

MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

10th March 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: Anthony Lawrinson, Andy Spurr, Alex Keeling, Neil Walton, Mark Cole

1.1 Apologies for absence

Tim Nichols, Charlotte Moore

1.2 Co-option of new councillor

Alex Keeling proposed Mark Cole as Councillor Andy Spurr seconded.

1.2.1 The new Councillor agreed and signed the Acceptance of office form

1.2.2 The new Councillor agreed and signed the councillors code of conduct

1.2.3 The new Councillor agreed and signed the declaration of interest form

1.3 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

None

1.4 To Agree Minutes of the meeting dated 11th February 2008

Agreed and signed

1.5 1.5.1 Parking on the Green

Statements are still to be taken from the following people with a long association with the village: Mr George Capel (action Tim Nichols), Mr Derek Thomas, Mr Andy Cole (action Andy Spurr), Mr Andy Spurr, Mrs Connie Burchett (action Charlotte Moore). The statements will be given to Chandler Ray so that The Green can be registered with the Parish Council. It can then be legitimately protected.

Action: As above

1.5.2 Sports Field Bridge

Derek Thomas is still to be asked to do the fencing at the bridge to the sports field. There is a gap in the present railings which could be dangerous as there is a large drop down to the stream.

Action: Andy Spurr

1.5.3 Highways have been informed again of various issues in Thornborough that require fixing by AVDC; they include Rose Cottage Leylandi trimming, pot hole at the junction of Lower End and High Street, pot holes opposite Hatchet Leys Lane, state of the pavements between Nash End Barns and Chestnut Cottage, pot holes and leaking drains on Chapel lane. Other issues needing attention include subsidence in Back Street.

Action: Anthony Lawrinson

1.6 Planning

None

1.7 Finances

1.7.1 Monthly income/outgoing report approved by councillors.

1.7.2 Monthly bank reconciliation approved by all councillors.

1.7.3 The following cheques were approved and signed with the appropriate powers considered.

177	BALC	Subscription	77.50
178	Mrs S Reeder	Salary	128.64

1.8 Councillors Issues

1.8.1 Villagers have informed us of their alarm at the state of the village. Large pot holes, broken or displaced kerbstones and the condition of the verges and greens are some of the reasons for their alarm and concern. Inconsiderate parking on greens and verges around the village has left large ruts in the grass and in some places the grass has disappeared altogether. Among the culprits are builders, utility vans and contractors. Contractors should take responsibly for any damage caused to kerbs and verges. Large lorries diverted through the village because of accidents or flooding on other roads are also to blame. A letter has been given to parents of children at Thornborough's school asking them not to park on the grass. Cars parked on verges may have a note put on their windscreen. One solution is to put boulders at the edge of the grass to stop motorists parking there. It was decided to ask for quotes for these from a quarry. (Action: Andy Spurr). We are also looking to close Back Street on match days so that motorists can park on the road and not the verges, which have deep ruts. If villagers could be encouraged to vote councillors in and out we could gain quality status and have the power to do the repairs ourselves, until then Bucks CC is responsible.

Action: As Above

1.8.2 A planning applicant has approached a Parish Councillor regarding their application. The Parish Council decided at a previous meeting that no planning applicant should approach a Councillor outside of a meeting to discuss their plans. They should speak to AVDC or at a Parish Council meeting. Otherwise a precedent could be set and this would encourage others to do the same.

1.8.3 The Nag meeting was at Little Horwood. PC Tipping was away and will be invited to attend a future Parish Council meeting to discuss parking enforcement when she returns.

Action: Alex Keeling

1.8.4 The Parish Council is empowered to put a temporary surface where needed to prevent cars from further damaging the Greens and verges. It was decided that re-cycled plastic, grasscrete, could be used. This would still enable the grass to grow through and cars could then park on it. Areas of the village needing this surface are to be defined. Amongst the places to be considered are the field next to the sports field, which could then be used for parking, the verges alongside the sports field and the Green opposite the Two Brewers. It was decided to ask for quotes for the grasscrete and if possible a sample.

Action: Alex Keeling

1.8.5 A meeting is to be arranged with Jean Fox of Bucks Community Action for 8th April. Potential affordable housing sites will be discussed then.

1.8.6 Part of the stream near the bridge at Lower End is still blocked. Paul Winters is to be asked to clear it.

Action: Andy Spurr

- 1.8.7 Tim Rackham of Bucks County Council was contacted with regard to the contact details of the fabricators of the railings at the bridge in High Street. They have measured the old railings and the Parish Council is waiting for an estimate. It was decided that all Parish Council members should be present when deciding on purchasing these.

Action: Sue Reeder

- 1.8.8 The tiles in the away showers at the sports pavilion have come off the wall. This could be a health hazard. It was agreed that Derek Thomas should be asked to give us an estimate for the work.

Action: Andy Spurr

- 1.8.9 The dog waste bins which were ordered from AVDC are in place. The one inside the sports field is in the wrong place. AVDC are to be contacted and asked to put the bin in the correct position.

Action: Sue Reeder

- 1.8.10 It was agreed at a previous meeting that the sport field hedge, some of which is rotten should be replaced. Dennis King has kindly offered to do the labouring free of charge. A wire fence will be put up and the hedge replanted. The fence will be removed when the hedging is mature enough. The Parish Council agreed that they are not prepared to pay for the whole cost of these. It was decided to obtain prices for the materials. The football club are to be asked if they could contribute.

- 1.8.11 The allotments now have a metered water supply. The Parish Council has not yet been billed for this. It was decided that when it is, the charge will be divided between the allotment holders. Also, the allotment land most recently leased by the Parish Council is fenced off, so that the allotment holders can't access the allotment. It was decided to remove the fence and notify the allotment holders.

Action: Andy Spurr

- 1.8.12 Some of the information on the Thornborough web site is out of date. Up to date information on the Councillors and Clerk are to be put on.

Action: Sue Reeder

1.9 Correspondence

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm