

Thornborough Parish Council (TPC)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 17 January 2024

Present: Cllrs Mary Taylor (Chair); Richard Dove; Ray Goodger; Lynn Morgan.

In Attendance: Alison Robinson (Clerk) and nine members of the public
Cllr Ade Osibogun, Buckinghamshire Council
Cllr Anja Schaefer, Buckinghamshire Council (items 1 – 8 inclusive)

1 Apologies for Absence

1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

2 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

2.1 No interests were declared.

3 Minutes of the Meeting of TPC on 15 November 2023

3.1 TPC **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting on 15 November 2023. The Chair then signed the minutes as an accurate record.

4 Public Participation Session¹

4.1 Several members of the public spoke in opposition to planning application 23/03268/App for the erection of a dwelling.

5 Buckinghamshire Council

5.1 The Chair thanked Cllr Osibogun for his written report. Cllr Osibogun highlighted the following:

- The BVCB and Clare Foundation are free online bid writing course.
- The Buckingham Repair Café <https://www.facebook.com/groups/707266574631589/>

5.2 Cllr Schaefer talked about her involvement in the Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. Whilst, unlike some principal authorities, Buckinghamshire Council anticipated a balanced budget. To achieve a balanced budget some cuts to non-statutory expenditure and services were inevitable.

6 Buckingham and Villages Community Board (B&VCB)

6.1 TPC **noted** there was nothing to report. The Chair thanked Cllr Morgan for undertaking to attend to the next online meeting on her behalf.

Action: Cllr Morgan.

7 Annual Activity Schedule

7.1 TPC **noted** the following events were now confirmed:

- (a) Thornton College² and TPC Playground Clean on 2 February 2024 which was also likely to include some work at the sports field.
- (b) TPC Village Tidy with residents and Thornton College on 9 March.

7.2 Cllr Taylor undertook to be the councillor lead for the Village Tidy.

7.3 Cllr Morgan undertook to continue to carry out the monthly playground checks in March, April and May. She mentioned the resident who had volunteered to be involved in the playground safety checks.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Morgan.

¹ The public session was extended, to let all the residents who wish to speak do so, by a unanimous vote.

² Thornton College Student Eco Committee.

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8 Environment and Facilities

Autumn Tree Assessment

8.1 TPC **resolved** to approve:

- (a) The reduction of willow by pond – 2023/4 budget to cover.
- (b) Allocations of £500 each in the 2024/5 budget for the trees on parish in land in the village and on the sports field trees.

Action: Clerk to take forward.

Annual Asset Survey

8.2 TPC **noted** the review identified the following priorities for 2024:

- Repainting of the village pumps
- Renovation/replacement of the village pump railings
- Renovation of the Abi Lowe bench
- Retreating the TPC noticeboard.

8.3 TPC **resolved** to approve the identified maintenance priorities for 2024.

8.4 TPC **resolved** to ask the Clerk to seek further quotes.

Action: Clerk to take forward.

Allotments

8.5 Cllr Dove undertook to be the lead councillor for the work party that was planned for late-February/early March 2024.

Action: Clerk to take forward with Cllr Dove and the Allotment Coordinator.

Sports Field and Pavilion

8.6 TPC **noted** the progress since the last meeting and the oral report provided from Cllr Dove who had chaired the meeting with Thornborough Cricket Club (TCC) Committee representatives on 1 December.

8.7 TPC **resolved** not to pursue the enquiry from the member of the TCC Committee about whether it might be willing to sell the Sir Harry Moore Sports Field Pavilion.

Action: Clerk to respond.

Playground

8.8 Cllr Morgan reported that a resident had volunteered to undertake the playground surface repair and was currently liaising with the preferred supplier.

Action: Cllr Morgan to take forward with the Clerk.

Pond Project

8.9 The environmental survey report remained outstanding.

Action: Clerk to follow up Cllr Dove's recent communication with the consultant by reminding him that the end of the financial year was fast approaching.

Thornborough Village Hall

8.10 Cllr Morgan said there was no news as yet about the grant application for the next phase of the renovation project.

8.11 The Clerk confirmed that although all her previous attempts had failed to try to ensure the Gigaclear installation went ahead on 1 December, she had scheduled further follow-up in the hope the installation would finally go ahead on 23 February.

Action: Clerk to take forward with Gigaclear and the relevant Village Hall Trustees.

Flooding

8.12 TPC **noted** the remedial work undertaken after the December 2020 flooding, where several village properties were flooded, was effective during the recent flooding and thanked Cllr Goodger for monitoring it.

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9 2024/5 Budget and Precept

- 9.1 TPC **resolved** to approve the proposed budget of £30,722 for the financial year 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025.
- 9.2 TPC **resolved** to approve a precept requirement of £30,780 which represented an increase of 25.63% to fund its statutory responsibilities and maintain the parish assets for the community. The monetary increase for a Band D property would be £20.24 or £1.69 pcm which was less than 40 pence a week.

Action: Clerk to take forward.

