

THRIPLow PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday the 14th September 2015 in the Thriplow Village Hall Committee Room at 7.32 pm

Present

Councillors: Jane Gough, Lynn Driscoll, Owen MacKay, Derek Pinner, Barbara Pointon, David Rhodes, Terry Smith
County & District Councillor Peter Topping (part-time)

Clerk to the Council: Martyn Corbet

Also Present: Dr & Mrs P Dondi, Marc Carmel, Stephen Woodard, Paul Earnshaw (part-time)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Easthope

2. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th July 2015**

These minutes having previously been distributed, were agreed and signed by the Chairman. One typographical error was noted "on" should be an in the sentence of paragraph 8.

3. **Matters arising not otherwise covered by the agenda**

The Parish Clerk said that he is still awaiting a response in respect of the plaque in memory of the late Cllr Chew

4. **Health & Safety**

Cllr Gough said that the signs relating to the playground are obscured by the trees. Cllr MacKay mentioned that the sign on the way out of the village at Is also obscured. The hedge at the school needs to be cut back. It represents a traffic hazard. Some lights in the school are left on all through the night. This is annoyance to neighbours. The Parish Clerk will write to the head teacher about this. Cllr Pinner referred to the state of the white lines along the A505. From Royston Thriplow (from the border between Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire) the white lines are worn and the cats eyes do not work. The new bollards are on the wrong side.

MC

5. **Update on:**

(a) footpath at 7 The Green

The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that Mike Cooper of CCC has been unable to speak to the householder despite various attempts at doing so. (*Post meeting note – Mike Cooper has now succeeded to making contact with the householder. She is denying liability and seeking legal advice*). Although not related to this item Cllr Gough stated the verges at Church Street still need attention especially opposite her property 55 Church Street;

(b) verge at Peggs Close

Cllr Smith said that nothing is being done at the moment. He has costed the matter to allow for 20 tonnes of top soil. He will however order 25 tonnes from British Sugar. The work does however need to be tied into the proposed scheme for planting daffodil bulbs;

TS

(c) water courses in the village

Cllr Pinner has tried to contact Brian Cutter without success. The edge of the

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watercourse has been strimmed. Cllr Pinner needs to check if this has been completed. There is quite a lot of work done. Cllr Pinner will be asking Mr Cutter for an invoice.

DP

6. **Parish Recreation Grounds and Village Maintenance**

(a) public footpaths on Heathfield

Cllr Rhodes had nothing to report. Cllr Driscoll reported that Heathfields Residents Association Limited is completing the refurbishment of the path leading from the playground to Kingsway. This will be a great improvement and benefit;

(c) Parking and Playground at Ringstone

Cllr Smith had circulated options for the playground scheme at Ringstone. It was generally felt that Option 2 offered by Playdale Playgrounds Limited was the best. Acceptance of this was proposed by Cllr Gough and seconded by Cllr Rhodes. This was agreed. The total cost of the scheme will be £13,174.80;

(d) Village Maintenance – update

Cllr Smith has renovated the benches on The Greenway otherwise village maintenance is still ongoing. It was agreed that the colour of the telephone box in the village is incorrect and that it should be re-painted. This was proposed by Cllr Pointon and seconded by Cllr Pinner.

TS

(e) Drains at the Village Hall

Cllr Pinner has attempted to obtain a quote from Claret who are the contractors for Anglian Water. He spoke to them on Tuesday last week and asked for a price to do the work in time for this meeting. Nothing further has happened. It was agreed that Cllr MacKay would ask a contact of his to provide a quote.

OM

(f) Grass Cutting in the Parish

General dissatisfaction was expressed with the service being provided by CGM Landscapes. The Parish Clerk told the meeting that a resident in Kingsway had the rear window of his car smashed by a stone flicked up by the grass cutter. The operative had at first denied liability. The Parish Clerk had called the office at CGM. They admitted liability. It was agreed that the service supplied cutting the verges in the village was not good enough. Cllr Smith is obtained quotes from other suppliers.

