

Meeting of THORNEY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Parish Room, Bedford Hall, Thorney
on Monday 13th April 2026 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, Mr J Wren and the clerk, Mrs E Tajer
Peterborough City Councillors M. Ormston and S. Allen

2 Members of the public

Public discussion – None

2927/25-26 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Received:

2928/25-26 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.

2929/25-26 To approve minutes of the meeting of 9 March 2026

Resolved: Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9 March 2026 and bank
reconciliation for the month (circulated before the meeting) were confirmed and
signed by Chairman.

2930/25-26 Matters arising from minutes

Uncontested election. All present members remain as members from May 2026 with
the addition of Mr H Dosanjh

Letter of thanks from Thorney Abbey CC for windfarm grant to provide new speaker
system.

2931/25-26 Report from City Councillors.

Cllr Allen- Deer Park residents association organised their own litter pick.

Cllr Ormston- two homeless people (one in the cemetery and one in the park) these
are with a team at Peterborough City Council to offer support and move them on from
their current places.

Planning application for 'Four Acres' has been appealed to planning inspectorate.

Still waiting on 'no golf' signs at the park.

2932/25-26 Finance

To approve the following paid in April

Salaries	£3850.00	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	£44.17	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Cambs County Council	£924.32	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	£1501.00	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	£117.95	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
HP	Printing costs	£13.49	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
National Farmers Union	Stiga mower insurance	£269.31	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
HP Instant ink	Monthly Printing costs	£13.99	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Smith of Derby	Clock maintenance Bedford Hall	£378.00	LGA 1972 sections 111, 142
Microsoft	Office subscription	£104.99	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
G and L Cade	Rodent Control allotments	£144.00	Small Holdings Act 1908 s 23, 26, 42, LGA 1972 s215
RTC Plant Services	Machine maintenance	£242.22	LGA 1972 s142, LGA 1972 s214(6), s215(6) Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Misc. Provisions) Act 1970 s1.
Mr Lucken	Travel and petrol for mowers	£57.56	Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1
O2	Telephone and iPad software	£58.40	Local Government Act 1972, s. 214(6)

1. To approve accounts for Payments and Monthly bank reconciliation – approved.
2. Agree appointment of Auditor – our Auditor last year was Mr Paul Taylor from Peterborough Accountancy Services [Peterborough Accountancy Services](#). Agreed Mr Taylor should be Thorney Parish Council auditor.
3. Acknowledgement of Annual Governance statement – Prior to this meeting the finance committee had a meeting with the Clerk and completed the annual account inspection and audit.
Acknowledgement of Annual Governance statement 2025/26 - Section 1 of Annual Return. Members of Thorney Parish Council were issued with all accounts for the year ending 2025/26 and acknowledged their agreement that all statements in Section 1 Annual Governance were correct.
4. Agreement and signing of 2025/26 Accounts - Section 2 of Annual Return.
A Risk Assessment Audit had been carried out and Members of Thorney Parish Council acknowledged their responsibility and confirmed to the best of their knowledge and belief that the accounts had been prepared in accordance with Section 2 Statement of Annual Governance for the Annual Return year ended 31 March 2026. It was unanimously agreed that the accounts should be signed as a true record. The Chairman signed the accounts on behalf of Thorney Parish Council
5. Veolia has informed us that: “Fuel costs across the UK have significantly risen and continue to do so. Like every business delivering services on the road, this affects us directly. We've absorbed as much of this increase as we can. But to protect the quality and reliability of the service you depend on, we need to apply a temporary fuel surcharge to your services.
From 01 April 2026, a fuel surcharge will appear as a separate line on your invoice”.

2933/25-26 Parish Council business

1. Digital Inclusion - Rural Opportunity and funding –looking at how to circulate this service to residents not on social media or email. Funding will continue for 2026/2027. Good neighbours continue to organise.
2. “The Spinney” –The Clerk will provide an installation date when available.
3. Discussion concerning lorry movements in Whittlesey Road and possible engagement with media (BBC) to highlight the concern of damage to properties. Cllr Mills has contacted the new owners of Willow Hall Lane quarry- awaiting a response. PCC officers reply to email was highlighted that there are limited routes that can be used by the lorries and that they cannot enforce a change of route. This can only be an agreement via the Quarry companies. At present the Parish Council decided not to proceed with engaging with the media.

