

THRIPLow PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday the 9th May 2016 in the Thriplow Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 pm

Present

Councillors: Jane Gough, Janet Archibald, Lynn Driscoll, David Easthope, Kit Jackson, Owen MacKay, Terry Smith, Erica Webber, Barbara Pointon (Part-time)

County & District Councillor Peter Topping (Part-time)

Clerk to the Council: Martyn Corbet

Preliminaries to the meeting

The Parish Clerk took the chair for the purposes of the election of a chairman. Before this took place he explained to each parish councillor that they had a "Welcome Pack". The parish councillors completed the Acceptance of Office Forms. They will complete the Disclosure on Interests Forms and return them to the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that Heathfield Ward was a parish councillor short. No one had come forward to offer themselves for election. The vacancy was discussed and it was suggested Barbara Pointon be co-opted to fill it. Mrs Pointon has been a parish councillor for a long period and did not get re-elected at the election. She has over the years done a lot of work for the parish as a whole and latterly for Heathfield in relation to the Solar Farm and Vetspeed applications. She has also been instrumental in the preparation of a list of community assets. It was proposed by Cllr Gough and seconded by Cllr Driscoll that Mrs Pointon be co-opted as a parish councillor for Heathfield Ward. Mrs Pointon had previously stated that she would be willing to represent Heathfield Ward. Her co-option was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Pointon joined the meeting at 8.30 pm. She was was informed of her co-option..

1. Election of a Chairman

Cllr Gough was proposed by Cllr Easthope and seconded by Cllr Driscoll. Cllr Gough was unanimously elected.

2. Completion of Acceptance of Office Form by the Chairman

Cllr Gough completed the Acceptance of Office Form

3. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

4. Elections

(a) Vice-Chairman

Cllr Smith was proposed by Cllr Gough and seconded by Cllr MacKay

(b) Election of various representatives:

(i) Neighbourhood Forum (ex IWM Liaison Committee) – Cllr MacKay

(ii) Thriplow and Heathfield Recreation Grounds – Cllr Smith

(iii) Village Hall Management Committee – Cllr Pointon

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- (iv) **Police & Neighbourhood Watch** – Cllr Gough
- (v) **Village Maintenance** – Cllr Smith assisted by Cllr Jackson
- (c) **Health & Safety** – Cllr Easthope
- (d) **Tree Warden** – Matthew Gough

6. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th March 2016

These minutes having previously been distributed, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

7. Matters arising not otherwise covered by the agenda

There were no matters arising.

8. Health & Safety

Cllr Easthope took the opportunity of reiterating the parish council's general policy on Health and Safety which is:

Our policy is to provide and maintain working conditions, equipment and systems of work, which are safe and healthy for all our employees, and to provide information, training and supervision sufficient to maintain safety. We also accept our responsibility for health and safety of persons other than employees who may be affected by our actions.

The arrangements for implementing this policy and the particular duties or persons for safety matters are specified within the policy.

Our policy will be reviewed in the light of changes in circumstances of our business or amendments in the law. The effectiveness of this policy will be periodically reviewed and updated.

There were no comments and the policy document was signed by the chairman. Cllr Easthope explained how the policy related the effectiveness and safety of the parish council's assets. He also explained that reports were filed by parish councillors in March and September in relation to inspection of assets.

9. Update on:

(a) footpath at 7 The Green

The work required has been carried out.

(b) watercourses in the village

Cllr MacKay will take over dealing with this item following the retirement of Derek Pinner. He will obtain information from Mr Pinner.

(e) flooding at Church Street

Cllr Gough said work has been done on this problem by Mr & Mrs Seaton. It was agreed the situation needs to be monitored.

10. Parish Recreation Grounds and Village Maintenance

(a) Public footpaths on Heathfield

Cllr Driscoll said that Heathfields Residents Association Limited is continuing to improve the footpaths.

(b) Parking and Playground at Ringstone

Cllr Smith will look into the parking situation at Ringstone.

(c) RoSPA inspections for Thriplow Recreation Ground and Ringstone

Cllr Smith confirmed the inspections were carried out the Monday after Daffodil Weekend. Comment was made that the Litter Bins on the Recreation Ground were overflowing. This was not surprising! The reports did not identify any need for maintenance.

(d) Village Maintenance

Cllr Gough read an email she had received from a Pepperslade resident. Cllr Easthope confirmed that the parish council had never acquired any land on Pepperslade. Cllr Driscoll will ask a friend who lives on Pepperslade to look at her deeds. Comments have also been received about "Dog Pooh Bags" being left on the pathway between Pepperslade and Heathfield. Cllr Driscoll will ask for something to be put in the HRA newsletter. She also referred to sticks placed on the land adjoining 63A Kingsway which pointed out where dog pooh had been left.