TS

7. **Tree Planting, Tree Work and POS Maintenance**

Tree Work applications & Tree Works in general

(1) Removal of one Horse Chestnut with basal cavity – no objection

(2) Felling of 4 trees – 1 Ash, 2 Beech and 1 Acer – There was no objection to the felling of one of the trees but two are healthy and the other suffers from an iron deficiency which can be treated,

8. **Planning Matters**

(a) Responses to applications

S/1811/15/FL – Front Porch, 60 Kingsway – approval recommended

(b) Planning decisions received

No planning decisions have been received

(c) Planning appeals

No planning appeals had been received

(d) Attendance of parish councillors at planning meeting

Cllrs Pointon and MacKay attended the SCDC Planning Ahead Meeting on the 15th July. Cllr Pointon reported at that meeting it was stated that action needs to be taken to make a list of the land and buildings the community values. That list is to be sent to Planning and New Communities. Developers must enquire about the list. The idea is that the list will help to prevent inappropriate development. There is a need to balance the Green Belt against the need for new accommodation. There is also a move to try and prevent villages losing their public houses. It was agreed that a list should be drawn up for the next meeting. A sub-committee consisting of Cllrs Easthope MacKay Pointon and Rhodes was appointed for this purpose. Cllr Pointon also stated that SCDC are worried about inappropriate development. There is a need to balance the need for accommodation against that of keeping the feel/character of a village. There is also a need to have regard to infrastructure such as schools and shops. There is also a need to monitor the

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weight of traffic using a village.

It was noted that an application had from Vetspeed Limited for an additional facility at the existing Pet Crematorium. This has been the subject of a presentation some weeks ago. Concern about this application has been expressed from various persons. The application has been circulated in hard format to parish councillors. Following discussions it was decided to invite representatives of the applicant and others to provide a further presentation in the Village Hall, This will be open to all. *(Post Meeting Note – The Village Hall has been booked for the 7th October)*

9. Financial Matters

(a) Authority was granted to pay the following:

	Amount	VAT	Total
Parish Clerk Salary – 14 th July to 14 th September	496.56		496.56
Parish Clerk – expenses for same period	25.50		25.50
HMRC – PAYE on Parish Clerk's salary	124.00		124.00
CGM Landscapes – routine maintenance at Kingsway on the 13 th May – Invoice 6603	50.00	10.00	60.00

Items received too late for the agenda but approved for payment

	Amount	VAT	Total
Nicholas Wittering – website maintenance	275.00		275.00

(b) Credits received

Cambridgeshire County Council – reimbursement for cutting verges in the village	1,283.74
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(c) Section 106 monies

The monies held in respect of Hurdles Way are invested on a 1 year fixed term with Saffron BS. The monies held in respect of Ringstone continue to be invested on a 2 year fixed term with Cambridge BS. The remaining S106 monies are invested with Cambridge BS.

(d) Audited Accounts and Annual Return

The Parish Clerk informed the meeting he is still awaiting the return of the Annual Return from the External Auditors.

10. Review of Parish Clerk's salary

Following precedent set there will be a review of the performance of the Parish Clerk as well as his salary. A sub-committee consisting of Cllrs Gough Easthope MacKay and Rhodes was formed for this purpose.

11. Travellers and Security at Pepperslade

It was decided that the existing gate be replaced by a fence with a small entrance point in it. 2 conifers or Hawthorn bushes would be planted at either end of the fence. This was proposed by Cllr Pinner and seconded by Cllr Pointon. The sum of £500.00 was allocated to the fence.

Presentation by Mr Paul Earnshaw

Although not included in the agenda it was agreed that Mr Earnshaw give a report to the meeting. This followed on from a meeting of the sub-committee appointed by the Parish Council to consider the project. Mr Earnshaw outlined the proposals to the Parish Council in closed session. Following this the meeting re-opened. It was agreed that the Parish Council should contribute a maximum of £5000.00 toward the project. This was proposed by Cllr Pinner and seconded by Cllr Gough.

12. Idea for the gravel pit on the way up Middle Street

An idea had been received for the creation of young persons' leisure area on this land. The land is not the property of the Parish Council hence the idea cannot be pursued.

13. Improvements to playground at Heathfield – request for donation

Further information is awaited from Darren Mullett. It is hoped this will be available at the next meeting in November.

14. Plaque in memory of Cllr Dudley Chew

The Parish Clerk has chased Ultimate Logos but received no response. Cllr Smith suggested that there be an approach to Algar Signcraft. *(Post meeting note – Cllr*

TS

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Smith will approach Algar Signcraft regarding the plaque)

15.

