

THRILOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday the 9th November 2009 at Thriplow Village Hall.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm

Present:-

Councillors: Kevin Clarke, Anthony Cooper, Jane Gough, Derek Pinner, Barbara Pointon, Collin Rothwell, Terry Smith, Tim Spicer
District Cllr: Peter Topping (part-time)
County Cllr: Tim Stone (part-time)
Clerk to the Council: Martyn Corbet

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Pat and David Easthope

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th September 2009

The minutes, having been previously distributed, were signed by the chairman. After an amendment to 4. E) (ii) to read £341,000 instead of £314,000 they were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise covered by the agenda

There were no matters arising.

4. Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 24th September 2009

The minutes, having been previously distributed, were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the chairman.

5. Heathfield

(a) Drains/Sewers

Cllr Pinner said that the work on the drains/sewers had been concluded. Cllr Rothwell expressed thanks to the Parish Council on behalf of the residents of Heathfield;

(b) Notice Board to serve Hurdles Way & Ringstone

Cllr Pinner said the notice board has been completed. He will collect. Cllr Rothwell will store it. The notice board will be sited opposite the entrance to Hurdles Way and angled slightly so that it can be seen when coming out of Ringstone.

(c) Transfer of POS land from Croudace

Mrs Easthope the previous clerk has been chasing Croudace to complete the transfer of the Ringstone development POS land. The normal course of events would be the Parish Council taking over responsibility for maintenance of the land with Croudace paying approximately £60,000 by way of 106 monies. Croudace now claim they are in a difficult financial position. They want a delay in the transfer or alternatively the Parish Council to accept transfer and Croudace pay nothing. Cllr Pinner has sought legal advice from SCDC regarding the position. There was some debate about whether there was any proof Croudace are having the problems they claim. Cllr Pinner felt the matter should be pursued. Cllr Smith felt the 106 monies were not excessive. Cllr Cooper queried the advice received from SCDC. Cllr Pinner said that SCDC want a direction from the Parish Council on whether to proceed against Croudace for the full amount. They will act on behalf of the Parish Council and chase Croudace. It was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council will not accept the land without payment of the money Cllr Pinner said that he would speak to James Fisher, the SCDC S106 Officer, and confirm the Parish Council's position.

Tim Stone left the meeting having presented his report a copy of which is annexed

(d) Footpath/Cycleway – Heathfield to Thriplow

Cllr Clarke reported that he and Cllr Pinner have had two meetings. One was with Karen Champion, Tom Woodhouse from Cambridge County Council and Robert Smith the local land owner. This was to agree a route. The logic of diverting the route of the existing footpath to avoid the KWS yard was agreed. A new bridleway would be created by the diversion of the existing footpath and converting it in status from a footpath to a bridleway.

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get pushed up the list. The plan is for a 2 metres wide concrete path and 2 metres of grass verge along side of it. Once the footpath/cycleway is accepted as a bridleway the County will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance.

The definition of a bridleway was discussed. This is legally defined as providing access for pedestrians, cyclists and horses. Vehicles are illegal. Cllr Clarke said that Robert Smith, as the landowner, is responsible for the agreement with CCC. The Parish Council will not be responsible for the legal fees.

Cllr Clarke has obtained several quotations for the Parish Council's requirement.

Cllrs Clarke and Pinner have also had a meeting with representatives from KWS. They will consider their position regarding contributions to the costs and come back to the Parish Council.

Cllr Clarke is hopeful that the work can be done in the Spring so that the new footpath may be enjoyed by the time British Summer Time comes in next year.

The Parish Council expressed its thanks to Cllr Clarke and all involved in taking this matter forward.

(e) Roads Update

(a) Consideration of report from the Roads Working Party

Cllr Clarke provided an update on the work being done to the Heathfield roads. He is happy with the progress and estimates work will be completed in approximately two weeks. There might be some tidying up to do. There was some discussion on how any such works would be financed. Cllr Pinner was of the view that these should be met from the retention monies if Spade Oak did not do them as part of the contract. He expected that normally Spade Oak should make good. There was some discussion as to the desirability of turfing or re-seeding the green areas. Cllr Rothwell mentioned that HRA Limited is looking into putting boundary fences on some of the green areas. It was agreed that if as a last resort some of the areas need gardening work then Cllr Clarke will get a gardening firm to provide a quotation for the works. Cllr Rothwell mentioned the turning circle at the end of Kingsway. Cllr Clarke said he had discussed this with the engineer. The engineer does not think anything extra needs to be done. Cllr Clarke said that if when the area was planed it was found to need extra work then this would be done. He drew a comparison with the extra work that needs to be done on the first part of Kingsway due to deterioration of the concrete. A proposal to adopt the decisions taken by the Roads Working Party was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Pointon and accepted by the Parish Council.

(b) Provision of a mirror at the junction of Kingsway

This was felt to be something that should be provided by HRA Limited. Cllr Spicer mentioned the provision of "give way" lines at the junction of Kingsway. It was agreed that dotted lines should be painted and also dotted lines at either side of the Whitehall Gardens "horse shoe";

(f) Bus Shelter and Road markings

Cllr Pinner confirmed the bus stop sign has been moved. The work has been completed. Consideration of the movement of the bin was held over until the next meeting;

(g) Footpath – Kingsway to POS

There was nothing to report in relation to this item. It is not known what progress Cllr Easthope has made in relation to the weeds growing through this new footpath at this juncture;

(h) Public Open Spaces

a) Woodland Areas

There was nothing to report on this item;

b) LEAP for pre-schoolers

There was nothing to report on this item. Cllr Rothwell mentioned the over-flowing bins on the existing playground at Heathfield. He asked whether the Parish Council would provide "Wheelie Bins". It was agreed SCDC will be asked to provide these and that they would be secured to prevent removal;

c) Play equipment for older children

There was nothing to report on this item

6. Web Domain for Thriplow

Cllr Pinner complimented the compliers of the site. Cllr Clarke said that difficulties with the links

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had been sorted out. Cllr Pointon made a point about the need for dark text which is easier to read for older people. Cllr Pointon was thanked for her input into the site. Cllr Clarke asked for photographs from Cllrs Cooper, Gough and Spicer. Cllrs Cooper and Gough would rather not provide photographs. Cllr Spicer will get one done. A vote was taken to go live with the website.

7. Health & Safety

Cllr Cooper thanked members for their reports on health and safety. He will send out an email next March for them to be updated. There was a discussion about the provision of a fire bucket for the Smithy. It was agreed to provide a sand fire bucket and a water fire extinguisher. Cllr Clarke referred to a damaged street light in Middle Street. He will contact the SCDC department that deals with such problems.

8. Highway Matters

Cllr Smith mentioned the "Give Way" sign near the shop that he had pushed back upright but found it to be rusty. He will contact Mike Cooper about this. Cllr Cooper mentioned problems at Farm Lane. One of the potholes had been repaired but not the other. Cllr Cooper said that the lane gets flooded and a cyclist might have an accident. The lane needs attention. Mention was also made of problems at School Lane but it was stated that a remedy is some way off. The clerk made reference to an email passed to him by the previous clerk. The Parish Council will have to wait until funds are available for the provision of a name sign for Heathfield Way.

9. Tree Planting & Tree Work

(a) Tree Work Applications

There were no tree work matters;

(b) Other tree matters

There was some discussion about the beech tree at Heathfield. Cllr Clarke read out a letter from Bill Wittering on the subject. It was agreed that the fate of this tree is in the hands of HRA Limited upon whose land it stands. Cllr Cooper mentioned the problem of trees with excessive amounts of ivy growing on them in the village. It was agreed that Bill Wittering should look at these and provide a recommendation.

10. Planning matters

(a) Responses to applications:-

S/1208/09/F Bungalow on land in rear garden of 31, Sheralds Croft Lane, Thripow – refusal recommended

S/1280/09/F Extension to 1A Woburn Mews, Thriplow, CB22 4QJ – approval recommended

S/1285/09/F New house & alterations at 25 Middle Street, Thriplow- refusal recommended

S/1286/09/F Alterations to flint boundary wall to widen access at 25 Middle Street, Thriplow – approval recommended

(b) Planning decisions received:-

S/0964/09/F Erection of Stables with Hay Store/Tack Room/ Machinery Store on Land to the North-east of 5 Middle Street, Thriplow – Approved

(c) Planning appeals

There were no planning appeals

(d) Other planning matters

There were no other planning matters

11. Financial Matters

(a) Authority was given in the respect of the following payments between meetings:-

	Net	VAT	Total
Butler Bros (moving bus shelter)	900.00	135.00	1035.00
Cambridgeshire CC (bus stop road markings)	374.00	56.10	430.10
Andrew Firebrace Partnership (CDM Supervision, Heathfields roads)	750.00	112.50	862.50
Wormald Burrows Partnership (consultancy fees Heathfield roads)	7184.00	1077.60	8261.00
Spade Oak Construction Co Ltd (First invoice)			

