

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Bedford Hall, Thorney on Monday 13 November 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: B. Parker, S. Winwright, Mrs A Willans, Mrs. D Halfhide, Mrs K Howard, J Shearman

Peterborough City Councillors S Allen, N Simons

Mr G Mills

1 Members of the public.

Public discussion – A member of public raised her concerns about availability of disability parking in Peterborough, causing access problems to shops in the centre. The Clerk will contact Peterborough City Council to raise the concerns.

2513/23-24 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

None

2514/23-24 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.

2515/23-24 New Members to Thorney Parish Council

Mrs S Reeves, Mr G Mills and Mr S Williams have applied to become co-opted members of Thorney Parish Council. Mr Mills introduced himself - co-option to take place in a closed session at the end of the meeting. Mrs S Reeves submitted her apologies. Mr S Williams will attend in December.

2516/23-24 To approve minutes of the meeting of 9th October 2023

Minutes of the Council meeting and bank reconciliation held on 9 October 2023 were confirmed and signed by Chairman.

2517/23-24 Matters arising from minutes.

WhatsApp Group set up and being used.

Swimming pool at Duke of Bedford School – reply from Headteacher circulated.

Parish Room and Heritage Centre – awaiting reply from Bedford Hall Management Committee.

There was Cemetery Vigil on Halloween

Bench along Wisbech Road cleaned but needs to be relocated in a area less polluted by birds. It was agreed to find possible locations to discuss at the next meeting.

2518/23-24 Report from City Councillors.

Pavilion – Surveyors report

A report was commissioned; however, this was not circulated around the Parish Council.

City Cllr Allen handed over the report- Cllr Allen will take this forward to get a true cost for the repairs. It was suggested that a pent roof could be installed over the existing roofing, which may be cheaper.

Review taking place on community buildings, including Bedford Hall and Church Street buildings. Cllr Allen advised this process started 3 years ago.

Emergency Link between Deer Park Way and Sandpit Road housing developers accepted responsibility. Will install chicanes and more substantial bollards, also additional fencing.

Possible Traffic calming- Cllr Allen will forward details of costs involved and copy in the clerk in future correspondence.

2519/23-24 Finance

The following were received in October/November

Foodbank	£10.00
Allotment rent	£350.00
CIL	£13396.80

To approve the following paid in November

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	£66.74	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	£71.56	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
Viking-Direct	Laminating pouches	£32.87	LGA 1972 s142, s111
G and L Cade	Rodent control allotments	£72.00	LGA 1972 s142, s111
Custom Fencing	Repair Forge Field barrier	£285.00	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
RB Legion	Remembrance wreath	£20.00	LGE 1972 sect 137
Cemetery	Petrol, Travel costs	£73.06	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.

1. To approve accounts for payment – circulated to Councillors before meeting - approved.
2. Monthly bank reconciliation – approved.
3. Pavilion Roof – details above under reports from City Councillors. Parish Council will look at additional quotes for work once reports and specifications are provided to Parish Council.
4. The difficulties with our existing email system not communicating with other platforms has been investigated and consensus is the problem could be solved by having a .gov.uk email address. Our website host can complete a change but needs certain settings from the original system. Agreed to investigate a new email system.
5. Precept 2024/25 - This year our precept increased by 2.1% on the previous year to minimise the financial effect on residents. It was accepted that this precept would not give a balanced budget where income equalled spend, and any shortfall would be made up from reserves. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed for a 2.1% increase on this year's precept for the precept for 2024/2025 again accepting that this figure would not give a balanced budget where income equalled spend, and any shortfall would be made up from reserves.
6. Royal British Legion asked if Thorney Parish Council could pay for new flags as theirs are becoming tattered and worn. A discussion took place. Cllr Parker will donate these flags.

2520/23-24 Reports

1. Pavilion- Mr Winwright and Mrs A Willans inspected the current pavilion and agreed the building was not fit for purpose. There are a number of existing issues and it would be waste of money to develop it further.
Mr Winwright would like the full support from the Parish Council to move forward. Mr Parker inquired whether we will be able to obtain the funds to develop the project and Mr Shearman believes there is funding available.
It was agreed to move forward with the project. It is an agenda item for Mr Winwright to provide updates. Aggregates funding to be asked if material can be available when required.
2. Burial - Cost for additional 19 stone vaults (Sanctum units) for inclusion under Capital content of Precept. Units cost £7205.00 plus vat each for 19 units with Material for installation and Installation cost £1370.
Application being made for an exhumation of cremated remains.
Instances of human excrement inside cemetery near gates
3. Bedford Hall
Cllr Winwright gave a report from the Bedford Hall committee.
Post Office will return to use the Parish Room
4. Allotments
Most rents now paid.

2521/23-24 Planning

1. Approvals and Refusals

Appeal Ref: APP/J0540/W/22/3307733 Cedar House, Sommer Close, Thorney, Peterborough PE6 0FF • The appeal was made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant planning permission Ref 21/01695/FUL, dated 9 November 2021, was refused by notice dated 10 June 2022 by Peterborough City Council. • The development proposed is building contractor's yard and building.

