

At a meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber,
Tank Yard, Thorney on Monday 11th June 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair: Councillor D. J Buddle

Councillors: J.E.G. Bartlett, R Bevington, Ms. M Herdman, P.A. Rowe,
M. Amps-Woodward, P. Murphy, G. A. Kilham, City Councillor D Sanders (part)
Mr. R Pearn, Mr. M Brown, Peterborough City Council, Mr. R Munro, Environment
Agency (concerning Household waste site)
Mr. Rob Smith, Peterborough City Council, Planning for Real
1 member of the public present.

Before the meeting 10 minutes was allowed for public discussion.

1. Apologies
W VanDriessche, E. Gee, R.M. Harlock, PCSO Brader
2. Minutes
The minutes of the previous Meetings held on 16 May and 22 May (copies of which had previously been circulated to all members) were signed.
3. Matters arising from minutes.
 - 3.1 Letter from Councillor VanDriessche noting that although he was elected to the Household Waste Site Committee a meeting was held on site with the new operator on 25th May and he was not invited to attend although 2 non-members of the committee did attend. Agreed this was an oversight and will not re-occur. Apologies for any offence that may have been caused.
4. Planning
 - 4.1 Planning for Real – Visit by Mr. Rob Smith – he introduced the growth of Peterborough and then highlighted the possible development off Station Road. Peterborough City Council committed to neighbourhood investment – which means involving the local residents. The “Planning for Real” process will involve local people, local organisations and look at the whole village. Possible involvement with Cambs ACRE.
Councillor Herdman made the case for Thorney to remain as at present – a very pretty village that did not need expansion.
Councillor Bevington said that Thorney was made a priority for a study because of the prospect of Peterborough City Council being able to sell their land for development – Mr. Smith did not know if Peterborough City Council had a valuation of this land.
Noise from the bypass was mentioned.
If there was any major development the local services (school, surgery, etc.) would be overwhelmed. Mr. Smith said these are things that would come out of a study and be addressed. There would be answers and options available.

At this point Councillor Sanders joined the meeting

Any development would have to have 30% affordable housing. Sheltered housing would only be available for larger developments.

“Opportunity Peterborough” has a consultant reviewing the whole area, including Thorney. Councillor Bartlett was worried that Thorney would be swamped by large scale development.

The “Community Planning” exercise to start late Summer/early Autumn.

4.2 Planning for Real – formation and terms of reference and confirmation of working group members. Committee to be called Community Planning Committee chaired by Councillor Bevington with Councillors Buddle, Rowe, Murphy and Herdman. Councillor Evans has also expressed an interest in this committee.

4.3 SWOT Analysis Committee formation – combined with Community Planning Committee

4.4 Current Planning Applications

07/00580/LBC For Change of use of stable block to physiotherapy studio at Cheriton House The Green Thorney and 07/00581/FUL For Change of use to physiotherapy studio at Cheriton House The Green Thorney. Notice from Peterborough City Council List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest stated “The listing of a building covers the whole building, including the interior.” Councillor Bevington explained the application – Councillor Bartlett took no part in the discussion.

Members of the public had made representations about this application before this meeting. These were:

- Much concern regarding vehicle parking and the likelihood that overflow traffic will encroach on The Green. This is a very narrow street and the historic Green could be damaged by off road parking.
- The application shows roof lights – are these allowed in a conservation area.
- Was a change of use from residential to business use although in a residential area.

Thorney Parish Council was concerned with accessibility and insufficient parking units on site. This is a very narrow street and the historic Green could be damaged by off road parking. The Green is not protected by a kerbline and the increased flow of traffic on this road could result in damage to the Green. Provision must be made to restrict parking and repair damage that may occur.

Thorney Parish Council was concerned with change of use from residential to commercial. The application must be considered with the B&B application as only 5 parking spaces are shown on the plan and the family own 4 vehicles. There is not enough off street parking for commercial use.

Thorney Parish Council was concerned that the floor in the outbuilding was to be lifted and stored for future use – surely the floor is part of the listed building status and should remain.

There appears to be no consideration given to the Village Design Statement in the application.

There is a suspicion that the plans do not represent the original building in as much that a flight of stairs has already been removed.

07/00626/FUL For Siting of mobile catering unit at Layby On A47 West And West Of Cats Water Drain The Causeway – not in Thorney Parish

07/00761/FUL For Change of Use of existing farm buildings, new vehicular access and associated parking, picnic areas and play areas at Pigeon's Farm Wisbech Road – Councillor Kilham declared a prejudicial interest and took no part in the discussion – Thorney Parish Council support this application.

07/00759 Rear conservatory, Owls Rest, Poplar Farm, Willow Hall Lane – no objection

4.5 Planning Applications Passed/Refused/withdrawn

07/00614 Certificate of Lawful use of development – 2 Abbey Place

07/00342 Wrydecroft House New Cut – conversion and alterations

07/00601 The Lindens, Northey Road – rear conservatory

07/00590 White Hart Farm, English Drove – erection barn

4.6 Consideration of proposals for determining planning applications (paper by Councillor Bevington attached as appendix) – left to next meeting

5. Household Recycling Centre – Visit by Mr. R Pearn, Mr. M Brown (Peterborough City Council), Mr. R Munro (Environment Agency)

Allianz Cornhill Insurance Company confirm we have public liability cover for up to £5m

A copy of the notes made by Councillor Buddle of the meeting held between Mr. Dufeu and Councillors Buddle, Amps-Woodward, Rowe and Murphy were circulated before the meeting and are included as an appendix.

The Chairman gave a resume' of past happenings and past costs. It is likely that the future running costs would be in excess of £700 per month.

Mr. Pearn re-iterated that up to £50,000 may need to be spent for modifications in accordance with the plans that were submitted to him by Thorney Parish Council.

Mr. Monro, Environment Agency, said that Thorney Parish Council were the licence holder of the site and must adhere to it. He would like to see a site complying with licence rather than no site at all. He would be happy with Mr. Dufeu as the manager of the site (Mr. Dufeu has the correct qualifications confirmed by Mr. Pearn). Thorney Parish Council would still be liable for the correct licence obligations.

The Grandfather rights held by Councillor VanDriessche expired in October 2006 although Councillor VanDriessche has never been told to stop operating the site. There was no problem with the site continuing to operate as at present so long as the licence conditions were met. The license conditions are different to the H&S considerations.

Councillor Amps-Woodward explained the reason for the recent site meeting.

Mr. Pearn to email a typical contract that could be modified to be adopted between Thorney Parish Council and Mr. Dufeu.

Mr. Brown said that white goods, batteries and some other items were not allowed on the site due to recent regulations. He also said that Peterborough City Council spend £22,000 running the Household Waste Site. Mr. Pearn to supply leaflets on how to dispose of certain items direct from peoples homes.

Mr. Pearn made reference to the plans submitted by Thorney Parish Council and he estimated the cost of their implementation to be £50,000. With some minor alterations

the plans were good. Councillor Rowe asked if Peterborough City Council would contribute to the work but Mr. Pearn said Peterborough City Council would contribute to R&M costs not capital outlay.

The Chairman asked “do Thorney Parish Council wish to continue operating the site”. The alternatives to not operate the site had been listed before. Another alternative would be to finance a collection service.

A bring site was again discussed – money is available from the Peterborough City Council and other sources of matched funding for conversion.

Councillor Bartlett highlighted the problems of siting more glass banks. However, Mr. Pearn said that by the end of the year it should be possible to include glass in the existing household green bins. New plant is being installed to sort this at the depot. Councillor Amps-Woodward said the green bins were not big enough now.

At this point Councillor Sanders, Mr. Brown, Mr. Pearn and Mr. Monro left the meeting

Councillor Bartlett said the costs involved in running the site were unsustainable. Agreed to hold another meeting to discuss this topic on Monday 25 June at 7pm.

6. Crime Report

PCSO Crime report. Dealt with at meeting 4 June. Crimes gradually going down. Only 3 serious incidents in May

Parking inconsiderately is generating more incidents than in the past.

18 crimes in April with 5 in May (12 and 7 in corresponding months last year)

Thefts from vehicles becoming an issue in the village. Rural related crime reduction being targeted by a special Police unit.

PCSO Brader now spending between 60 and 70% of his time in Thorney. He needs to make his presence known in the village

7. Allotments

7.1 Following the visit 6th June the following allotments needed attention: Numbers 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35, 36, 37, 38. These were heavily overgrown.

Two decisions were made

1. Immediate action – Mr. Stevenson to be asked to flail those overgrown with weeds, spray off the weeds in August and the tenants informed a charge will be levied.

2. Long term tenant policy – tenants notified their agreement will not be renewed in October

7.2 Review of charges. At present the charges are £10.00 per unit and will be left at this rate

8. Roads and Footpaths

8.1 Street lighting –

8.2 Other roads and footpaths

8.2.1 13, Topham Crescent – footpath and road breaking up after gas installation

8.2.2 Trees overhanging footpath in Station Road

- 8.2.3 Road between Thorney and The Dog-in-Doublet in very poor condition – cracks in road and severe undulations
- 8.2.4 Mr. Ewing to be invited to future meeting to explain Peterborough City Council road repair policy.

9. Burial Board

9.1 Following the visit 6th June the maintenance of the cemetery was in very good order but the following items needed attention.

9.1.1 New footpath from gate to cremated remains area. Memorial seat needs to be repositioned to accommodate this. Clerk to try and contact relatives although there is no “Williamson” on the Thorney electoral register. It was proposed by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Amps-Woodward and unanimously agrees to accept Mr. Jary’s quotation of £380.70 for this work.

9.1.2 Cremated remains area with memorial stones at ground level. Many of the memorials are not level with the surrounding ground level or with each other. Mr. Lucken cannot trim the grass as it is very dangerous from the loose stones. He has weed killed the area. The best solution is to kerb the area, level the memorial stones and fill around the exposed ground with white granite chippings. It was proposed by Councillor Bevington, seconded by Councillor Amps-Woodward and unanimously agreed to accept Mr. Jary’s quotation of £866.08 for this work. Notices will be displayed near the cremated remains area to advertise Thorney Parish Council intentions.

9.1.3 A sycamore tree is splitting down the V of the central trunk. If one of the stems break it will smash nearby headstones. Mr. Lucken to remove the tree in the winter period.

9.1.4 It was agreed that the Cemetery looked in very good maintenance order thanks to the efforts of Mr. Lucken. It was also agreed to inspect the cemetery more regularly.

9.2 Review of charges. It was proposed by Councillor Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Rowe and unanimously agreed to leave the charges as at present.

9.3 Other matters

Letter of thanks from Thorney P C C for Thorney Parish Council continued support in grass cutting at the Abbey

Request use of Village Green June 16th for stalls – celebration St Botolph’s day – unanimously agreed.

10. Consideration as to length of service time of Chairman and Vice Chairman. It was proposed by Councillor Rowe, seconded by Councillor Amps-Woodward and unanimously agreed that the maximum continuous length of service of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would be 4 years

11. Standards Committee representative for Peterborough City Council panel

Councillor Bartlett already on this panel from a Peterborough City Council perspective – left to next meeting

12. Village street scene – plans still in the course of preparation. Councillor Bartlett to contact acting Head of Highways

13. Correspondence/Any Other Business

13.1 Acre circulars, CALC information- circulated

13.2 Various Countryside Agency publications – circulated

13.3 Peterborough’s Rural Working Group – invitation to workshop

“Delivering the Rural Vision”. Invitation to Bedford Hall 5th July 18.30 – 20.00

13.4 Hovercraft Club of Great Britain invitation to annual race at Bank Farm 28th 29th July.

13.5 The Code of Conduct: information booklet and pocket guide. Issued to those present. There will be an agenda item for the July meeting concerning the adoption of new rules.

13.6 War Memorial on Village Green. It was agreed in principle that Mr. Jary erect a War Memorial on the Village Green. Plans would have to be drawn up and a planning application made. It was agreed that Mr. Jary’s suggestion was a very good idea.

13.7 Planning application for tea room still to be received.

14. Finance

14.1 Chairman’s Allowance. It was moved by Councillor Murphy seconded by Councillor Herdman and agreed that the Chairman’s allowance for the municipal year 2007/2008 be £120.00.

14.2 The following sums had been received:-

<i>From</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Peterborough City Council	Precept	£25,132.00
Thorney R U F C	Loan repayment	£125.00
Anglia Regional Coop Ser	Inter Mr. Harford	£340.00
Peterborough City Council	Refund bank charge	£35.00
Mr. Fitzjohn	Inter Mrs. Fitzjohn S18	£400.00
EDF Energy	Wayleaves	£41.30

The following Cheques were drawn and signed:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mr. D Buddle	Chairmans Allowance	001463	£120.00
Mr. A E Hovell	Telephone, postage, etc	001464	£31.13
Shanks Waste Management	Cemetery skip	001465	£88.80
Mr. J Tindall	Internal Audit	001466	£290.00
Mr. B Smith	Repairs to fence	001467	£146.68
Mr. J M Dufeu	Household Waste Site Management	001468	£576.66

The next meeting will be held on 25 June to discuss Household Waste Site with a full meeting 9 July 2007

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Appendix 1

Minutes by the Chairman

Thorney Skip and Recycling Site.

Meeting with John Dufeu Friday 25th May 2007.

Present Councillors: - D.J. Buddle, P. Rowe, P. Murphy, M. Amps-Woodward.

Information: - John Dufeu, 17 Haybarn Drive, Deeping St. Nicholas, Lincs. Home Tel- 01775 630575

Mobile- 07860 154721

Site opening hours:-

Sunday- 9am to mid-day; Bank Holidays- 9am to 1pm; Possible future opening Thursday 6pm to 8pm.

Labour Costs

£10.00p gross per hour at all times, payable by TPC i.e. 3hrs X £10.00p X 2 operatives each Sunday.

Two operatives on site at all times. How much is actually paid to each employee?

Insurance

Public Liability as at present.

Other Costs

Uniforms- Trousers and T-shirts, Yard Jackets payable by TPC.

John Dufeu is in overall control and believes he will have a 3 year contract. This will involve an annual fee of £2000 payable in monthly instalments for professional fees in running the site.

He believes it will be necessary to concrete all the grass areas on site and to create another entrance because of the limitations imposed by Health and Safety Issues in regard to the operations of The Concrete Company. Costs to be estimated.

His proposals for the site involve longer opening hours and the need for the new entrance. Further expense.

There is an urgent need for a water supply to comply with legislation. A bowser of water would be suitable. Further costs.

John Dufeu claims he has had no contact with PCC but has talked to the Environment Agency.

Who has keys to the site? New locks to be fitted. Further expense.

Any skips that belong to PCC and are filled by residents cost us extra money. Those skips provided by J. Dufeu cost us nothing.

We need to get a notice into The Thorney Post which makes clear what the site will not accept. These items are WHITE GOODS, ASBESTOS, MANURE, TYRES, and BATTERIES.

Trailers with a length greater than 6 feet are not permitted on site.