

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Lounge, Bedford Hall, Thorney on
Monday 8th September 2025 at 7.00p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

Councillors: Mrs. D Halfhide, Mr G Mills, Mr D Winch, Mrs L Moore, Mr J Francis,
Peterborough City Councillors S. Allen

8 Members of the public

Public discussion –

Stonebridge Cottage- another car hit the chevrons and then down the dyke, which means three cars in three months have had accidents at this spot. The residents would like to see more restrictions on the road, like speed bumps or chicanes as they feared a vehicle will leave the road and crash into their home with fatalities.

City Cllr Allen advised the chevrons were the highways officers' best suggestion. Site meeting will be held this month, which will include highway officers, City Councillors, Parish Councillors and residents. Cllr Allen advised he would take their suggestions to the Highway officers.

Recycling of tractor tyres on Gas Lane- concerns raised by a resident over potential risk to public health. If these are to be removed they must be disposed of by an authorised company. Agenda item next meeting.

A resident spoke to support of upcycling the tyres into planters as at present rather having them burnt and releasing CO2.

Thorney Dyke- Caravan on site. Enforcement advised they are waiting an ecology report. Officers advised no one was living in the caravan. Residents' observations that someone is living in the caravan. Enforcement is not effective in addressing the concerns. The clerk's letters to enforcement have had no response.

Station Road resurfacing- the noise on Station Road is now worse where the join is between the old and new surface. City Cllr Allen to liaise.

2823/25-26 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Received: M. Ormston

Ms K Howard has resigned from the Parish Council for personal reasons

2824/25-26 To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations

Resolved: To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations in any items on the agenda –
If during discussion an interest becomes apparent it is declared at that time.

2825/25-26 To approve minutes of the meeting of 14 July 2025

Resolved: Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 July 2025 and bank reconciliation for the month (circulated before the meeting) were confirmed and signed by Chairman.

2826/25-26 Matters arising from minutes -

1. Peterborough City Council now has software to download information from speed sign Whittlesey Road

2827/25-26 Report from City Councillors.

Cllr Allen- Flytipping meeting in Eye and points raised with officers at Peterborough CC

Jenner Healthcare- not adverse to expanding and looking at funding.

2828/25-26 Finance

Income August/ September

HMRC	Vat refund	£3,640.08
Cashback		£4.73
Mr and Mrs Fitzjohn	Grave plot reservation	£1,210.00
Peterborough City Council	Sanctum precept contribution	£7,402.50
Cashback		£10.00
Smiths Undertakers	Inter Mr Thompson	£330.00
J G Cross	Memorial Mrs Pask	£137.50
Peterborough City Council	Parish Precept	£32,000.00

To approve the following paid in July/August/September

Salaries for Aug and Sept	£3631.00	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 for Aug and Sept	£26.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
email, ISP payment, mobile for Aug and Sept	£65.18	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cambs County Council for Aug and Sept	£1046.00	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 for Aug and Sept	£1387.00	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	£72.62
HP for Aug and Sept		£11.99
Apple	Printing costs	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Microsoft	Tablet for Chair	£1,216.00
Peterborough City Council	PDF reader	£41.74
	Temp event licence	£21.00
	1st Aid kit, etc for	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
Viking-Direct	Picnic in Park	£66.20
	Music licence Picnic	Local Government Act 1972, s.145
PRS	in Park	£48.44
Apple	Tablet backup	£0.99
	Travel and petrol for mowers	Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1 Local Government Act 1972, s. 214(6)
Mr Lucken	Software for social media	£97.10
Canva		£100.00
NLIDB	Drainage rates	£30.77
Adobe	iPad software	£19.97
Adobe	iPad software	£4.98
Mr D Wagg	Allotment road repair	£400.00

Redshoes Accounting	Payroll services	£144.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Park House School Ltd	Electricity for Picnic in Park	£50.00	Covid fund
Boots and Strings	Expenses for Music Picnic in park	£100.00	Covid fund
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	£504.00	Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Section 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

1. To approve accounts for Payments and Monthly bank reconciliation – approved.
2. Cemetery. At the last inspection various holes in footpaths were appearing due to subsidence, general wear and tear and animal disturbance. It has not been possible to obtain a quotation for the repairs as they are so diverse. Our contractor has quoted a rate of £25 per hour plus materials on a log and sign rate. It was proposed D Winch, seconded D Halfhide and agreed to proceed with the contractor. Concerns raised about the number of rabbits in the cemetery causing damage. It was agreed to make it an agenda item.
3. Agree contribution to music and providers for picnic in park. Cllr Francis left the room. It was proposed M Long, seconded L Moore and agreed to donate £50 to school (who supplied power) and £100 towards incurred expenses for music. Cllr Francis rejoined the meeting.