2934/25-26 Planning

1. Approvals and Refusals –

26/00105/PRIOR for Change of use of existing agricultural barn to 7 dwelling houses and associated works at St Vincents Cross Farm Crowland Road Thorney Peterborough PE6 0PD
Decision: Refused

26/00183/CTR 148 Wisbech Road Thorney - Proposal: T1 - Ash Tree - Pollard approx. 50% reduction - permitted

2. Planning Applications and other matters.

26/002026/FUL for Change of use of existing industrial building (Use Class B2/E(g)) to 5no. Class E commercial units including associated external alterations and parking provision at Bridge House, The Causeway, Thorney.

Thorney Parish Council object to the application for the following reasons:

The Heritage Statement supplied that Bridge Works is of "limited heritage significance" ... "nor does it appear to form part of the key heritage assets" of the village. It is a **fact** that these works have been listed as T15 in the Peterborough Local List, and that entry says that they are "an important part of the village's industrial history, and an interesting addition to the street scene". While some of the building is set back and largely hidden, the front part is key to the streetscene entering Thorney from the west.

There may also be some evidence of the circular form used in applying iron tyres to wooden wheels in front of the double doors near the road.

We are also unhappy about the signage requested as this does not respect the spirit of the Conservation Area.

The Design Statement includes cladding to areas of poor brickwork and black masonry paint. We do not think these are appropriate in the Conservation Area.

The historic nature of the walls on the west and north of the site do not seem to be addressed in this proposal.

26/00104/FUL St Vincents Cross Farm Crowland Road Thorney - Proposal: Conversion of an agricultural building to 3no. dwellings including partial demolition, associated access and landscaping. Resubmission

26/002006/HHFUL 44 St Marys Close, Thorney - Proposal: Removal of existing decayed flat roof and replacement with 30° pitched roof under grey, flat profile concrete interlocking tile and demolition of existing stores

26/002130/FUL Land South of Levitt's Drove, North of River Nene - Temporary retention of 3no. monitoring boreholes and their associated headworks (retrospective)- no comment

2935/25-26 Reports

1. Burial – From Police reply “With regards to the crime report of criminal damage that you reported on the 31st March, your crime number is 35/23741/26. Your crime has been reviewed within the Investigation Management Unit. Unfortunately, there are no viable lines of enquiry located within the report and therefore it will be filed at this time pending any developments”.

Mr Wagg has carried out patching to footpaths in many places. For next year’s budget consideration must be given for full footpath resurfacing.

2. Bedford Hall – new ‘vision statement’ document circulated for discussion from BHMC.
3. Allotments – concerns raised regarding the quarterly water bill, especially as it was a wet winter. It was proposed by Cllr Mills seconded by Cllr Francis and agreed to change the taps.
4. Forge Field – Agree plan for site (provided by working group). The flailing has been completed, and the next step is the weed killing. Cllr Winch looking at getting quotations for a footpath around the site. Next meeting is on 29th April to agree the next steps.

2936/25-26 Roads and Footpaths

1. Speedwatch – will look to complete more checks as the weather improves.
2. Station Road – Speed indicator unit from Elan City received and awaiting Peterborough City Council to install this is likely to be the end of April/beginning May.

2937/25-26 Village matters.

1. Warm Welcome –. Continues to operate.
2. Police Liaison- Cllr Mills continues to liaise with the police.
3. Picnic in the Park- 9th August 2026 12pm-4pm.
Would like to have original live music and pre-recorded music – the clerk will arrange new music licence. Stall holders need their own insurance. Site meeting at the park on 29th April – PCC need locations for each activity. New poster to include food/bar and start times.
4. Plastic waste recycling bin for village-
Cllr Mills advised Biffa can provide a 4 kg bin @ £34 + VAT a month (£410 a year) to be emptied twice a month. There is a minimum term of a 12 months. This will be located at the back of the ex-servings club
It was proposed by Cllr Francis seconded by Cllr Halfhide and agreed to proceed with the minimum term of 12 months. This will start on the 1st May 2025. Clerk will create a poster and Facebook posts. Usage will be monitored.
5. Tree at Park Crescent/Park Close – tree has been cut back. This is on public land and unsure who the land belongs to, therefore there is nothing the Parish Council can do.
6. Damage to the tennis court net damaged again- a group of ladies from the village would like to start a working group to look into funding.

2938/25-26 Facebook Posts

2939/25-26 Matters as agenda items for future consideration.

- Pavilion at Park- as still awaiting Parks assessment by PCC

2940/25-26 Date of next meeting – 11th May 2026. Meeting closed at 8:45pm.