

THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING

Monday 18th June 2018 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr Melanie Staff (Chair), Cllr Ray Goodger, Cllr Mary Taylor, Cllr Deborah Hosein, Cllr Charlotte Moore, Maggie Beach (Clerk),

Public attending- 7

Item	Minute	Actions
1.	Apologies: Cllr Andy Spurr, BCC Cllr Warren Whyte, AVDC Cllr Sir Billy Stanier	
2	Declaration of acceptance of office by the Chairman Cllr MS signed the Acceptance of Office as Chairman, the role she had been appointed to at the Annual Meeting of the Council in her absence but with her agreement.	
3	Public Participation Session – Residents at Old Kilns informed the Council that work was about to start on their new building at Old Kilns, Back Street. The Chairman checked with residents that any damage to verges by the resulting heavy traffic while the build was happening would be repaired. The residents agreed this would be attended to. A resident raised the issue of ‘gates’ on the verges at Coombs to help enforce the speed limit. This was raised some time ago and the resident wanted to know whether this has been taken any further. The Clerk will look into this issue Other Residents attended for particular issues on the agenda.	Clerk to check
4	Declaration of interest in items on the agenda – Cllr MT declared an interest in item 15	
5	Minutes of the meetings of 14th May and 4th June 2018 – agreed	
6	Review of Action Points Review of Action points from March meeting Old lights - Cllr RG has the old lights replaced some time ago. Councillors agreed to look at the lights and consider uses and value - no Councillors have yet responded. Agreed not to take this further. Lifebelt for pond – this has now been dealt with. Cllr CM has some used lifebelts, but it was agreed that the TPC should purchase a new one. Cllr AS to investigate supply and cost – Cllr CM has supplied a lifebelt which is in good condition for use at the pond. Review of Action points from May meeting Item 4 – Minutes of the meetings of 9th April 2018 – agreed The Clerk corrected a misapprehension minuted under Item 7 Sports field and Pavilion – future plans - “The Preschool have agreed to use their own heaters in future, to avoid major replacement work.” The arrangement with the Pre-school was that they would use their own heaters until Thornborough Parish Council replaced the current heaters - To be actioned when appropriate Item 6 Planning: Responses sent E-mail from AVDC about changes to the planning application process. - circulated to Councillors. Item 10 BCC Land Drainage Enforcement Policy – on agenda Item 11 New Review of Ethical Standards in Local Government – Councillors responded individually Item 14 Silent Soldier Campaign Across Buckinghamshire – on agenda	

