

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 Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: Mrs. D Halfhide, N. Potts, Mrs K Howard, Mrs A Willans, A. Butt, N Simons, S Williamson, W VanDriessche, M Mari  
Peterborough City Councillors N Simons  
1 member of the public.

Public discussion – the Chair of Governors Duke of Bedford School explained that the swimming pool was in need of urgent repair and was out of service. Suggested remedial work made the option to renew a better alternative. The school is therefore now embarking on a large fundraising campaign to raise the funds needed to have a new swimming pool installed as it is recognised that having this resource at the school is incredibly important especially as a rural village school where waterways are in close proximity and important that children have the chance to learn how to be safe in water.

A new pool would be from £35,000 upwards and could include an enclosure to make year round use. The school has 240 children on role and the proposed project has good community support. A new pool could be in use for 2022

**1941/21-22 To elect Chairman of the Council for the municipal year until the Annual Meeting in 2022**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Councillor Long be elected Chairman for the municipal year 2021/2022.

**1942/21-22 Declaration of Acceptance of Office Chairman**

Councillor Long signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

**1943/21-22 To Appoint the Vice Chairman for a similar period.**

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Halfhide be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2021/2022.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Butt be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2021/2022.

Following a zoom poll it was agreed that Councillor Butt be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2021/2022.

**1944/21-22 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Peterborough City Councillors Allen and Brown  
Mr Shearman

**1945/21-22 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

**1946/21-22 To approve minutes of the meeting of 12 April 2021**

Minutes of the Council meeting and bank reconciliation held on 12 April 2021 were confirmed and sent to Chair who signed them

**1947/21-22 Matters arising from minutes**

Covered later in agenda items

**1948/21-22 Matters for Information and Reports**

1. Bedford Hall Management Committee – full reopening discussions ongoing Bookings being taken. Old bar stock will be cleaned out when lettings are known. AGM still to be scheduled

2. Bedford Hall working group – A meeting will be arranged to bring everyone upto date once all Thorney Parish Council vacancies filled. No discussion about the future of the Bedford Hall has taken place during the last 12 months apart from a zoom meeting with City Culture Peterborough, who have taken over from Vivacity, which confirmed that a library will remain in Thorney without giving any details about that.  
Thorney Parish Council is unsure at present who future discussions about the building will be with. Unfortunately, Cate Harding has moved on so we do not have a point of contact at the City Council at the moment.

Long discussion on the way forward for this group.

Tender out for remedial work on museum damp

3. Food Bank – use of premises in Church Street - The building has been empty for some years, therefore, before the Parish Council takes occupation checks in respect of services are being undertaken by Aragon.

A licence between Peterborough City Council and Thorney Parish Council for the room occupation will be drawn up. The nominated holder on behalf of Thorney Parish Council will be the Clerk who will complete the due diligence forms for Peterborough City Council.

Thorney Parish Council would like the following conditions:

The licence should be in the name of Thorney Parish Council.

It should limit the use of the building for the purposes of housing the Foodbank only and for no other use.

It should expire as of the last day of this year as it is not expected that the Foodbank will run beyond that date but we would like it to be renewable should that be required.

The Parish Council can notify Peterborough City Council and cancel the licence if it is no longer required at any time during its duration.

As the premises have stood empty for in excess of 6 years a clean will be carried out and the Caretakers of Bedford Hall will be asked if they would do that

4. Agree dates for future meetings – 14<sup>th</sup> June, 12<sup>th</sup> July, No meeting in August, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 11<sup>th</sup> October, 8<sup>th</sup> November, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7<sup>th</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 11<sup>th</sup> April, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022

### 1949/21-22 Report from City Councillors.

Swings that are missing in Park will soon be replaced

Should not encourage firepits in Park

Will expedite lease on field end Gas Lane with NPS

### 1950/21-22 Finance

The following were received in April

Foodbank donation	£5.00
Inter Miss Grunow	£550.00
Inter Mrs Bramley	£650.00
Peterborough City Council Precept	£26,885.00
J G Cross memorial	£40.00
Eye Coop	£1100.00

To approve the following paid in April

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, printing, 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	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.
Cemetery	Petrol for mowers	£56.91	Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1
NFU	Tradesman Insurance	£484.93	LGA 1972 s114, Employers Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 s140, 140a, 112. RTA's, LGA 1972 s111
Came and Co	Parish Council Insurance	£961.43	LGA 1972 s114, Employers Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 s140, 140a, 112. RTA's, LGA 1972 s111
Aragon	Allotment track	£5026.56	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
canalbs ltd	Internal Audit	£159.25	Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 26 and 27 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)
RTC Groundcare	Repair lawnmower	£403.11	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
HP	Printing costs for April	£9.99	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142

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.
4. Covid cleaning Lounge area for future meetings – contract to BHMC. As a minimum after use all surfaces should be cleaned with an antibacterial solution including all touch points, also as toilets are used these should be thoroughly cleaned.
4. Carved village sign– Chairman to receive sign
5. Audit report. Use of official Thorney Parish Council email addresses highlighted and continue to seek best value for services.
6. Duke of Bedford swimming pool replacement and allotment track installation – use of CIL  
Thorney Parish Council wishes to spend, and has agreed, some of its CIL contributions on
  - a. the allotments' access. This crosses a Peterborough City Council owned field that Thorney Parish Council is to take a lease of 20 years to develop for community use. Part of the CIL use is to put in a hard core access tract to the allotments. The tracks at present meander across the field causing considerable damage.
  - b. The Duke of Bedford school swimming pool is beyond repair and needs replacing. This is used for school children only

The Peterborough City Council Senior Planning Obligations Officer has replied to our request “Thank you for contacting me to advise whether the proposed projects are eligible for the allocation of Neighbourhood Portion of CIL.  
I confirm that both projects that you describe are eligible for the allocation of Neighbourhood Portion of CIL”.

