

THRILOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday the 11th January 2010 at Thriplow Village Hall.

The meeting began at 8.00 pm

Present:-

Councillors: Kevin Clarke, Anthony Cooper, David Easthope, Jane Gough, Derek Pinner, Barbara Pointon, Collin Rothwell, Terry Smith,
District Cllr: Peter Topping (part-time)
Clerk to the Council: Martyn Corbet
Assistant RFO: Pat Easthope

Various residents of properties at Sheralds Croft Lane also attended (part-time)

Before the commencement of the meeting a short talk on affordable social housing was presented to the Parish Council by Catherine Shilton of Cambridgeshire ACRE.

After the talk by Catherine Shilton and before the start of the meeting the residents of Sheralds Croft Lane discussed the condition of their homes with Cllr Topping.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tim Spicer and County Cllr Tim Stone

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th November 2009

The minutes, having been previously distributed, were signed by the chairman. After amendments as follows:-

Page 353 -5(d) Woodhouse should read Woolhouse;

Page 354- wave should read waive; and

Page 356- total payment to Wormald Burrows should be £8261.60

Subject to these amendments, the minutes were agreed as a true record

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

It was decided to record the Parish Council's congratulations to Graham Wynne upon his receipt of a knighthood in the recent New Years Honours List. The Parish Clerk was asked to write congratulating Graham Wynne on his knighthood.

MC

4. Heathfield

(a) Wood treatment and signage for new notice board at Hurdles Way

The notice board is being treated and will be replaced next week.

DP

(b) Transfer of POS land from Croudace

Cllr Pinner has contacted SCDC, as yet he has received no further news from the legal department.

(c) Footpath/Cycleway-Heathfield to Thriplow

Cllr Clarke stated Tom Woolhouse of Cambridgeshire County Council is very supportive of the plans. The County Council have also suggested that we might consider making a contribution of, say, £1000 towards the cost of the consultations/advertising that will be necessary in order to make the changes. Cllr Clarke has made contact with the British Horse Society and the Rambler's Association to obtain their views. Cllr Clark proposed and Cllr Gough seconded that the Parish Council should make a donation of £1000 to Cambridgeshire CC to assist with the cost in relation to this project. This was unanimously approved. The parish Clerk will write to Cambridgeshire CC to advise them of the Parish Council's decision.

MC

(d) Roads Update

Cllr Clarke reported that the work on the roads has been completed. An additional invoice is due in respect of some extra work. This is a new soakaway. The contingency fund has not been completely spent. Other invoices are still awaited. Wormald Burrows still have invoices to send and work to do. A formal thank you has been received from Heathfield Residents Association. The Parish Council expressed its appreciation for all the work Cllr Clarke and the roads working group have done in relation to the project. Cllr Rothwell raised the possibility of

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the adoption of the roads by the County Council. This has been investigated before and we

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have been advised that to bring the roads up to the condition required by the CCC would cost considerably more than the funds we have available. Cllr Clarke said that a schedule is being drawn up for the future maintenance of the roads to assist Heathfields Residents Association Limited to keep the roads in a good state of repair.

(e) Footpath – Kingsway to POS

Cllr Easthope had originally intended to replace the wire between the fence posts adjacent to Kingsway but on reflection he considered this would be dangerous and therefore suggested that a native species hedge (eg Hawthorn) be planted instead. The Parish Council will purchase the hedging plants and Cllr Rothwell said that HRA would plant.

(f) Public Open Spaces

- a) Woodland Areas
There was nothing to report on this item;
- b) LEAP for pre-schoolers
There was nothing to report on this item at the moment
- c) Play equipment for older children
There was nothing to report on this item at the moment

5. Web Domain for Thriplow

Cllr Pinner (on behalf of the Parish Council) congratulated Cllr Clarke and Nicholas Wittering on the website being up and running.

Cllr Clarke reported that several local organisations would like pages on the website. He proposed that a bonus of £100 was given to Nicholas Wittering for all the work he has put into the site. This was agreed.

6. Health & Safety

Cllr Cooper will be circulating reminders to all Parish councillors to carry out their designated Health and safety checks soon. Cllr Pinner referred to the dangers of negotiating the junction of the A505 with Gravel Pit Hill. It was generally agreed that the junction is very dangerous. Cllr Pinner offered to draft a letter and to include an improvement scheme for presentation to Cambridgeshire CC. It was decided that the problem should be referred to Cambridgeshire CC for their comments.

DP

7. Representative for TVHMC 2010

Cllr Gough agreed to continue as the Parish Council's representative on the committee for 2010. TVHMC will be advised of the decision.

8. Highway Matters

(a) Improved signage at Heathfield traffic lights

Cllr Clarke reported that he has been approached by two Heathfield residents about the potential dangers of motorists ignoring the traffic lights when travelling along the A505 jumping the lights. It was agreed that the signage for the lights is limited and that a red traffic light camera might assist the situation. It was decided this problem should be communicated to Cambridgeshire CC Highways along with the comments about the Gravel Pit Hill/A505 junction.

DP

(b) Condition of Farm Lane Thriplow

This was raised by Cllr Cooper. Cllr Pinner will talk to Mike Cooper and Mark Deller, who is the adjacent land owner, about the problem of standing water not running away.

(c) Provision of Salt Bins

The County council have written to all parish and Town councils regarding participating in a bulk purchase order for roadside salt bins. It is hoped that a discount in the region of 40% would be achieved which would make the cost per bin about £100. All councillors have been emailed with the correspondence and following agreement with the highways supervisor, Mike Cooper, it was agreed to purchase one and to site it at the lower end of Heathfield Way adjacent to the Icen entrance. The purchase of a salt bin for Heathfield Way was agreed. The Parish Clerk will place the order with Highways.

MC

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(d) Parking near the School

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Cllr Gough said this is an ongoing problem. Unfortunately there does not appear to be an answer.

9. Tree Planting & Tree Work

- (a) Tree work applications
 48 Church Street – no objections;
 36 Church Street – no objections;
 25a Middle Street- no objections;
 36 Middle Street – no objections.

DP

10. Grass Cutting Contract renewal

The renewal of the grass cutting contract with CGM Cambridge was proposed by Cll Easthope and seconded by Cllr Gough and approved by the Parish Council.

MC

11. Planning matters

- (a) Responses to applications:-
 S/11474/09/F Extension at 13 Lower Street Thriplow – recommend approval
 S/1540/09/F Outbuilding for garaging, workshop with loft space at 10 Lower Street Thriplow- approved – application later withdrawn
 S/1738/09/F Double garage at 1 Sheralds Croft Lane Thriplow – recommend approval, but some councillors felt that they could not comment because the plans did not show the neighbouring property or how it would be affected by the proposals. Councillors felt that they would object to the garage being moved closer to the road. The shell of the garage having now already been built and the assumption is that this has been constructed in accordance with the previously approved plans, and that the only amendment is to the height of the garage roof, then the remaining councillors do not object. The recommendation of Thriplow Parish Council is therefore recommend approval to ridge height alterations only
 S/1679/09/F 2 dwellings and detached garage Heathfield Way – recommend refusal
 The development would involve the creation of a dangerous access onto an already busy road, very near to a roundabout and a traffic light controlled junction. A shared driveway is proposed but visitors to either house would not be able to park in the driveway as this would block it for the other house. Parking on the road would be dangerous. No bin storage facilities are proposed. In such a prominent position it is important that bins are kept out of sight except for collection days. No cycle storage facilities are provided. There is no indication of how the houses will be heated, there is no natural gas supply to the estate and unless electric or geothermal heating systems are to be used then oil storage tanks will be needed but no provision has been made for these. There are also several differences between the Design & Access Statement, the application forms and the drawings submitted, these were also pointed out.
- (b) Planning decisions received:-
 S/1280/09/F – Extension at 1A Woburn Mews, Thriplow – approved
 S/1286/09/LB – Alterations to boundary wall at Manor Lodge, 25 Middle Street, Thriplow- refused
- (c) Planning appeals
 S/0360/09/F – site at Heath Cottage, 5 Thriplow Heath, Newmarket Road, Thriplow
 Planning Inspectorate Appeal Reference APP/W0530/A/09/2117422/NWF
- (d) Other planning matters
 There were no other planning matters

