THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING

Monday 13th October 2014 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr Stuart Mitchell (Chair), Cllr Charlotte Moore, Cllr Andy Spurr, Cllr Melanie Staff, Cllr Ray Goodger, Cllr Mark Cole, Cllr Mary Taylor, Maggie Beach (Clerk)
Tania Pepin, member of Thornborough and Coombs Community Woodlands Committee

Public: 5 members of the public

1.	Apologies: BCC Cllr Warren Whyte, AVDC Cllr Sir Beville Stanier.	
2	Proposed solar farm at Thornborough - presentation by Lark Energy,	
_	Larkfleet Group	
	- The site is located within Thornborough Parish to the west of	
	Leckhampstead Road	
	- It comprises 3 fields of c40 acres of Grade 3b land Agricultural Land	
	Classification.	
	- The nearest site boundary lies approximately 0.8km north-north west from	
	the centre of Thornborough and about 3.8km east north east of	
	Buckingham.	
	- The access to the site will be from an existing farm access that adjoins the	
	public road. This access is already used for agricultural vehicles and lorries.	
	- The application will be for c10MWp which is electricity for about 2,750	
	homes. The units work on UV light, not sunlight.	
	- The transformers will be in the middle of the site.	
	- Building will be 8 – 12 weeks.	
	- It is not a conservation area and there are no listed buildings nearby.	
	- There will be a 2.2 metre fence inside the hedge and a hedge planted along	
	the southern boundary to screen from RoW.	
	- There will be Infra red CCTV protection.	
	- The panels will be non-reflective.	
	- The land underneath will be used for sheep grazing and / or planted with a	
	bio-diverse wild flower mix.	
	- It is intended to have a presentation exhibition in the Village Hall for public	
	information and to put information about the project through every door in	
	the village.	
	TPC agreed that this all sounded satisfactory. The presentation will also be	
3	available on the parish web site. Public Participation session – 2 Committee members from Thornborough	
3	Sports and Social Committee attended to ask for storage facilities for their	
	equipment. Up till now the equipment has been stored at the Manor but as the	
	Manor is now changing hands this facility will no longer be available. After	
	discussion storage in the metal shed at Thornborough Community Woodland	
	was offered once the tenancy is in place. This would be the most mutually	
	beneficial solution. Eventually this would be an arrangement between TSSC	
	and a Thornborough and Coombs Community Woodlands Trust.	
4	Declaration of interest in items on the agenda– Clir CM declared an interest	
	in Items 2 and 15a.	
5	Minutes of the meeting of 15th September 2014- Agreed	
	Amended minutes of the meeting of 9th December 2013 - Agreed	
6	Review of Action Points	Clerk to
	Mtg 11/08/14 Item 6 Review of Action Points	progress and
	Item 16 Thornborough Parish Plan – still in progress. The Clerk is now	put on
	collecting updated information from various village organisations. She is also	November
	planning to take new photos for inclusion where appropriate. She hopes to	

