

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Bedford Hall, Thorney on Monday 11 December 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: B. Parker, S. Winwright, Mrs. D Halfhide, Mrs K Howard, J Shearman, G Mills  
Peterborough City Councillors S Allen, N Simons,  
Mr S Williams, Mr D Winch

Members of the public.

Public discussion – Mr Rafiq presented information about free energy-saving measures for residents in Peterborough and the surrounding area, specifically those who may be struggling to heat their home.

Available for those with health issues and those on benefits – there would need to be a home survey and there is no cap on the grants available. There are other schemes available if a resident does not meet the this criteria. Mr Rafic mentioned ECO4 directive.

Details are available on Peterborough City Council website

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/news/free-home-energy-upgrades-could-save-peterborough-residents-thousands> ECO4 is found on the Peterborough City Council website in connection with Energy Company Obligation on <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/campaigns/local-energy-advice-partnership#leap-0-0>, and access there is via the Housing Team at Peterborough City Council

**2530/23-24 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

Mrs A Willans

**2531/23-24 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.

Mr Shearman declared an interest on the Bedford Hall.

**2532/23-24 New Member to Thorney Parish Council**

Mr S Williams and Mr D Winch have applied to become co-opted members of Thorney Parish Council. They introduced themselves to the Parish Council with co-option to take place in a closed session at the end of the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed and offered training to Mr Mills, who was co-opted at the end of the last meeting.

**2533/23-24 To approve minutes of the meeting of 13 November 2023**

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 November 2023 and bank reconciliation for the month (circulated before the meeting) were confirmed and signed by Chairman.

**2534/23-24 Matters arising from minutes.**

**2535/23-24 Report from City Councillors.**

1. Pavilion – Following Surveyors report Cllr Allen is to obtain a quote to get a cost for the repairs. Still waiting for the quotation from Peterborough Ltd
2. Disabled Parking Peterborough City centre – information concerning conditions of the use for disabled users circulated. It was agreed to post this information on our website.
3. Good Neighbours AGM attended by City Cllr Allen.
4. Cubicles replaced in Pavilion
5. CLF- looking to allocate funding for covert cameras that would spot fly tipping in Eye, Newborough and Thorney. These will be circulated around locations. Remaining funding may be used for traffic calming in the Parish.

**2536/23-24 Finance**

The following were received in November/December

Foodbank

£15.00

To approve the following paid in December

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
Peterborough Ltd	Grass cut Park for picnic	£220.80	Local Government Act 1972, s.145
Redshoes Accountants	Payroll services	£126.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cambridgeshire ACRE	Membership	£60.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Norton	Antivirus software	£134.98	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Wave	Water charges allotments	£245.28	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
Wave	Water charges cemetery	£22.66	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. Pavilion Roof – awaiting details from Peterborough Ltd
3. The difficulties with our existing email system not communicating with all platforms has been investigated. Zoho seems to be suitable, and this can be administered by the Clerk. It would mean buying a web domain name, about £10 per year and then email addresses at **£1 per /User /Month** billed annually gives 10 GB/User storage (our present system gives 2gb). If we find this system acceptable, we can upgrade to the professional package that gives 50gb storage. It was agreed to implement this system.
4. Precept 2024/25 – following the mandate from last month a 2.1% increase over the precept for this year has been submitted for the 2024/2025 precept. It was accepted that this precept would not give a balanced budget, and any shortfall would be made up from reserves.
5. Replacement Computer – the Thorney Parish Council computer has failing electronic components with the mouse/keypad and Wi-Fi connections not now working. It was proposed by Mr Parker seconded by Mrs Halfhide and agreed to have a budget of up to £1250 to purchase a new laptop.
6. Partner Distribution Agreement Cambridgeshire Community Foundation – it was suggested by the Windfarm Fund Managers that a sum should be given to Parish Councils for them to distribute via an application form to local applicants. This will be available to organisations and charities for grants up to £1000. The money would be available from March 2024. It was agreed to request clarification on who could benefit.

It was proposed by Mr Shearman seconded by Ms Howard and agreed to proceed with the agreement.

### **2537/23-24 Reports**

1. Pavilion- No company found that would provide a quotation for the existing roof modification.  
New Pavilion – 3-week Leadtime on the concept design (which would include a floorplan and volume of materials that maybe needed) at a cost of £1475.00.
2. Burial – no report
3. Bedford Hall - Parish Room and Heritage Centre – email from Chairman, Bedford Hall Committee circulated. A discussion took place regarding the email and ongoing relationship with the Bedford Hall committee. It was agreed to provide the Parish Council meeting dates to the Bedford Hall committee booking Clerk. These are 8 January 2024, 12 February 11 March, 8 April, 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December, 13 January 2025, 10 February. 10 March, 14 April, 12 May.
4. Allotments – no report
5. Forge Field – future management. PECT are to provide suggestions. Mr Shearman suggested a management plan should be produced and reported at the next meeting.

### **2538/23-24 Planning**

#### **1. Approvals and Refusals**

23/00213/OUT for Erection of 4 Nos residential dwelling units and garages with all matters reserved at Land Adjoining Knarr Farm Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Refused  
23/01091/FUL for Erection of building to store tractors and grass cutting equipment at Thorney Rugby Club Crowland Road Thorney Peterborough Decision: Permitted  
23/01296/HHFUL for Proposed alterations and pitched roof to garage at 39 Wisbech Road Thorney Peterborough PE6 0SA Decision: Permitted

#### **2. Planning Applications and other matters.**

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- but conservation office should be involved.

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

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 the: additional protection for package plant for the foul sewer system, to ensure operation or auto shutdown in flood conditions.

Local Plan- Ms Halfhide outlined the comments submitted to Peterborough CC. October 2024 would be next stage.

### **2539/23-24 Roads and Footpaths**

1. Speeding in Village– Speedwatch continue to provide regular speed checks.
2. Traffic speed indicators - Network and Traffic Manager Peterborough City Council has three quotes (all exc vat): 1 £2,850, 1 year warranty, with data logging included 2. £3,000, 1 year warranty, with £120 for data logging 3. £3,025, 6-year warranty, with £379 for data logging (The signs display the speed with either a smiling or frowning face) In addition there would be the

costs of installation (to include traffic management) estimate to be in the region of £500-600 per sign depending on the location and space being available within the column for electrical cut outs. An agenda item for the next meeting.

3. Mr Shearman requested Mt Tebb is contacted to request permission for a sign on Whittlesey Road near cemetery.
4. Concerns over the Street lights in the park- there are two that are not working and have been reported.

**2540/23-24 Village matters.**

1. Warm Welcome – Bedford hall booked until the end of December 2023. On 15<sup>th</sup> December mince pie and hot drinks available.
2. Forge Field – trees planted Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> by Thorney Parish Council members.
3. Goodwill Hampers- It was agreed to provide 5 hampers to nominated families. Cllr Winwright agreed to put the hampers together and Cllr Howard would distribution. Up to a value of £30 per hamper.
4. Reposition of Bench from Wisbech Road- two locations suggested by Mr Shearman. Mr Mills volunteered to clean the bench regularly rather than have it moved.
5. Police liaison- wanted to a police surgery in the Parish Room, however it lacked support.
6. Concerns raised regarding the increased of thefts in the village, including the Scouts' minibus and Christmas decorations.

**2541/23-24 Facebook Posts –** An agenda item for February 2023

**2542/23-24 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.**

Revision of rules for cemetery  
Neighbourhood plan- discussion  
Christmas Tree for 24/25  
Social Media Policy  
Consider renaming to Community Council rather than Parish Council

**2543/23-24 Parish Council business**

None

**Close meeting for confidential business – members of the public asked to leave.  
Confidential business concluded and meeting reopened.**

**2544/23-24 To co-opt new members.**

It was unanimously agreed that Mr S Williams and Mr D Winch would be co-opted to the Parish Council.

**2545/23-24 Date of next meeting -** Parish Council Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Meeting Closed 9.23pm