

## MINUTES OF THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL OPEN MEETING

11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 7.00pm

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

2 members of the public

- 1) **Village Networks Broadband:** Representatives from Village Networks came and spoke to the council in April about the company; it has developed a wireless broadband service within the community using node points at strategic positions around the village and small receivers on each customer's house. Connection requires a small external aerial and a small box connected to the computer. Communities are able to achieve a guaranteed 2mb broadband speed but this could be between 4 - 7mbs and with Village Networks there is no need to change the original email address. Among the villages already supplied are Steeple Claydon, Nash and Calvert Green. The standard service costs £29.50 per month with 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. An article with information on Village Networks with how to contact them was put into the Thornborough News to see how much interest there is in the service.

- 2) **Affordable Housing:** A survey was taken three years ago and a need for affordable housing was identified. Jean Fox of Buckinghamshire Community Action (BCA) became involved and visited potential sites in Thornborough with a member of the parish council and a representative from Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC). A list of suitable sites was drawn up and these were shortlisted. The planning department at AVDC and BCA have identified site 4 at Nash Road as the preferred site and are in negotiation with the landowner. The Guinness Trust has come up with a rough draft for a scheme showing the amount of land required and this has been sent to the landowner and the planning department. If the land owner and the planning department at AVDC confirm their agreement to the scheme then Jean Fox will meet with us and the Guinness Trust to discuss the next step. There is a covenant on the land and BCA will need to check this.
- 3) **Community Chest for Local Organisations:** Over the past few months the parish council has received requests for help towards funding for activities/projects from local organisations. The parish council is proposing to discuss putting money aside to support local schemes. An article is to be put into the Thornborough News asking applicants to contact the parish council with requests for funding.

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