	have the updated Parish Plan ready for review by TPC at the November meeting. Although the plan has no legally binding power on our planning authority it will help TPC decide future progress for the parish. Mtg 15/09/14 Review of Action points Item 13 Stream/Pond the Clerk has sent a letter to Chloe Smith. Reported that this has been well received. Item 17 A.O.B. other correspondence and any other Councillors' Issues iii. Dog barking at The Folly is currently a big problem. Cllr RG still to visit and talk to the owners. Cllr RG has not yet visited. Mtg 15/09/14 Agenda points Item 6 Thornborough Pre-School update –on agenda Item 7 Thornborough Community Woodland Lease update – on agenda Item 8 Road and Transport issues – on agenda Item 9 Street lighting – on agenda Item 10 Allotments - Clerk is still progressing the issue of water supply cost Item 13 Public Access Defibrillator - The Clerk has found prices varying between £870.19 and £1,399.99. TPC decided that a Public Access Defibrillator was not necessary for Thornborough. Clerk to write to say thank you but we are not going to take up the offer of part-funding. Item 15 Planning: c) AVDC Changes In Planning Communication - on agenda e) Community Impact Bucks and RCOH Expert Planners - on agenda h) Bulletins and other updates - on agenda ii Land next to Sunnybrook, High Street (Brookfield)The Clerk has sent the letter approved by TPC but has not yet received a response Item 16 Finance	meeting's agenda. Cllr RG to visit The Folly and talk with the owners about the dog barking problem. Clerk to write letter
	b) Insurance Renewal – renewedc) payments - Cheques sent	
7	 Thornborough Community Woodland Lease update Members of Thornborough and Coombs Community Woodlands Committee (Cllrs. MC and AS and TP) met with Mr Martin Dickman from Carter Jonas (for BCC Estates) to discuss the issue of BCC equipment to be kept on site. They were re-assured that this would only be for a month to give Carter Jonas time to find another place to store the equipment in question. T&CCW Committee members had said that they would be happy to extend this time to 3 months and asked TPC to endorse this, which TPC did. The clerk will respond to Samantha Perkins, BCC, to this effect. BCC will then be able to sign the lease and TPC will receive a letter confirming the signing which the Clerk will circulate for information. The issue of the map showing the permissive paths was also raised at the meeting. T&CCW will need to take out a licence from Ordnance Survey to be able to use the map. This will be actioned once TPC have taken on the tenancy. 	The Clerk to write to Samantha Perkins
8	 Road and Transport issues i. Closures update— The Clerk has circulated information about forthcoming road closures. There are several local closures over the next few months but none in the Parish of Thornborough. The Clerk has continued to progress the issue of the non-notification of the closure of the road to Thornton and the road from the Lone Tree down into the village when the road was re-tarmaced recently. BCC use a mapping system provided by Symology. The Clerk has contacted them and they have explained that they get the information about road names directly from the local authority, in this case BCC. It is quite difficult to ascertain the correct road name for various roads but the Clerk will check with The Electoral Register. This will only give names for stretches of road where there are houses. The Post Office was also suggested as a source of information for local road notices, but the same constraint would apply. 	Clerk to continue to check up on these issues

	 ii. Village Walk Round -agreed that we do not need a walk round at present but need to know whether all the issues raised in the previous Walk Round have been finished. TfB has been working on the issue of water and potholes on the High Street by Swandon, the culvert in Bridge Street, the problems in Back Street and has also tarmaced the junction at Lower End. The Clerk will check whether the High Street work has been completed and also when the kerb stones will be replaced in Lower End. iii. Salt Bins - the Clerk has e-mailed Simon Dudley at TfB to remind him that BCC has agreed to replace the missing Salt bin on the Lone Tree road. After discussion the placing of the Salt bin was agreed to be on the west side of the road on the verge just beyond the back entrance to the Fox's property. 	Clerk to progress salt bin
	iv. New Transport Manager for TfB Aylesbury Vale area -noted	
	 v. Newsletters – noted vi. Speed Limit at Coombs, Padbury Road - the Clerk has received an email from a resident asking for TPC to support her campaign to reduce the speed limit. The Clerk has explained the history of the Speed Limit Reviews recently completed by BCC and their stated position that they will not be reviewing speed limits again for another 7 years. However, reducing the speed limit for Coombs to 40mph was one of the expectations of the Thornborough Parish Plan so Thornborough Parish Council is happy to support the resident's efforts in this matter. 	Clerk to communicate this to resident
9	Street Lighting - update	Clerk to
	The Clerk has reported the lights that aren't working but they have not yet been repaired. The Clerk will chase this up. The Clerk has received a letter signed by several residents from Bridge Street asking for the street light on the bend lust after entering the 30mph limit to be	chase up repairs.
	switched on. If it is switched on this light would need to be upgraded in line with all the other lights in the village. Cllrs decided that a site visit would be required before making a decision.	Cllrs to make a site visit to Bridge Street.
10	Thornborough Pre-School update	
	- The meeting between Cllrs AS and MS and a representative has not yet	
	 taken place. The Clerk has been unable to find any sample contracts. Responses so far to her request suggest that as long as the user has public liability insurance this is not an issue. The Clerk will continue her research. 	
11	Web site and e-mail	
	TPC web site has been transferred from the paid service we used to the free hosting provider, Bucks Voice. Cllr SM is in the process of re-building the site. We will be able to create various e-mail addresses that will allow easier administration.	
12	LAF report.	
	 Cllr MC had attended the recent LAF meeting and has circulated a report (attached as Appendix 1) 	
	 Cllr MC drew attention to the fact that the BCC stated 6 cuts a year for verge trimming had been reduced to 3 because of cost. We have just had 	
	 the final cut of this year. Cllr MC had also raised the issue at the LAF of any penalties to be levied as a result of the extension by 20 weeks of the road works on Buckingham Ring Road, This has caused problems throughout the work period not only for Buckingham Town residents but also for the residents of neighbouring parishes when traffic diverts to back roads through their parishes when they want to avoid the Ring Road. He has asked that any money received as a result of penalty payments should be shared with neighbouring parishes. Crime figures although reportedly low continue to concern TPC because of recent burglaries in the parish. Emma Garside has been promoted to Chief Inspector in Aylesbury. 	

