

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Tank Yard, Thorney  
on Monday 14 October 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor: J E G Bartlett

Councillors: R Bevington, J Brooks, Mrs. D Halfhide, P Rands, B A Ogden, D. J Buddle,  
Mrs. S Selby, E. Gee, Mrs M Long,  
Peterborough City Councillor D Sanders. B VanDriessche  
Jon Knight and Dan Leahy from RES  
0 members of the public

**334/13-14 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Mrs Sheldrake, Peterborough City Councillors D McKean, PCSO Yane Pokhum

**335/13-14 To receive Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Declarations**

To receive Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Declarations in any items on the agenda –  
Councillor Gee concerning Wrydecroft Windfarm, cemetery extension and land south of  
Woburn Drive

**336/13-14 To approve minutes of the meeting of 2 and 23 September 2013**

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 and 23 September were confirmed and signed

**337/13-14 Matters arising from minutes**

1. Toneham lane - order was issued to Ringway in July for completion during the summer months. Lee Moore have been advised that they intend to complete it before the end of the contract 30th September 2013 however he has doubts that this will actually take place, so the works order may be handed back and reissued to the new contractor (Skanska) who will programme it into their schedule.

2. Stewart Jackson has written back to confirm he has taken the poor road state West Pode Hole Quarry up again with the Highways Agency

3. Thorney Tennis Court net and posts – Ben Thompson, Environment Contracts Officer, Strategic Client Services, Peterborough City Council, has requested a quote for this update.

4. Bus service changes. Chairman outlined history and the Leader of Peterborough City Council writes:

“I am writing to update you on the new bus services which started on 1 October this year. These services will replace the Local Link routes that ceased to operate after 30 September.

Attached/Enclosed are the 3 new timetables and these will be run by Stagecoach who won the contract to operate the new routes.

The changes to subsidised bus services were necessary because we will have lost 43% of our Government grant, or £25 million, in just five years and this means, as well as making efficiencies, we have to look at delivering services differently. At a meeting of the Full Council in March this year, councillors agreed to cut the amount it spends on subsidising bus services from £1.1 million to £600,000 as part of the budget setting process. However, it would have cost £1.9 million per year to operate all subsidised services as Local Link was operating at a loss.

We have focussed these new services in areas that would have been left without any public transport so that our residents are able to get to the city centre and other locations. The services that have been put together will mean that everywhere in the city has access to public transport.

We have listened to our residents who told us that they wanted the new services to be timetabled routes, not demand responsive, and this public opinion directly influenced our decision and through the procurement process we were able to get new scheduled services which will operate six days a week”.

### **338/13-14 Public Participation and attendance by RES Wrydecroft Wind Farm**

Bill VanDriessche outlined the work carried out in moving the war memorial from the Chapel to Bedford Hall and the publication he will circulate. It was noted that a considerable amount of time was given free of charge by Mr. Jary, Mr. Downing and Mr. Shirley.

Jon Knight and Dan Leahy from RES explained that the Wryde Croft Wind Farm was granted planning consent in 2010 and RES is keen to update the parish council on the construction timetable for this project, as well as the neighbouring Nuts Grove Wind Farm.

RES now control both projects totalling 15 turbines, New planning applications will be made simplifying access arrangements with a 20% reduction in access road building and only 1 control house.

Two temporary masts will be erected to calibrate the turbines. Earth bunds will be made around the base of turbines from the spare soil from foundation excavations.

Both of the sites have existing planning consent but 5 new applications will be made to cover the combined work associated with the sites.

A Community Liaison Group will be formed for a community fund panel, possibly with an external administrator, to determine where donations will be made. Adjoining Parishes, as well as Thorney, will be asked to join the panel. Members believed that as the turbines were in Thorney Parish it was Thorney, and not other parishes, that should be entitled to the fund.

Liaison has taken place with Peterborough City Council with a possible start on site in summer 2014. The top height of the turbines will be 100m.

### **339/13-14 Matters for Information and Reports**

1. Crime report – Police Crime Report 11 Sept– 14 Oct 2013 for Thorney Area

3 x Vehicle Crime, 1 x JCB have been stolen from Dukes Head Farm House

1x car stolen on Thorney Golf car park, 1x scrap car stolen from rear Garage Orchard Court

1x 300 litres Diesel stolen from Aggregate Gravel Company A47 Thorney

1x Burglary of a Wood Burner Old Knarr Fen Drove, 1x Attempt Burglary Knarr Farm

3x Poaching, 13 x incidents/ regarding Horses on the road, 6 x incident /suspicious circumstances

2 x incident /Road traffic collision

Report from North East Rural Neighbourhood Panel Meeting

Sgt Tinsley confirmed that Insp Hill would be leaving the Northern Sector of Peterborough on 7<sup>th</sup> October to take charge of the Eastern Sector. Insp. Matt Johnson will be moving from Cambridge where he brings a wealth of experience in working with youth and related issues.

The rationale behind OpStyle was explained and how it has been introduced to the north east rural area.

There will be a reduction in the numbers of PCSO's mainly due to them joining the regular force and due to measures to reduce costs these will not be replaced. This should not affect the number of PCSO's covering the rural areas.

Sgt Tinsley then presented the crime statistics for the previous three months. This showed that overall crime in the North East Rural area has reduced by 3.4%. with crime in Eye and Thorney reducing by 14.1%. (13 less crimes)

Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour at Bedford Hall - Completed high visibility patrols in the area.

Engaged with local youths, moved them on from the area and where necessary we have confiscated footballs to prevent further ASB or damage. No calls for service relating to ASB at this location during this panel period

Priorities Adopted: Anti Dog Fouling on High Wisbech Rd Thorney

Next Meeting: Thursday 19th Dec 2013 at Newborough Primary School, School Road, Newborough at 7.00pm

2. Bedford Hall Management Committee – no report

3. Report from Parish Council Liaison, Rural Community Scrutiny Committee – very little to report. Pode Hole Quarry – in future there will only be one meeting per year the next being 5<sup>th</sup> June 2014 when a trip around the site will be organised. Quarry to be finished export by 2022

### **340/13-14 Report from City Councillors**

To discuss use of CLF money. One request has been received from a Rainbow group for 5-7 year old girls in the village. They have requested £564.

Councillor Buddle said that organisations should match fund and donations made either from Thorney Parish Council or the CLF.

Councillor Bevington suggested that £2500 from the CLF should go towards the memorial move and the rest possibly banked for future footpath extensions in the Park. It was agreed that funding should benefit as many people as possible and a donation to the Rainbow group would only benefit 12 as a maximum where as the footpath extensions would benefit 100's.

Replacement of the tennis court nets and posts is another possible use of the money

Councillor Sanders said it had always been his policy to direct the CLF to where Thorney Parish Council wished it to go and this had been very successful in the past with funding for the Causeway Bridge barrier removal and the steps outside the village shop. He had no problem with Councillor Bevington's suggestion.

Councillor McKean to be asked to attend the next Thorney Parish Council meeting so that the CLF can be finally agreed.

### **341/13-14 Finance**

#### 1. To note income and approve Payments

Mr Owen	Allotment rent	£30.00
	Donation to war	£100.00
Mr Richie	memorial relocation	

The following were paid in October

The following Cheques were drawn and signed:-

Mr A E Hovell	Postage, travel, telephone, keys	001953	£48.20
Glazewing	Skip at Cemetery	001954	£46.15
J G Cross	Move Chapel memorial to Bedford Hall	001955	£2958.00
Mr R Jary	Move Chapel memorial to Bedford Hall – materials only	001956	£254.00

#### 2. Monthly bank reconciliation – signed

### **342/13-14 Planning Approvals and Refusals**

13/01207 Tall Trees 55 Wisbech Road – erection of bungalow - refused

### **343/13-14 Planning Applications and other matters**

#### 1. Planning applications

13/01415/HHFUL Installation of French doors to front of dwelling at 5 The Barns English Drove – no objections

13/01424 Construction 4 bedroom dwelling with parking – rear 8 and 9 Church Street – what boundary treatment is proposed between site and Thorney park, bathroom for bedrooms 3-5 seems to be missing

#### 2. Bedford Hall works delayed but damp in museum will be attended to

#### 3. Customer Forum

Topic covered were: Planning Policy Update (CIL postponed until 2015), Changes to the planning system, Government consultation on Housing Standards (Aim is to rationalise the large number of codes, standards, rules, regulations and guidance - while delivering quality, sustainability, safety and accessibility), Service Update (timescales for turnaround of various types of planning applications)

Confirmed that tree survey carried out on all trees on Peterborough City Council property.