	<p>Item 19 Parish Clerk Handover - Clerk to inform Reid and Co., Thornborough Parish Council's Payroll services of appointment of new Clerk– action now no longer needed</p> <p>Item 20 GDPR and implications for TPC – on agenda</p> <p>Item 21 Thornborough Woodlands Land Registration – on agenda</p> <p>Item 22 Finances:</p> <p>b) 2018 Annual Audit – on agenda</p> <p>c) Insurance of upgraded Playground – on agenda</p> <p>c) Payments: cheques all sent</p> <p>f) Signatories – in hand</p>	
7	<p>Co-option of a new member to fill the Casual Vacancy</p> <p>There were four candidates for the Casual Vacancy. Councillors voted and Steve Tribe was duly elected as a Councillor. He took his seat on the Council after signing the Acceptance of Office form. The Chairman thanked all the candidates for standing and commented that they were all strong candidates.</p>	Cllr ST to complete the Declaration of Pecuniary Interest form
8	<p>Planning:</p> <p>i. <u>Ref 17/A4601/DIS</u> Holbrook, Padbury Road, Thornborough, MK18 2EB - Submission of details pursuant to Condition 2 (materials) 3 (landscape and boundary treatment) and 8 (levels) relating to Planning Permission 17/04601/APP - noted</p> <p>ii. <u>Ref. 18/01734/APP</u> - 19 Thornhill, Thornborough, MK18 2DS - proposed single and two storey rear extensions, single storey side extension, single storey front porch and minor elevational changes – the resident was present and explained the application, which was partly to correct an anomaly and partly to extend in the same way as the neighbouring property, thus presenting a unified appearance. – NO OBJECTIONS.</p> <p>iii. <u>Ref. 18/01944/APP</u> - Land at the Green, The Green, Thornborough, MK18 2DQ - Replacement stone village dwelling and the demolition and replacement of an existing stone barn and wall and new garaging – Cllrs agreed this appeared to be a re-submission by the new owners of the original planning application that TPC had supported. - Agreed to respond that Thornborough Parish Council SUPPORTS this application as it appears to be the same as the previous application.</p> <p>iv. VALP - Examination Arrangements – noted. The Clerk will circulate the extensive information if any Councillor asks for it.</p> <p>v. Wycombe Local Plan - Examination Arrangements – noted. The Clerk will circulate the extensive information if any Councillor asks for it.</p> <p>vi. Section 106 and Coombs Farm Planning Application</p> <p>- Cllr BS had asked about this planning application (RE: 17/01599/APP - Coombs Farm, Padbury Rd, Thornborough) at the last meeting of TPC and the Clerk had made further inquiries. Formally she had been told that the Planning Officer in charge of the application had left and not been replaced so the application was on hold. She has now been informed that the application has been referred to Susan Kitchen, the Senior Planning Officer. If approved there is £15,399 Section 106 money available and TPC has submitted the following proposal for use of the money: 'Improvements to or refurbishment of Thornborough Village Hall, High Street, Thornborough, Bucks, MK18 2DF and Thornborough Sports Pavilion, Sir Harry Moore Playing Field, Back Street, Thornborough, Bucks., MK18 2DH including all associated equipment and furnishings, seating, cricket square cover and movable cricket training nets'.</p>	<p>Clerk to make responses</p> <p>Clerk to circulate information to Cllrs as requested.</p>
16	<p>Allotment Issue – taken early to accommodate members of the public attending for this item.</p> <p>A resident whose property is next to the allotments has reported a problem of rats invading her property. She thinks this is caused by the chickens kept on Allotment 10. Chickens are allowed on allotments and the current tenants of allotment 10 have asked and been given permission to keep chickens. Flocks of above 50 chickens have to be registered but there are only about a dozen chickens on the allotment in question. Excess eggs from flocks of less than 50</p>	

	<p>hens can be sold without the tenants registering as a business under Farm Gate Sales legislation. Thornborough Parish Council recognised that the sale of eggs by the tenant is therefore legitimate under the Farm Gate Sales legislation and does not constitute a business.</p> <p>The AVDC Environmental Health Officer has recommended that the householder sets baited traps, which has now been done.</p> <p>The tenants of Allotment 10 attended the meeting to answer any questions. They have informed the Clerk of all the actions they are taking to reduce attracting rats to the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The have invested in vermin proof feeders for the hens and have done so for the last 6 months or so – these feeders only allow hens to feed from them, so the spillage and waste of food is kept to a bare minimum • All corn/layers pellets are kept in steel containers with lids so no vermin can access any of the feed stored. • They ensure they employ good housekeeping to keep the area as tidy as possible which includes keeping the grass cut down around the coop. • They have used humane rat traps in the past and despatched the rats upon capture as they were keen to avoid using rat poison so as they didn't inadvertently harm any other wildlife or animals that may feed on the rats however due to these complaints they have now invested in rat bait boxes with rat poison to help eradicate the problem. <p>The householder was unable to attend as away on holiday. The problem now appears to be under control. The Clerk will report back to the householder and continue to maintain a watching brief on the situation.</p>	<p>Clerk to maintain watching brief</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Playground inspection Reports</p> <p>The Clerk has received the Annual Inspection of the Nash Road Playground and the Sports Field play equipment reports. Agreed to discuss issues at the next meeting. The Clerk will prepare a brief summary.</p> <p>Cllr MT reported that a new Notice Board for the Playground was needed, wording to be decided.</p>	<p>Clerk to prepare item, and possible wording and put on next agenda</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Waste Collections</p> <p>i. Household –The Clerk has received notification from Aylesbury Vale District Council that household collections of both household waste and recycling may change in the autumn. All households affected will be notified by AVDC by post - noted</p> <p>ii. Dog bins –The Clerk has received notification from Aylesbury Vale District Council that dog waste collections will increase. Currently we pay £86.25 exclusive of VAT per bin for 78 collections from each of our three dog waste bins a year, two a week in the summer months and one a week in the winter months. This is increasing to £88.58 per bin.</p> <p>Currently Aylesbury Vale District Council are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-thinking the control measures for litter/dog waste - Carrying out an audit of all existing litter/dog waste bins locations throughout the Vale - Conducting a survey to determine usage of each of those bins <p>AVDC intend to introduce a new litter survey and criteria to ensure new bins/replacements are only being installed in suitable locations and where there is a true need and support campaigns to tackle irresponsible behaviour.</p> <p>– all noted</p> <p>Agreed the Clerk will forward the information for inclusion in the next Thornborough News and also a request about not leaving dog waste anywhere other than in the bins. Dog waste can legitimately also be put in the general waste bins and also household dustbins.</p> <p>A local resident reported that the dog bin outside the Sports Field was overflowing and hadn't been collected from for several weeks. The Clerk had reported this and AVDC are looking into the claim. The bin has now been emptied.</p>	<p>Clerk to action</p>