2829/25-26 Parish Council business

1. Picnic in the Park review. To comply with various regulations Thorney Parish Council obtains a PRS licence for the music, a temporary event licence from Peterborough City Council, held a first aid kit, sterile wipes and water at the Thorney Parish Council gazebo, submitted for approval by Peterborough City Council risk assessment for a Thorney Parish Council function and risk assessment for the mobile provider of food and drink. The function was advertised by a leaflet drop to all homes in the village and outlying areas where possible, on social media, on Thorney Parish Council and Peterborough City Council websites. Despite this organisation, youngsters football match conflicted with setup preparations. M Long thanked the Clerk for the work he completed behind the scenes. J Francis suggested creating a smaller area and booking any stalls in advance. The Chair suggested a sub-committee with J Francis and L Moore, with Brian Parker to look at next years event.
2. Digital Inclusion - Rural Opportunity and funding – update
There will be a rural inclusion hub (that will circulate around Parishes) which will include Thorney. Looking to coordinate this with the Warm Welcome.
3. Use of glyphosate - Glyphosate is the world's most used herbicide and is sprayed regularly to control unwanted vegetation in public spaces, gardens and in agriculture. It's rarely used on its own but is an active ingredient in many herbicides. The use of glyphosate to control unwanted vegetation is highly controversial. There's lots of scientific research and studies to both approve and disapprove its toxicity. European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), stated that glyphosate is 'unlikely to pose a carcinogenic hazard to humans.' However, this is now under review. Some Councillors are of the view that it should not be used on the streets of Thorney by Peterborough City Council to control vegetation. Peterborough City Council point out that it is EU approved and therefore can be used.

It was agreed to write to Aragon to raise our concerns over the application of the weedkiller and ask for an alternative for Thorney streets.

4. Fenland Flag- email from Mr Bowman requesting support. The Parish Council expressed their support.

2830/25-26 Planning

1. Approvals and Refusals

25/00128/LBC for Alter the position of boiler and path of the boiler flue at 2 The Green Thorney - permitted

25/00684/HHFUL 6 Woburn Drive Thorney Peterborough - Two storey side and rear extension – Permitted

25/00882/CLP for Provision of modular classroom block consisting of 2 Classrooms, associated stores, WCs and lobby at Duke of Bedford Primary School Wisbech Road Thorney – lawful

25/00617/HHFUL for Replacement of conservatory with rear extension, first floor extension, erection of a garage and replacement gates at The Lodge White Hart Farm English Drove – permitted

24/00552/FUL Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 47 dwellings with associated drainage, car parking and landscaping - Station Road Thorney Peterborough PE6 0QE – withdrawn

2. Planning Applications and other matters.

25/01028/FUL For Temporary erection of a solar farm installation and battery storage facility with associated infrastructure including access, drainage, landscaping and other incidental works at Land at Malice Farm, South Of French Drove And East And West Of Scolding Drove Thorney

Thorney Parish Council object to the above planning application for the proposed solar farm and battery storage facility at Malice Farm, Scolding Drove, Thorney.

While we fully support the transition to renewable energy, this application is inappropriate for this location and conflicts with several policies of the Peterborough City Council Local Plan (2025) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2024). Letter as appendix.

25/00991/LBC For Conversion of existing outbuilding to annex at 30 Wisbech Road Thorney – no objections

25/00965/HHFUL For Proposed single storey extension at 21 Chestnut Drive Thorney – no objections

25/00793/LBC - Proposal: Proposed truncation of a section of internal walling and re-instatement of York flagstone hearth to front room at 76 Wisbech Road – no objections

25/00984/LBC Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and installation of conservation rooflights Site address: 30 Wisbech Road Thorney – no objections

25/00990/HHFUL Proposal: Installation of replacement timber windows, recessed timber panel, recessed timber door, conservation rooflights, and external wall to existing outbuilding - Site address: 30 Wisbech Road Thorney – no objections

Knarr Farm- cars being used for storage by the same company at Four Acres. Clerk will contract enforcement. Planning refused in January 2025.

2831/25-26 Roads and Footpaths

Speedwatch – Prevalent throughout the village. Checks on Whittlesey Road completed. Cracks in pavement at the top of Wisbech Road before the Turing into park Crescent on the field side. Deep enough in some places for my dog's paw to fall into – reported to Peterborough City Council

2832/25-26 Village matters.

1. Warm Welcome – continues to meet with good attendance is now meeting on a Wednesday, with the exception of September 19th and November.
2. Youth facilities – still no volunteers have come forward to support Cllr Mills.
3. Parish Room- G Mills will liaise with Bedford Hall committee regarding the Parish Room and the ongoing concerns regarding Bedford Hall.

At this point the meeting was closed because of the late hour.

2833/25-26 Facebook Posts

2834/25-26 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.

Rabbit cull in cemetery

2835/25-26 Reports

1. Burial –Some tarmac repairs needed to path – in hand.
2. Bedford Hall/Museum/Mower store – still awaiting building survey from Peterborough CC. Museum has temporary structures in place. Mower store doors now very difficult to close because of subsidence. Alternative store needs to be found.
3. Allotments – access road potholes repaired.
4. Forge Field –need a specification to go for tender. Working group agreed.

2836/25-26 Date of next meeting – 13th October 2025

Meeting closed at 9: 50pm