	MK and Badford hospitals are being reviewed. One of the beauticle will	1
	 MK and Bedford hospitals are being reviewed. One of the hospitals will probably have its A&E service cut. This is a concern to people living in 	
	North Bucks who are taken to MK hospital in an emergency. MK Clinical	
	Commissioning Group did not include North Bucks in its consultation	
	process.	
13	Devolution of Services - update	
13	The meeting planned by BCC for 15 th October to update parishes has been	
	postponed.	
14	Clerk's storage and filing	
14	The Clerk reported the current situation. She has no room for an extra filing	
	cabinet although there is now more paper work accumulated than one filing	
	cabinet can hold. She is in the process of going through the files but is aware	
	that there are more files still in other people's possession. She will try to collect	
	as many as possible and create a catalogued archive which could eventually	
	be kept in plastic storage boxes at the Thornborough and Coombs Community	
	Woodlands site in the building there. Cllrs. agreed that this was a good way	
	forward.	
15	Planning:	
'	a) Ref.14/02731/COUAR. – Thornborough Grounds, Bletchley Road, Bucks.	
	MK18 2AB. Determination as to whether prior approval is required in	
	respect of transport and high impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and	
	locational considerations for conversion of two agricultural barns into one	
	dwelling (under Class MB(a) and in relation to design and or external	Clerk to send
	appearance of the building (Class MB(b)). – Proposed Cllr AS, seconded	response
	Cllr MC to support this application – agreed unanimously. SUPPORTED	
	b) Complaint to Aylesbury Vale District Council - response The Clerk has	
	now received a response from Aylesbury Vale District Council – noted	
	c) AVDC Changes In Planning Communication – AVALC Response –	
	noted. The Clerk as forwarded our response The Clerk sent a response	
	from TPC to AVDC Development Control emphasising that the Councillors	
	need to have paper copies of planning applications to fulfil their role as	
	planning application consultants. The Clerk also sent copies to AVALC,	
	NBPPC and to Cllr Sir Billy Stanier but due to an e-mail problem at AVALC	
	it was not received by them in time for Thornborough to be included in their	
	response to AVDC.TPC have not yet had a reply to their letter from AVDC.	
	However a letter to all parishes from AVDC Cllr Sue Polhill has been	
	circulated together with a list of answers to parishes' questions. Noted that	Clerk to send
	neither the letter nor the list answered the questions TPC had raised.	response
	Agreed to respond to AVDC Cllr Sue Polhill's letter with the points TPC	
	considers were not covered in her reply.	
	d) Community Impact Bucks and RCOH Expert Planners 'The 18 Week	Clerk to
	Neighbourhood Development Plan Programme' - Report from Clerk	contact Great
	(attached as Appendix 2). Cllrs felt that it would be too costly for TPC to	Horwood
	take this forward but would be interested to hear from Great Horwood about	Parish
	their experience. Clerk to contact Great Horwood Parish Council and ask if	Council
	someone could attend TPC's next meeting to talk about their experience of	
	a Neighbourhood Plan.	
	e) Bulletins and other updates – noted	
	Land next to Sunnybrook known as Brookfield, High StreetThe Clerk	
	has not yet received a response from AVDC to TPC's response to the letter	
10	from Mr Hems.	
16	Finances:	
	a) Bank Reconciliation – September 2014.	
	Currently unavailable b) Request from St Mary the Virgin for grayovard maintenance	
	b) Request from St Mary the Virgin for graveyard maintenance proposed Cllr MC, seconded Cllr MS that TPC give St Mary the Virgin Church	
	£500 for churchyard maintenance, agreed unanimously.	Clirs. to
	2000 for originary maintenance, agreed unanimously.	respond to
		respond to