Reports (if any):

(a) Neighbourhood Forum (ex IWM Liaison committee)

Cllr Pinner had nothing to report but he reminded those present that there is to be an air show this coming weekend over the 2 days. It is ticket only. Cllr Gough confirmed it is sold out. She referred to the fact that people have a tendency to complain about the IWM but that it is also a boon to the community. It brings in money as well as provided employment and puts the area on the map;

(b) Thriplow and Heathfield Recreation Grounds

This has previously been dealt with.

(c) Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Pointon said that the next TVHMC meeting is scheduled for the 14th October.

A new electricity meter is being installed next week. There is an event entitled "Winter Folk" scheduled for the 28th November. This is intended to raise funds.

This is instead of a Christmas event. The entertainers will be both professional and amateur.

(d) Thriplow Village School

day now

No report has been obtained;

(e) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough said she did not have much to report except that crimes seem to be widespread over the area but not to have increased. A meeting is due to take place on Slave Trafficking;

(f) Village Maintenance

Cllr Smith had already dealt with this earlier

(g) and (h) District & County Council Information

Heidi Allen MP

I have written to and had action in response from our local MP, Heidi Allen, on three issues recently: school places shortage generally, the proposal for a footpath from Duxford to Whittlesford station (because she has a meeting with network rail on other matters and there was an opportunity to raise this directly with network rail), and the unresolved issue of clearing up the waste plant at Flint Cross after the fire last November. I also made her aware of the planning application from Vetspeed and its impact on the Duxford IWM.

As a result we have a site-meeting at the railway station later this month with network rail managers. On the Flintcross fire Heidi has written to the chairman of the Environment Agency. who has replied and a site meeting takes place this week. On school places see later in this report.

Vetspeed planning application. The parish council may be aware that the planning application has **last week** been submitted to the county council from Vetspeed, owners of the Pet Crematorium plant on the A505 at Thriplow Heath.

Asd reported the ACT process requires a tall chimney, 25 metres or 80 feet high, to replace the current tallest chimney of some ten metres. The new chimney would be directly on the flight path into the Imperial War Museum airfield, and the IWM are very concerned. The other issue is the traffic increase along the A505, as the current processing deals with 18,000 tonnes a year and the capacity of the new plant is up to 30,000 tonnes. I have made people aware of this issue in my leaflet update distributed to Thriplow and Heathfield. I have spoken to the chair of the county planning committee to make sure there is proper consultation on this matter, will ensure any local views are put before the committee.

A505 congestion: I met with the County's strategic transport team, specifically regarding the A505 and its congestion problems, and especially if the area continues to attract new business hubs, all of which bring in commuter traffic. At the moment there are plans from the Wellcome Trust to expand at Hinxton, expansion from Granta Parks and Babraham Institute based on successful planning applications, and the new bio-tech site proposed for the old Spicers site at Sawston. The team acknowledged that the A505 was severely congested, but said that for the moment their priorities were roads such as the A1307 which could support improved economic growth by linking the Haverhill population with employment opportunities in the Cambridge area.

This response was not good enough in my view and I have since then had meeting with the chief exec of the Cambridgeshire Local Enterprise Zone and spoken to the head of infrastructure at the county council. My views were reported in the Cambridge News and I went on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. The best solution to congestion problems on the A505 and nearby roads is to use the planning process to get the expanding businesses to pay, including public transport and road improvements. I will continue to keep the pressure on and report back.

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Finally, there has been a bid for an agri-tech hub and an enterprise zone at Hinxtun along from MacDonalds roundabout. The land previously owned by Tesco Land for the Handley Grange housing bid has been acquired by Smithsonhill, who want to build an agri-tech hub there, which would attract investment from government and also organisations like NIAB (National Inst. of Agricultural Botany). The enterprise zone is not likely to succeed, but the agri-tech hub might well. The issue will be to understand the scale of the buildings proposed, and the impact on traffic at the increasingly busy roundabout.

Bid to highways local traffic improvement fund and other traffic issues

There is an Open Day at the depot at Whittlesford Bridge coming up and I urge the parish council **to visit and take advantage** of the chance to talk informally with officers about plans. I also suggest that the PC considers putting in a bid again regarding the turn-off on the A505 to Thriplow, but that beforehand a meeting with county traffic officers is sought to see what is feasible. I would be happy to arrange.

I noticed there were a very large number of cars parked at Heathfield (Woburn Mews) the other week and I will ask the planning enforcement officer to check next time he is in the area.

Police proposals for parking enforcement

I attended a meeting at Sawston in July where Police Inspector Sutherland outlined the options in response to the challenge from local villages for something to be done about taking enforcement action on parking.

