

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Bedford Hall, Thorney
on Monday 10 July 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: B. Parker, N. Potts, S. Winwright, J Shearman, Mrs K Howard, Mrs A Willans
Peterborough City Councillor R Ray
0 members of the public.

Public discussion – none

2443/23-24 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apologies from Thorney Parish Councillor Mrs. D Halfhide, S Williamson
Peterborough City Councillors S Allen N Simons

2444/23-24 To receive Disclosable 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.

2445/23-24 To approve minutes of the meeting of 12th June 2023

Minutes of the Council meeting and bank reconciliation held on 12 June 2023 were
confirmed and signed by Chairman.

2446/23-24 Matters arising from minutes and reports.

Viridor - our application for £30,000.00 was granted towards the pavilion extension but has a 12
month draw down time limit.

2447/23-24 Report from City Councillors.

Bedford Hall roof gullies clearing – will chase for a response.

Pavilion Roof water pooling on roof – contractor has rejected our submission that roof must be
repaired at his cost. Further discussion needed.

Number 36 bus service withdrawal by Stagecoach – City Councillors feel the only solution is to
have the XL detour through Eye so that Thorney residents have a bus service to the Eye Doctor's
Surgery. Accordingly, they have made representations through the Combined Authority. To get
Stagecoach to retract the cancellation on No 36, reinstate and rejig their timetable changes is
unlikely. Discussion ongoing with combined authority.

A member stated that Peterborough City Council were taking £1.75m from residents in Thorney
Parish in Council Tax – the only services we see for that money are grass cutting in the Park,
refuse collection and very little else. If Peterborough City Council contributed more money to
Thorney Parish Council we could then fund a bus service that Peterborough City Council seem
unable to do.

Cllr Ray - the council provides social care support for many adults and children in Thorney,
administrative support, highways maintenance as required and many other services that are within
our responsibility to deliver. We shouldn't have to fund this service from the City or Parish Council
funds. This is the responsibility of the Combined Authority, and Thorney Residents pay a precept
(via their council tax) to the Combined Authority which is supposed to be for buses.

A member stated that there is a similar position with a Police presence in Thorney – our
contribution from the Council Tax should fund a local Police presence. Cllr Ray - Peterborough
City Councillors continue to press for an increased visible presence in the ward but we need to
accept that response to high priority or high risk crimes in other areas will be prioritised over
neighbourhood patrols and engagement.

Residents are reluctant to report crimes because the online reporting system makes this extremely difficult and is far from user friendly. Peterborough City Councillors will take these concerns to the next Police Liaison meeting.

A similar discussion took place concerning CIL and section 106 contributions from Thorney developments where the income from this is spent in other areas not to the benefit of Thorney Parish.

Members asked what action Peterborough City Councillors were taking concerning the lack of service from the Thorney Doctors' surgery – Jenner Healthcare have not met the deadlines they gave. The Thorney Parish Council PPG representative explained that Jenner Healthcare were actively seeking new Doctors, but this was proving difficult.

Peterborough City Councillors are in the same position as Parish Councillors on this issue. A lot of our residents are affected but we have no powers or authority to take action as it is not within our area of responsibility. What we can do, are doing and will continue to do, is to apply pressure to Jenner to make sure they are aware of the impact the loss of local service has, and they are proactively working to address this.

2448/23-24 Finance

The following were received in June/July

Foodbank	£210
HMRC Vat refund	£7500
Cemetery	£750

To approve the following paid in July

Salaries		£3355.08	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		£26.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
email, ISP payment		£34.18	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cambs County Council		£460.47	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		£1203.87	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	£98.60	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
HP	Printing costs for September	£9.99	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cemetery	Petrol, Travel costs	£	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
J E Harris	Flail Forge Field	£240.00	LGA 1976 s19, LGA 1972 sched 14 para 27, Public Health Act 1875 s164 and as amended 1890 s44
Mr D Wagg	Maintain allotment road	£320	Small Holdings Act 1908 s 23, 26, 42, LGA 1972 s215
Mrs E Lee	Foodbank transfer	£700	Contributions
G and L Cade	Vermin control allotments	£144.00	Small Holdings Act 1908 s 23, 26, 42, LGA 1972 s215

1. To approve accounts for payment – circulated to Councillors before meeting - approved.
2. Monthly bank reconciliation - circulated – approved.
3. Crossroads area strimming – now completed in house.
4. Pavilion Roof – contractor has rejected our submission that roof must be repaired at his cost. Further discussion needed.

5. Pavilion fund raising approval – discussed under Pavilion heading and unanimously agreed to a separate bank account to hold the funds. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to transfer the £35,000 section 106 contribution from Peterborough City Council to this account once opened. Clerk and one member to have authority for any bank account actions.
6. Updated Clerks' contract – model Nalc contract circulated before the meeting. Adopted and new contracts signed.

2449/23-24 Planning Approvals and Refusals

22/01476/FUL for Erection of two storey dwelling, with single storey storage, display and office outbuildings at Land To West Of The Causeway Thorney Peterborough Decision: Refused

23/00371/WCPP for Removal of condition C2 to extend time for removal of building pursuant to planning permission reference 20/00469/R3FUL Proposed double mobile classroom at Duke Of Bedford Primary School Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Permitted

23/00537/PRIOR for Agricultural building for storage of agricultural equipment at 1 Park Farm Thorney Peterborough PE6 0SY Decision: Not Required

23/00625/PRIOR for Demolition of 2no. barns at Calman Colaiste Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Not Required

23/00626/NONMAT for Non material amendment (revised design/specification/finishes of portable building - unit 2 only) to planning permission reference 20/00726/FUL at Calman Colaiste Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Determined

23/00573/CTR for T.1 Box Elder - Acer negundo - Fell and replant a Magnolia type tree halfway down garden at 3 The Green Thorney - Decision: Refused

2450/23-24 Planning Applications and other matters.