	c) BCC Budget consultation - Clerk h consulting on. Cllrs to send her their ch BCC Consultation on behalf of TPC. d) Payments:	oice and she w	ill collate and respond to	Clerk with their choices. Clerk to collate and
	Came and Co. (Broker Network Ltd.)	£1,406.87	Cheque No. 572	send
	E-on (unmetered supplies)	£22.91	Cheque No. 573	response to
	Mazars (Audit).	£240.00	Cheque No. 574	BCC
	AH & KS Bouchier (dredging pond)	£144.00	Cheque No. 575	Consultation.
	Martin Thomas (Playground fence)	£795.00	Cheque No. 576	
	Clerk's Salary cheques – October	£356.93	Cheque No. 577	
	HMRC - Clerk's Income Tax	£89.40	Cheque No. 578	
	(PAYE Ref. 475/SA75351			Clerk to raise
	Accounts office Ref. 475PE00369213)			cheques
	Total	£3,055.11		
	Direct Debits None			
	e) Receipts.			
	AVDC Precept (2 nd half)	£8,672.80		
	Total	£8,672.80		
17	17 A.O.B. other correspondence and any other Councillors' Issuesi. Local Community Champion - On the Menu			
	ii. Information about AVDC Meetings			Clerk to put
	iii. X60 Service			posters and
	iv. Men in Sheds Poster Buckingham			AVDC Mtgs
	v. News for the Parishes			schedule on
	vi. Rural Open Sure Signal programme information from John Bercow			
vii. Notice of AVALC AGM 1 st November at Quainton				
viii. Safe and Well, for Bucks new service launched 1st October				
	ix. Energy Bills Made Simple Poster- Drop-ins run by Affordable Warmth			
		•	All noted	
	Councillors Issues- None			
18	Date of next meeting; 10th Novembe	r 2014		
	The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.			

Appendix 1

LOCAL AREA FORUM REPORT 23rd September 2014, Silverstone

The main points arising from the quarterly LAF meeting:

Silverstone Park: This is a new initiative bringing motorsport-related businesses to the business park which has been created adjoining Silverstone Circuit, the southern half in Bucks, the northern half in Northants. North Bucks will accordingly benefit from Section 106 monies paid by the developer to improve roads and public transport between Buckingham and Silverstone.

The Park is on a 285-acre site leased for 999 years from the British Racing Drivers Club, owners of the Grand Prix Circuit, by MEPC Asset Management (which is owned by BT Pensions). The development was given planning consent by Bucks and Northants County Councils last year, and currently has 85 businesses and educational establishments (Silverstone University Technical College among them) providing employment to 500 people. This will increase to an eventual 8000 employees, with accompanying road and transport infrastructures.

LAF members expressed hopes that this would see improvements to the Dadford Road between Buckingham and Silverstone, which many rate as 'third world' and 'the worst road in Buckinghamshire', using some of the S106 funding. While the A43 was upgraded to dual carriageway in 2002 to handle east-west Silverstone race day traffic, no attention has ever been paid to the Dadford road and traffic from the south.

Safeguarding Children: County Councillor Angela Macpherson, the Bucks Cabinet Member for Children's Services, addressed the LAF on the recent OFSTED Inspection which found Buckinghamshire Children's Services to be 'inadequate', something which she blamed on the severe budget cuts across all services. She said that although staff had expected their previous 'good' rating to be downgraded, they were shocked at the 'inadequate' rating after the hard work they had continued to do in straitened times.

She said that children in care, in protection and disabled children were now the County Council's priority, and they would be better protected under Operation Safeguard with a children's services £4.8 million budget which was being voted through. "We are moving heaven and earth to protect our children," she added. "It is easy to mend potholes with tarmac, but not to mend children's broken lives."