It was agreed in principle a contribution, with amount to be determined at a future date, be made towards a new swimming pool at the Duke of Bedford School. It is expected that a CIL contribution would supplement other grant funding sources such as the Wryde Croft Wind Farm Community Scheme.
7. Chairman Allowance - the Chairman stated she would only claim expenses as and when they occurred rather than accept a yearly allowance

## 1951/21-22 Planning Approvals and Refusals

21/00348/PR IOR 29 St Marys Close - Single storey rear extension Distance from original rear wall: 5m  
Maximum height: 4m (to eaves: 4m – refused)

21/00092/HFUL Three Oaks French Drove - Single storey front extension, addition of wider front and rear entrance doors, alterations to existing doors and windows to east side elevation – permitted

21/00505/CTR Thorney Abbey House Abbey Place - T.1 Beech - Raise crown to an even height, by removing small secondary branches from large low lateral limbs to achieve a height of upto 3m above the garage. - permitted

## 1952/21-22 Planning Applications and other matters

21/00150/HHFUL - Ground and first floor extension to front and rear of property at Pond House, The Park, Wisbech Road

A majority of Thorney Parish Council are opposed to this development (4 objections, 3 no objections) The Parish Council have several observations on this application;

a) 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. Thorney Parish Council continue to have concerns over the visual impact this large development would have on the conservation area of Thorney.

b) 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.

c) 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 on the north facing side is of particular concern on Wisbech Road frontage in the proposed increase in the mass of the building. This would become a dominant view from Wisbech Road, detracting from an otherwise picturesque street scene.

Thorney is an historic village and all efforts should be made to uphold the conservation status parts of the village hold. We support the conservation officers comments in this regard.

We are pleased the issue with the garage raised by neighbours has been addressed, by way or removing this from the application.

We are in full support of the Peterborough's Conservation Officers comments, who share many of our concerns and we hope the planning department and the applicant will take them into account. A majority of Parish Councillors now oppose this application.

We had hoped that the application would 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.

21/00532/HHFUL First floor extension to rear at 87A Wisbech Road

21/00631/HHFUL Reposition external air conditioning unit mounted on south wall to east wall - 2 Beech Close

21/00672/PRIOR Agricultural storage building at Land Off Sommer Close – no objection

**1953/20-21 Members of Committees. Councillors Responsibilities**

1. Burial and Allotments- Councillors Mari, Williamson
2. Planning - Councillors Potts (Chair, co-ordinator) with all members
3. Countryside - Councillors Simons and Long
4. Pote Hole Liaison - Councillor Long, Simons
5. Finance – Councillors Butt, Halfhide
6. Thorney Park – Councillors Potts, Shearman, Simons, Howard
7. Police Liaison – Councillors Simons, Willans
8. Complaints – Councillors Chairman, Cllr Howard
9. Health and Safety/Risk Assessment – Councillors Mari, Willans
10. Peterborough City Council committees – Parish Liaison – Councillors Long, Simons, Willans
11. Bedford Hall working group – Chair, vice chair, Cllr VanDriessche
12. Employment – Chairman, Councillor VanDriessche
13. Social Media - Councillors Halfhide, Potts, Howard
14. Youth Council co-ordinator Cllr Howard
15. Thorney Post co-ordinator Cllrs Long, Shearman
16. Good Neighbour liaison
17. Phone box liaison - Cllr Butt

**1954/21-22 Burial Authority**

None

### **1955/21-22 Roads and Footpaths**

1. Bollards The Causeway. The plastic bollards on the south side of the former A47 east of the village were discussed, and the council voted to have them removed, which the City Council Highways staff have agreed to do. Advice will be taken on the bollard on the north side of the road.
2. Speeding in village – no further feedback from Peterborough City Council Highways suggesting a major scheme was needed despite repeated requests
3. Speedwatch re-established

### **1956/21-22 Allotments**

Track to allotments – Discussed under finance.

At the rear of plot 11 there are fairly large sheets of asbestos (behind the plot and over the low fence at the back edge).

Access track complete

Water leak at one standpipe repaired

### **1957/20-21 Village Matters**

1. Re-establishment of outreach Post Office in Parish Room will happen once foodbank relocated to Church Street. Present co-ordination with Mr Bevington will continue with backup Cllr Butt
2. Skate ramp update – initial costs range from £40,000 to £70,000. Will coordinate with planning and the pavilion project
3. Adoption Red Phone box - ongoing
4. Local list of heritage asserts – Thorney Society wish to add Pill Boxes. Cllrs Halfhide and Willans to liaise
5. Yarn Bombing by WI – Yarn bombing is the practice of knitted works of art being added to public places. For example, a yarn bomber may design some sort of colourful knitted pattern and wrap it around a bus stop. WI wish to celebrate centenary across Isle of Ely with yarn bombing across the village
6. Picnic in Park – suggested again for this year
7. War memorial Bedford Hall – re- inscription being arranged with stone mason. Thorney Parish Council has power under Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1 to finance this

### **1958/20-21 Website update**

Update - To comply with The Public Bodies (websites and Mobile Applications) Regulations 2018  
Will go live shortly

### **1959/20-21 Facebook Posts**

### **1960/20-21 Correspondence**

### **1961/20-21 Matters as agenda items for future consideration**

Youth Council

Picnic in Park

Skills Audit

Presentation Good Neighbour Liaison

### **1962/20-21 Any other business**

### **1963/20-21 Date of next meeting**

Parish Council Meeting 14 June 2021