



December 2023

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held Monday December 11th 2023 at Thorpe Baptist Church**

Minutes

1. Chairman To convene meeting

The chairman opened the meeting and thanked those in attendance

2. Apologies for absence: Councillors Blandford and Ewart

Attendees: Chairman, Clerk, Councillors Cooper, Coulter, Holland, Moor, Fielder, Carpenter

3. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held Monday 13th November 2023

Having been previously circulated, Councillor Coulter Proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record, Councillor Cooper seconded the motion, all in favour.

4. Declaration of Members Interests

There were none

5. Public discussion

Mick asked about the dip in the road between Thorpe and Weeley as this is now over a year old. The chairman advised that he has pursued this but highways have advised that there are no plan to remedy this at present. Councillor Cooper advised that he had received a response from Highways regarding the depressed drain near the memorial and there are no plans to do anything about this.

6. Chairman's report

Very happy to man road closure for festival trust for the Christmas festival, which was a great success. The Christmas lights look very nice. Some of the properties in the Lady Nelson estate are now occupied whilst it's still in development. A donation has been made form the Chairmans CC pot to Rolph School association for the new bike sheds. A120 diversion will be coming through Thorpe when they resurface the road at Wix, this is likely to be in place for approximately a year, they will be resurfacing the High Street before this diversion. Matt Hull has been doing some hedge cutting for us to keep the access and sight splays clear. The flooding down station road near the station from the water leak has continued to cause issues and someone actually had a fall due to this however the water company were unable to locate the leak.

7. Consider and agree new signage for footpath 10

Councillor Moor advised that he had been informed that some people are unclear on where to go when they come up footpath 10 past Comarques and ending up going into Comarques driveway. A discussion took place regarding the current state of the footpath and what would be required to clear this. The chairman advised that we could speak to Essex CC footpaths and highways team regarding the state of the footpath.

8. Consider precept and budget ahead of precept setting in January

The clerk provided a brief update on council spending so far for this year and asked the Council to consider spending priorities to inform the precept level for next year as this has been maintained at a 0% increase for the last couple of years, but will have to be put up this year in light of increased costs and anticipated legal fees. A discussion took place regarding priorities for spending in the forthcoming financial year.

9. Path Cleaning - Purchase of Mechanical Cleaner

Councillor Cooper advised that he had a number of conversations with companies regarding the street cleaners and Hako has said they will come down with a variety of machines to demo for us in the new year.

10. Planning

Applications received

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 23/01538/FUL | Proposed new 2 bedroom dwelling. | Object - Comments as per previous application as there is no change to the plans other than calling bedroom 3 a home office. |
| 23/01675/FULHH 23/01676/LBC | Proposed garden room extension, reinstatement of a garage and installation of rooflights. | No comments. |

Applications determined

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| 23/01395/FULHH Approval - Full | Proposed single storey rear extension. | 6 Landermere Road |
| 23/01464/LBC 23/01467/FULHH Approval - Full | Proposed installation of Ohme Home Pro charger on the side of property | New Hall Landermere |
| 23/01466/FULHH Approval - Full | Proposed detached garage | Number Six Mill Lane |

11. Accounts for period 14th November – 11th December incl.

To receive and approve the monthly accounts and payments.

Cllrs to approve Cheques/on-line payments for signature/approval, agree D/Debits & S/Orders:
All cheques/on-line payments to be signed by two designated members of PC.

STANDING ORDERS:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| Jess Ball | £ [REDACTED] | Staff Wages |
| Naze Lamb | £490 | PF maintenance |

| Payee | Invoice | Amount | Budget line |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| N.Power | | £337.32 | S/L Energy |
| HMRC | | £343.32 | Employment costs |
| Sid Hutchby | | £96 | O/S maintenance- grass cutting |
| Essex CC | | £100 | Christmas lights application |
| MRL Productions | | £3600 | Christmas lights installation |
| MRL Productions | | £960 | Christmas lights church illuminations |

Councillor Fielder proposed the accounts be accepted; Councillor Coulter seconded the motion.

12. Sub Committee Reports:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| a. Christmas Lights | These have been put up and are a great addition to the village |
| b. Highways and Pavements | As per comments in Chairmans report. |
| c. Lockyer's Wood | Birdboxes to go up, more mulch and woodchip required |
| d. Parish Footpaths & Village Greens | Cllr Moor updated that discussions have been ongoing with TDC regarding Far Thorpe Green and the potential of them taking this on as a project. |
| e. Playing Field | No update |
| f. Street Lighting | A light is out on the Memorial |
| g. Thorpe in Bloom | No update |
| h. Allotments | No update |

13. Date of next meeting

15th January

14. Close of meeting