She also drew attention to the **child sexual exploitation** scandal which had been headlined in Oxford and Rotherham, but was now centred on Aylesbury concerning two 13-year old girls. Buckingham Police Inspector James Davies told the LAF that Operation Articulate had arrested 11 suspects in Aylesbury, Buckingham, Milton Keynes and Chesham, and that more were expected. All have been sent by magistrates to Aylesbury Crown Court.

The Bucks Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) has issue leaflets warning families, carers and friends how to spot signs of sexploitation, in which vulnerable young girls are groomed with attention, affection, gifts, money, drink and drugs, before having sex and violence forced upon them **Crime Figures:** Buckingham Police Inspector James Davies reported that "crime in the area is down 29 per cent, with burglaries down 32 per cent - 25 less victims. Theft from vehicles is down 53 per cent. Operation Acacia starts 6th October which is our Autumn/Winter focus on house burglaries. We often see an increase around this time of the year when the nights get darker. A simple timer switch can be enough to deter a burglar."

He said, however, that he had seen an increase in the amount of drugs seizures, mainly in Buckingham itself, and some charges are pending in relation to the supply of controlled drugs. There will be more to follow on this, but we need information from the community. He went on "We have recently focussed on rural crime and had a week of action locally where we visited local farms. Speeding operations took place on Stratford Rd and in Botolph Claydon and a number of tickets issued."

Buckingham Ring Road: There were many questions for TfB about the unacceptable delay in the completion of the Buckingham Ring Road upgrades between the Bourton and Focus roundabouts, part of the Lace Hill development work. County Councillor Robin Stutchbury said that the developers' contractors, not Transport for Bucks, were responsible for the work, but had run into problems with the water supply mains for Buckingham, Tesco's drains and other unforeseen problems beneath the roadworks.

On behalf of Thornborough Parish Council, one of the most affected parishes being closest to Buckingham on the A421, I pointed out that parishioners being made late for work and school, had difficulties of getting to Tesco or around Buckingham, and that the one- or two-mile tailbacks along the A421 both morning and evening, and at weekends, were having an impact on the parish.

I asked what penalties had been included in the contract, and whether or not these were being enforced now that the original 30-week project had been extended to 50 weeks. TfB's Simon Dudley replied that there were penalties, although he was not sure exactly how much responsibility the contractors would have to take. He suggested that any penalties that were applied would be in the region of £2000 per day. I suggested that Thornborough and other parishes might be entitled to some of this as compensation.

Speeding: Eight parishes have now received funding towards the costs of Mobile Vehicle Activate Signs, which flash up motorists' speeds as a warning to slow down. These are moved between 19 locations on which residents have agreed and are thought to be hazardous. The town and parish councils have part-funded the programme, and taken responsibility for insuring and managing the devices after training. One parish council, Stowe, reported clocking a car at 78mph in the 30mph limit through Dadford.

Grass Cutting: Simon Dudley, Transport for Bucks, told the LAF that the third and final rural grass cut would start on 1st October. This time last year I reported that he had said that up to six rural cuts were scheduled for 2014, but budget cuts have curtailed that over-optimistic forecast.

Faster Buses: This November, Aviva is to upgrade the Buckingham-Aylesbury Route 60 from one to two buses per hour, partly-funded by Section 106 money for new developments in Buckingham and Winslow. One per hour (60) will follow the current route through Granborough, North Marston and Whitchurch, while the other (X60) will be a faster service direct down the A413 through Winslow and Whitchurch. A number of these buses will also start and return to Milton Keynes.

AVDC Update: AVDC is to run a Parish Precept Workshop in October/November to go through the precept process and explain how the tax base, Band D and how the calculations work. It will be at the Gateway Office, Aylesbury, date to be confirmed. Contact is Tony Skeggs at tskeggs@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

From 10 September, AVDC's monthly **full council meetings** will be webcast on the district council's website, with all items except those in the confidential pages of the agenda covered. For those unable to view it live, the video recording will be available on the website with 24 hours of the meeting, and will remain at **www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk**for six months.

