



THORPE LE SOKEN PARISH COUNCIL  
NOTICE OF MEETING  
CLERK: MRS JESSICA BALL

March 2020

***You are hereby summoned to attend the next meeting of The Parish Council that is being held MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> March 2020 7.00 PM AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH SCHOOLROOM. The Press and Public are welcome to be present at the meeting.***

***Jessica Ball - Clerk to The Parish Council.***

**Minutes**

- 01** ***Chairman's welcome:*** *Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance*
- 02** ***Apologies for Absence:*** *Having been received prior to the meeting, apologies were accepted for Councillors Carpenter, Blandford, Starling, Ewart and Coulter  
Present –Chairman Land, Vice Chair Powell, Councillors Fielder, Cooper, Raftery. County Councillor Erskine, 9 members of the public (including 4 ladies from the church and Victoria Wright)*
- 03** ***Confirmation of Minutes of last meeting held Monday 10<sup>TH</sup> February 2020.*** *Having been previously circulated, the minutes of the February meeting were confirmed as a true and accurate representation. Proposer: Cllr Powell, Seconded: Cllr Fielder*
- 04** ***Declaration of Members Interest:*** *There were none*
- 05** ***Margery Wright Award/Fund -*** *Chairman explained that there would be a slight change to the running order of the agenda as we had 4 ladies from the church in attendance to discuss the VE day celebrations and Vicky, Granddaughter of Margery Wright, who had been invited along to discuss the ideas for the Margery Wright fund. Chairman introduced Vicky and gave a brief overview of the Margery Wright fund and what it had originally been set up for. Vicky explained what discussions had been held about how the fund could be used in the future, as it has been dormant for some years as the needs that it was originally set up for are adequately covered*

Clerk: Mrs Jessica Ball, 83 Frinton Road, Thorpe Le Soken CO16 0HP  
Telephone: 01255 761386

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*through other means. One of the key ideas is for an annual award to young volunteers in the village (under the age of 30). Cllr Fielder questioned whether we should also have something more permanent, such as a naming of a street or a bench etc. A discussion arose around how we would identify and recognise individuals to allocate the award and what further discussions need to be had around this.*

**ACT-** *Look at charity organisations in the village and see what young people are helping at these organisations.*

- 06** **VE Day celebrations** – *Ladies from the church were invited to attend the meeting to discuss plans for the VE day celebrations. So far no specific plans had been made, however it was suggested that a VE Day service should be held in the church at the church, with the current Minister, who was a senior military man. The normal church service is at 10.15 and the memorial service would form part of that. It was suggested that Jean Bazzoni has been researching the names of the fallen on the war memorial and that he may want to be involved or do something.*

**ACT** – *to contact Jean Bazzoni him to see if there is anything he wants to do.*

**ACT** – *Contact Christine Howie to find out what the scouts etc are doing.*

**07** **Public Discussion**

*Alan congratulated the council on cutting back the hedging and over growth at rice bridge. Ian thanked the chairman for cutting the trees at Thorpe Green and requested that we cut it back further and dredge the ditches to try and resolve the issue of the flooding on the green, particularly as there is going to be a bench situated on the green that will become inaccessible due to the amount of water.*

**ACT:** *To speak to Matt Hull re a quote to dig out the ditch.*

*Hazel questioned if the council will be objecting to the proposed houses on Frinton road, and stated that the playing field is protected green space and can't be built on, so therefore the offer of the playing field should not sway the council in opposing or supporting the additional houses on Frinton road. Cllr Fielder explained how the council considers applications as they come through.*

*Hazel thanked the council for getting the street lights in station road fixed.*

**08** **County Councillor's update**

*County councillor Erskine explained that most of his update had already been discussed, there has been a flurry of activity recently and the potholes are being resolved.*

*Cllr Cooper questioned what the policy is for clearing drains, as the drains fill with debris and flood. Cllr Erskine explained ECC Highways are reactive rather than proactive.*

*Cllr Powell questioned who is responsible for the pavements as the pavement outside the WI hall is dangerous, and people can't walk on the pavement. A pedestrian pushing a pram was unable to walk across the pavement and needed to walk in the road to get passed it. Cllr Fielder stated that he would do it himself.*

**09 Chairman's Report:**

*Update that station road lights have been fixed.*

*Rice bridge has been cleared for visibility*

*Thorpe horse boxes has not been resolved, Cllr Erskine stated that he had spoken with County Councillor Kevin Bentley about holding a surgery, unfortunately the 2 available dates he had given for a possible surgery both fall on dates for which Cllr Erskine is unavailable.*

**10 Adoption of Financial Regulations**

*Having been reviewed and adapted in the February meeting, the NALC model financial regulations were presented for adoption by the council. Cllr Fielder proposed, Cooper seconded, all in favour.*

**11 Vacancies**

*We will advertise the roll of John Bullock, currently contracted for 30 hours. We will take the opportunity to include maintenance of the new play area as well.*

*Casual vacancy to be advertised in the village magazine and online via social media*

**12 Lady Nelson playing field**

*Draft transfer of title deed received.*

*Chairman gave background to the ongoing discussions with Mr Ryan over the proposed transfer of ownership of the playing field and that the draft transfer deed received was simply a statement of intent and that we should now pass it on to our solicitor for review and advice before any further decisions or public consultations should take place.*

