of the outcome. The Causeway and parts of Crowland Road to be resurfaced.
4. Old Flower stall, Wisbech Road – overhangs footpath and is very low
5. Dog fouling on main footpath Wisbech Road near take away shop

### **35/12-13 Allotments**

1. Date of Inspection – 28 May after cemetery inspection
2. Review of fees – left as at present at £30 per allotment
3. Best allotment judging by Councillor Gee, Selby and Sheldrake

### **36/12-13 Committee/area specific members**

1. Burial and Employment - Councillors Gee and Bellamy
2. Allotments - Councillors Selby and Sheldrake
3. Planning - Councillors Bevington, Ogden, Buddle
4. Countryside - Councillors Gee
5. Street lighting - Councillor Bartlett
6. Pote Hole Liaison - Councillor Bartlett and Murphy
7. Finance – Councillors Buddle and Rowe
8. Thorney Park – Councillor Ogden, Bevington
9. Police Liaison – Councillors Murphy, Bartlett and Bellamy
10. Complaints – Councillors Bellamy, Ogden and the Chairman
11. Health and Safety/Risk Assessment – Councillors Selby, Gee, Brooks, Bartlett
12. Peterborough City Council committees – Neighbourhood Council, Parish Liaison – Councillors Brooks, Murphy, Bartlett, Bevington, Buddle, Ogden.
13. Flood Warden – Councillor Bartlett
14. Planning committee – Councillor Bevington as Chair with members J E G Bartlett, P. Murphy, D J Buddle, B A Ogden, Mrs. Halfhide, J Brooks

### **37/12-13 Queens Jubilee**

### **38/12-13 Correspondence**

Faster broadband – article to be placed in Village Post magazine

**39/12-13 To fix the date and times of the Meetings of the Council for the new municipal year:** 11 June, 9 July, 3 September, 8 October, 12 November, 10 December, 14 January 2013, 11 February, 11 March, 8 April, 13 May

### **40/12-13 Matters as agenda items for future consideration**

### **41/12-13 Any other business**

Letter of thanks to be sent to Mr. David Reed for the planting of daffodils in Station Road, Whittlesey Road and The Park  
Village sign in The Causeway needs maintenance

On behalf of Thorney Parish Council, Councillor Bevington thanked Councillor Buddle for the 5 years he had given as Chairman of the Council

### **42/12-13 Date of next meeting**

11 June. Close of meeting 9.05pm