23/00319/FUL Proposal: Proposed 4 bed bungalow and associated works Site address: Land South Of 3 Ernest Lane Thorney – Councillor Howard declared an interest and took no part in the discussion - no objections

23/00793/TRE For 1 x Oak Tree (2101)- Remove all deadwood required by cutting back limbs to an appropriate and agreed secondary growth point to give 3m clearance to dwelling, 5.2m crown raise over public highway, public footpath and garden. 3m crown raise as there are low hanging lateral limbs 0.5m high, also give 0.5m clearance on telephone line 3 x Ash trees- Remove deadwood, 5.2m crown raise over public highway and public footpath, 3m crown raise over garden and dwelling footpath. at 1 The Park Wisbech Road Thorney – no objection.

23/00815/TRE Proposal: 1 x Box Elder Maple Tree (23/00008/TPO)- Trim back low lying and weak branches (we have already had some fall and we are at risk of injury) at 3 The Green Thorney Peterborough – object to this application as it gives insufficient information

2451/23-24 Burial Authority

1. Complaint concerning cemetery activities – referred to Complaints Committee using the Thorney Parish Council Complaints Procedure - determined.
2. Review of fees – agreed to keep present fees. Notice to be displayed concerning removal of dead flowers.
3. The Clerk explained he was becoming increasingly concerned about coffin sizes. The latest burial is for a coffin 3 feet wide and this poses several challenges. Up until now we have allocated a burial plot size of 4 feet wide by 6 feet long with no problems. A coffin size of 2 feet wide gives a 12-inch bank between each grave that is needed for stability.
The latest request is a new purchase (rather than a reserved plot) with a width of 3 feet. This therefore extends into the adjacent plot and could be a major problem for a pre purchased grave that already had interred remains each side.
4. Annual Inspection carried out before the meeting.

2452/23-24 Roads and Footpaths

1. Speedwatch – continuing throughout village. Parking congestion on double yellow lines near garage and takeaway in Wisbech Road
2. Road crossing Station Road near Chestnut Drive – children crossing for school bus – discussed and information to be recorded for future action.
3. Parish Liaison meeting - presentation on rural village speeding – suggestion that 20mph should be the limit throughout the village.

2453/23-24 Allotments

1. Review of fees. Following discussion, it was agreed to increase the yearly rental to £35.
2. Inspection carried out. 3 allotments need weeds scraping from top surface.
3. Forge field has been flail mowed. Many trees are still alive despite very dry hot 2022 summer. Future strategy for field needed – PECT to be asked if they can assist.
- 4.

2454/23-24 Village matters.

1. Warm Welcome – ongoing
2. Good Neighbours – ongoing
3. Picnic in Park 13th August – ready to go.
4. September Festival September 10th – full program from September 2nd through to 17th. Marshalls required for Family Day Sunday 10th at Bedford Hall.
5. Defibrillators in Village - Village training to be arranged for August.
6. Coronation Commemorative bench – position in village to be determined – donated benches to be repaired and used with a Commemorative plaque.
7. Seat on The Green – agreed that concrete plinth for seat to stand on be installed.

2455/23-24 Pavilion

Email from Virtue Property concerning the modifications that need to be made to the roof on the Pavilion in Thorney Park to stop the ponding that has occurred since the new roof was installed.

At a previous meeting a subgroup was formed to review Thorney Parish Council strategy for the provision of a pavilion in the park that will meet the future needs of the residents of Thorney. This subgroup comprises 4 Parish Councillors and 1 City Councillor.

The Committee seek approval from the full council for the following proposal.

- Halt all further spend on the current pavilion building other than to tidy the open end.
- Support the launch of a fundraising campaign to enable the construction of a new multi-functional community pavilion.
- Agree to the formation of a fundraising and project management group to raise funds and oversee development of the facility.
- Agree to the opening of a new bank account, under the control of The Clerk and one member, to enable funds earned and donated to be collated and controlled.
- Agree to the £35,000 contributed to the current pavilion extension to be paid into the new pavilion account.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the above proposals be adopted.

2456/23-24 Specific Interests of Thorney Parish Councillors

Following the submission put forward concerning the future of the Pavilion by that working group it was agreed to combine some of the headings that Councillors have special interest in to form working groups that consider particular aspects of Council work and interest. The small groups would meet (they do not need a Clerks presence for this) and discuss an item that would be conveyed to the Clerk for inclusion as an agenda item. The details of their recommendations would be circulated prior to any meeting to allow members time to consider the proposals before submission to a full meeting. The working groups cannot make decisions only recommendation for full Council to approve.

The way that this will work will be included in the presentation concerning Meeting Etiquette presentation at our September meeting.

It was noted that because of her ongoing community work Councillor Howard had been chosen to sit on the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee of Peterborough City Council

2457/23-24 Thorney Parish Council Vacancies

Agreed to advertise the 3 vacancies.

2458/23-24 Facebook Posts

A post suggested MUGA be removed at this is an area for vandalism. Discussed and agreed it should remain as the vandalism would only shift to another village area. Police to patrol.

2459/23-24 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.

Meeting Etiquette - presentation at September meeting

2460/23-24 Parish Council business

Some Councillors were finding difficulty with emails using Outlook, particularly those using Android. It was agreed that a suitable alternative would be another.tpc@gmail.com where another would be first and second name of Councillor.

2461/23-24 Date of next meeting.

Parish Council Meeting 11th September 2023 to be held in Parish Room.
Meeting ended 9.10pm.