

**Thompson Parish Council  
DRAFT Minutes**

Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the village hall at 7:30 pm

**1. Present**

Councillors: Jimmy Johnson (Chair), Gabbie Sharp (Vice-chair), Ian Robertson, Jean Josiah, Kate Winslow, Duncan Gregory, Anthony Murphy (finance).  
Clerk : Rosemary Martin  
Also present: Phil Cowen (BC); six members of the public

**2. Apologies for absence - none**

**3. Minutes of the meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009**

Both sets of minutes were confirmed unanimously as a correct record and were signed by the Chair. (1<sup>st</sup> Dec: proposed Ian Robertson, seconded Gabbie Sharp; 9<sup>th</sup> Nov: proposed Kate Winslow, seconded Anthony Murphy)

**4. Matters Arising**

BC has not yet published a decision on Planning Application [3PL/2009/0705/F](#) (School Road Flagship Housing Group Ltd). Clerk to chase up.  
Breckland grant funds for AED project will be received by cheque. G Sharp following up.  
K Winslow asked about status of police traffic control speed guns. No update at present.  
Clarification of Millennium Green status – the process of transfer of trusteeship to Parish Council is complete.

**5. Correspondence**

Planning application [3PL/2010/0020/F](#) (New Bungalow College Road Mr J Harvey & Miss C Abbey) - plans were displayed in the hall and comments were invited from members of the public. It was resolved to approve with concerns about two proposed windows overlooking neighbouring properties. (Proposed Ian Robertson, seconded Gabbie Sharp)

Correspondence not already notified

Norfolk Link	Noted
Speed Management Strategy for Norfolk	Noted
Fields in Trusts War Memorial maintenance	N/A for Thompson
NCS Grounds Service	Passed to Councillor Winslow
Police Crime Statistics (December 2009)	Statistics aggregate Thompson with Watton: Councillor Johnson to request un-aggregated version

**6. Adjournment for reports**

Ian Monson, NCC: Ian Monson was not present

Philip Cowen

**a) Council Tax:** BC has agreed to leave the level unchanged for the coming year. Local Government Review could affect this decision. Moving to a unitary authority would most likely increase council tax rates very considerably. The final part of the consultation process will close on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, and elections for the new unitary authority are proposed for May. However a judicial hearing has been arranged due to complaints about the consultation process. Breckland are in the meantime talking to South Norfolk about shared services in case the switch to a unitary authority doesn't take place.

**b) Local Development Framework:** Conclusion to support recommendations for settlement boundary; there were three minor amendments relating to Thompson and all were agreed without modification. Final consultation will be in April.

**c) Iceland:** Audit Commission confirmed that 80% - 90% of local authority money will come back; not subject to recent Iceland referendum. No money yet received.

d) Capita Symonds: New planning service going well; more responsive, and website much improved. Planning applications can now be viewed and comments submitted online. Some members of the public had not found this to be true. Cllr Cowen will check on this. There is no longer a statutory requirement for neighbours to be informed by letter of new planning applications.

e) Dumping and Litter: Clerk to contact Street Scene team at BC and ask who is responsible for the area where tyres have been dumped (see #10). If this is private they can't remove, otherwise will do so. Street Scene will also pick litter on A1075 when asked. This can be requested by anybody through the BC website.

f) Councillor Cowen offered to notify BC about the new clerk – the Chair commented that he had already done so.

**Representations from members of the public**

A member of the public praised the marvellous service the bin collection teams had provided over the Christmas/snow period. Councillor Cowen will pass this information to BC.

**Meeting reconvenes**

**7. Clerk**

Rosemary Martin was welcomed as our new Parish Clerk.

**8. Telephone Kiosk**

BT has clarified that they will cover the associated electricity charges for disconnection should the council wish to adopt the decommissioned Phone Box. It was resolved to accept BT's offer.

**9. Reports**

a) Clerk – none available.

b) Financial Officer

**Thompson Parish Council – Community Account**

<u>Community Account - Opening balance (28/10/09)</u>				<u>4,932.21</u>
				<u>Paid in</u>
				<u>Paid out</u>
18/11/09	100393	St Martin's	Grant	500.00
20/11/09	100394	Mill Green	Grant	500.00
23/11/09	100392	Mrs G Sharp	Web site sub	34.50
1/12/09	100395	Mazars PLC	Audit fee	80.50
05/01/10	Dividend	HMT 2 ½ Cons	0.08	
11/1/10	100396	HMRC	Clerk - Inc tax	28.60
<u>Closing balance (11/1/10)</u>				<u>3,788.69</u>
<u>Business Saver Account (8/12/09)</u>				<u>1,600.77</u>

**c) Chairman of the Village Hall Committee (Ian Robertson)**

The process of returning the trusteeship to the Parish Council is still not complete. The committee are currently investigating ideas for extending the hall to accommodate improved toilet and storage ideas. When they have a plan and a cost analysis, they will publish and invite villagers to comment.

Funding might be available through NRCC or National Association of Village Halls. Clerk to investigate.

A new management committee is required. An advert will be posted in the Waylander.

A mole catcher is required. Clerk to follow up.

**d) Chairman**

Meeting with Adrian Sewell (AS), Highways Agency on 30/11/09 - AS agreed to consider centre road line markings and another chevron sign at the Watton/Marlpit/Pockthorpe junction. No policy yet to instigate 20mph limit by school. Cannot include Tottington or Hallfield Roads on salting route, but will fill salt boxes once Parish Council purchases a box. Marlpit Road surface dressing will be scheduled into this year's programme. AS accepted concerns about the footpath and said he would look at the design specification before making any further comment

**10. Any other business**

- a. Tyres dumped along the old Thetford Road between the Old Gate House and the existing entrance (see 6e)
- b. Salting Tottington and Hallfield Roads. Not done at all this year. Agreed to need for further salt bins. They should be wooden. Existing ones need new hinges. Councillor Johnson to find out costs before next meeting.

**11. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....