

At a meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Tank Yard,
Thorney on Tuesday 16th January 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor W VanDriessche

Councillors: J.E.G. Bartlett, R.M. Harlock, C. Evans, R Bevington, P. Murphy,
G.A .Kilham, P.A. Rowe, Ms. M Herdman, E. Gee, M. Amps-Woodward
Mr. M Brown, Mr. R Pearn Peterborough City Council, City Councillor D Saunders
Before the meeting 10 minutes was allowed for public discussion.
0 member of the public present

1. Apologies
D. J Buddle

2. Declaration of interests
Councillor Murphy expressed a personal interest as his son is on Peterborough City Council environment committee.
Councillor Harlock declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 4 as his site is adjacent to Thorney Parish Council allotments

3. Thorney Household waste site.

Chairman outlined options on Peterborough City Council list.

1. The City Council is more than happy to support the Parish Council if it were to secure sufficient funding for the capital works required, by continuing to pay for the transport and waste disposal costs from the Parish Council run site. The City Council will of course offer other assistance and advice in the operation of the site, whilst the Parish retain all legal, waste management functions and responsibility on the site.

The expenditure required to both alter the site entrance, and bring the site up to the standards required under current waste management licensing standards is estimated to be £45-50,000.

2. The City Council, in light of the lack of funding for capital expenditure and the financial pressures it is under, would consider a formal offer from the Parish Council to take over sole responsibility for the continued operation of the site. (Other than currently being the occupier, site operator and licence holder).

In order for this to occur the Parish Council will have to agree to a programme of works in order to ensure the continued safe operation of the site, based on plans previously submitted to the council regarding reconstruction of the site. This and a service level agreement must be approved and agreed by the City Council before any transfer can be considered.

3. The City Council and Parish move to formally close the Thorney HRC immediately, for an approach to the Environment Agency to be made, so that the process of surrendering the licence can begin.

The Parish and City Council to clear the site of all buildings, skips and containers, so that the Environment Agency can complete the process of allowing the Parish to surrender the licence and remove legal obligations that are associated with it.

Once completed the site would be turned into a "Bring Site" so the Parish Council may offer enhanced recycling services to its residents, over and above those provisions made via the Brown and Green recycling wheeled bin provisions, and the existing glass banks in Thorney.

4. The City Council would of course welcome an offer from the Parish Council to buy the site in order to become responsible for it and maintain it as a Parish service. With this transfer of

ownership, however would also be the liability as landowner for any fly tipping that was to occur around the banks.

Chairman stated decision must be the best for the village.

Mr. Pearn confirmed that access road is owned by Concrete Company and the Household waste site is owned by Peterborough City Council. Councillor Rowe asked why entrance was sold to Concrete Company.

Existing Health and Safety issues still need addressing and this will need capital expenditure – as outlined in option 1 plus £10,000 to train someone and this will take 18 months for the site to continue indefinitely.

Mr Pearn said someone would need to be on site 25% of opening hours- clarification of time from environment office to be sought.

The Chairman's deemed competency is time limited (possibly lapsing in 18 months) then a fully trained competent person would have to manage the site

Chairman would like to keep site open.

Councillor Herdman asked about the access as she thought this was one issue with site. If this was the case option 3 would still use access.

It was explained that cars parking on the site entrance were causing the problems and that re-organisation would mean six cars could use re-cycle centre at any one time without parking on the access road provided the site was converted to a bring site. Banks would be set back from the main area

No license would be needed for a Bring Site as option 3

An explanation of what would be used on a bring site- glass, plastic, small electrical items, paper. This would be an unsupervised site.

Councillor Harlock asked who would be responsible for disposal. It was explained that Peterborough City Council would monitor usage and decide when collections would occur.

Councillor Harlock stated the bring site would be open to abuse. This was echoed in Councillor Amps- Woodward comments as he believed it would need policing because of its location.

A recycle credit per tonne would be given if Thorney Parish Council could encourage people to use the site. However as the Clerk pointed out later the amount of income would be negligible as the existing bottle banks have only generated an income of £15 in this financial year.

Peterborough City Council said they would install covert cameras to combat misuse.

Councillor Harlock stated that in his research he found that the majority of use of the original site came from people outside the village and that if Thorney Parish Council are going to spend their own money doing option 1 it should be Thorney residents that use it only.

Peterborough City Council stated Thorney Household waste site is very expensive to run and it is not cost effective.

Councillor Amps- Woodward asked why a potential Household waste site at Hampton is given more help and support over a rural site like Thorney which has been open 16 years. It was explained the population capture means that a site is needed. There has been too much waste taken to Dogsthorpe and it was exceeding its' license.

Councillor Bevington asked what the cost to Thorney Parish Council would be if it operated a Bring site. Peterborough City Council already has some skips Thorney Parish Council could have, but an agreement must be reached with environment agency.

