

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held under the Local Authorities And Police And Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility Of Local Authority And Police And Crime Panel Meetings) (England And Wales) Regulations 2020 by Zoom on Monday 8 March 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: Mrs. D Halfhide, R. Bevington, N. Potts, Mrs K Howard, Mrs A Willans, M Mari, W VanDriessche

Peterborough City Councillors R Brown

1 member of the public. Public discussion - none

1898/20-21 To receive and approve apologies for absence and welcome new member
Peterborough City Councillors N Simons, S Allen, Thorney Parish Councillor A. Butt, N Simons

The Chairman welcomed Mr VanDriessche to membership of Thorney Parish Council
The Chairman explained she has spoken to Mr Bunyan who no longer wished to be a Thorney Parish Council member. His vacancy will be advertised.

1899/20-21 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

1900/20-21 To approve minutes of the meeting of 8 February 2021

Minutes of the Council meeting and bank reconciliation held on 8 February 2021 were confirmed and sent to Chair who signed them

1901/20-21 Matters arising from minutes

New bench seat in position on The Green and letter of thanks received

Community Fund used to provide 7 laptops for school children's home schooling. Delivered to Duke of Bedford School for onward transmission

1902/20-21 Matters for Information and Reports

1. Bedford Hall Management Committee – hall still closed. Building checked weekly. Looking at ways to re-open, deep clean, notices, bookings
2. Bedford Hall working group – Peterborough City Council will fund correction of damp in museum. Peterborough City Council asked for a formal letter explaining why they wish to renegotiate the Bedford Hall lease
3. Food Bank – Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk had zoom meeting with foodbank volunteer organiser – 42 baskets of food were delivered in the last week February of which 6 went to Eye and the rest to Thorney. There is a method of stock control and delivery. Delivery is shared by volunteers and presents no problem at present

Posters and leaflets (for letterbox drop-off) are being produced to advertise the foodbank with the purpose of informing those that do not use social media

Reinforced the policy that only 2 people are allowed in the room at the same time to comply with our covid19 risk assessment.

With the extended furlough scheme announced by Central Government till September it is likely that the foodbank will operate throughout the summer. The organiser is comfortable at present with the thought for this extended period. Thorney Parish Council is acting as a facilitator for the foodbank and administrator of money. To replenish items the volunteer will directly purchase and then Thorney Parish Council will reimburse those receipted costs from the foodbank fund not from public money raised through the precept.

Fund raising is ongoing. Recently a large number of teddy bears have been donated – to raffle those a gambling license will be obtained by the foodbank organiser. The Rose and Crown are also involved in fund raising with hearts containing goodwill messages for covid19 sufferers tied to its railings.

Funding of food and finance has been received from Thorney and Eye (residents and businesses)

A sign for the window of the Parish Room is being produced to give opening and drop off times. A frame board will go on Station Road on days foodbank is open.

A dedicated phone and number is being considered.
If the organiser needs help, she will contact the Clerk.

1904/20-21 Report from City Councillors.

Although Norfolk Property Services (subsidiary of Peterborough City Council) were asked by the City Councillors to implement the allotment track repair at Thorney Parish Council cost no action had taken place. As the repair quote was given by Aragon a City Councillor then asked them, through the appropriate Peterborough City Council Officer, to carry out the work as soon as possible.

Park entrance issue – road planings have been placed in the entrance to Thorney Park from Tavistock Close to successfully alleviate flooding on the park side of the bridge. This has led to issues for users of prams and walking equipment with the large lumps and uneven surface. A small strip of the new surface should be replaced with concrete for safe access for all.

A resident suggested a tennis wall near the tennis courts would be a good facility

1905/20-21 Finance

The following were received in February/March

H E Bull	Inter Mr Harriss	£650.00
Foodbank contribution		£5.00
H E Bull	Reserve grave space	£475.00
Foodbank contribution		£50.00
Peterborough City Council	Grant for foodbank covid19 safety	£415.00

To approve the following paid in March

Salaries		£3082.20	LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50
Office, email, and ISP payment		£70.17	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cambs County Council		£372.54	LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50
Inland Revenue		£847.10 £313.42	LGA 1972 s112, 151 / LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1 / Highways Act 1980 s43, 50
Veolia	Skip at cemetery	£64.06	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
RTC Groundcare	Mower service	£865.71	Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1
Capalc	Membership	£660.38	LGA 1972 sections 111
Peterborough City Council	Repair allotment track	£1700.00	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
Wave	Water charges allotments	£20.08	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
Wave	Water charges cemetery	£11.72	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
Cemetery	Petrol for mowers	£21.00	Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1
CAPALC	Councillor training	£150.00	LGA 1972 sections 111
Viking-Direct	Foodbank stationery	£42.89	LGA 1972 sections 111
Land Search	Allotment documents	£89.92	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42

1. To approve accounts for payment – circulated to Councillors before meeting - approved
2. Monthly bank reconciliation circulated – approved.
3. Update given by Bedford Hall Treasurer. Looking into reducing to one skip
4. Carved village sign– Chairman to receive sign
5. Field end of Gas Lane (financial consideration only) – following the survey carried out by NPS surveyor it was unanimously agreed to accept their quotation of £1700 to carry out the work once specification received

6. Annual salary review – As in previous years the policy was agreed to increase salaries by the percentage as per the Government's increase in the living wage. From gov.uk "The National Living Wage will increase by 2.2%". The increase will take effect from 1st April 2021. The Clerk refused an increase.

1906/20-21 Planning Approvals and Refusals

20/01432/HHFUL for Erection of outbuilding for use as a garden room, office and store at 4 Crown Close: Permitted

21/00009/PRIOR for Replacement agricultural shed at Second House Farm Thorney Dyke: Not Required

19/00854/FUL for Proposed barn conversion and garage block at Oak Barn French Drove - permitted

21/00126/CTR for T.1 Sycamore - Crown lift to 5-6 m, remove branches facing dwelling in lower crown no bigger than 120mm in diameter back to main stem. Reduce branches over dwelling by 1.5-2m at Riddings 2 Orchard Court - permitted

21/00248/CTR for T.1 Silver Birch - Reduce branch growing towards building by approx. 3m to a suitable secondary growing point, to reduce branch end weight. at Duke Of Bedford Primary School Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Withdrawn by Applicant

1907/20-21 Planning Applications and other matters

21/00248/CTR For Remove limb from Birch tree. Reduce by 3m approx at Duke Of Bedford Primary School Wisbech Road – no objections providing Tree Officer approves

21/00150/ Ground and first floor extension to front and rear of property and proposed 4 bay garage Pond House The Park Wisbech Road – The Parish Council have several observations on this application;

The documents state that the property is not visible from the public realm. This is not the case as it is visible from both the Wisbech Road and Thorney Park.

There is a secondary staircase shown at first floor level. Does this give access to additional accommodation which is not shown on the drawings or what is its purpose? This needs to be clarified please.

The Biodiversity Checklist, Question 4 is incorrectly answered as there is a pond in the grounds to the rear of the house. This can be seen on the additional drawings which were requested by the Tree Officer due to inaccurate information in the application about trees on the site.

There remain some feelings that the proposed building is too large in this location and that it may dominate views from the Wisbech Road and the Conservation Area. The second storey above the existing garage is of particular concern on the Wisbech Road frontage in the proposed increase in the mass of the building.

We note the concerns of the neighbouring property to the east in respect of both the garages and extended property. We trust these will be given due attention in the assessment of this application. Should consideration be given to the garages being located to the west of the property rather than immediately adjacent to the boundary fence of the adjacent property to the east?

In the two previous applications made for this extension comments were submitted by Peterborough's Conservation Officers. If they have comments on the current proposals we hope the applicant will take them into account.

Most Parish Councillors do not, at present, oppose this application. They would, however, expect the application to be adjusted to include complete and correct information as in a), b) and c) above and to take note of, as necessary, of any observations from consultees. Councillors would then anticipate the application being resubmitted in order that they, and all other parties, can review and comment on the adjustments.

21/00308/PRIOR For Change of use of Agricultural Barn into two dwelling houses (Class C3) at Barn Adjacent To Causeway Lodge The Causeway - The Conservation Officers comments on this application and objections to it are noted, particularly the point about 'Permitted Development'.

Thorney Parish Council have no objections to two additional dwellings on this site in the location of the derelict barn.

However, they do object to the design, appearance and materials as proposed for the dwellings in this application. There are no other corrugated metal panelled dwellings in Thorney village. The dwellings are not in keeping with the approved houses on the immediately adjacent site and their design seems to be unnecessarily subservient to the form and volume of the barn they replace. We would prefer and support the footprint of the barn being used as the basis for the design of two new dwellings, providing they are more in keeping with the materials, design, details and character of the neighbouring 4 dwellings that have already been approved.

We therefore confirm that we do not approve the content of this application but would be pleased to consider alternative proposals.

Anglian Water's proposed Grantham to Bexwell Pipeline. AWA previously wrote in September last year regarding the proposed Peterborough to Bexwell pipeline. Their reply to our request for more information was "As part of the iterative design process undertaken by Anglian Water, this pipeline scheme has now been merged with the Peterborough to Bexwell Pipeline Scheme. These two schemes were originally programmed separately but it has been concluded that the entire length of this combined section of pipeline can be designed and delivered as one and it is therefore our intention to seek the necessary planning consent for it as a single scheme 'the Grantham to Bexwell Pipeline'. We are currently continuing our environmental assessment work and will be submitting our planning application later in the year".

