

## **MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

**14th April 2009 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Neil Walton, Andy Spurr, Charlotte Moore, Mark Cole

Chris Butt, Paul Firth (Village Networks)

**Public:** None

### **1.1 Apologies for absence**

Tim Nichols, Anthony Lawrinson, Alex Keeling

The chairman and vice-chairman being absent, Andy Spurr proposed and Mark Cole seconded that Neil Walton be chairman for the meeting, Neil accepted and it was resolved that Neil would chair the meeting.

### **1.2 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda**

None

### **1.3 Village Networks:**

Chris Butt and Paul Firth told the council that Village Networks has developed a wireless broadband service that allows rural communities to have high speed broadband. Village Networks already supplies broadband to Steeple Claydon and Calvert Green among others. The service is a wireless network using node points at positions around the village and then small receivers on each customer's house. The service provides a 512mb download speed (standard service) a faster supply can be provided. The cost of the service is £29.50 per month plus an installation charge of £49.50 which includes an aerial and equipment.

At the moment Thornborough has poor speeds and sometimes unreliable connection to broadband. The council resolved to put information about Village Networks in the Thornborough News to see what interest there is.

### **Public Participation:**

None

### **1.4 To agree minutes of the meeting dated 09th March 2009**

Agreed and signed

### **1.5 1.5.1 Ownership of the Greens**

Chandler Ray has contacted us and has promised us an update by next week.

**Action: Tim Nichols**

**1.5.2** Highways still need to fill the many potholes in the village.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

### **1.6 Planning**

None

### **1.7 Finances**

**1.7.1** Monthly income/outgoing report approved by councillors

**1.7.2** March 2009 and April 2009 bank reconciliation were approved by all councillors

**1.7.3** The 08/09 Accounts were approved by the council and signed by the clerk and chairman.

The 08/09 Annual Return and Statement of Assurance were approved by the council and signed by the clerk and chairman

**1.7.4** The following cheques were approved and signed with the appropriate powers considered

227	Mrs S Reeder	Salary and expenses	169.93	LGA 1972 s112
228	Cartwright Landscapes	Grass Cutting	2,257.62	
229	AVDC	Dog Waste Bin Emptying	169.53	Litter Act 1983 ss 5,6
230	Bucks CC	License Fee for Allotments	75.00	
231	Kew Associates	Computer and Software	599.09	LGA 1972 s142 (2)

01.04.09 DD Anglian Water 7.00

01.04.09 DD E.on 30.00

**1.8 Councillors Issues**

1.8.1 Quotation to be obtained for grasscreting the area outside the village hall which is of primary concern, the areas outside The Two Brewers and at Back Street being secondary.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

1.8.2 **Affordable Housing:** Jean Fox has been in contact; the Guinness Trust has come up with a draft for a scheme for site 4 and this has been sent to the landowner. The landowner and planning will need to confirm their agreement and once a basic layout for the scheme and the amount of land to be purchased has been agreed the parish council will meet with the Guinness Trust and Jean Fox to discuss the next step.

1.8.3 **Culvert at bridge in Bridge Street:** Engineer Beryl Kemplen of AVDC is still to get back to us regarding the culvert in Bridge Street.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

1.8.4 **Village Magazine:** The magazine is up and running but needs more material from the sports clubs, church and parish council.

1.8.5 **Aylesbury ducks and duck house:** The village should have some Aylesbury ducks by the beginning of June. (Action: Andy Spurr/Charlotte Moore).

A duck house would cost a minimum of £180.00 + VAT and we should allow for £250.00 + VAT. Exact position is yet to be decided. We will research details of duck houses. (Action: Charlotte Moore).

We previously resolved to purchase a container for the ducks' food; this is to be a metal dustbin. (Action: Tim Nichols).

**Action: As Above**

1.8.6 **Sports Field Agreement:** An agreement was given to Thornborough Football Club who have a meeting next week; the Cricket Club have one this evening. They will get back to us.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

1.8.7 **Overhanging vegetation:** Resolved that this will be trimmed by the parish council. (Action: Anthony Lawrinson/Alex Keeling)

There is a footpath sign lying on the verge in High Street, Bucks County Council to be informed (Action: Sue Reeder)

**Action: As Above**

1.8.8 **Village Post Office:** We were contacted by the Post Office who said it may be possible to host a post office in the village hall, which they will come to assess at a later date. They have still to get back to us.

1.8.9 **Ruined Verges:** Tim and Anthony will walk around the village to identify where top-soil and boulders are to go. Some verges have been re-seeded.

**Action: Tim Nichols/Anthony Lawrinson**

1.8.10 **Fly Tipping:** There has been fly tipping near the Lone Tree, it was resolved that we would inform AVDC.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

1.8.11 **Footpath from post box to pond and Churchyard:** It was resolved that we would ask the Community Payback scheme do the work needed. An article on Community Payback was put into the Thornborough News and the school was informed; no objections have been raised and so it was resolved that we will contact Paula Ayers and ask her to come and assess the areas needing work.

**Action: Sue Reeder**

1.8.12 **Water running down road from Lone Tree into Lower End:** This may be caused by overflowing drains or a spring or because the road was not gritted. Highways to be informed.

**Action: Anthony Lawrinson**

1.8.13 **Tourist sign for The Two Brewers:** Highways has replied to our request for a tourist sign; an application form has to be completed and sent back to them along with an assessment fee. It was resolved that we would go ahead with the application.

**Action: Andy Spurr**

1.8.14 **Diversions when A421 is closed:** When part of the A421 was closed recently traffic was diverted along Lower End and along Leckampstead Road instead of through Great Horwood. It is thought that the police do not always know of the correct diversion route. Alex Keeling will mention the subject at the next NAG meeting.

**Action: Alex Keeling**

1.8.15 **Group against Greenway:** The parish council wrote a letter of objection to the planning application which has been submitted by Greenway Land to build a new town on the site of the former wartime airfield near Winslow. There would be at least 3,000 new houses. The new town would be twice the size of Winslow.

We have been informed that the application has been refused by Development Control.

**Action: Tim Nichols**

1.8.16 **Grass cutting Tenders/Purchase of Lawn Mower:** Following evaluation of the four tenders received by the council, it was proposed (Neil Walton) and seconded (Charlotte Moore) that Cartwright's quotation for grass cutting be accepted for 2009. Cartwright's to be notified (Action: Sue Reeder).

It was resolved that the council will look into the cost of purchasing a lawn mower so that it can carry out the grass cutting itself. We will gather

information on insurance and purchase costs and ask Cartwright's what notice they need if we decide to cut the grass ourselves. (Action: Andy Spurr).

**Action: As Above**

- 1.8.17 **Horse Chestnut Tree outside Village Hall:** The parish council has noted that the horse chestnut tree has bleeding canker; the disease is affecting many horse chestnut trees in the country.
- 1.8.18 **WWYC Course:** Sue Reeder has successfully completed the WWYC course having passed the six modules.
- 1.8.19 **Open Parish Meeting/AGM Meeting:** It was resolved that the Open Annual Parish meeting will be on Monday 11th May 2009 at 7.00pm, the ordinary parish council meeting following at 7.30pm and the AGM after that at 8.00pm.

**1.9 Correspondence**  
Buckingham Town Plan  
Matters Arising

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm