

THRILOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday the 8th March 2010 at Thriplow Village Hall.

The meeting began at 7.32 pm

Present:-

Councillors: Kevin Clarke, Anthony Cooper, David Easthope, Jane Gough, Derek Pinner, Barbara Pointon, Tim Spicer

Clerk to the Council: Martyn Corbet

Assistant RFO: Pat Easthope

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Colin Rothwell and Terry Smith, County Cllr Tim Stone and District Cllr Peter Topping

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th January 2010

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

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

It was confirmed that Royston Community Transport only make two calls to the village per month. It was decided not to make a donation on this basis.

Cllr Pointon raised a query in relation to 16(g) and the number of bins each household would have by the end of the year. Each household will have three bins and the green boxes will be replaced.

4. Annual Parish Meeting Notice leaflet

A majority of councillors present approved the proposed front cover. Any more thoughts are to be emailed to Cllr Pinner by Wednesday 9th March.

5. Nominee for SCDC Standards Committee

It was agreed that any councillor wishing to put themselves forward for this position should submit their name to the parish clerk as soon as possible

6. Transfer of POS land from Croudace

Cllr Pinner has received confirmation that SCDC legal department acting on behalf of the parish council have given Croudace twenty-eight days to respond. If no response is received then legal action will be commenced to recover the full amount due.

7. Footpath/Cycleway-Heathfield to Thriplow

Cllr Clarke said that Tom Woolhouse has prepared a specification and map in relation to the project. There now follows periods of public consultation. A new package has been worked out called "Concurrent Creation and Extinguishing" this is to the parish council's advantage. Consultations have taken place with Whittlesford Parish Council, KWS and Robert Smith. Cllr Clarke has received no response from the British Horse Society. The Ramblers are not very happy with having to walk a little extra distance. Cllr Clarke said the new route is actually shorter. He will be meeting them after the Annual Parish Meeting on the 18th March. By June the work should be ready to go ahead. The work will not be done in time for the summer.

8. Future Management Schedules regarding drains and recently completed road works in Heathfield

Cllr Pinner said that essentially care needs to be taken as to the substances which residents put down the drains. Cllr Clarke said that Jim Best (Consultant Engineer) has not yet done the maintenance schedules. Cllr Clarke has provided Heathfields Residents Association Limited with drawings of the network. There is £2,500 left to pay Jim Best. Cllr Clarke is not clear as to what the final bill will be. There is also a £3,000 retention due to Spadeoak which is payable in November 2010. The "Health and Safety People" have not invoiced in accordance with their quote, essentially they will be doing nothing more. Jim Best needs to tidy up his time actually spent as opposed to time charged. Cllr

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Spicer commented upon how good the roads now are.

9. Update on purchase of hedging plants for footpath from POS in Heathfield to Kingsway

The clerk said that one of the directors of HRA Limited, Simon Reeks, has agreed to purchase the

Plants and do the work

10. Report on the current situation regarding the woodland area and the proposed play areas and equipment in Heathfield

Cllr Smith was absent due to illness so no information was available to the meeting

11. Health and Safety

Cllr Pinner said that Cllr Smith has noticed an article in the CPALC Winter 09/10 Bulletin on weekly playground inspections. Cllr Cooper has investigated this. There is no actual requirement to carry out an inspection every week. The playground in Heathfield is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr Smith will inspect the Thriplow playground once a month. He will submit reports to Cllr Cooper twice a year. The same standards are required in Heathfield.

Cllr Rothwell reports on bins and benches in Heathfield. Mrs Easthope suggested that there should be a notice regarding safety on the playground in Heathfield. This is for HRA to deal with.

Cllr Cooper has health and safety reports from everyone. He asked for the original orange folders to be returned to him so that he can check them against the reports. Cllr Cooper said that the reports cover two things:-

1. Condition from a Health and Safety point of view; and
2. "Plight and Condition" – ie things that may need attention

Cllr Cooper will review the reports and list the matters which need to be attended to.

Cllr Rothwell had reported on the need for "wheelie bins" and stakes on the playground in Heathfield. Cllr Spicer said HRA Limited will get these. Bins for the play area will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Cllr Cooper mentioned the condition of Farm Lane. Cllr Pinner has arranged for grips to be cut. Cllr Easthope said this work was effective this evening. It was agreed that use by farm vehicles might undo the work. Cllr Pinner said he would contact Mike Cooper for assistance as Farm Lane is on the coach route for visitors to the Daffodil Weekend. The problem of "run-offs" needs to be solved. Cllr Pointon referred to the needs to keep the grips clear of large tractor wheels. Some of the problems resulted from careless driving

12. Highway Matters

Cllr Pinner said that Mike Cooper has been on holiday and was back today consequently he has been unable to speak to him and has nothing to report on signage and the A505/Gravel Pit Hill junction. Cllr Pinner will seek to arrange a meeting as soon as possible. Cllr Cooper suggested that the 40 mph signs at Heathfield should be made larger and wondered whether there could be a longer amber phase at the traffic lights. The clerk will chase the provision of the salt bin. Cllr Clarke mentioned the pot holes at Gravel Pit Hill. Cllr Pinner will mention these to Mike Cooper.

13. Tree Planting and Tree Work

Application from Mr M Parkes to undertake work at 14 Middle Street – no objections;

Application from Mr D Easthope (Thriplow Village Shop Association) to undertake work at Thriplow Village Shop, Middle Street – no objections.

14. Grass Cutting Contract renewal

The renewal of the grass cutting contract with CGM for a period of three years upon the same terms and conditions as previously was proposed by Cllr Clarke and seconded by Cllr Pointon and accepted.

15. Planning matters

(a) Responses to applications:-

S/1931/09/F – erection of outbuilding to provide garaging, garden workshop with loft space ancillary to main dwelling at Cochrane's Farmhouse, Lower Street – approval recommended

S/0020/10/F – sub-division of house to form two dwellings at 85 Kingsway, Heathfield- refusal recommended

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The majority of councillors objected to the application. Such objections are not based upon the principle of alteration, they are based upon the fact that the councillors representing the residents of the Heathfield Estate strongly object to the proposed application on the residents behalf. It is felt that the proposed application is in contravention of the covenants which

designed to protect the Heathfield Estate and limit multi-occupancy units – refusal recommended

S/0084/10/F – extension and replacement fence – 1 Fowlmere Road

A majority of the councillors raise no objection to the works proposed. Some councillors raised a point about the alterations overlooking neighbouring properties. One councillor makes a point about the difference the work will make to the outlook of neighbouring properties but has no objection – approval recommended

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S/0145/10/F – Conservatory at 87 Kingsway, Heathfield

The Council is equally split on this application. Those who object have indicated concern for the impact of the proposed wall of the conservatory upon the neighbouring property. One councillor has indicated that no North is indicated on the plan. This has led to difficulty in assessing the likely impact of the application –no recommendation

(b) Planning decisions received:-

S/1931/09/F- erection of outbuilding to provide garaging, garden workshop with loft space ancillary to main dwelling at Cochrane's Farmhouse, Lower Street - approved

S/1738/09/F – double garage (amended design) 1 Sheralds Croft Lane – approved

(c) Planning appeals

None notified

(d) Other planning matters

There were no other planning matters

16. Financial Matters

(a) Authority was given to pay the following:-

	Net	VAT	Total
Easthope Associates (Photocopying 04.03.09 to 07.09.09)	123.45	21.60	145.05
Mrs P Easthope (Assistant RFO's remuneration 01.10.09 to 31.03.10)	293.28	-	293.28
Mrs P Easthope (Postage 04.03.09 to 19.01.10)	33.97	-	33.97
M Corbet (Clerk's salary 01.10.09 to 28.02.10 + travel expenses @ 0.40p per mile)	997.25	-	997.25
D Pinner (reimbursement materials for treatment of new notice board)	18.87	3.30	22.17
S Hitchcock (emergency drainage channel Farm Lane, clearing vegetation from stream bank on village green and tree pruning on village green)	145.00	-	145.00
The following cheque was signed at the meeting:- Cambridgeshire County Council (authority was given at the last meeting under item 12 (b))	1251.38	-	1251.38

(b) Credits received

Green Man Thriplow (rent for triangle of land outside pub 2008/9 and 2009/10)	2.00
Thriplow PCC (hire charges for mower 2009)	100.00
Interest on National Savings Account	141.88
VAT refund	56,485.02

(c) S106 Funds

Numbers 1,2 & 4 fixed interest accounts have been transferred into the current account.

The only remaining fixed interest deposit account is No 3 as follows:-

<u>Funds from</u>	<u>Maturity Sum</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Due</u>
<u>Maturity Date</u>			
Hurdles Way S106		60,686.68	117.37
11.05.10	60,894.05		
(Public open space maintenance)			

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A note of the current financial position was circulated by Pat Easthope.

(d) Internal Audit

Pat Easthope asked for approval to send the books to the internal auditor (LGS Services) when they were ready. This was agreed.

17. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Affordable Rural Housing- Housing Needs Survey for Thriplow

It was decided that this should be an item for discussion at the next meeting. It was felt that there should be an investigation into what land is available. The principle of affordable homes in the village of Thriplow was accepted. Cllr Easthope will seek information in relation to building on the green belt. He will provide a discussion document for the next meeting.