	<p>It was agreed that the bin from the Playground area, originally re-positioned to outside the allotments, would be better placed outside the five bar gate into the field between Nash Road Farmhouse and Orchard Close on the south side of Nash Road. Cllr RG agreed to re-locate the bin.</p>	<p>Cllr RG to action</p>
11	<p>Silent Soldier Campaign Across Buckinghamshire – update The Clerk reported that there are now several different silhouettes available. Each costs £150, or £250 if we would want the council name and poppy logo on the silhouette. Various other groups in the parish are considering ordering a silhouette, and it was agreed that TPC would order the Airman silhouette, while Thornborough Fundraisers and the WI would order the Soldier and a Female figure (there are two to choose from) respectively. Also agreed that TPC won't order the parish council name on the silhouette.</p>	<p>Clerk to order silhouette</p>
12	<p>Report on Annual Open Meeting of the Parish: 21st May 2018 The Report of the Open Meeting of the Parish 2018 has been circulated. The meeting was considered successful. It was attended by 23 members of the electorate, 5 Councillors and the Clerk. There were reports from 10 parish organisations. Various issue were raised at the meeting and noted. Councillors noted the issues and agreed to re-visit as necessary. Further issues of over-hanging hedges making walking difficult and the pond needing clearing were also noted. The Clerk can ask householders to cut back overhanging hedges etc if she is informed of them. Report attached as Appendix 1</p>	
13	<p>Road and Drainage issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Current Issues – verges and access for wheelchairs and pushchairs – the clerk has received an e-mail about wheelchair access in the village especially with regards to crossing the road from the RoW across the Green to the pavement on the south side of the High Street. The verge makes it impossible to access the pavement and so wheelchairs are forced to move along the road. The Clerk explained that the verge is cut by Buckinghamshire County Council and is not part of the parish's grass cutting responsibilities. Agreed to look into possibly getting a small section of the verge tarmacked or made into a dropped verge to allow access. ii. Land Drainage Enforcement Policy – Buckinghamshire County Council are strengthening their procedure for enforcement but the policy essentially remains the same. – noted. Cllr MS reported the issue of the culvert that has never been properly cleared at Huntinggate Farm on Lower End, where it causes flooding. Cllr ST to deal with this. iii. Picnic Area at Thornborough Bridge - this is currently closed for work on the bridge to be undertaken by the Buckinghamshire County Council structures team., who have apologised for not informing us of the work. After the Clerk complained we had not been notified. The RoW through the picnic area remains open but the Circular Walk cannot now be followed across the bridge until the work is completed which should be by 20th August 2018. The easiest alternative route for anyone who wishes to follow the circular path is to walk along the verge on the A422 to get to the other side of the footbridge. However, as this cannot be guaranteed as safe for all potential users in all conditions, BCC cannot promote this as a formal diversion. The nearest formal river crossing point would be at Thornborough Mill. iv. Relevant Closures –The Clerk drew Councillors attention to the closure of the Buckingham Ring Road at the Gawcott Roundabout and the resulting extremely long diversion for the next three days. – noted v. Cllr MT and the Clerk both attended the digital drop-in at Buckingham Library to explore Transport for Bucks online transport resources. The Clerk will be sent the information about a new hub online through which a variety of information and reporting webpages can be accessed. The Clerk will report to TPC when she receives the information by e-mail. 	<p>Clerk to research</p> <p>Cllr ST to sort out culvert at Lower End.</p> <p>Clerk to action</p>
14	<p>GDPR and implications for Thornborough Parish Council GDPR is being considered as 'a journey' by Government and there is an understanding that compliance will take time. GDPR has implications for parish</p>	<p>Clerk to register as a DPC</p>

	<p>councils but they are not all clear yet. BALC is currently registering as the Data Protection Officer for Buckinghamshire parishes. The DPO should not be the Clerk but can be a Councillor or an external person appointed for the purpose. The Clerk will register as the Data Protection Controller. There is an annual fee which currently stand at £45 for organisations with less than 10 members. Councillors do have responsibilities under GPDR as well as Clerks. This is because Councillors may/will have personal information about residents, members of the electorate, contractors etc. which you have gained by being a Councillor.</p> <p>TPC will need to write and publish Privacy Statements. There are Templates for this in the GDPR Handbook that the Clerk has downloaded, She will circulate to Councillors for consideration. To be discussed further at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk to circulate handbook and privacy statements for Cllrs to consider</p> <p>Clerk to put on next agenda</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Thornborough Woodlands Land Registration</p> <p>The Clerk has contacted a solicitor and been informed that only the current owners or tenants can register the land with Land Registry. She has therefore gone to HB Law, who have taken over Bucks Law Plus who dealt with the original lease to Thornborough Parish Council and assignment of the lease to Thornborough and Coombs Woodlands Enterprise Trust to ask who is the current tenant if the assignment is not enforceable because the land was not registered when it transferred to TPC. As yet she has received no reply. The Clerk will continue to chase this up.</p>	<p>Clerk to continue to action</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Finances:</p> <p>a) Bank Reconciliations – May 2018. Current Account: £18,272.10 Business Reserve Account: £2,176.88 Current liabilities: £1,534.55 Unbanked cash: £15.00 Receipts 2018-19: £9,750.00 Payments 2018-19: £9,707.10 Current Total: £18,929.43</p> <p>b) 2018 Annual Audit – the Clerk has Received the report from the Internal Auditor, Auditing Solutions. - To consider recommendations from the Internal Auditor: The Clerk went through the recommendations with Councillors.</p> <p><u>Review of Corporate Governance</u></p> <p>R1 The Council must ensure compliance with its own regulatory framework when embarking on major purchases or developments, also observing the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 formally advertising any such items on the Government’s Contract Finder website. The Council incurred expenditure in 2017-18 in excess of the £10,000 formal tender limit on the purchase of new play equipment. The FRs set out the following requirements for a formal tender:</p> <p>a) Applications to be sent to the clerk in specifically marked envelope and remained sealed until the prescribed date for opening; and b) Applications to be opened at the same time on the same date by the Clerk and at least one Councillor.</p> <p>Internal Auditors were provided with evidence that the Council obtained three quotes for this work. However, it was not clear to the auditor whether the above, more formal tender requirements were adhered to, as minutes, etc. give no indication of compliance Overall, the auditor is satisfied that the Council has a strong corporate governance framework, although as and when future significant expenditure is to be incurred, the Council needs to ensure compliance with its own regulatory framework and also bear in mind the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, which require that any contracts likely to exceed £25,000 must be advertised on the Governments Contract Finder website.</p> <p>TPC Response- <i>This was the Clerk’s oversight as she hadn’t fully taken the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 into consideration.</i></p>	

Review of Payments

R2 All payments should be supported by the original invoice/receipt.

The Internal Auditor noted that appropriate documentation was on file for all payments this year with two exceptions. The final payment to Komplan for the new play equipment (cheque number 867) was only supported by a statement not a VAT invoice. Similarly, no documentation was available for cheque number 853 and it is unclear what the payment was for. The Auditor was, however, pleased to note that the Council formally approves all payments at a Council meeting.

TPC Response-

The Clerk has now found the electronic invoice for the Playground from Kompan which she will put it in with the January 2018 Payments. Cheque No 853 was against a payment made by a Councillor to a local workman who asked for immediate payment, for clearing rubble at the playground to allow the contractor to lay down the surface. The local man was half the price that the contractor would have charged for doing the same preparatory work. Councillors agree to the payment to be made to their colleague for the work that has been done. The Clerk has explained to Councillors that this is not the way to do it and asked Councillors not to make such payments in future.

R3 The Clerk should review the three payments identified where VAT has been incurred, but not reclaimed, with detail added to the next reclaim.

TPC Response- *The Clerk will action this with the next VAT claim.*

R4 The Clerk should adjust the next reclaim reversing the over-claimed £350.

TPC Response- *The Clerk will action this with the next VAT claim.*

Asset Registers

R5 The Clerk should revise the asset register to ensure that the full acquisition and installation costs of the new play equipment are recorded and that the total value agrees to that reported in the Statement of Accounts and AGAR.

TPC Response- *The Clerk will sort this out and include the installation costs in the assets section of the accounts. It arises from the fact that the value of the equipment was only ever recorded there in the past in the asset register.*

Statement of Accounts and AGAR

R6 The Receipts and Payments account should be amended to correct the errors identified in the body of the report.

The Internal Auditor checked the data recorded in the detailed Statement of Accounts against that in the cashbook noting the following differences:

- (1)The incorrect value is recorded for "Clerks salary" (£97,358.11 (total payments) instead of £5,642.22);
- (2)The incorrect value is used for "Publicity and Communications" (£252.23 (last year's figures) instead of £488.59); and
- (3)The value of "Stationery" is overstated as it includes audit fees (£525) and insurance (£1,498.48): they are already recorded separately elsewhere.

Consequently, the total payments figure is incorrect.

TPC Response- *The Clerk has corrected all the mistakes before submitting to the External Auditor.*

R7 Box 6 on the AGAR should be amended to read £91,716

TPC Response- *The Clerk has corrected this.*

R8 The Receipts and Payments Account should also be amended to reflect the total of all capital expenditure incurred in 2017-18.

TPC Response- *The Clerk has corrected this.*

- To consider and complete Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18

Part 3 The Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18 Part 3 was approved by Thornborough Parish Council. The Chairman and Clerk signed the section.

Clerk to send on to the External

	<p>- To consider and complete Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2017/18 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18 Part 3 The Accounting Statements 2017/18 Part 3 were approved by Thornborough Parish Council. The Chairman and Clerk signed the section</p> <p>c) Insurance of upgraded Playground– the Clerk has now received an amended quote for cover for the increased value of the Playground. There are two options</p> <p>1) The annual additional premium due to increase the Playground Equipment sum insured to £50,179.37 (exclusive of the installation fee of £13,797.87), will be £214.66, including Insurance Premium Tax (IPT). This will increase the Council’s future annual premium payable to £1,740.14, including IPT.</p> <p>2) The annual additional premium due to increase the Playground Equipment sum insured to £63,977.24 (inclusive of the installation fee of £13,797.87), will be £308.11, including IPT. This will increase the Council’s future annual premium to £1,806.59, including IPT.</p> <p>Agreed to ask for cover for the equipment only. The Clerk will ask our insurance company how much extra this will cost for the interim until our renewal is due in October.</p> <p>d) Clerk’s Salary – The recently appointed Clerk has had to withdraw from the post due to personal reasons. Maggie Beach has therefore withdrawn her resignation and will continue as Clerk. Councillors agreed to raise the Clerk’s salary from SP 22 to SP 24. Proposed Cllr MT, seconded Cllr RG agreed unanimously. The Clerk will inform Reid and Co, the payroll manager.</p> <p>e) Lap top for Clerk’s work – deferred till next meeting.</p> <p>f) Payments:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mrs Julier, - TPC storage</td> <td>£15.00</td> <td>Standing Order</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-on (unmetered supplies)</td> <td>£26.64</td> <td>Cheque No 910</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playsafety for Inspection reports</td> <td>£163.80</td> <td>Cheque No 911</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phillips Print for TNews</td> <td>£92.89</td> <td>Cheque No 912</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Auditing Solutions</td> <td>£402.00</td> <td>Cheque No 913</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk’s Salary - June</td> <td>£372.16</td> <td>Cheque No 914</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC - Clerk’s Income Tax (PAYE Ref. 475/SA75351 Accounts office Ref. 475PE00369213)</td> <td>£93.20</td> <td>Cheque No 915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£1,109.69</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>It was noted that the printing cost for the latest Thornborough News was considerably more than previous black and white issues. (The last Phillips bill was £54.72). Agreed to write to the new editor of Thornborough News congratulating him on the latest edition but also pointing out that Thornborough Parish Council has set a budget for costs and will continue to support Thornborough News financially at a cost of £500 a year or under for 6 editions a year but please not to exceed this budget.</p> <p>g) Receipts</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Allotment Rent</td> <td>£15</td> </tr> </table>	Mrs Julier, - TPC storage	£15.00	Standing Order	E-on (unmetered supplies)	£26.64	Cheque No 910	Playsafety for Inspection reports	£163.80	Cheque No 911	Phillips Print for TNews	£92.89	Cheque No 912	Auditing Solutions	£402.00	Cheque No 913	Clerk’s Salary - June	£372.16	Cheque No 914	HMRC - Clerk’s Income Tax (PAYE Ref. 475/SA75351 Accounts office Ref. 475PE00369213)	£93.20	Cheque No 915	Total	£1,109.69		Allotment Rent	£15	<p>Auditor in due course.</p> <p>Clerk to contact Insurance and action</p> <p>Clerk to action</p> <p>Clerk to raise cheques</p> <p>Clerk to write to TNews editor</p>
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<p>18</p>	<p>A.O.B., other correspondence and any other Councillors’ Issues.</p> <p>i. Energy services for parish councils</p> <p>ii. Safeguarding young people in Buckinghamshire event</p> <p style="text-align: right;">All noted.</p>																											
<p>19</p>	<p>Date of next TPC meeting: 16th July 2018. The meeting closed at 9.20p.m.</p>																											

Appendix 1

Report on the Annual Meeting of the Parish on Monday 21st May 2018 in Thornborough Village Hall

The meeting was attended by 23 parishioners, and Cllrs. Stuart Mitchell (Chairman), Andy Spurr, Charlotte Moore, Mary Taylor and Ray Goodger. Notes taken by Thornborough Parish Council Clerk, Maggie Beach.

1. Apologies received from Cllrs. Melanie Staff, and Deborah Hosein; BCC Cllr Warren Whyte, AVDC Cllr Sir Billy Stanier.
2. The report of the meeting dated 22nd May 2017 were accepted as accurate. There were no comments or questions.
3. Maggie Beach, the Clerk, gave a statement of the annual accounts of Thornborough Parish Council for the end of the financial year as follows:
 - i. Current account - £16,708.75
 - ii. Reserve Account - £2,176.88
 - iii. Total Liabilities - £278.20
 - iv. Unbanked monies - £279.10 making a
Total - **£18,885.63**
 - v. Total Fixed Assets - **£523,491.38**

Full copies of the annual accounts are available from the Clerk on request.

4. Reports to the Annual Meeting from the following organisations were presented:

- Thornborough Parish Council Chairman on the previous year's work in the Council.
- Thornborough and Coombs Woodlands Enterprise Trust
- St Mary's Church
- Thornborough Chapel
- Thornborough Infant School
- Village Hall Trust
- WI
- Thornborough Cricket Club

Thornborough Fund Raisers, Thornborough Pre-school and the Gardening Society all gave reports at the meeting.

Thornborough Fund Raisers

There have been changes to the committee. Claire Morgan is now the Chair. She reported that they have had another successful year, the Quiz night in September raised £770, 10% of which went to Shelter MK. Since then there has been a 'Sing Along to the Sound of Music' evening, a circulated paper Quiz in December and another Quiz Night in January all of which raised over £1,000, Thornborough Fund raisers will have a plant stall at the annual school fete in June. There will be a Bond themed evening in September this year with a 3 course dinner followed by gaming tables. The AGM of the Fund Raisers is next week in the Two Brewers. Thornborough Fundraisers would like to liaise with other organisations in the parish which fund raise to maximise the amounts raised.

Thornborough Pre-school

Thornborough Pre-school have said good bye to Jennie with a thank you for 13 years' service. Heidi Grey has taken over the role at Pre-school leader. The Pre-school continues to thrive at the Thornborough Sports Pavilion. There have been 18 children attending last year and 11 children will continue next year. 7 children move on to infant school, 5 to Thornborough Infant School. It has been a busy year with fund raising. The Merry Market was again very successful, as was the Easter Egg Hunt. The Pre-school have also done cake sales in Buckingham and raised £209 in 1½ hours outside Waitrose.

The Pre-school would like to thank both Thornborough Parish Council and Thornborough CC for their support.

The Pre-school will be starting a breakfast club with a drop-off at 8.00 in the morning.

Copies of reports submitted are available on request and on the web site.

5. Update on Nash Road Playground – from Cllr Mary Taylor

Councillors Mary Taylor gave a report on the process for getting the newly refurbished playground on Nash Road. The work was done by a Working Group under the Parish Council consisting Jean-Frederic Henny, Katheryn Geraux, Claire Morgan, Carol Laurence and her daughter Mia, who all worked very hard to achieve such a splendid result. Cllr Mary Taylor thanked them and all the other people and organisations in the village for their support with this project, and especially noted the planting round the outside of the Playground. Katheryn Geraux asked for help with watering the plants.

8. Any other issues Parishioners would like to be discussed to be tabled and discussed:

The Clerk explained that this meeting which is required to be organised by the parish council is an open meeting for discussion and decisions cannot be made at the meeting, but that Councillors were always keen to hear opinions, concerns and ideas from parishioners. Parishioners can also raise concerns at any of the Thornborough Parish Council monthly ordinary meetings throughout the year under the public participation item. All council meetings are public meetings and publicised by a notice on the Thornborough Parish Council noticeboard and on the Thornborough Parish Council web site.

The Clerk explained that she had had an e-mail from a concerned parishioner who was unable to attend the meeting but wanted to raise several points.

He was concerned about the need for improvements to the junction of A421 and Bridge Street for road safety and also a couple of connected planning issues. The Clerk has explained that the issue of the A421 is a constant issue with Transport for Bucks who are responsible for road, pavements and footpaths. She has been able to reassure him about both the associated planning issues in her e-mail response to him.

He was also concerned about drainage on the High Street, street lighting along the High Street and other location, the lack of affordable housing for the millennium generation and Fibre optic broadband to be available to all areas of the village.

There followed discussion on these issues. Councillors explained the Buckinghamshire County Council was the highways authority and Aylesbury Vale District Council was the planning authority. The issue of pot-holes inevitably came up and the meeting was advised that probably the more members of the public who reported road issues on the Buckinghamshire County Council web site the more they were likely to be dealt with

Thornborough Parish Council have continued to add to the stock of street lights and this is ongoing. Thornborough Parish Council have a street lighting policy which is available to the Thornborough Parish Council website.

A resident commended the two parishioners who have worked so hard as volunteers keeping the path/pavements clear. They had been very overgrown. They are the responsibility of Transport for Bucks but they have done very little work on them. A suggestion of having a working party from the parish once or twice a year to clear them in future was made. This was thought to be a good idea.

Another resident raised the issue of the road signs for Thornborough Infant School indicating a school. The Clerk said that there were signs although they indicated 'Playground' rather than 'School' and that Thornborough Parish Council had asked TfB if they could be replaced with more appropriate and possibly better positioned signs. TfB had said that there was no legal requirement to put up road signs to indicate a school and that the school was not actually on the High street anyway. They do not have a budget at present for this sort of work. Speeding was also discussed and the possibility of having electronic signs to indicate the speed of passing cars. Councillors explained that Thornborough Parish Council had also looked into this issue. Signs can be bought, or rented. Speed 'guns' can also be rented and although none of these can lead to fining speeding motorists, they are often effective at reducing the speed of cars. However all options are very expensive.

A resident raised the issue of the Village Hall being small and the possibility of replacing it with a new and larger village hall. This would take a lot of fund raising but could be a really exciting project for the parish. The current village hall is owned by Thornborough Parish Council and managed by the Village Hall Trust. It is currently used by the school for school lunches, and by various groups such as the WI, fitness classes, a monthly café and a weekly mobile post office. It is also used when needed as a venue for the occasional post funeral teas, elections etc.

The future of the current village hall was discussed briefly as a possible venue for other organisations, although this would need to be discussed and agreed by both the Village Hall Trust which manages the Village Hall and the parish council if ownership became an issue.

Agreed that this would be an interesting idea to explore in the future and what would be needed to start the process would be a village meeting open to all parishioners and local organisations. The discussion ended with the possibility of the people interested in this idea calling a meeting to discuss a way forward.

The overgrown state of the pond was raised. Councillors have this in hand and are waiting for it to be cleared.

The meeting ended at 9.15.

Thanks to the Thornborough and Thornton WI who provided tea and cake half way through the meeting.