

**Wa\Minutes of the meeting of
Thompson Parish Council
commencing at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 29th November 2016
in Thompson Village Hall**

Present: Kate Winslow (Chair), Duncan Gregory (Vice-chair), Alan Dujon, Jean Kaye, Ian Robertson, Irene Smith, Parish Clerk and two members of the public

- 1 Apologies for absence:** None.
- 2 Declaration of Interest:** Kate Winslow and Jean Kaye are trustees of Thompson Community Hall and will not take part in item 4.3.1 and will only report on progress to date of the proposed hall – item 4.3. Duncan Gregory declared an interest in item 7.1 by virtue of owning a neighbouring property and will not take part in the discussions of this item. Kate Winslow – Item 10 by virtue of her relationship to the Clerk.
- 3 Approval of Minutes:**
 - 3.1 Meeting held on 26th September 2016:** It was pointed out that under Item 4.4 Drainage: the reference to Tottington Road was incorrect and was corrected to read Marlpit Road by the Chair of the Meeting. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2016 was then proposed by Alan Dujon and seconded by Duncan Gregory and unanimously approved by the members. The minutes were signed by Kate Winslow (Chair).
 - 3.2 Meeting held on 17th October 2016:** Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2016 was proposed by Jean Kaye and seconded by Irene Smith and unanimously approved by the members. The minutes were signed by the Chair – Kate Winslow.
- 4 Matters arising:**
 - 4.1 CPRE Footpaths project:** £1084.30 for a display board showing Thompson’s footpaths remains ring-fenced in the Councils accounts awaiting clarification of the right of way formerly known as Thompson Footpath No.1.
 - 4.2 Breckland Local Plan:** The Breckland Local Plan is at the consultation stage.
 - 4.3 Thompson Community Hall:** A short progress report was given regarding the proposed Community Hall. Currently 4 builders have been short-listed for the tendering process. These should be received with a few days. It is then intended that the Trustees of the Community Hall to further reduce the short-listed builder to two for interview and to examine examples of their work prior to making the final appointment.
 - 4.3.1 To consider the draft lease of land for Thompson Community Hall to Thompson Community Hall CIO:** The draft lease was discussed and found to be acceptable subject to the correction of a few typing errors and it was proposed by Ian Robertson and seconded by Alan Dujon that the Parish Council owned portion of Thompson Millennium Green, School Road be leased to Thompson Community Hall CIO for the erection, hire and maintenance etc. of a Community Hall under the terms of the above mentioned lease. This was approved unanimously. The Clerk, to comply with the requirements of Financial Regulations is in the process of obtaining a valuation of the land from the District Valuer. The Chair of the Council, one other Councillor (Jean Kaye) are Trustees of Thompson Community Hall CIO and as such should not sign the lease on behalf of the Parish Council. Alan Dujon proposed and Ian Robertson seconded that Duncan Gregory, as Vice chair of the Council and one other eligible Councillor should sign the lease on behalf of the Council. The Clerk is required by Standing Order 13.b. to witness the document on behalf of the Council.

- 4.4 Drainage:** Norfolk County Council Highway engineer is to attend a meeting in Thompson at 9.00 am on Wednesday 07th December to discuss drainage issues in Thompson.
- 4.5 Village appraisal:** Results subject to the addition of some charts are in a form for display on the village website and it was agreed that Alan Dujon would work on a booklet giving a more narrative based explanation of the result for door to door distribution to all households in the village.
- 4.6 Thompson Hearts – fridge magnets:** The Clerk is to check the accuracy of the artwork for the fridge magnets with those most involved with the defibrillator project and the order a supply for village wide distribution.
- 4.7 Cutting of the verges around Thompson Millennium Green:** The Clerk is to speak to Serco Ltd about getting the verges around the Millennium Green strimmed 2 or three times a year so that the stat of drainage grips and the like may be more easily assessed.
- 4.8 Fly tipping:** The incidence of fly tipping in and around the village seems to be increasing, to the extent that a recent clean-up day found fly tipped materials on Thompson Millennium Green. Breckland Council have an electronic reporting system for both fly tipping and fly tippers and a link the appropriate page will be display prominently on the village website and, subject to editorial agreement, in the Waylander.
- 4.9 Ornamental white gates at entrances of the village:** The members felt that white gates on the verges adjacent to the village signs would add to the attractiveness of the village and directed the Clerk to investigate permissions required to carry out such a project, along with the costs and the availability of grant assistance.

5 Correspondence not already notified:

The clerk drew the Councillors attention to NCC Highways reply to Planning application 3PL/20161122/F suggesting that a passing place is needed somewhere between 4 and 12 Pockthorpe Lane. It was felt that this was unnecessary in the position suggested and in the wrong place to allow a view of the narrowest part of Pockthorpe Lane.

6 Reports:

6.1.1 Chair: Nothing to report not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

6.2 Responsible Financial Officer/Clerk: The Clerk reported that he had not had a reply from the owner of 1 College Road regarding the hedge/trees overhanging the carriageway and as a result he had been in touch with Highways who have also received complaints from the public. As a result, they are pushing for the hedge/trees to be cut back.

6.2.1 Invoices due since last meeting and paid:

Date	Cheque	Payee	Sum £
25/10/2016	CHQ 100609	Thinking Rural CIC	36
25/10/2016	CHQ 100610	Serco	178.07
19/11/2016	CHQ 100611	Serco	178.07

6.2.2 Payments due: None.

6.3 Thompson Millennium Green: The Thompson 5 and 10 km runs are planned for next autumn – date to be confirmed. Duncan Gregory is to help with the organisation of the runs. A working day was held in October when trees close to the pond margins were cut back/removed. A second working day is to be held on 12 December to remove the reeds and some of the sludge as well pruning trees etc.

7 Planning Application: Applications:

7.1 3PL/2016/1239/HOU Two storey extension at Kingfishers, Church Farm, Church Road, Thompson, IP24 1QE: The meeting was suspended to allow public participation.

Mr French, the applicant, explained briefly about the application. Louise Humphries expressed concern about the drain at Church Farm which resulted in the emergency services being called during June 2016's extreme weather event when the stream overflowed. It was felt the stream is choked with weed downstream from the flood and that as a result the exceptional volume of water could not get away. On a vote the members voted unanimously no objection to the application subject to the planners being happy with the drainage situation.

- 7.2 3PL/2016/1368/O – Erection of 2 three bedroomed dwellings at Threshing Yard Barn, Hallfield Road, Thompson IP24 1PT:** Kate Winslow said that she had received an e-mail from a resident, Angus Welch, objecting to the application on the grounds that the proposed development was ribbon development along Hallfield Road and was outside the settlement boundary and that this goes against the tenets of the LDF, the Local Plan and the preference expressed by the majority of villagers in the recent Village Appraisal. Alan Dujon raised objections to the application on a number grounds. He was concerned about access of extra vehicles on to Hallfield Road close to Thompson School on a route used by parents for taking children to and from school. There also appear to be inaccuracies in the application; it is claimed that there is no flood risk but the applicant has recently been in contact with the Parish Council regarding a flooding incident affecting Threshing Yard Barn. Under conservation there is no mention of Great Crested Newts in the adjacent pond on Thompson Millennium Green, which were mentioned in papers sent to the Parish Council by the applicant. In addition, the site is surrounded by trees and thus it would seem that at the very least flood assessment, Newt and tree surveys should be carried out as part of the application. In addition, the application does not fit with the current Breckland Local Development framework nor with the preferred options for the Breckland Local plan as applied to Thompson in as much that a settlement boundary is in place to prevent ribbon development. That nearby areas of land have planning permission for a community building and for a commercial building (a cidery) should not be construed as conferring or establishing a precedent for development in the area. Each application should be dealt with on merit and in this case the development is outside the settlement boundary and would go against the tenets of the Local Plan and the wishes of the majority of villagers as given in the 2016 Thompson Village appraisal. On a vote the members unanimously objected to this application and directed the Clerk to inform Breckland Council Planning Department of this decision.
- 7.3 Decisions not previously reported:**
- 7.3.1 3PN/2016/0022/UC Change of use from agricultural building to dwelling (Permitted Development) at Threshing Yard Barn Hallfield Road IP24 1PT:** Status: Prior Approval Refusal 23 March 2016.
- 7.3.2 3PL/2016/0502/F Erection of cidery at Site adjacent to Hallfield Road IP24 1PT:** Full permission granted 25 April 2016.
- 7.3.3 3PL/2016/0549/VAR Variation of note on 3/94/899/F to allow annexe to be used as holiday let at Rosemary Cottage 34 Pockthorpe Lane IP24 1PN.** Variation of conditions permission granted 04 May 2016.
- 7.3.4 3PN/2016/0041/UC Change of use from agricultural building to dwelling (permitted development) at Barn at Redbrick Farm Marlpit Road IP24 1PS:** Prior Approval Refusal.
- 7.3.5 3PL/2016/0711/HOU Single storey front extension to replace existing bay window at 1 Sycamore Close IP24 1PP:** Householder Permission granted 07 June 2016.
- 7.3.6 3PL/2016/0739/D Erection of community hall at Millennium Green School Road:** Permission – Reserved matters granted 14 June 2016.
- 7.3.7 3PL/2016/1218/HOU Subdivision of dwelling to create residential annexe and erection of garden room at The Old Post Office Mill Road IP24 1PH:** Householder permission granted 06 October 2016.
- 7.3.8 3PL/2016/1247/HOU Removal of carport and erection of extension, front, side and rear, provide facilities for disabled person at Mill Corner Mill Road IP24 1PH:** Householder Permission granted 14 October 2016.

8 Co-option of Councillor: The members of Thompson Parish Council were impressed by the calibre of the two applicants for the vacancy left by the resignation of Andrew Wagner. On a vote Mr Roy Shovelar was elected.

**9 Budget for 2017/2018:
Thompson Parish Council
Budget 2017/2018**

	Forecast 2016/2017	Actual 2016/2017	Suggested Budget 2017/2018	
Receipts				
Precept	4900	4900	4970	Note 1
Grant	162	162	111	
VAT	443	443	305	
Recycling		203		
Interest	1	0	0	
Other	0	0	0	
Total	5506	5708	5386	
Expenditure				
Staff Costs including				Note
PAYE	1504	1504	2500	2
Payroll				
services	120	120	120	
Insurance	586	349	356	
Grass cutting	993	1038	1038	
VAT	305	305	305	
Other	300	300	300	
Grants				
Church	500	500	500	
Wayland				
Partnership	300	300	300	
Village Hall	150	150	150	
Thompson				
Hearts	0	150	0	
Memberships				
Norfolk ALC	105	111	105	
Community				
Action				
Norfolk	50	50	50	
Total	4913	4877	5724	
Income less expenditure	593	831	-338	

Note 1: Change in the Tax base allows you to increase the precept without increasing amount paid by householders.

Note 2: Time necessary for Clerk to carry out duties is 4-4.5 hours per week. Thus in my estimate with salary and expenses (Telephone, postage, internet and travelling and possible ongoing training) will be in the region of £2500 p.a.

The budget was discussed at length, Duncan Gregory proposed and Alan Dujon seconded acceptance of the budget for 2017/2018. On a vote this was carried unanimously.

- 10 Review of Clerks performance/salary:** It was agreed to increase the Clerks hours to 4 per week and salary pro rata to cover the extra work necessary that has resulted recent legislation. This is to occur from 01 April 2017. The Clerk said that it was his intention to retire early in the New Financial Year.
- 11 Date of Next meeting:** Tuesday 17 January 2017
- 12 Any other business (for agenda of next meeting):**
- 12.1 The PCSO to be contacted and invited to attend meetings as their duty permits:**
- 12.2 Carol concert at West Tofts Clerk to circulate the date;**
- 12.3 Grant funding:** Louis Humphries said that funding sources were currently available and that she was happy to use her expertise to help the Council access these.

The meeting closed at 21.05