There were various options discussed at the meeting, but the one that found most favour was for villages - or groups of villages - to contribute to a grant fund, paying in £1,000 for 42 hours of PCSO time over a six month period to patrol with a specific emphasis on parking. Smaller villages could team up. The hours would be agreed in discussion with the parish council, and the whole scheme will be reviewed after six months. The benefit of the grant approach means that there are savings on admin. costs which would otherwise add to the bill.

Hinxton ford

the county has made good on its fixing of the pathway round the gates at the Duxford end of Hinxton ford and the commentary from cyclists has been positive. I will investigate recent closures of the road gates.

School places

I am setting up meetings with all the local heads of schools including Thriplow on their projected intake for Sept 2016 to prepare for a meeting with the county council in Sept this year on reception class sizes and how the county will manage demand. The aim is to ensure there is not a repeat of the situation locally this year.

Neighbourhood plan and the district council's strategic housing plan

There is a meeting at Whittlesford memorial hall on 29 Sept at 7.30 pm where officers from the district council will set out how to go about producing a neighbourhood plan. Thriplow might want to send an observer, in the way that Pampisford and Duxford are going to.

The review of the district council's forward plan is still on hold while the district council works through points put to it by the planning inspectors. The key issues is for the council to justify its view that new developments are "better" than developments on the fringes of the City, in terms of sustainability, and that the new build of houses proposed under the plan will come forward sufficiently quickly to satisfy demand.

Travellers

The travellers previously at Sawston/Pampisford roundabout have moved along to Shelford - i have asked the county enforcement team if there is enough ground to warrant saying there has been a breach of the order. However, I would prefer that they stayed in Shelford rather than we have them move on and the travellers then turn up somewhere else such as Pepperslade or the entrance to Heathfield or the open spaces at Thriplow itself.

AOB

The district council neighbourhood officer continues to monitor the situation between neighbours in Thriplow and I discuss this with him. The situation is currently calm.

16.

Correspondence and information received

Letters received

22.07 - Cambridgeshire C C - Street Lighting Energy Charges

25.08 - British Gas - Letter requesting meter reading for The Smithy

27.08 - Saffron BS - Letter re change in deposit limit

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- 02.09 - The Cambridge BS - Re Financial Services Compensation Scheme Cover
- 08.09 - Lilleys of Sawston - Estimate re bollard
- 09.09 - SCDC - Letter re Lawful Development Certificate re 26 Fowlmere Road

Emails received

- 13.07 - Peter Topping - Parish Council meeting
 - Philip Dondi - Security of Access to Pepperslade
- 14.07 - Paul Earnshaw - Parish Council Daffodil Planting proposal
- 15.07 - Nick Swarfega - Notice for urgent circulation
 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 15th July
 - Tina Webb - Smaller Councils Transparency Code
- 16.07 - Ben Jakes - Part Night Lighting Thriplow
- 17.07 - Ros Collings - Rmloyment Liability ERN Number
- 22.07 - Roy Warnes - Work and Cambridge Pet Crematorium
 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 22nd July
 - ARinvite - Annual Return 2015
- 23.07 - Arthur Greaves - Work and Cambridge Pet Crematorium
 - Peter Topping - Work and Cambridge Pet Crematorium x 3
 - Fowlmere PC - Work and Cambridge Pet Crematorium
- 24.07 - clerk (Whittlesford) - Work and Cambridge Pet Crematorium
- 26.07 - Philip Dondi - TPC Meeting 13/07/15
- 27.07 - Philip Dondi - TPC Meeting 13/07/15 x 2
- 28.07 - APPS Planning - Correspondence re planning application S/1811/15/FL - 60 Kingsway
 - Liam Galvin - Re Annual Return
 - Passenger Transport - Changes to Local Bus Services
- 30.07 - Jay Patel - Tree Works Application 7 The Green
 - Jay Patel - Tree Works Application 9 The Green
 - Jay Patel - Tree Works Application 7 The Green & 3 Lower Street
 - LDF - Local Plan Examinations
- 31.07 - Patrick Adams - Questionnaire to TPC
- 02.08 - Communications - Parish e-bulletin - July 2015
- 03.08 - Nick Swarfega - re image from Knowles Benning
- 05.08 - Unlimited Logos - Re Engraved Plaque Enquiry
 - Peter Topping - Re Planning Application from Vetspeed
 - Graham Watts - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 5th August
- 06.08 - Peter Topping - Re Planning Application from Vetspeed
 - Matthew Finnney - S106 monies Ringstone, Duxford
 - Peter Topping - parking issues in villages
 - Bridget Fairley - Changes in Duty Planning Officer service
 - Karen Brookes - Make the smart choice with planning
- 07.08 - Peter Topping - village pathways sign
 - Tina Webb - Outreach Councillor Training - Perry PC
 - Tina Webb - Councillor Training - Burwell PC
 - LDF - August Planning Policy Monthly Update
- 10.08 - Marc Carmel - Re Barrier at Pepperslade POS
 - Philip Dondi - Re Barrier at Pepperslade POS
- 10.08 - Philip Dondi - Re Barrier at Pepperslade POS
 - Philip Dondi - Re Barrier at Pepperslade POS
 - Philip Dondi - Re Barrier at Pepperslade POS
- 11.08 - Stuart Wetherall - Wicksteed's 7 year paint guarantee
 - Jay Patel - Tree Works Application 2 Fowlmere Road
- 12.08 - Philip Dondi - Re Security at Pepperslade
 - Jay Patel - Tree Works Application 17 Middle Street
 - Graham Watts - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 12th August
- 13.08 - Tina Webb - DIS Extra 864
 - Tina Webb - Grants and Spending Bulletin
 - Philip Dondi - Security at Pepperslade POS
- 16.08 - James Cobb p Heathfield Playingfield
 - Peter Topping - Village Pathways Sign
- 17.08 - pmd31421 - Use of Heathfield/Pepperslade Green By Newmarket Dog Group