(e) Drains at the Village Hall

The work has been done. Cllr Easthope observed the contractor has done a good job. The bill has been paid.

(f) Suggested secure dog area on the Pepperslade POS

The Parish Clerk explained that this suggested had been received from Fiona Kemp of Kingsway. Ms Kemp will be invited to attend the next meeting to explain

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her idea.

11. Tree Planting, Tree Works and Village Maintenance

146CA – 17-3-16 - Thriplow Cricket Ground – no objection

Cllr Easthope referred to the trees which have been felled at The Spinney. Cllr Gough said that there were 22 trees but that these had not been marked prior to felling. Cllr Pointon said that some of the brash and chips had been left in the adjoining field. Cllr Easthope said that he thought the Tree Officer should verify that the work has been done in accordance with the permission given. Cllr Pointon has attempted to contact Jay Patel of SCDC about the matter. She has been unsuccessful. The Parish Clerk will attempt to get him to undertake a site visit.

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12. Planning Matters

a) Responses to applications

S/0297/16/FL – Adaption and Alteration (part change of use) Thriplow Farm, Brook Road – no objections approval recommended

S/0499/16/FL – 2 and 3 bed dwelling1 detached double garage 8 Woburn Mews

Comments were as follows:

It would appear the application or something similar has already been passed on appeal.

A majority of parish councillors still object to the application. Reasons were given when the previous was considered'

The principal area of concern is the traffic hazard posed by the proposed development.

This is not only during the building process but also in relation to the usage of the existing road by the new owners of the properties once built. At peak times the exit from Heathfield is already congested. Parking will also be limited. Perhaps the developers could be made to pay for yellow lines?

The proposed buildings are characterless in design. They add nothing to the area. It has been pointed out the some of the plants proposed for landscaping are unsuitable.

The proposed development has always been deeply unpopular with residents of Heathfield.

S/0578/16/FL & S/0579/16/FL – Change of Use from Museum to Air Training Corps Facility - no objections approval recommended.

S/0760/16/FL – 2 storey rear extension 35 Church Street – no objections approval recommended

S/0792/16/FL – Addition of velux window in 1st floor of Ladybird Playgroup - most parish councillors do not object. One does object due to the appalling drawings and the fact that the application does not mention obtaining the owner's permission – approval recommended..

S/0834/16/FL – Ground floor side extension and first floor extension 7 Sheralds Croft – no objections approval recommended

S/0868/16/FL – Use of land as staff car/lorry park and use of existing barn for ancillary storage – a majority of parish councillors object to this application. It is felt a check needs to be taken on the size of this development. Some parish councillors feel conditions should be imposed that traffic uses the main gate and other exits are closed.

b) Planning decisions received

S/3081/15/FL – 4 Middle Street – First floor side extension and new detached cartlodge style double garage – approval given

S/3202/15/FL – Erection of a new dwelling with access from Church Street at Bacon's Farm - approval given

c) Planning appeals

There were no planning appeals

d) Preparation of a list of community assets

Cllr Pointon explained that this matter is currently "on the backburner". SCDC will determine what action needs to be taken in relation to the list drawn up.

e) Any miscellaneous items

The Parish Clerk has received an email from Mr C Arnold of Bacon's Farm. This will be listed for discussion at the next meeting.

Cllr Pointon prepared a presentation to Cambridgeshire CC in relation to the application by Vetspeed in respect of the Cambridge Pet Crematorium Site. Cllr Pointon received a vote of thanks for her work. Her presentation is reproduced below:

PRESENTATION TO COUNTY COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE: WASTE PLANT ON A 505
Barbara Pointon

Thank you for allowing me to present the views of Thriplow Parish Council, which also includes Heathfield – that's the large estate on the A505 opposite the Imperial War Museum. Thriplow and Heathfield are the nearest settlements to the site each being only 1.5 , not 2 kilometers away as some of the planning documents show. H

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Heathfield is omitted altogether on one important map.

The Council applauds the underlying principles of a new kind of plant to deal with hazardous waste, but strongly objects to this particular location. We have 5 reasons, firstly:

1. It is only the second plant of its kind to be constructed in the UK, so hard evidence of what its long-term impact on a rural setting is as yet unknown. Consequently, some of the statistics can only be predictions and best guesses. Better to site it well away from habitation and agriculture until its true impact has been thoroughly monitored and researched.

2. Airborne pollution (Quality of Air Assessment)

The 25m chimney is designed to disperse numerous noxious emissions more widely. But the prevailing wind from the South West would carry them straight towards Heathfield and possibly to thousands of outdoor visitors to the Imperial War Museum as well. This factor hasn't been taken into account.

Chemicals can dissolve in rain, and certain weather conditions cause inversion, so emissions might fall anywhere on several surrounding fields –where edible crops such as onions, potatoes, beans, sugar beet, cereals are grown and at least one farmer markets all his produce as organic. Fields belonging to KWS for international seed development and research are also barely 1 kilometer away. Sensitive immediate surroundings indeed!

The height of the chimney is bound to create risk for historic aircraft taking off or landing in the airfield next door.. The 'safe' angle quoted is not applicable to older aircraft which have a more shallow and longer take-off profile . The continuing success of the Imperial War Museum is vital to our local economy and employment. We don't want anything to compromise it.

3. Potential harm to groundwater

Local policy CC4 - A pond already on the site is to be incorporated into the system of cleansing 150 thousand,6 hundred and 85 litres of water used for scrubbing each day, some of which finally drains down through the soil under the pond. The applicant seems to be unaware that the proposed site sits directly over a highly protected aquifer zone, despite a County Council official letter dated 3rd March 2015 which specifically requires it to be considered. It was not done. The aquifer supplies Cambridge Water (our high-quality tap water) and local farmers extract water for irrigation of their crops. (*Show Environment Agency map.*)

4. Noise pollution (Noise assessment)

The plant will be operating continuously, every day and night, all the year round, with only a few breaks for maintenance. Most noise will be generated by the two engines powered by biogas, situated outside the main plant and therefore nearer the road and the cottages along the A505. Sound insulation will have to be mega-extreme – for according to Enran's Noise assessment table (*show*), noise from the engines can reach 142 decibels at 31 or 63 Herz (that's very loud and deep pitch), and is equivalent to the noise of Concorde taking off. Whether loud, quiet, high or low pitched – and the lower ones will travel further – incessant noise, day and night has proved to be detrimental to general health and well-being. Ours is a very tranquil village in the early hours and so any noise is very intrusive. As to the suggestion that in summer, at night, we should close our bedroom windows - that is nothing more than an insult.

And has anyone thought of the effect on people expecting to bring their pets to a tranquil crematorium only to be confronted with noisy industrial activity?

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5 Traffic Impact on the A505 and Thriplow Village. TPC very concerned about this aspect.

The huge photos in the application package are misleading. They show the A505 practically empty. They are either very old photos or were taken at crack of dawn on a sleepy Sunday.

Thanks to a huge recent surge in building developments further east, this stretch of the A505 has now become dangerous, and it's madness to introduce up to 16 extra HGV movements a day to its already saturated single carriageways. Because this new plant is rare, HGVs will be attracted to come from a wide catchment, including, I understand, from Europe, and are bound to be as big as possible to save on journeys. Cumbersome HGVs turning very slowly in or out of the one and only gateway and across flows of traffic will increase congestion and risk of accidents. There is no mention of traffic management, nor improvements to widen the road and no offer to County Council to help fund it.

In addition HGV drivers using sat navs will be tempted to make short cuts from the A10 through Thriplow village. Our roads are narrow, winding, fragile, country lanes with no pavements, therefore totally unsuitable for heavy traffic, putting cyclists and pedestrians at risk on bends.

And lastly, there is no mention of how the plant would deal with a serious incident, being situated right next to a very busy road - thus impeding access for emergency vehicles.

In view of these points, we respectfully ask the C Council to reject this application. Thank you for listening to me.

13. Financial Matters

(a) Authority was granted to pay the following:

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	Amount	VAT	Total
Parish Clerk salary – 15th March to 9 th May 2016	496.36		496.36
Parish Clerk - expenses	37.25		37.25
HMRC – PAYE on Parish Clerk’s salary	124.00		124.00
D Pinner – reimbursement re conspicuity tape	11.00	2.20	13.20
David White – cleaning and staining 11 benches	314.00		314.00
Simon Hitchcock	40.00		40.00
CAPALC - Subscription	303.20		303.20
Playsafety Limited Invoice re Playground Inspections – Thriplow Recreation Ground and Ringstone	157.50	31.50	189.00

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Items received too late for publication:

Norse Eastern Limited – Grass Cutting Heathfield	425.00	85.00	510.00
LGS Services – Internal Audit	75.00	15.00	90.00

b) Payments received:

South Cambridgeshire DC – 1 st instalment of precept	7,803.00
HMCR – VAT rebate	4,270.83

c) Payment of S137 donations:

Thriplow Village Hall Management Committee	£1,100.00
Thriplow Parochial Church Council	£450.00

d) S106 monies

(i) Monies on Deposit with Cambridge BS

(ii) Monies on Deposit with Saffron BS

Both of the main deposits which were on fixed terms have matured. No more fixed term deposit products are available. The monies will be retained on Easy Access Accounts until products do become available.

The Parish Clerk will be amending the mandates for all of the Parish Council’s accounts.

e) Approval of the Annual Return

The Parish Clerk explained (for the benefit of new parish councillors) that each year the Parish Council has to file an Annual Return. This follows on from an Internal Audit. The Annual Return is submitted to External Auditors for approval. The Annual Return was produced to the meeting. It was approved and the chairman signed it. The Annual Return was also signed by the Parish Clerk who is also the Responsible Financial Officer. The Governance Statement was approved.

14. Update of Standing Orders.

The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that this should be done as soon as possible. . He will circulate a copy of the present Standing Orders to each parish councillor.

15. Improvements to the playground at Heathfield – update

Cllr Driscoll said that although she has resigned as a director of Heathfields Residents Association Limited she is aware that a charity is being formed to develop the playground. Cllrs Smith and Topping have attended a meeting with the HRA Limited directors. Cllr Driscoll commented that the project appears to be proceeding without consultation with the Heathfield residents. Cllr Gough suggested there should be a survey of the Heathfield residents.

16. A505 junction with Gravel Pitt Hill

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Cllr Gough informed the meeting that a discussion will be taking place with Evan L Loughlin of Cambridgeshire CC on Friday. This is one of the items on the agenda.

17. Transparency Code

The Parish Clerk explained to the meeting that it is important to deal with the requirements of the Transparency Code. A website has to be set up for this specific purpose. A sub-committee consisting of the chairman, Cllrs Archibald and Webber together with the Parish Clerk has been set up to pursue this.

18. Updating of software for the parish website, updating the website itself and policy on advertising

It was agreed the Parish Clerk will obtain further from Nick Wittering

19. Courses for new parish councillors

The Parish Clerk explained that each new parish councillor must undertake a course. He will arrange something through CAPALC.

20. Reports (if any):

a) Neighbourhood Forum (ex IWM Liaison Committee)

There will be an air show at the end of this month. Cllr Topping will let us know when the next meeting is nearer the time;

b) Thriplow and Heathfield Recreation Grounds

This has previously been dealt with;

c) Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Pointon confirmed that the work on the drains has been completed. A plumber is needed for one of the toilets. Cllr Gough said that the fire extinguishers will be overhauled in the next few weeks. PAT testing will take place in June. There are new hirers for Mondays. These are Yoga classes with Anna Jack. Cllr Pointon said that the drains in the car park smell. It was agreed this needs to be investigated;

d) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough said that no information is available locally;

e) Village maintenance

The has previously been dealt with;

f) District Council Information and g) County Council Information

No report has been received from Cllr Topping despite requests for this from the chairman and the parish clerk.

21. Correspondence and information received

Correspondence received

Sundry Correspondence from SCDC relating to elections

Emails

- 15.03 - Fiona Proude - Re Invoice for Thriplow Maintenance Contract - Year 3
 - Alex Parr - Re Contact details for TPC
 - Barbara Chew - Dudley's Plaque
- 16.03 - Erica Littlewood -
 - APAS Planning - Correspondence re IWM
- 17.03 - Electoral Services - Elections in Thriplow
 - Fiona Proude - Re Invoice for Thriplow Maintenance Contract - Year 3
 - LDF - Planning Policy Monthly Update March 2016
- 18.03 - Electoral Services - Elections in Thriplow
 - Jo Cox - Notice of Election
- 21.03 - Jay Patel - Notification of Tree Works re Thriplow Cricket Ground
 - The Pensions Regulator - Choose a pension scheme
- 22.03 - Claire Young - Proposed electricity works - Thriplow Village Green
 - Claire Young - Proposed electricity works - Thriplow Village Green
 - Jo Cox - Nomination Papers
 - Simon Hitchcock - Receipt
- 23.03 - Editor - TPC Article
 - Local Council Public Advice - Public Nuisance and Bylaws
 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for weekly bulletin Wednesday 23rd March
 - Alex Parr - Re Contact details for TPC
- 24.03 - Tina Webb - Successful claims from the Transparency Fund

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- Tina Webb - CAPALC Bulletin March 2016
- 26.03 - Erica Littlewood - Parish Council Elections
William Brown - Uttlesford planning - neglected points
- 29.03 - Jo Cox - Notice of Election
Erica Littlewood - Parish Council Elections
- 30.03 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for weekly bulletin Wednesday 30th March
Claire Young - Proposed electricity works - Thriplow Village Green
Planningdc - Planning Application S/0008/15/CW
- 31.03 - APAS Planning - Correspondence re 35 Church Street
Ian Senior - Application S/3202/15/FL re Bacon's Farm
Jade Skinner - Zurich Town and Parish Insurance
Tina Webb - Bulleting re National Developments and Meetings 24/03/16
Tina Webb - Revised legal topic notes on NALC website LTN39
Corrections
APAS Planning - Correspondence re land adjacent to 8 Woburn Mews
Tina Webb - Submitting motions to NALC
Tina Webb - Letter from Ken Browse
Fiona Proude - Assets for Thriplow
Erica Littlewood - Parish Council Elections
- 01.04 - Erica Littlewood - Parish Council Elections
Ann Edwards - Notification of play area inspection for Thriplow
Fiona Proude - Assets for Thriplow
- 04.04 - Jo Cox - Elections
Jo Cox - Nomination Deadline
- 06.04 - APAS Planning - Correspondence regarding Bacon's Farmhouse
CAPALC - CAPALC E Bulletin March 2016
Ian Dewar - Elections
Graham Watts - Agenda for weekly bulletin, Wednesday 6th April
Peter Topping - Middle Street drainage issue
Simon Hitchcock - Invoice 1602
Peter Topping - Middle Street drainage issue
- 07.04 - Evan Loughlin - Proposed Meeting
- 08.04 - Andrew Francis - Parish Election - Thriplow Ward
Editor - Deadline approaching
APAS Planning - Correspondence regarding 7 Sherald's Croft Lane
- 09.04 - Jeremy Murray - Parish Council Grant
- 10.04 - Paul Earnshaw - Re The Lack of Response and Slow Website Updates
- 11.04 - Nick Swarfega - Re Comment upon Daffodil Weekend
- 12.04 - APAS Planning - Correspondence re Ladybird Nursery
Ben@LGS - Re TPC Accounts
- 13.04 - Erica Littlewood - Re Parish Council Elections
Erica Littlewood - Re Parish Council Elections
Patrick Adams - Agenda for weekly bulletin, Wednesday 13th April
- 14.04 - Erica Littlewood - Re Parish Council Elections
- 15.04 - Nick Swarfega - Re Revised Minutes for the last meeting
- 16.04 - Nick Swarfega - Re Revised Minutes for the last meeting
Nick Swarfega - Re Revised Minutes for the last meeting
Nick Swarfega - Re Revised Minutes for the last meeting
- 18.04 - Evan Loughlin - Meeting with TPC

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Ben@LGS - Re Help Please
- 18.04 - Dawn Atherton-Kemp - Suggestion for secured dog area
- 19.04 - Passenger Transport - Changes to local bus services
- 20.04 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for weekly bulletin, Wednesday 20th April
Tracey Cheshire - Re Play Area Inspection
- 21.04 - Nanette Wright - Copy Decision Notice for S/3081/16/FL
LDF - Planning Policy Monthly Update April 2016
- 22.04 - Chris Arnold - Wall at Bacon's Farm

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25.04 - Ben@LGS - Internal Audit

26.04 - planningdc - Planning Application S/0008/15/CW

27.04 - Patrick Adams - Agenda for weekly bulletin, Wednesday 27th April

Magazines and period Tracey Cheshire - Re Play Area Inspection icals

LCR Spring 2016 Tracey Cheshire - Re Play Area Inspection

Clerks & Councils Direct March & April 2016

Various advertising sundries

22. Annual Parish Meeting

Disappointment was expressed at the poor attendance. The meeting itself went well.

23. Date of the next meeting

11th July 2016

Dates of meetings throughout the year

12th September 2015 and 14th November 2016

9th January, 13th March and 8th May 2017

Annual Parish Meeting – 23rd March 2017

Annual Parish Council Meeting – 8th May 2017

There being no further business the chairman thanked everyone for attending.
The meeting closed at 10.30 pm

..... Chairman

..... Date