The proposed pipeline is anticipated to be buried below existing ground level for its entire length and be capable of allowing 67 megalitres of potable water per day from Wilsford Heath (near Grantham) to Etton (in steel pipes no more than 850mm diameter), and 35 megalitres per day from Etton to Bexwell (in steel pipes no more than 660mm diameter). Most of the pipeline is expected to be constructed through 'open cut' techniques, with trenchless techniques applied for railway, major road, and waterway crossings.

The pipeline continues in an easterly direction towards Milking Nook, site of an additional temporary lagoon, before crossing the B1443 and passing to the north of Newborough. A Main compound and temporary lagoon are also provided where the pipeline crosses the A16. **The pipeline continues to run broadly parallel with the B1443 towards Thorney, where a further temporary lagoon and satellite compound are proposed to the north of the village. The pipeline runs broadly parallel to the north of the A47 as it heads to the east and beyond the authority area.** A further two temporary lagoons are proposed along the route of the pipeline close to the B1167.

Overview

- Pipeline appears to be mostly located in the fields North of the Thorney running alongside the A47.
- The construction corridor will typically take place within a 40m wide 'corridor'.
- A temporary lagoon satellite compound is proposed to the north of the village.
- No specific timeline: the entire project is expected to complete within a 14-month period.
- No specific Maintenance easement details or requirement mentioned.

1908/20-21 Burial Authority

None

1909/20-21 Roads and Footpaths

1. Speeding in village – no further feedback from Peterborough City Council Highways suggesting a major scheme was needed. Peterborough City Council Annex department who deals with road safety in Peterborough are investigating Whittlesey Road. Long discussion concerning number of vehicles using this road. Past vibration studies have not found any vibration from vehicles within adjacent road properties. City Councillor gave details of traffic calming schemes in other Parishes. Hopefully, speed check teams will soon be operational.
2. The footpath on Wisbech Road to the east of the village is badly cracked and is in the city council's 2021 budget for repairs.

1910/20-21 Allotments

Track to allotments – Discussed under finance and City Councillors report

1911/20-21 Village Matters

1. Consideration to hold separate events for public participation – NALC suggest to engage with community more the formal environment of a Council meeting is less appealing to public participation. Feedback and continuity to individuals is important. Surgeries or coffee mornings discussed as a way forward.
2. Revisit the idea of a skatepark for the village – parish councillor/s have recently joined neighbouring parishes Facebook pages so that we can see what is happening elsewhere and anything of note will be reported to other members. It is a consideration that there would be an opportunity to put a ramp in (not a full-blown skate-park) at the same time as a possible new pavilion is built. Peterborough City Council are looking to provide a new pavilion, but no plans or schedule have yet been released.
Skate-parks had earned a bad reputation in the past but were now being installed in a number of parks in the area and research showed they helped reduce juvenile crime in areas where they were installed, and police were now supportive of them. The pavilion could provide low power lighting and security cameras on the skate ramp if required.
Before progressing the idea further it will be investigated if planning permission was likely to be granted and the idea needs to be coordinated with the pavilion. There was concern that any position in the park was likely to be too close to houses.

1912/20-21 Social Media

Engaging with the community - The use of online polls via our Facebook page. This may be considered to determine a way in which Thorney Parish Council should proceed. Questions would have to be agreed by full council before publication and the feedback then examined

1913/20-21 Social Media Policy update

Thorney Parish Council present policy was circulated prior to the meeting. It was considered it was still current but will be reviewed annually. There are now 3 Facebook groups operating in Thorney and it is time consuming to keep posting the same information
Procedure issues will be brought back to council when they occur

1914/20-21 Website update

Our website must be compliant with The Public Bodies (websites and Mobile Applications) Regulations 2018 – progressing. Email addresses to Council members will be updated

1915/21-21 Facebook Posts

Discussed. Noted that a greengrocer now operated from Rose and Crown car park

1916/20-21 Correspondence

Dealt with by email circulation

1917/20-21 Matters as agenda items for future consideration

1918/20-21 Any other business

Lettering on war memorial. Stone mason at Crowland to be asked to investigate

1919/20-21 Date of next meeting

The meeting closed 9.10pm. Next Meeting of the Parish Council 12th April 2021

1. Timber Post Village Signs

Voluntary work on one of the timber post village signs is progressing and the sign is being given a new lease of life. It is anticipated that the same treatment can be applied to at least two, if not all three, of the other signs which, at present, remain in place at entrances to the village. If a sign proves to be beyond economic repair alternatives will be discussed. Progress to be checked on the sign undergoing repairs.

2. Allotment Track

Specification for proposed repairs to track to be requested and consultation with tenant farmer will take place prior to any work taking place

3. War Memorial Lettering at the Bedford Hall

The person who is looking after this is getting a quote for the reinstatement of the lettering

4. Speeding Measures Whittlesey Road

Speed checks on this road have led the City Council to believe that a more major scheme than those previously being considered is required. This matter has, therefore, been passed to the PCC Annexe Department who will review it as requiring a particular road safety scheme.