10 Finance Report

- 10.1 TPC **noted** the following receipts:

Date	Received From	Receipt Description	Amount
30.11.23	Nat West PLC	Interest	£22.11
29.12.23	Nat West PLC	Interest	£21.40
Total			£43.51

- 10.2 TPC **resolved** to approve the following payments:

Date	Recipient	Description	Amount
1.11.23	Liz Julier	Storage	£15.00
2.11.23	Bucks Council	Commercial Waste Service (error?)	£4.20
3.11.23	Alison Robinson	Printer ink	£16.72
7.11.23	Cartwright Landscapes	Grass cutting October	£333.96
14.11.23	Octopus Energy	Pavilion electricity October	£24.07
22.11.23	BMKALC	Training (1.11.22 MW)	£45.00
22.11.23	Fire Guard Services	Fire Extinguisher and Emergency Lights	£274.80
23.11.23	Yu-Energy	Streetlighting	£53.80
23.11.23	Yu-Energy	Streetlighting	£18.76
27.11.23	HMRC	PAYE November includes back pay	£249.60
27.11.23	Alison Robinson	Salary November includes backpay	£998.40
28.11.23	MK Electrical Breakdown	Pavilion heater timers, bulb, emergency light	£362.00
1.12.23	Liz Julier	Storage	£15.00
6.12.23	SLCC	Subscription for 2024 calendar year	£146.00
8.12.23	Yu-Energy	Streetlighting	£45.40
8.12.23	Yu-Energy	Streetlighting	£14.14
18.12.23	British Gas	Pavilion electricity switch over glitch	£101.78
29.12.23	HMRC	PAYE December includes WFH Allowance	£203.80
29.12.23	Alison Robinson	Salary December includes WFH Allowance	£1,127.12
Total			£4,049.55

- 10.3 TPC **noted** the financial position on 30 November 2023:

Bank Statement Balance as at 30.11.23		
Current Account	85516813	£10,559.28
Reserve Account	85516821	£18,573.47
Total Bank Accounts		£29,132.75
Cash Book		
Opening Balance as at 1.11.23		£31,506.95
Add Receipts		£22.11
Less Payments		£2,396.31
Closing Balance as at 30.11.23		£29,132.75

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10.4 TPC **noted** the financial position on 31 December 2023:

Bank Statement Balance as at 31.12.23		
Current Account	85516813	£8,906.04
Reserve Account	85516821	£18,594.87
Total Bank Accounts		£27,500.91
Cash Book		
Opening Balance as at 1.12.22		£29,132.75
Add Receipts		£21.40
Less Payments		£1,653.24
Closing Balance as at 31.12.22		£27,500.91

11 Planning³

**23/03268/APP Laurals Cottage, Lower End, Thornborough, MK18 2DE
Householder application for single storey rear extension and glass link to outer building, front porch, interior alterations and fenestration changes**

11.1 TPC **resolved** to object to the planning application because the work had commenced without permission.

Action: Clerk to respond to the consultation.

**23/03957/APP Green Acres, Hatchet Leys Lane, Thornborough, MK18 2BU
Erection of dwelling**

11.2 TPC **resolved** to object to the planning application. In summary:

- (a) The application extended the developed footprint of the village and did not fulfil the criteria and planning regulations for in-fill development.
- (b) The proposed dwelling was in an area of medieval historical significance.
- (c) Aspects of the planning application were inaccurate. For example, the proposed site was agricultural land.
- (d) The sizable building referred to as a garage was believed to have been erected without planning permission.
- (e) The proposed dwelling would impact unacceptably on the environment during and after the construction phase. There were concerns about biodiversity impact.
- (f) The application was not in keeping with Thornborough's affordable housing needs.

Action: Clerk to prepare draft consultation response for councillor approval.

**23/04002/PAHAS Brightmoor Farm, Adstock Road, Thornborough, MK18 2EA
Prior approval application (Part 1, Class AA) for construction of additional storey to create first floor living accommodation; height of 9.42 metres**

11.3 TPC **noted** the previous prior approval planning application had been refused.

11.4 TPC **resolved** to respond to the consultation to confirm it had no objects to the current prior approval planning application.

Action: Clerk to respond on behalf of TPC.

11.5 TPC **noted** the report about ongoing planning matters.

12 Draft Biodiversity Policy

12.1 TPC **resolved** to approve the draft policy subject to revision of the paragraph about planning applications.

Action: Clerk to take forward with the councillors.

13 Councillor Recruitment

³ Cllr Osibogun excused himself from the discussion as a Planning Committee member.

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13.1 TPC **resolved** to try attend future Community Cafés and to ask the Clerk to obtain portable banner quotes.

Action Clerk to obtain quotes.

14 Urgent Matters for Report and/or the Next Agenda

14.1 TPC **resolved** to discuss the D Day 80th Anniversary at its next meeting.

Action: Clerk for next agenda.

15 Date of Next Meeting

15.1 Wednesday 21 February 2024, at 7pm in Thornborough Village Hall.

Meeting closed at: 8.20 pm

Chair's signature

Date: