

THRIPlOW & HEATHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.30 pm

Present – Jane Gough, David Schneider, David Easthope, Carly Richman, Rowan Pashley, Fergus Ramsey, Sonya Cooper
District Councillor – Richard Williams
County Councillor – Peter McDonald – part-time
Parish Clerk – Martyn Corbet
RFO – Austin Flynn

1. Co-option of a Parish Councillor

Sonya Cooper was proposed by Cllr Schneider and seconded by Cllr Easthope. Ms Cooper was duly co-opted.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th July 023

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the word “Annual” appearing in the preamble to the minutes was incorrect.

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

There were no matters arising.

5. Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 31st August 2023

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

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

There were no matters arising

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

Cllr Schneider has prepared lists of tasks divided into areas of the parish. Each parish councillor has a list to deal with. The areas are as follows:

Cllr Richman Heathfield 1; Cllr Pashley Heathfield 2; ;

Cllr Schneider Thriplow 1; Cllr Easthope Thriplow 2; Cllr Cooper Thriplow 3; Cllr Gough Thriplow 4; Cllr Ramsey Thriplow 5'

Each parish councillor will complete their report and return it to Cllr Schneider.

a) Electricity Supplies

The RFO said there is one bill which is still outstanding. This is with Npower;

b) Parking in Church Street

Cllr Gough said that some of the children were back this week and the situation does not appear too bad. Reception starts full time next week. The Yellow Lines have been repainted but not the Zig Zags outside of the school. The proposed notice to cars was discussed. The parish clerk will draft the notice and circulate it for approval. Cllr McDonald will enquire about the Zig Zags. **MC**

8. Parish Recreation Grounds and Maintenance

a) Goalposts at Ringstone

Cllr Richman is still pursuing funding;

b) Repair/Replacement of Pepperslade Notice Board

Cllr Gough declared an interest and left the room. Cllr Schneider took the chair. The quote provided by Chris Gough to undertake the work was discussed. It is £190.00. Acceptance of the quote was proposed by Cllr Easthope and seconded by Cllr Pashley and agreed;

Cllr Gough returned to the room and returned to the chair.

c) Wooded area at Hurdles Way

Cllr Pashley has spoken to Sharon Mullet. She will identify the trees which will be retained. These will be in the larger clumps of trees. Other trees will be cleared. Cllr Pashley has made a map of what he hopes the wooded area will look like;

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

The parish clerk read out an email received from Paul Earnshaw. This email had been circulated to parish councillors. Cllr Pashley thinks the work needed may have been overestimated. It is hard to get volunteers from Daffodil Weekend, the work will have to wait until October/November. Cllr Pashley does not foresee a great amount of work. Cllr Ramsay pointed out that a lot of work in preparation for Daffodil Weekend is done in the lead up to the event starting in November. Cllr Pashley is concerned that only £2,000 is available. Cllr Easthope suggested asking the person who planted the daffodil bulbs. Cllr Pashley will get three quotes stating the cost and when the work can be carried out. Cllr Ramsay suggested using eBay for the matting; **RP**

e) Salt Bins

The parish clerk will contact John Obrien about these; **MC**

f) Ringstone POS parking and edging

Cllr Easthope referred to the responses in the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire. He felt there is no alternative but to consider what can be done regarding parking on Ringstone. Cllr Schneider referred to the Public Right of Way on the site which has caused problems previously. Cllr Easthope said that Rights of Way can be moved. He suggested that a group of councillors should be a located the task of looking into the problems and ascertain the possibilities of getting around them. Cllr Richman made the point that s one of the problems arises because residents have built over their existing parking spaces. Cllr Williams said that the way to deal with the Right of Way is to apply for Change of Use. It would however be very difficult to obtain a Change of Use in respect of a Public Right of Way. Cllr McDonald confirmed that Public Rights of Way can be moved.

Cllrs Pashley Richman and Schneider will investigate the position and report back for the next meeting. Cllr McDonald will ask Peter Gaskin of Cambridgeshire CC to take a look. Cllr Easthope said that all the possibilities need to be looked at. Cllr Gough said that on the evidence obtained when parking at Ringstone was last discussed a lot of money would have been spent merely to gain three parking spaces. Cllr Cooper said that increasing the number of spaces would not make a difference as the number of cars would also increase consequentially. **RP, CR, TS**

9. Footpaths

a) Condition of The Drift and the footpath/cycle path to Whittlesford

The parish clerk had circulated an email from CCC which had stated improvements will be made. Cllr Williams said that there is no money available. The parish clerk will write and say that the parish council supports any improvements which may be made; **MC**

b) Replacement of the Finger Post at Crow's Parlour

The parish clerk read out an email from Peter Gaskin of CCC regarding the damaged finger sign at Crow's Parlour on The Greenway. He will pursue this and asked Cllr McDonald to do likewise. The suggestion from CCC is that they will not replace the finger sign. **MC**

The parish clerk has received a request from a resident that a dog litter bin be sited at the entrance to KWS on Church Street. It was agreed he will investigate this and report back with costs etc.

The parish clerk has also received an email from Geoff Axe regarding the hedge at Thriplow Rec which is overgrown and impeding the footpath. He will obtain quotes from Alex Harradence and Hardy's. He will also obtain a quote for the cutting of the hedges on the Heathfield Open Space. **MC**

10. Tree Works & Tree Protection Orders

a) Tree Works

23/0713/TTCA – Tree works Manor Farm, 50 Church Street - no objections

b) Free Tree Scheme

Normally more trees are available in Autumn.

11. Planning Matters

a) Planning applications received:

*23/01635/HFUL – installation of one new outdoor padel court 1 Lodge Road
(amended application) – no objections;*

23/02539/HFUL – erection of a new linked one and a half storey side extension to existing dwelling, replacement double garage with a new workshop and first floor annexe above (following demolition of existing garage), a new secure cycle store and addition of native hedge and erection of timber fencing to the front site boundary to provide privacy and security to the rear garden – no objections

23/02347/FUL – change of use of existing agricultural barn to Class B8 (Storage & distribution) including external alterations and preservation of existing car parking and works – no objection

b) Planning Decisions Received

No planning decisions have been received;

c) Planning Appeals

No planning appeals have been received

d) Neighbourhood Plan

Following on from the meeting on the 31st August Cllr Easthope confirmed a grant is available. It was agreed by all present that the difference between the grant received and the final expenditure will be addressed in the Precept for next year

e) Miscellaneous Matters

There were no other matters raised.

12. Financial Matters**a) Authority was granted to pay the following:**

	Amount	VAT	Total
Hardy Landscapes - Grass Cutting 4 - Village Green - £169.14 Cutting 5 Rec – £ 96.49 – Cutting 5 Heathfield - £464.04 – Cutting 2 Village Verges - £469.37	1,199.04	239.81	1,438.85
PKF Littlejohn – External Audit	210.00	42.00	252.00
Payroll - September	1,178.66		1,178.66
Carol Deed - website	200.00		200.00
Hardy Landscapes - Grass Cutting 5 - Village Green - £169.14 Cutting 6 Rec – £ 96.49 – Cutting 6 Heathfield - £464.04 – Cutting 3 Village Verges - £469.37	1,199.04	239.81	1,438.85
Parish Clerk's expenses	14.00		14.00
Reimbursement re Ink Cartridges	73.63	14. 73	88.36

b) The following payments made between meetings were ratified:

	Amount	VAT	Total
Payroll – August	1,176.66		1,176.66
Npower – Heathfield Electricity-June	82.61	4.13	86.74
Npower – Heathfield Electricity - July	84.36	4.22	88.58
Ansvar Business Services – Insurance	102.10		102.10

c) Credits received

The RFO confirmed that no credits have been received although one is awaited from CCC in respect of grass cutting. The Interest Rate on the monies held at Lloyds Bank PLC has risen to 1.1%;

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. The RFO confirmed that Energise have stopped using the Village Hall.

c) Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gough had nothing to report. Cllr Richman said she has had the police at her door as well as those of two neighbours. They asked whether any suspicious persons had been in the area offering to do work. It was

noted that the haystack at KWS had been burned again. This is not accidental. Karen Lemon has complained about motorcyclists on the Heathfield Open Space and parents teaching their children to ride them. Cllrs Pashley and Schneider will clean out the bins. Mention was made of a man seen walking along the A505 at regular intervals almost daily. Concerns for his welfare were expressed. Cllr Gough will ask the Community Police Officer to investigate. **JG, RP, TS**

d) District Council Report

Cllr Williams stated that the only matter he had to report was the change in bin collections. It was noted that this has been notified to households via a letter from South Cambridgeshire DC. The changes appear to be in line with the "Four Day Week" introduced by SCDC. Parish Councillors were critical of the arrangements. They were urged to write to SCDC to express their views.

e) County Council Report

Cllr McDonald had prepared a report a copy of which is attached.

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

The Financial Regulations have been amended. The amendments will be circulated to all parish councillors and there will be an opportunity to comment at the next meeting

16. Remembrance Sunday

It was agreed that the donation to the Royal British Legion in respect of the wreath will be £50. Cllr Gough will represent to parish council at the Remembrance Day Parade; **JG**

17. Area on Village Green outside of The Green Man

It was agreed that a letter will be drafted by the parish clerk setting out proposals in respect of the rental of the area. This will be circulated for comment before being sent..

18. Support for the "Hedgehog Project"

19. Correspondence and information received

The parish clerk had circulated a list of correspondence received.

20. Meetings for the forthcoming year:

Next Meeting 13th November 2023;

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There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Chairman

Dated

Cambridgeshire County Report

Zero Carbon Training for Businesses

Cambridgeshire businesses have an invaluable opportunity to join low carbon experts on a free two-day course aimed at cutting costs and cutting carbon.

Businesses across Cambridgeshire are running out of time to find out how to cut carbon and cut costs on a free two-day course that's offered as part of Cambridgeshire County Council's Low Carbon Business Support Programme.

The programme provides small and medium sized businesses with tailored advice that will help them to reduce their carbon footprint, increase energy efficiency, and explore new green technologies and opportunities for renewable energy generation.

Whether businesses are already on a low carbon journey, or looking to take their first steps, the programme offers something for them with business diagnostics, technology reviews and training available from expert business advisors.

There are a few remaining places available for the final two-day training sessions offered by the programme taking place on 18 and 19 September 2023 in Alconbury Weald.

The workshops involve learning how to audit your energy usage, an introduction to the concept of carbon footprinting and an overview of low carbon technologies including LED lighting, air source heat pumps and solar as well as guidance on how to find funding and procurement support.

Interested organisations can find out more on the Low Carbon Business Support Programme's website: <https://lowcarbon.deytonbell.com/>

RAAC

The new school year starts as normal this week with no schools in the county closed because of concerns over Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC).

All but three of Cambridgeshire's schools have been surveyed and no RAAC has been found. We have no concerns about the remaining schools, but they will each require a survey to rule out RAAC.

We have been working closely with school leaders to reassure parents, carers and pupils before the start of the new school year.

20 mph Schemes

20mph schemes are being rolled out in Cambridgeshire to help improve road safety and reduce pollution.

The 20mph areas being installed, and in some cases completed, are Stilton, Godmanchester, St Neots, Woodhurst, Somersham, Great Gransden, Toft, Oakington, Barton, Hauxton, Melbourn, Sawston and Duxford. The work involves installing signs, lines and markings and all schemes will be in place and completed by the end of July.

Speed kills. Studies have shown even a 1mph drop in speed reduces collisions by 6%. Reducing speed limits from 30mph to 20mph can cut pollution by 30% and reduce the chance of a severe or fatal injury in the event of a collision by a staggering 60%. This is why it's important we continue to create more 20mph areas.

Cambridgeshire County Council recently put in place a new process for communities to access additional funding to install more 20mph zones or limits. This year's schemes will be going to committee later in the autumn.

Improving road safety through 20mph schemes is a priority of the council's Joint Administration which has highlighted several benefits from the programme, including safer streets which allow residents to feel safe when walking or cycling and reduced noise and pollution.

Another area benefitting from a new 20mph zone is Oakington.

Overall, 13 areas have seen 20mph zones created and installed more quickly this year thanks to the council's Highways and Transport Committee agreeing to speed up the process and identifying funding. In addition to the £400,000 for this process (until 2025), a further £800,000 has been secured in partnership with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, for area-based schemes, across the county.

A 20mph limit is prioritised against the following criteria:

- evidence of traffic incidents or potential dangers within an existing 30/40mph zone
- vulnerable road users
- visible homes, shops and businesses
- a school or a school route
- a cycling route
- an area that would benefit from more active travel such as cycling and walking.

Either a 20mph limit or a 20mph zone will be installed depending on the specific location. A 20mph limit typically covers individual or a small number of streets and requires signs only, whereas 20mph zones typically cover larger areas and require both signs and markings.