#### 4. Solar Farm Morris Fen

Lee Collins, Peterborough Renewable Energy Project writes "I am writing to make you aware of a number of activities that will shortly be underway in relation to Peterborough City Council's renewable energy park proposals. You will recall that the planning committee deferred its decision on whether to grant planning permission for Morris Fen solar farm, pending further archaeological investigations. This work had always been

envisaged, however, the committee's decision required the Council to undertake the work upfront, prior to the application being determined. The same approach is also being taken with the other two sites, the Farms of Newborough and America Farm, at the request of English Heritage and the Local Planning Authority. These investigations will be carried out by independent experts and are ready to begin over the next few weeks on each of the three sites. The investigations will involve two different types of survey. One will involve surveyors taking borehole samples at approximately 100 metre intervals in order to gauge soil depth. We will also be taking the opportunity to analyse the quality of the soil as part of this process. The other will require the surveyors to dig a number of test pits to investigate the 'anomalies' that were identified during the previous geophysical archaeological survey. This survey will help determine whether these areas contain anything of archaeological significance. The number of pits that will be required will depend upon the results of our investigations. Around 200 test pits will be dug across the three sites initially. If archaeological features are discovered during these initial surveys then further investigations may be required. The work will be carried out over the autumn/winter period and the results published at a later date. I would also like to update you on the current status of the city council's proposals for wind energy on our farms in Newborough and Morris Fen. As part of the current feasibility stage we will soon be installing a temporary mast at the Newborough site to gather wind and weather data. A proposal will be presented to the Cabinet of the city council in due course, at which point it will decide whether it wishes to progress to the planning application stage. No decision has yet been taken.

### **344/13-14 Burial Authority**

### **345/13-14 Roads and Footpaths**

1. Hedge 85 Wisbech Road, near bus stop at Park entrance, Rose and Crown all impeding footpath access. No action by owners yet taken
2. Peterborough City Council has signed a 10-year contract with Skanska for the provision of highway maintenance services. This includes design services, street lighting and drainage cleansing
3. Grass cuttings left on footpath Wisbech Road
4. Smell of sewage near 88-90 Wisbech Road
5. B1040 to Nene Terrace – 40 mph sign missing
6. Footpath near cemetery – report of cattle over-interested with walkers

### **346/13-14 Allotments**

### **347/13-14 Village Matters**

Councillor Ogden said that he had reported glass in the tennis court area to Enterprise who responded within the hour to clean it up.  
More reports of tape and plastic water bottles left on the grass after adult football matches

### **348/13-14 Declaration of vacancy on Thorney Parish Council**

It was agreed to leave making a decision on this vacancy until the November meeting

### **349/13-14 Correspondence**

1. Peterborough City Council is considering introducing Selective Licensing of Private landlords in Millfield, New England, Central and Eastfield areas of the City. The Housing Act 2004 gives Councils the power to introduce the licensing of private rented homes, within a designated area, where it is or is likely to become either:  
An area of low housing demand and/or  
An area which is experiencing a significant and persistent problem caused by anti-social behaviour  
How it would work: All private landlords with residential property within the proposed area would need to apply for a licence for each property they let in the area. In order to become a licence holder they must be a fit and property person. This means a landlord has to meet a certain standard before they can legally rent out a property.
2. Return of 1 year agreement to sponsor the PSCO car.

3. Notification of Local Government Electoral Review. Peterborough has come up for review due to 33% of the 24 wards being over the average electoral variance for the Authority and Orton and Hampton Ward representing 34% more electors than the borough average. Councillor Bartlett to circulate his paper for comments that the Clerk will collate and reply to the Commission.

4. Letter from Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner concerning new launch of eCops and a messaging service to Neighbourhood Coordinators and members of the public

**350/13-14 Matters as agenda items for future consideration**

Thorney Parish Council vacancy

**351/13-14 Any other business**

Bank sinking along Station Road

Parish Conference 27<sup>th</sup> November Bedford Hall 10am to 4pm

Parking in Wisbech Road around the Fish and Chip shop area – a future letter from Peterborough City Council will outline the proposals.

**352/13-14 Date of next meeting**

Meeting of the Parish Council 11 November 2013.

The meeting closed at 8.48pm