Decision - The appeal is dismissed.

23/01104/TRE for TPO 02/1952 [52/00002/TPO] - Various tree works identified within the submitted tree assessment report from Andrew Belson dated 2022. at Park House School Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Permitted

23/01124/CLP for Use of caravan as a residential annex in rear of garden at 58 The Causeway Thorney Peterborough PE6 0QH Decision: Lawful

23/01087/HHFUL for Single storey extension to workshop/outbuilding to rear garden of domestic listed building at 14 Church Street Thorney Peterborough PE6 0QB Decision: Permitted

2. Planning Applications and other matters.

23/01028/FUL Mill Garage The Causeway Thorney - Proposal: Redevelopment of existing car sales premises to facilitate the construction of 6no. residential dwellings

In August Thorney Parish Council comments were:

Thorney Parish Council has the following concerns.

Thorney Parish Council is aware there is a septic tank on site that is used by the first house next to the old garage (that also used the septic tank originally). Local residents inform us that this regularly overflows into the open ditch behind Berberis Close and into the open ditch alongside the field. Mention of this and remedial action proposed is not addressed in the application.

With the demolition of the garage buildings, debris was spread across the site, which has built up the surface by about 600mm. This is now higher than the gardens of adjoining properties. There is concern that drainage maybe excessive into these adjoining properties.

A recommendation from The Drainage Strategy document with this application states: "Foul Water. A positive Foul water system should be provided with discharging through a package treatment plant into the proposed surface water system". The diagrams show this discharge to a land drain on the north of the site. This "dyke" has not been cleaned or maintained for many years and its eventual source of outlet cannot be determined. A planning condition must mandate regular maintenance of this dyke and monitoring levels of water quality discharged after the developer has cleaned, dredged this dyke and made it stable. Infrastructure and drainage a major concern and there is insufficient information concerning surface water and foul water contamination/discharge. There is no main sewer close to the site.

A full survey must be carried out to determine sources of contamination present on or beneath the surface of the site. Historically it has been a garage carrying out vehicle maintenance and a body shop for vehicle repairs and in recent times a car sales area with many vehicles packed there because they were unsaleable. The risks associated with ground contamination need to be established in accordance with the Environment Protection Act 1990.

The site is much lower than the main road from which access and egress will be made. It is the egress that causes concern for the visibility display and how this will impact on the properties east of the site.

There is no electric charging point shown.

23/01390/FUL - 2 Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough - Proposal: Installation of PV panels
Cllr Halfhide declared a personal interest and took no part in any discussion.
No objections if agreeable to conservation officer.

23/01324/MMFUL Installation and use of a washing plant for the recycling of inert materials – retrospective at Pasture House Farm The Causeway Thorney- no objections.

23/01086/FUL Change of Use of permanent agricultural grassland to use as a dog exercise paddock, with associated car parking and boundary fencing at Grassland To The West Of Causeway Lodge Close, West Of Thorney – no objections. There should be a concealed entrance warning

23/01147/FUL Proposed new detached dwelling and detached annexe at Stonebridge Bungalow Stonebridge Corner Whittlesey Road - The proposed new detached dwelling and detached annex is being constructed in an area identified as in an area subject flooding. I think we need some additional information to understand this, additional protection for package plant for the foul sewer system, to ensure operation or auto shutdown in flood conditions.

2522/23-24 Roads and Footpaths

1. Speedwatch – Speeding vehicles still a problem. Several vehicles recorded over the speed limit. Would like more volunteers although Speedwatch is continuing.
2. Light in the park on the footpath has been repaired.
3. Bench on West side Wisbech Road situated under trees needs relocation.

2523/23-24 Village matters.

1. Warm Welcome – Bedford hall booked until the end of December 2023.
No plan for a large Christmas Lunch.
2. Forge Field – tree packs have now arrived for planting. Wednesday 22nd November @ 10am.
3. Food Bank- concerns about clothes, toys, baby items discussed now mostly resolved

2524/23-24 Working Groups of Thorney Parish Councillors

Discussion and agreement on working group's role, responsibilities and reporting process. This will be removed as an agenda item until there are more councillors. Will become a future agenda item.

2525/23-24 Facebook Posts

Clerk to set up new account for uploads

2526/23-24 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.

Revision of rules for cemetery
Neighbourhood plan- discussion
Christmas Tree for 24/25

Closed meeting for confidential business – members of the public left the meeting.

Confidential business concluded and meeting reopened.

2527/23-24 To co-opt new members.

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Mills onto Thorney Parish Council.

2528/23-24 Parish Council business

Discussion as to why Thorney Parish Council was not represented at Thorney Festival.
Abbey to site temporary toilet on The Green for Christmas Tree Festival 8th – 10th December
Foodbank – Thorney Parish Council disappointed to read a recent BBC article where it was stated that the foodbank did not receive local council support. This was false as much time, effort and guidance has been given by numerous Thorney Parish Council members.

2529/23-24 Date of next meeting.

Parish Council Meeting 11th December 2023 to be held in Parish Room.
Meeting ended 9:21pm.