*Cllr Fielder proposed send to lawyer, Raftery seconded, unanimously agreed.*

**13 Correspondence/e-mails:** *Please refer to March agenda for further detail.*

**Act** – *Chairman to put out a communication regarding any one that may want to become a tree warden for the village*

**14 Lockyers Wood**

*Memorial bench – Chairman gave some background to the request from Ms. Wood re a memorial bench in Lockyers Wood for her late husband, as this is somewhere he liked to go and spend time. Fielder proposed, Seconded Cooper, all in favour.*

*Discussion around keeping any new benches in the same style of bench that is already in place. Chairman explained that a taster session of Bushcraft activities with Be Wild Adventures had taken place in Lockyers Wood, these had been arranged in line with the original plans and intention for the Lockyers Wood project and had been a success. Cllr Fielder Proposed that off the back of this the Bushcraft activities should be a regular activity, Cooper seconded. All in favour.*

**15 Thorpe It's A Knockout**

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*Chairman proposed that we have the same types of additional stalls, such as face painters, St John Ambulance etc. as last year as these really helped to make the day the success that it was last year.*

**15**    **PLANNING**    *There were no applications received in February to be discussed*

**16**    **Sub Committee Reports:**

- a. *Fibre High Speed Broadband*                      *Cllr Ewart No update*
- b. *BMX Track*    *Cllr Raftery*  
*When the weather is better Cllr Raftery would like to get a working group together to go down and have a look and see what we can do with the space and what needs to be done in order to get the BMX track done*
- c. *Christmas Lights*                                      *Cllr Raftery – These have been put back into the container*
- d. *Highways and Pavements*                              *Cllr Blandford - No update*
- e. *Lockyer’s Wood*    *Cllr Coulter - See above*
- f. *Parish Footpaths & Village Greens*    *Cllr Fielder - No update*  
**Motion to Council** – *To purchase a new Honda UMK 425 UE Strimmer & Brush cutter for maintenance of footpaths and greens. Cost £359.00 – this has already been Agreed in a previous council meeting.*
- g. *Playing Field*                                      *Cllr Starling- Cllr Fielder raised a concern about the state of the playing field due to FWYC training on it on a Saturday which is chewing up the pitch. Chairman gave an update on a meeting he’d had with Andy Hockley and John Bullock re entering into a maintenance agreement run by the FA with them about maintaining the grounds. However, nothing further has come of this.*  
*Cllr Fielder questioned whether we should be stopping them using it whilst the weather is so bad before it becomes unusable and ask them to stop using the social club car park.*  
*ACT – to contact FWY to find out when they are using it and to remind them to respect the facilities, not use the social club car park*
- h. *Street Lighting*                                      *Clerk and Chairman – There is a light out down Hall Lane, this has been reported*
- i. *TDALC*    *Cllr Powell – No update*
- j. *Thorpe in Bloom*                                      *Cllr Carpenter – No update*

**17**    **Accounts for period 10<sup>th</sup> February – 9<sup>th</sup> March incl.**

*Cllrs to approve Cheques for Signature, agree D/Debits & S/Orders:  
All cheques to be signed by two designated members of PC*

**Motion to council:** *To part fund (half) of the ice-skating rink for the Christmas Festival, further to item No. 7 from the December Agenda. Proposer – Cooper, Seconded – Raftery. All in favour*

**Motion to Council:** *To agree internet banking and debit card facilities in line with sections 6.15 & 6.18 of the Council’s financial regulations. Proposed Fielder, Seconded Cooper*

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**Motion to Council:** To reimburse Chairman for purchase of new laptop as agreed within item No. 8 of February meeting for office equipment. (£275.00) Proposer Fielder, seconded Cooper

**Motion to Council:** To Purchase 6 drums of white liner paint for the football pitch marker on the playing field at a cost of £216.06. Proposer – Fielder, Seconded Cooper.

**Income received**

1	£180.00	Frinton & Walton Youth FC	Playing Field
2	£360.85	Estate of Paul Maguire	
		Donation	

**Expenditure:**

<b><u>Item No:</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>VAT</u></b>	<b><u>To Whom Paid</u></b>	<b><u>Budget Area</u></b>
1	£736.99		Jess Ball	Clerk Wages
2	£36.90		Jess Ball	Training mileage
3	£275.00	£45.84	Dan Land	Office equipment Laptop
4	£216.06	£36.01	Dan Land	Playing field
5	£264.00	£44.00	Naze Lamb	Hedge cutting
6	£183.46		Jess Ball	Office Equipment Printer
7	£32.97		Jess Ball	Office Equipment MS Office
8	£359.00	£59.93	Garden Machinery Direct	Maintenance Equipment
9	£139.48	£6.64	Scottish Power	Christmas Lights
10	£70.59		Jess Ball	Jan & Feb Telephone (Sky)

*For the purpose of accounting and itemisation, payments have been listed individually. However, where multiple payments are for 1 recipient (e.g Clerk) they may be paid in one cheque.*

**Direct Debits:**

<b>ONECOM</b>	<b>£21.62</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
<b>e-on energy</b>	<b>£162.38</b>	<b>Street Lighting</b>

**Standing Orders will be paid by Bank on 12<sup>th</sup> of each month**

- **Shirley Howe – Clerk – Wages & Expenses**      **£778.39**
- **J. Bullock – Playing field - General maintenance**      **£340.00**

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**18** *Close of Meeting:* - *There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.50.*