18. Village War Memorial

Cllr Cooper has obtained a quote from Ivett & Reed. This was circulated. The memorial is basically sound but not constructed of the best quality Portland stone. Some parts are not as pristine as the rest. Two pieces in the middle are not very good. Cllr Easthope said that several quotes are needed. It was agreed that a specialist cleaning company is required. The intention is to apply for a grant which requires that the work is done correctly. Cllr Cooper will seek other quotes.

19. Official ID for Parish Council members when out and about with the public

Cllr Clarke has obtained a quote for twelve cards. This is £40.00 plus VAT. Cllr Clarke will do the artwork. Cllr Clarke proposed this quote be accepted. It was seconded by Cllr Cooper and agreed.

20. Village Hall Christmas Tree and Festive Lights

Cllr Clarke explained the Thriplow Society had previously provided the tree and lights. He felt that something better was needed and wondered if the parish council would provide the tree. Cllr Easthope (as a member of the Thriplow Society) declared an interest. Cllr Gough proposed that the parish council should provide the tree, this was seconded by Cllr Pointon and agreed.

21. Reports

a) Duxford Airfield Liaison Committee

Cllr Pinner said this year is the seventieth anniversary of the Battle of Britain and extra shows and events are being staged. Details are available on the IWM website. The museum has not experienced such a downturn in its income as was first projected. Someone else has taken over from Lesley Tyler in relation to the tankers. Cllr Pinner is seeking a meeting to discuss the problem. Cllr Topping and Cllr Stone are both involved in this matter. Cllr Pinner hopes to have a meeting date by next Tuesday (16th March);

b) Thriplow Recreation Ground

Cllr Smith was absent from the meeting due to illness;

c) Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Gough reported that Clive Fisher and Betty Parker have been co-opted as members of the management committee. Presently there is no treasurer or secretary. Bookings are slightly up. There may be an increased demand in future due to problems with the village halls at Fowlmere and Foxton;

d) School Governors

The head teacher is leaving. There will be a temporary head from Easter until the start of the September term. Some seven students have left for various reasons. A new building for the Ladybird Nursery will be erected in September

e) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough said that the parking position is much the same. It might help if the yellow lines can be cleared. The bank has fallen onto them. It was felt that this is something CGM might do as part of their contact.

f) Village Maintenance

Cllr Pinner employed Simon Hitchcock to cut out the grips in Farm Lane and to do other work around the village. Cllr Pinner thought that the village needs a handyman who could do work on a regular basis. He will talk to Cllr Smith about this to identify work needing to be done. Cllr Easthope said that there were patches on the Smithy where the limewash was peeling off and asked for permission to instruct Douglas Sheldrick to carry out remedial works. Permission

was given.

g) District Council Information

Cllr Topping is presently away but will send his report as soon as possible;

h) County Council Information

Cllr Stone was unable to attend the meeting. His report has been received and is attached;

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22. Correspondence and Information received

The following correspondence has been received by the Clerk:-

1. Cambridgeshire CC – letter re Consultation on Cambridgeshire's Third Local Transport Plan – 06.01.10;
2. Cambridgeshire CC – letter re changes to Stagecoach and National Green Line services – 18.01.10;
3. Cambridgeshire CC- letter re A&B road speed limit review A505 (M11 to county boundary) – 08.02.10;
4. Cambridgeshire CC/Green Horizons – Green Infrastructure Strategy Review –Consultation – letter undated
5. Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils – letter re Future Jobs Fund – 02.03.10;
6. CGM letter re grass cutting contract – 11.02.10;
7. COPE – Older People's Enterprise Survey;

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8. Peterborough City Council – letter re Minerals and waste Draft Supplementary Planning Documents – 11.02.10 + DVD;
9. Majestic Gardening Services – letter re grass cutting – 22.01.10;
10. SCDC letter re local development framework – adoption of site specific policies development plan document – 01.02.10;
11. P Saunders (treasurer MDVA) letter re donation to Melbourn Library;
12. Spinal Injuries Association- circular re Fish and Chip Supper (Fund Raising) – February 2010;
13. Thriplow Daffodil Weekend – letter re 42nd weekend – 28.01.10;
14. Email Cllr Pointon re rabbits. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting;
15. RSoPA Brochure re inspection of areas where children play and notification of inspection;
16. Newsletters and magazines received:-
 - COPE-Newsletter 62
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 - Councils and Clerks Direct – January 2010
 - Standards Committee Newsletter
 - LCR Magazine
17. Advertising sundries

23. Date of the next meeting

Annual Parish Meeting 18th March 2010;
Annual Parish Council Meeting 10th May 2010;
Next Parish Council Meeting 12th July 2010

There being no further business, the chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 10.00 pm

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Chairman

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Date