The **Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan**, which was thrown out this year by the Government Planning Inspector as unsound, is being redrafted, and should be adopted by summer 2017. A news series of consultations start next summer, and will be resubmitted to the Inspector in late 2016. The LAF expressed its disappointment with the ongoing saga.

Buckingham's **Swan Pool Centre** is to undergo a £2.3m facelift, which is expected to be completed by the end of summer 2015. AVDC has given the green light for design work to start, and the new-look centre will be jointly funded by a £500,000 Sport England grant and the district council's capital programme. As many facilities as possible will be kept open during the work.

Local Area Priorities

The Buckingham LAF has an annual devolved budget of £46,603 to be used for local community priorities. TPC this year considered any schemes for which it might be apply, but declined; there will be another opportunity to bid next year. The largest application was from Buckingham Town Council for improved free parking in the town, working with TfB. The £25,000 includes consultation and review fees, as well as the actual work.

The Parking Sub-Group has made nine recommendations for the area including Market Hill North, Market Hill South (A422), Market Square, Cornwall's Meadow, Moreton Road, Verney Close, and the outer town centre streets. The group has also made twelve recommendations for the town centre residential area including the High Street, North End Square, Stratford Road, Brackley Road and Western Avenue.

The next stage is for TfB to commence the work from February 2015. It is recommended to allocate £25,000 to the work.

The following Local Priorities were accordingly agreed and approved by the LAF for 2014/15, leaving a £513.00 surplus, for which applications to Paul Hodson, BCC Localities Manager, are invited at phodson@buckscc.gov.uk

Buckingham Parking consultation and implementation TfB	£25,000
Buckingham Schools Intergenerational Project Aylesbury Youth Action	£10,000
Padbury Youth Club Padbury Parish Council	£5,000
Canal Path / right of way Buckingham Canal Society	£2,000
Speedwatch device Thames Valley Police	£3,540
Two speedwatch training events TfB	£300
Hospital car scheme promotion Community Care North Bucks	£250
	TOTAL £46,090

Healthcare: A Healthcare Review being carried out by Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group is considering the future of Milton Keynes and Bedford General Hospitals, and the provision of A&E and other services at them. LAF members questioned why 23,000 North Bucks residents were not being involved in the consultation by bringing in Aylesbury Vale CCG, when many of those residents named Milton Keynes Hospital over Stoke Mandeville as their first choice.

MARK COLE

Appendix 2

18 week Neighbourhood Development Plan Seminar 23rd September 2014

This was a very interesting morning.

Before the event, Aylesbury Vale District Council had sent out an e-mail and a letter from Charlotte Morris, Senior Planning Officer saying very clearly that although this was a seminar being held in one of their meeting rooms it was NOT an Aylesbury Vale District Council event and they advised parishes not to start NDPs until AVDC had published their Local Development Plan in 2017.

The seminar was fun by Lew Monger from Winslow, the Chair of Great Horwood PPC, the Hosing Enabler from Community Impact Bucks and the CEO of rCOH, an architectural consultancy that had helped both Winslow and Great Horwood with their NDPs.

Important Facts to take into consideration

- All communities should expect a 15% growth over the next 20 years so will need to provide housing for that amount of people
- AVDC is looking at site allocation next year for the LP in 2017
- In excess of 25,000 more houses are to be planned for
- Nothing in a NDP can undermine accepted strategy in a Local Plan
- NDP should be updated every 5 years
- They cannot amend Conservation Areas and would need a good reason to plan within a CA or Conservation View
- Can or need not be site specific
- If site specific then it needs a settlement boundary
- Can control phasing of development in the plan and use policy to establish principle of the land use and act as a development brief
- NDPs have to pass 4 different conditions which are tested in the Referendum
 - Funding needs to be raised and communities should see this as important enough to raise their Precept Request to cover the cost
- There will be a new grant system available from 1st April of £8K
- You need to do a housing needs survey (would ours still count?)
- A strategic environmental assessment (SEA) may need to be done
- HDPs don't HAVE to have anything about housing. They may concentrate on High Street renewal if a small town, or identify farming areas to preserve etc etc.

Maggie Beach