Councillor Murphy asked who would be responsible for repairs if needed- Peterborough City Council would be as they own the site.

Councillor Harlock asked if someone would be needed within 2 hours of a bring site as needed for a Household waste site. It would not be needed as a bring site does not need a license.

The annual cost for option 1- £45-50,000 + £10,000 for training+ £1500 per year retraining + annual salary of person on site.

Councillor Harlock referred to letter from Mr Pearn implying Thorney Parish Council would be open to litigation if site not dealt with. He also asked if option 1 was agreed would Thorney Parish Council and Peterborough City Council be open to legal proceedings if Health and safety not maintained.

National Law states a trained man must be onsite. Household waste site cannot be run without this. A Public liability insurance policy would need to be purchased and a written risk assessment would be needed.

Councillor Harlock expressed that Chairman was not given enough support from Peterborough City Council.

Peterborough City Council stated that the Chairman had done an excellent job running site and that it was legislation change that meant Thorney Parish Council would be left with the 4 options outlined. This new legislation has occurred over the past 18 months.

Councillor Rowe was concerned that if Thorney Parish Council paid for training it would be very easy for someone to leave employment after the training had finished.

Councillor Murphy confirmed with Peterborough City Council representatives that Peterborough City Council would be fully responsible for option 3.

Councillor Harlock asked who would be responsible for costs associated with underground recycle sites. Peterborough City Council confirmed it would be them.

Councillor Rowe asked about entrance if option 3 was agreed. Peterborough City Council stated that trees would need to be removed and entrance opened which means the fence and gates removed.

Chairman expressed his dissatisfaction of using the same entrance as Concrete Company if site used for a different use type of recycling.

Councillor Harlock expressed view that a new entrance would be needed if option 3 was agreed.

He also asked if cameras would be included as bring site would be open to misuse and fly tipping.

Chairman agreed with these comments.

Councillor Bevington asked how long it would take between closure of site and opening it as a bring site. It was estimated this would take 6-8 weeks.

At this point Councillor Saunders, Mr Pearn and Mr Brown left meeting.

It was asked how much it cost to run Household waste site at the moment -£4500 per annum.

Chairman stated that Household waste site is a unique facility that no other Parish Council in the country has but would cause Thorney Parish Council problems in the future.

Household waste site would not be permanently manned for option 3.

Councillor Harlock suggested that the only option is 3 as risked associated with options 1 were too great for non- qualified people to operate.

A long discussion followed concerning all the options put forward by Peterborough City Council. External funding was discussed but obstacles looked too great to overcome.

Chairman expressed view that a period of reflection was needed to look at options. Meeting booked for 29th January to reach an agreement.

Chairman will contact councillors when he has confirmation of his Grandfather rites.

Household waste site will remain closed until meeting on 29th January.

4. Development in Thorney – Long Term solutions

Councillor Bartlett explained a paper would be going to cabinet that proposed a site of a Peterborough City Council field adjacent to the allotments.

Councillor Bartlett indicated that that a developer has offered to develop a new school but the Head Teacher is against it for following reasons: 1/there would be no IT suite 2/no stage 3/the hall would not be big enough. A new additional building would be welcomed for community use and to form a pre school on the existing site.

Councillor Herdman asked if allotments were sold would the holders be compensated. It was explained that Peterborough City Council has a compensation scheme.

Chairman stated that an agreement must be reached within next few months and that any decisions made will affect village in future.

Councillor Harlock asked if there is minimum section 106 money given to Parish.

Councillor Bartlett said Thorney Parish Council would only get money for improvements from developments in Thorney and obtaining the money from Peterborough City Council was very difficult.

Councillor Bartlett will present Thorney Parish Council wish list at Peterborough City Council cabinet meeting.

A debate took place on the options Thorney Parish Council would like to see for land use concerning development but Peterborough City Council proposals may be 'steam rolled' rolled through.

Councillor Bevington suggested it should be a 'needs list' not a 'wish list'!

Graham law is to be invited to a Thorney Parish Council meeting after the 29th January with the intention of explaining 'planning for real needs' and how Thorney Parish Council can move forward.

At this point Councillors Harlock, Bartlett and Kilham left the meeting and 1 member of the public joined the meeting.

5. Planning

06/02002/FUL Land on the East Side of Station Road Thorney- Residential development comprising 78 dwellings and new access off Station Road – Refer to special meeting later in the month.

06/02022/FUL Land Rear of 8 and 9 Church Street Thorney – Erection of 3 bed dwelling – on a vote 3 for and 4 against. The development spoils ambiance of Abbey and obscures view of Abbey from North East side were the reason to be given to Peterborough City Council for the rejection.

07/00007/FUL 1 Tower Court Station Road- Single and two storey rear extension and single storey extension to side- no objections.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm