

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Lounge, Bedford Hall, Thorney on  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.00p.m.

Chair: Councillor Mrs. M Long

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

2 Members of the public

Public discussion – A resident made enquiries about a planning application. The Parish Council have had no further information. The City Councillors will look into the progress and asked for the residents to forward their objections.

**2851/25-26 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

Received: Mr J Francis, Mr J Wren

**2852/25-26 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.

**2853/25-26 To approve minutes of the meeting of 13 October 2025**

**Resolved:** Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 October 2025 and bank reconciliation for the month (circulated before the meeting) were confirmed and signed by Chairman.

**2854/25-26 Matters arising from minutes -**

- Overhanging trees on Whittlesey Road obstructing 30mph limit sign reported to PCC
- Advert for Parish Councillors placed in notice boards, on Facebook and in the Thorney Post

**2855/25-26 Report from City Councillors.**

Peterborough City Council are starting the consultation process for the legal order affecting the B1040 between Thorney and Whittlesey for a proposed 50mph speed limit between the 30 mph at Thorney to the North Bank. Further measures would be needed to support this, like chevrons.

**2856/25-26 Finance**

Income October/November

Allotment rents		£1350.00	
Smiths Undertakers	Inter Mr Peacock		£165.00
J G Cross	Memorial Mrs Mann		£137.50
J G Cross	Memorial Mrs Thompson		£45.00
Mr and Mrs Turner	Reserve grave space		£1,375.00

## To approve the following paid in November

Salaries		£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		£26.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
email, ISP payment,		£65.18	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
mobile			
Cambs County Council		£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		£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	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
HP		£11.99	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
	Printing costs		
	Travel and petrol for mowers	£32.40	Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1
Mr Lucken	Wreaths for		Local Government Act 1972, s. 214(6)
Royal British Legion	Remembrance	£45.98	Local Government Act 1972, s. 137
	Provide storage container to house		Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1
J Dunkling Ltd	cemetery equipment	£4140.00	

1. To approve accounts for Payments and Monthly bank reconciliation – approved.
2. Good Neighbours-Rural Peterborough 2026-2027 fees £2911 – It is estimated that the fee per household will rise back to nearer the intended rate for this current year (£2.50 per household, before the reduction to £1.25 for 25/26) and in line with the estimation for 26/27. In our parish there has been: Over 15 Warm Place Teas (estimated 15 residents at each), Over 50 occasions of support over 6 months (121 and transport), Over 250 Volunteer hours. After a discussion took place, it was proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Mills and agreed to pay the fee for another year. It was agreed to review this in a years' time and request more details on exactly what roles the volunteers completed for residents of Thorney.
3. Storage container for cemetery mower equipment. Quoted price from Peterborough City Council "The supply and install cost is £2,950 plus VAT. It is also available in green which would blend in better". This is for an 8ftX8ft unit. A discussion took place, it was proposed by Cllr Halfhide, seconded by Cllr Winch and agreed to obtain a quotation for a 10x8 container. It was further agreed that if this within £4000 + VAT, the Clerk can proceed with the container. City Cllr Ormston has forwarded this to the City Council.
4. Precept 2026/27 considerations for any additional spend. For three years now we have raised the precept by 2.5% to keep it below inflation. We do gradually eat into our reserves by doing this.
5. As of 22nd October, the real Living Wage rates have risen to £13.45 an hour across the UK. This will come into effect for salaries from 01/04/2026.
6. Agreed to purchase wreaths from Royal British Legion for Remembrance Day under section 137 of LGA 1972

## **2857/25-26 Parish Council business**

1. Digital Inclusion - Rural Opportunity and funding – Good neighbours are now in charge of this project.
2. “The Spinney” – suggested plans for a nature site – Parks Officer, Paul Roberston has been contacted; however, he was out of the office until 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025.
3. Standing Order update – It was agreed to update as per the Clerk’s recommendations.
4. Mower storage – a permanent solution for the storage was agreed.
5. Christmas hampers – Chairman will organise these four hampers with a budget of up to £200 for all the hampers. The Clerk will provide a letter of support from the Parish Council. The Chairman will contact the school to enquire if they would distribute the hampers.

## **2858/25-26 Planning**

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

24/01597/FUL for Change of use from public house (sui generis) to a 4no. bedroom dwelling (C3) including demolition and alterations at Dog in A Doublet North Bank – permitted

25/00965/HHFUL for Proposed single storey extension at 21 Chestnut Drive Thorney – refused

25/00990/HHFUL for Installation of replacement timber windows, recessed timber panel and recessed timber door to existing outbuilding at 30 Wisbech Road – no objection

25/00972/LBC for Replacement of 2no. broken windows and 1no. back door incorporating 1no. side window at 66 Wisbech Road – refused

25/01137/FUL for Erection of 2no. 6 bedroom detached dwellings with associated hard and soft landscaping at 37 Station Road – refused

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

25/01370/WCPP Ankerig Gas Lane Thorney - Variation of condition C2 (plans) pursuant to planning permission 24/00715/HHFUL -

25/01252/LBC Thorney Heritage Museum Thorney Tank Yard Station Road - Demolition of 2no. single storey brick built lean to.

City Council has additional items added to the list of Assets of Local Heritage Importance. The pillboxes and other WWII features which the Parish Council nominated have been added.

3. **Response to letter to Enforcement-** still awaiting response from Peterborough City Council - however the letter is being processed in line with their complaint’s procedure.

## **2859/25-26 Reports**

1. Burial –The Burial watch was completed with no issues. A resident had thanked one of the volunteers for ‘cemetery watch’ on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

2. Bedford Hall and Heritage Centre - Due to the pressing issues with the Bedford Hall extensions, a meeting finally took place (after a significant amount of confusion) between the BHMC, Thorney Society and PCC.  
There are significant investigations being commissioned for the Bedford Hall and plans for a big programme board. Funding is found for some of this, but not the big tickets. Mrs Halfhide advised she was concerned the custodian trustees were not represented at the meeting. Initial structural reports are of very significant structural issues in the building  
Mrs Halfhide believes that there will be a separate workstream for the renegotiation of the lease, but the BHMC appears to wish to continue to exclude the Parish Council from this. She advised the BHMC that Mr Mills was Thorney Parish Council link to the BHMC.  
It was agreed that a letter to BHMC to introduce Gavin as the liaison, to advise we are contacting PPC regarding the on-going discussions and a further letter would be sent to PCC to highlight that the Parish Council should be included any discussion on the future of the village hall.
3. Allotments – owner of abandoned car has not been identified. Awaiting feedback from PCC and the Police.
4. Forge Field – Agree plan for site (plans to be provided by working group). Mrs Long suggested removing the plastic that housed the trees which have not grown and have the whole field mown. The working group will then establish a plan.

#### **2860/25-26 Roads and Footpaths**

1. Speedwatch –Mrs Halfhide to meet Stewart Tough to download the data on 27<sup>th</sup> November.  
Adverts for more volunteers will be circulated.
2. Consider applying for 20mph on Station Road or possible speed restrictions. Concerns that 20mph would not be adhered to by drivers and the Police would not enforce the speed limit. The Clerk will investigate prices, permissions for locations, etc for a MVAS unit.

#### **2861/25-26 Village matters.**

1. Warm Welcome – now scheduled for a Friday. December 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, then 9<sup>th</sup> January.
2. Youth facilities – no further update so it was agreed to remove as an agenda item.
3. Fly tipping on Willow Hall Lane- Cllr Moore has reported several times but they will not remove it. Cllr Mills wrote to the MP to highlight his concerns.

#### **2862/25-26 Facebook Posts**

Concerns over number of dog poo bags left and not disposed of correctly. Cllr Ormston looking into signage for the village and awaiting PCC.

#### **2863/25-26 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.**

- Pavilion at Park- for Jan as still awaiting Parks assessment by PCC
- Forge Field – working group to present options

#### **2864/25-26 Date of next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Meeting closed at 20:55pm**

Police liaison- Gavin needs the details