

THRILOW & HEATHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 10th July 2023 at 7.30 pm

Present – Jane Gough, David Schneider, Rowan Pashley, Carly Richman

District Councillor – Richard Williams

County Councillor – Peter McDonald – part-time

Parish Clerk – Martyn Corbet

RFO - Austin Flynn

In Attendance - Geoff Axe & Sonya Cooper

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Easthope.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 15th May 2023

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman;

3. Matters arising from the above-mentioned minutes not otherwise covered by this agenda

Cllr Easthope has pointed out that no decisions have been made to date as to whether the government will continue grants for Neighbourhood Plans.

4. Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 31st May 2023

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman;

5. Matters arising from the above-mentioned minutes not otherwise covered by these minutes

There were no matters arising

6. Co-option of new parish councillors

Cllr Gough explained that Sonya Cooper was attending the meeting because she is interested in becoming a parish councillor.

7. Health & Safety , Health & Safety and Environmental Issues

Cllr Schneider has contacted Playdale for a price to do the repairs to the roundabout. They want to do their own report. The cost of this is £216. This amount would be deducted from the cost of any work done should they get the contract. Cllr Schneider will obtain 3 quotes from specialist contractors. **DS**

a) Electricity Supplies

The RFO has received copious amounts of copy bills from Opus Energy. This relates to a credit. It would appear that the parish council has previously been over-charged. The contract is now with SSE;

b) Parking in Church Street

Cllr Gough referred to a lorry parked outside Ano Domini in Church Street. This is dangerous she may contact the PSO. The parking problem is still there during school times. The meeting was closed for Geoff Axe to make a comment. He suggested stickers being put on the cars. Peter McDonald said that Whittlesford had used a letter. The meeting was then re-opened. It was decided to try a letter as from September. This will be prepared by the parish clerk in consultation with parish councillors. **MC**

8. Parish Recreation Grounds and Maintenance

a) Goalposts at Ringstone

Cllr Richman is pursuing this;

b) Repair/Replacement of Pepperslade Notice Board

It was agreed that Chris Gough will be asked to provide a quote for siting the notice board. Cllr Schneider will collect the old notice board from behind the trees; **DS**

c) Wooded area at Hurdles Way

Councillor Easthope asked a question whether a grant might be available for the intended work. Cllr Williams said one might be available to improve existing biodiversity habitats. A fund of £10,000 is available and applications can be made at any time throughout the year. It was decided that Cllr Pashley will discuss refurbishment of the area with Darren & Sharon Mullett as per the May minutes; **RP**

d) Work on the Village green to prevent damage during Daffodil Weekend

An offer of £2,000 has been received from Daffodil Weekend toward ensuring that The Green is better protected during Daffodil Weekend. Principally this would be either side of the road. Cllr Pashley has sought information. It would appear (on the basis that £3,000 buys 300 meters) that £2,000 would buy 200 meters of matting. This would be placed and pegged the grass will then grow through it. The area would need to be flattened. The parish council will need physical help to install the matting. It was agreed that the parish clerk will liaise with Paul Earnshaw. Cllr Pashley will measure the side which needs to be done first. That is near the duck pond.;

MC/RP

e) Salt Bins

The parish clerk will review these;

f) Ringstone POS parking and edging

Cllr Richman has emailed 2 companies for information on posts. They have not replied to her. Cllr Schneider will at and price large rocks. It was agreed the work needs to be done as soon as possible and in any event by September/October;

DS

9. Footpaths

There was nothing to report on footpaths in the village. The parish clerk has received an email about the broken finger sign on The Greenway. It was agreed this needs to be replaced. He will investigate who supplied the original sign;

MC

The meeting was closed

Geoff Axe referred to the fact that the MVAS is using far more battery power than first envisaged due to the volume of traffic using the roads. He appreciated the difficulties experienced by Cllrs Pashley and Schneider in changing these batteries and offered to help. He will wear a High Viz jacket and will not lean his ladder against the pole when changing the batteries. He will also charge them. Cllrs Pashley and Schneider will set the sign where necessary. This was agreed.

The meeting was re-opened

10. Tree Works & Tree Protection Orders

a) Tree Works

23/0470/TTCA – Tree Works Notice – 24 Lower Street – no objections;

23/0536/TTCA – Tree Works Notice – 25 Middle Street – no objections

b) Free Tree Scheme

Cllr Schneider has some trees left over. Normally more trees are available in Autumn.

11. Planning Matters

a) Planning applications received:

23/01558/LBC – Addition of bathroom within existing attic floor, including new rooflight, existing doorway on first floor to be blocked, new door to added in corridor – 28 Middle Street
no objections;

23/01635/FUL – Installation of new outdoor padel court – 1 Lodge Road
no objections;

23/01977/LBC – Erection of a weathervane on Thriplow Smithy
no objections;

b) Planning Decisions Received

No planning decisions have been received;

c) Planning Appeals

No planning appeals have been received;

d) Neighbourhood Plan

Please see matters arising para 3. Above;

e) Miscellaneous Matters

Cllr Pashley raised a point about the application for a license being made in respect of premises at Duxford Business Park. It was confirmed that these is in respect of retail distribution premises and not for an off license to sell to the general public..

12. Financial Matters

a) Authority was granted to pay the following:

	Amount	VAT	Total
Hardy Landscapes - Grass Cutting 2 - Village Green - £169.14 Rec –£ 96.49 – Heathfield - £464.04	729.67	145.04	875.81

C G Carpentry – Seat repairs and Painting – Balance of Invoice INV0028	70.00		70.00
Payroll - July	1,178.66		1,178.66
Susannah McIntyre – Neighbourhood Plan	330.00		330.00
Parish Clerk's expenses	14.00		14.00

b) The following payments made between meetings were ratified:

	Amount	VAT	Total
Payroll – June	1,178.66		1,178.66
Npower – Heathfield Electricity	93.56	4.68	98.24
Refund to Groundworks UK re Neighbourhood Plan Grant	3,925.72		3,925.72
CG Carpentry – Part Payment of INV0028	500.00		500.00

c) Credits received

The RFO confirmed that interest of £23.07 has been received from Lloyds Bank Plc. An invoice for grass cutting has been rendered to Cambridgeshire County Council

d) Section 106 monies

The S106 monies remain invested in accounts with Cambridge Building Society and Saffron Building Society. These monies are utilised for maintenance purposes and appropriate amounts to cover such expenditure are withdrawn on an annual basis. In line with present economic conditions the rate of interest payable on the monies is minimal;

13. Reports (if any):

a) Neighbourhood Forum

Nothing has been heard from the IWM. The parish clerk will pursue this;

b) Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Gough had nothing to report

c) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough had nothing to report. Cllr Pashley referred to someone knocking on doors at 2.00 am or thereabouts. Some houses have found front doors open in the morning. It was agreed to purchase some Neighbourhood Watch signs for Heathfield. A strange man has been seen at intervals walking along the A505. Cllr Gough will ask the PSO to investigate; JG

d) District Council Report

Cllr Williams had prepared a report a copy of which is attached. He was not present to answer any questions. Cllr Williams has checked the bramble bush at Sheralds Croft it still needs cutting back. He will pursue this.

e) County Council Report

Cllr McDonald had prepared a report a copy of which is attached. Cllr Pashley raised a point about signs being placed at the entrance/exit to Gravel Pit Hill that obstruct the vision of those exiting. The parish clerk raised the frequency with which Gravel Pit Hill has recently been closed with Cllr McDonald. Geoff Axe said that he had spoken to one of the workmen who said that when the water pipe breaks and is repaired it subsequently breaks in other places. Reference was made by Cllr Gough to a large pothole near the triangle at Ano Domini. Cllr Williams volunteered to deal with this. Cllr McDonald said most of the potholes have been repaired. *(Post meeting note Cllr Williams has spoken to John Obrien and the repairs will be carried out as soon as possible).*

14. Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Policies.

It was agreed a review meeting will take place on the 24th July at 7.30 pm the venue is 100 Kingsway.

15. Area on Village Green outside of The Green Man

Cllr Gough has spoken to Kevin Clarke. He will get back with a date for a meeting once he has spoken to Nigel Moore.

16. Correspondence and information received

The parish clerk had circulated a list of correspondence received.

17. Meetings for the forthcoming year:

Next Meeting 11th September 2023;

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.
The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Chairman

Dated

Cambridgeshire County Report

This summer, the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme is offering free spaces for children in Cambridgeshire who are eligible for free school meals, to enjoy enriching experiences and nutritious food.

This continuing initiative offers primary and secondary school children in Cambridgeshire the chance to enjoy a range of exciting experiences. With a focus on providing healthy meals alongside engaging activities, this programme is ideal for children who want to stay healthy and active this summer.

Each session will include a nutritious meal, a variety of exciting activities or sports and the opportunity to socialise with other children.

Subject to availability of places, any child receiving income-related free school meals is eligible for the programme. The programme will run from 20 July to 31 August, with the exception of bank holidays. Eligible children can attend a holiday scheme for free for up to 64 hours.

Funded by the Department for Education (DfE), the HAF scheme enables local authorities to coordinate free holiday childcare and enriching experiences locally.

As part of the programme, eligible children will be able to access:

- **Fun and entertaining play opportunities or new experiences that help children to develop their skills and knowledge.**
- **At least one meal a day.**
- **Guidance on increasing awareness of healthy eating, lifestyles, and positive behaviours.**
- **Parents will be supported with information and signposting to other services and support which might be helpful to families.**

Further information can be found at Cambridgeshire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme 2023 - Cambridgeshire County Council.

LHI Scoring

The LHI scoring for complex & non-complex schemes was published in the July 4th Highways Committee:

<https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccclive/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/2105/Committee/62/Default.aspx>

Additionally there are safety programmes including the A505 crossing between Duxford & Whittlesford:

<https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/CCCLive/Document.ashx>

District Report

Community Hubs Network

Residents across South and East Cambridgeshire can continue to benefit from local support in community buildings this summer, thanks to a new initiative developed on the back of the original Warm Hubs concept that ran in local communities from October 2022 to the end of March 2023. Further information can be found here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/introducing-the-cambridgeshire-community-hubs-network/>

Health Grants

People in South Cambridgeshire are being encouraged to stay fit and healthy thanks to grants worth more than £22,000 from the District Council.

The District Council is supporting an initiative to help residents with chronic health problems engage in physical activity programmes and supporting sports centres to restart fitness classes that may have stopped during Covid.

The Council is also developing a **free**, 12-week physical activity programme for adults with a BMI of 25 plus, called Exercise4Fun. Once people attend their first class, they also get a 90-day free pass to use at their local leisure centre.

Further information is available here: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/helping-south-cambridgeshire-residents-get-healthy/>

Four Day Week – Waste Collection.

The extension of the four-day week working trial to bin crews discussed in my last report was approved on 15th May. The trial will start later in the summer and may mean our collection day is changed. Monday is the new 'day off', but routes are being reorganised to accommodate the change. The Council has advertised for extra collection crew staff, as staff numbers need to be expanded to do five days' work in four. As previously indicated, I do not support this trial.

Mobile Food Hub

The Council is supporting a new Mobile Food Hub run by not-for-profit organisation, Hope CIC, to help communities during the cost of living crisis.

Fresh produce and essential items, some of which will be free and others at below retail price, will be brought directly to villages around South Cambridgeshire to help people with rising food prices. It is the first service of its kind in the district.

The Mobile Food Hub will visit Papworth, Orchard Park and Duxford weekly, with further locations to be confirmed. Further information is available here:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/mobile-food-hub-delivering-food-to-south-cambridgeshire/>

Development Around Cambridge

A newspaper report in *The Sunday Times* has suggested that officials in the housing department have been looking into the 'concept' of a significant expansion of development around Cambridge. The news came as a surprise and was apparently a leak of early and undeveloped concepts being looked at within the housing department. The level of development suggested in the report is undeliverable and has not met with support from any local politician. The Environment Agency has recently begun objecting to large scale developments in the District due to lack of water, which has cast doubt on the District Council's expanded development plans for over 50,000 more houses across Cambridge and South Cambs by 2041. I have serious concerns about the level of development proposed by the District, so would certainly not support any level of development beyond that

