

MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL OPEN MEETING

12th May 2008 7.00pm

Present: Tim Nichols, Anthony Lawrinson, Charlotte Moore, Andy Spurr, Alex Keeling, Neil Walton, Mark Cole

2 members of the public

- 1) **Flooding** The subject of flooding is ongoing. The environment Agency has said that flooding is the Parish Council's problem. Is the Parish Council doing enough?
- 2) **Dog Waste** Three dog waste bins have been provided, one at the Dole Tree, one to the left of the children's playground and one outside the sports field. Dog owners do not seem to be putting dog waste into the rubbish bins anymore. If problems with dog fouling continue, other measures can be taken.
- 3) **Footpath Lighting** We have been paying a large amount of money for maintaining street lights, many of which need replacing. When the survey was taken asking people whether they wanted street lights; 50% said they did not want them. A decision was taken to switch off some of the street lights. Lights at dangerous junctions, the ford in Back Street and by the bridge in High Street have been left on. When we have enough money we can start to replace the lights with footpath lighting; these would need to be in keeping with the village. In the meantime torches could be provided for residents walking at night.
- 4) **Quality Parish Council** The Parish Council wants to gain Quality Parish Council status. We have seven Councillors, five of whom have been elected. One of the criteria required is that 80% of the Councillors have to have been elected. Also the Clerk has to be qualified and is working towards gaining the qualifications needed. If we can gain Quality Parish Council status we could have more powers and funding. We need to persuade the villagers somehow into becoming more involved.
- 5) **Parish Plan** When this is published it will have legal standing and the contents will have to be taken seriously by Bucks CC and AVDC. The Parish Council is meeting tonight to vote on and approve the Action Plan (Parish Plan Annex). A few months ago a questionnaire, along with the final consultation document (Parish Plan) was put onto the village web site, and circulated at the Two Brewers, Chapel, Church, Post Office and Village Hall. We had 38 responses back; did we make it clear that the questionnaire was in relation to the Parish Plan?
- 6) **State of the Village** Two of the Councillors met with Ann-Marie Davies of Bucks CC Highways to walk round the village and take note of the following issues: Flooding, pot holes, inconsiderate parking, sign post at Dancers Grave sending traffic to Buckingham through Thornborough, the police sending traffic through Thornborough when diversions are in place, Central Networks causing damage to verges when parking. We are hoping that Bucks CC can work with us to sort out these issues.
- 7) **Affordable Housing** A survey was taken two years ago and a need for Affordable Housing was established. Sites were identified and all of them were put forward to AVDC. This was so that any future objectors could not question the fact that some sites were not considered. Four sites were identified as being suitable for further

consultation by AVDC. These are land at the allotments, land next to the children's playground in Nash Road, land at the top and to the right of Thornhill, and land opposite the sports field.

The Parish Council always acts on behalf of the entire village, which is one of the loveliest villages in Buckinghamshire.