12. Financial Matters

- (a) Authority was given in the respect of the following payments between meetings:-

	Net	VAT	Total
Spade Oak Construction C Ltd (Invoice RO911006 Heathfield roads)	95,000.00	14,250.00	109,250.00
Spade Oak Construction Co Ltd (Invoice RS911014 Heathfield roads)	111,341.12	16,791.21	128,042.25
Wormald Burrows (Invoice 11571 re site Supervision Heathfield)	2,500.00	525.00	4,025.25

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

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CGM (Cambridge) Ltd (Cutting grass Hurdles Way Cut and strim roadside verges)	213.00	31.95	244.95
AFP Construction Consultants (2 nd invoice for Co-ordination of refurbishment works Heathfield)	450.00	67.50	517.00
Cambridge ACRE (Membership Renewal)	25.00		25.00
K Clarke (reimbursement re renewal of Thriplow Domain address for 2010)	4.35	0.76	5.11
Spade Oak Construction Co Ltd (interim invoice Re Heathfield roads)	6620.25	993.04	7613.29
N Wittering	100.00		100.00
Authority was granted to pay the following when Invoices are received:- Cambridge CC (Street lighting April 09 to March 2010)	1251.38		1251.38

- (c) Credits received
There were no credits received

- (d) S106 Funds
The third investment matures on the 11th May 2010. Interest will be £117.37. The maturity sum will be £60,804.05. As agreed at the September meeting (see minutes Item 10(c)) the second and fourth investments were transferred into the current account on their maturity date as follows:-
Second investment matured on 30th November 2009, interest was £535.57, maturity sum of £139,569.56 was transferred;
Fourth investment matured on the 19th October 2009, interest was £1,265.38, maturity sum of £246,026.55 was transferred.

- (e) Street Lighting – charges 2010/11
The Parish Clerk read out details of a letter received from Cambridgeshire CC in respect of Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy 2009/10. An invoice for £1251.38 will be sent to the Parish Council for these charges. Details of probable Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy charges for 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 have also been provided. It was noted that there is no provision in the letter in respect of Heathfield.

- (f) Precept 2010
Pat Easthope circulated her proposals for the 2010/11 precept. Following considerable discussion it was agreed to increase the precept from £12,000 to £13,000 largely to allow for additional clerk and councillor training. Cllr Clarke proposed acceptance of the precept and it was seconded by Cllr Gough
A note of the current financial position was also circulated. Pat Easthope reported that a claim repayment of £56,485.02 had been submitted to HMRC, normally this would be credited within one month, provided there were no queries raised. She also reported that the National Savings passbook had been sent away to have interest for 2009 entered and the interest Received would be reported at the next meeting.

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

In the light of the talk by Catherine Shilton before the meeting, it was decided that councillors would review the situation and that this should be an item for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

14. Village War Memorial

Cllr Cooper will investigate the cost involved for the restoration of the war memorial and report back to the next meeting. A letter and magazine from the War Memorials Association had been received today which includes suggestions of where to apply for grant funding for the refurbishment of memorials.

AC

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

This was generally felt to be a good idea. It was agreed that Cllr Clarke should obtain a quote for the cards.

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KC

16. Reports

- a) Duxford Airfield Liaison Committee

Cllr Pinner said that Formula One testing will probably continue with another team. Maybe

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testing will take place five times a year with a minimum of twenty-eight days notice of each session. There will be five weeks notice of commencement.

Cllr Pinner said that there is likely to be a decrease in IWM funding due to a predicted decline in visitor numbers. To counter this, parts may be closed, at times, so as to reduce costs. There are to be new signs this summer. The IWM management have calculated that £30M gross is added to the overall income in the area from its operations.

- b) Thriplow Recreation Ground
Cllr Smith had nothing to report
- c) Village Hall Management Committee
Cllr Pinner had a letter of complaint from a resident (neighbour) about noise and nuisance, after late night functions. Cllr Pinner advised the complainant to see the chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee. The Parish Council is a custodian trustee of the premises and has no role in its management. It is for the Committee to deal with any problems. The Parish Clerk raised the problem of booking the committee room. Cllr Gough will raise this at the next TVHVMV meeting.
- d) School Governors
Cllr Gough said there is a vacancy for a new parent governor. Numbers are up to 103 but some families are moving away.
- e) Police & Neighbourhood Watch
Cllr Gough was unable to attend the last meeting. Cllr Pointon raised an issue regarding assistance from the police in an emergency. If one dials 112 on a mobile the police are able to pin point where the caller is located.
- f) Village Maintenance
Cllr Cooper said that apart from the problems with Farm Lane a speed bump in Fowlmere Road is also in need of repair. He has called County Highways regarding the bump and the light that illuminates it. There is also a need to replace the "Give Way" sign at the Middle Street and Green junction as mentioned at the last parish Council meeting. Cllr Smith has sent an email about this to Mike Cooper of Highways
- g) District Council Information
Cllr Topping referred to the appeal by the owner of Heath Cottage. If the matter should go to a full planning committee the Parish Council might want to send a representative to put its point of view. He thought this should be a parish councillor. There are to be new bins by the end of the year, they will be blue and take all "recyclables". Cllr Topping said that the Parish Council's views on the problems with the properties at Sheralds Croft Lane would be most welcome.
County Council Information
Cllr Stone was away and unable to attend the meeting.

JG

TS

17. Correspondence and Information received

The following correspondence has been received by the Clerk:-

- (a) Cambridge CC – Letter re Position statement –Children's Centre Development in Cambridge City and south Cambridgeshire;
- (b) Cambridge CC – Letter re Parish Paths Partnership 2010/11, handed to Cllr Clarke;
- (c) Cambridge CC – Letter re Countywide Advisory Freight Map and copy of draft map, handed to Cllr Cooper;
- (d) Cambridge CC – Letter re unmetered festive lighting connections;
- (e) Carillion WSP – Letter re M11 Junctions 10 to 11: Resurfacing Scheme;
- (f) Letter from Royston & District Community transport- asking for donations;
- (g) Email from SCDC re graffiti removal service;
- (h) NHS – Letter and consultation document re future of musculoskeletal services;
- (i) NHS – Letter and consultation document re proposals to improve hearing services in Cambridgeshire;
- (j) SCDC – Copies of Electoral Register for Districts WG1 and WG2;
- (k) SCDC – Details of Christmas waste and recycling collection (placed on notice boards);
- (l) Suffolk ACRE Insurance Services-email re change of address;
- (m) Magazines and newsletters received:-
 - (a) Cambridge ACRE – Winter 2009;
 - (b) Cambridge CC- Bassingbourn, Melbourn, Comberton and Gamlingay autumn newsletter;

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- (c) Cambridge Past, Present & Future (formerly Cambridge Preservation Society) response to Draft Review of Regional Spatial Strategy;
- (d) Cambridgeshire P,P&F- Membership Bulletin-Summer 2009/No 21;
- (e) Clerks & Councils Direct Newsletter November 2009;

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- (f) LCR Magazine Winter 2009;
- (n) Various sundry advertising items.

18. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 8th March 2010.

Would all councillors who produce reports for the Annual Parish Meeting please ensure that they are available by the beginning of March. Cllr Pinner will coordinate this.

Annual Parish meeting will take place on the 18th March 2010.

There being no further business, the chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 10.25 pm.

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Chairman

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Date

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