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Heathfield roads)	95000.00	14250.00	109250.00
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(b) Authority was given to pay the following:-

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Remembrance Day Wreath-precepted sum)	40.00	-	40.00
CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (Heathfield footpath)	75.00	11.25	76.25
CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (Heathfield grass cutting 24/6 & 7/9)	190.00	28.50	218.50
CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (Prune hedge and cut grass Hurdles Way, cut Pepperslade, cut roadside verges)	448.00	67.20	515.20
Fowlmere Joinery (Notice Board Hurdles Way)	895.00	134.50	1029.25
UK Drainage Network (Final invoice Heathfield drains)	2560.67	384.10	2944.77
Bill Wittering (Travel expenses Tree Wardens Meeting)	14.00	-	14.00
K Clarke (pstge & paper Hthfld road project, travel expenses)	64.60	-	64.60
CPALC (Councillor PD Courses K Clarke)	105.00	-	105.00
CPALC (Chairmanship Training Courses D Pinner)	140.00	-	140.00
Nicholas Wittering (Web Domain costs)	200.00	-	200.00

(c) Credits received

The sum of £6,000 has been received in respect of the final instalment of the precept;

(d) S106 Funds

There was no uptodate information to hand. Cllr Pinner mentioned that the position regarding Croudace has already been discussed.

12. Cambridge ACRE – Affordable Rural Housing- Housing Needs Survey for Thriplow

There was some discussion about a letter that has been received from SCDC. It was decided to invite Catherine Shilton (Rural Housing Enabler) to attend before the next Parish Council meeting to provide more information. The clerk will deal with this in consultation with Cllr Pinner.

13. Reports

a) Duxford Airfield Liason Committee

Cllr Pinner had nothing to report but there is a meeting next week;

b) Thriplow Recreation Ground

Cllr Smith says that some fencing needs replacing. The ownership of the fence is uncertain. Cllr Smith will investigate this and report back. Cllr Smith confirmed that the hedge between the Recreation ground and Fowlmere Road has been cut back;

c) Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Gough did not have a lot to report except that bookings had increased;

d) School Governors

Cllr Gough said that the number of students at the school had risen to ninety-three;

e) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough reported that recently three cars had been broken into whilst mothers were at the school and handbags had been stolen;

Cllr Topping arrived at the meeting.

f) Village Maintenance

Cllr Smith had nothing to report;

g) District Council Information

Cllr Topping reported that the planning process is being streamlined. Planning decisions will

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be taken by officers with delegated authority or a full planning committee at which parish councils may give their views. This means that where something is controversial it is important to notify planning offers as soon as possible to get it onto the full agenda. It is important that as soon as a matter comes in any problem should be flagged up. There is a three weeks time scale for this.

Cllr Topping mentioned the recent SCDC survey on Heathfield in relation to re-cycling. It was felt that this had been beneficial

Cllr Topping had received no feedback on the Heathfield roads.

Cllr Pointon asked Cllr Topping about Rural Exception Site Policy. Cllr Topping said he will investigate this and respond.

h) County Council Information

Cllr Stone presented his report before he left the meeting. A copy is annexed.

14. Request for permission to use village green and “Common Parts” for Thriplow Daffodil Weekend

Permission was granted for the use of the land provided it is reinstated after the event. The clerk will confirm this in writing.

15. Correspondence and Information received

The following correspondence has been received by the Clerk:-

- a) COPE Newsletter No 60
- b) COPE Newsletter No 61
- c) Letter from Andrew Lansley MP regarding Broadband
- d) Impact report from Cambridgeshire ACRE
- e) Letter SCDC – South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework Public Participation Statement of Community Involvement and Supplementary Planning Documents inc DVD
- f) Email message from Diane Duncan re name sign Heathfield Way
- g) Letter and Notification of CPALC AGM
- h) SCDC Local Dev Framework Public Participation Statement of Community Involvement And Supplementary Planning Documents (inc DVD)
Letter from Administrator Thriplow Daffodil Weekend
- i) Letter from Cambridgeshire ACRE re Affordable Rural Housing
- j) Letter Cambridgeshire CC – Response on Regional Strategy
- k) Copy letter from Croudace Homes Limited re POS plus associated email correspondence
- l) Copy Minutes “Tree Warden Relaunch South Cambs” – 8th October 2009

The DVD will be circulated to all councillors then returned to the clerk.

It was agreed that the clerk will write to CPALC to apologise for non-attendance at the AGM

16. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 11th January 2010.

There being no further business, the chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 10.25 pm.

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Chairman

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Date

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