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- Jay Patel - East Anglian Tree Warden Forum 2015
Paul Earnshaw - Daffodil Bulb Planting
- 18.08 - Paul Earnshaw - Daffodil Bulb Planting
Cambridgeshire ACRE - AGM 2015
Richard Fella - Re Local Pension Board
David Lilley - Re Local Pension Board
- 19.08 - Tina Webb - Invitation to free Funding and Support events in South Cambridgeshire
Paul Earnshaw - Re Daffodil Bulb Planting
Jay Patel - Re Tree Works 7 & 9 The Green
Leanne Cameron - Change of payment method from cheque to BACS
- 20.08 - Leanne Cameron - Change of payment method from cheque to BACS
- 24.08 - ACAS Planning Correspondence re App S/2004/15/FL - 1 Sherald's Croft
- 25.08 - Matt Dean - Application Notification S/1951/15/FL - 6 Middle Street
The Future of Local Government - limited places available
Patrick Adams - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 25th August
- 26.08 - Patrick Adams - Results of Parish Council Questionnaire from District Council
East South - Your New South East Locality Lead - Thriplow
- 27.08 - Paul Earnshaw - Bulb Planting - action notes
- 01.09 - Rural Services Network - Rural Policy Matters Campaign
Rural Services Network - Weekly email News Digest, Tuesday 1st September
Eleanor Bell - News from CCC
Kim Barker - Village Maintenance Thriplow Parish
Trish Brett - Application S/1811/15/FL
LDF - Local Plan Examinations - Council's Response to Inspector's letter
- 02.09 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 2nd September
Judith Carballo - Draft Cambs Flood and Water Supplementary Planning Document
Rural Services Network - Rural Opportunities Bulletin
- 03.09 - Paul Earnshaw - Re Bulb Planting - action notes
- 04.09 - D Wilson - Thank You
Helen Wass - My email
Kelly Ford - no subject
- 05.09 - ccnews - Charity Commission News - Autumn 2015
- 07.09 - Nina Taylor - FW Draft Cambridgeshire Flood and Water Supplementary Planning Document
Tina Webb - Invitation to fee Funding and Support Events in South Cambridgeshire
- 08.09 - Mike Cooper - Re 7 The Green
- 09.09 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for Weekly Bulletin, Wednesday 9th September
APAS Planning - Correspondence regarding planning application S/2229/15/FL
26 Fowlmere Road
- 10.09 - Tina Webb - FW DID Extra 867

Magazines & Periodicals

- LCR Magazine - Autumn 2015
Clerks & Councils Direct August & September 2015

Various Advertising Sundries

17.

Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on the 9th November 2015

There being no further business, the chairman thanked everyone for attending.
The meeting closed at 10.35 pm

..... Chairman

..... Date

17.

18.

19.