

Thompson Parish Council (TPC)  
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held in Thompson Community Hall on Tuesday 19 March 2024

Present:       Jean Kaye                   Chair  
                  Ron Powrie  
                  Jean Wagner  
                  Kim Austin               Clerk

Also present: There were no members of the public present.

The meeting opened at 19:34.

**1. To consider accepting apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Barry Mallindine who was away, Cllr. Gregory who was away and Cllr. Phil Cowen who had sent a report.

**2. To record declarations of interest from members in any items on the agenda**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 16 January 2024**

The minutes had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr. Powrie proposed and Cllr. Wagner seconded the signing of the minutes. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair, Cllr. Jean Kaye.

**4. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes (Tuesday 16 January 2024) not on the agenda.**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

**5. To adjourn the meeting for public participation, an opportunity for members of the public to raise any queries and concerns.** The meeting was not adjourned as no public were present.

**6. To Co-opt a Parish Councillor.** No applications had been received at this time.

**7. To update on Footpath Inquiry – ROW3227322.** Cllr. Kaye has telephoned NCC a couple of times but no feedback. Also checked the contact at NCC is still in post and they are. Fabian replied to say it is the hands of the Planning Inspectorate.

**8. To discuss surface water management in Thompson and Reclaim the Rain project (JK)**

Not much to report. Consultants admit they are behind with the process and some work has been sub-contracted. Being invited to suggest innovative solutions. Sub project group is meeting next week. Regards the Breckland Local Plan, building of new houses could cause more ground water. Woodland Trust need more water so have suggested that they could divert rainwater that currently flows down Church Road to ponds on their land. Wildlife being encouraged to clear the stream/little river. Farmers have been involved. It was reported that some ditches had been dug out, with the suggestion that these had been dug by the Reclaim the Rain project.

**9. To receive reports**

**9.1 Breckland District Councillor (PC) All Saints and Wayland Ward, March 2024**

1. At Council on 22 February, the Budget for the year 2024-2025 was agreed, details can be found on the council's website at:

<https://democracy.breckland.gov.uk/documents/g5001/Public%20reports%20pack%2022nd-Feb-2024%2010.00%20Council.pdf?T=10>. The budget is balanced in the short and medium term

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and does include for an increase in the Band D rate of £4.95 taking the Breckland District Council Tax level for the year 2024-2025 to £113.58 pence or £2.18 per week. However, the majority of Breckland residents in bands A-C, will pay between £1.45 and £1.94 per week for the services provided by Breckland as the District Council.

2. A review of our waste collection service was carried out and that has resulted in a change of collection days for some residents in the district and thus far the transition has been relatively smooth although there have been some isolated pockets where some bins were missed. Please see the website at <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/rubbish/bin-collection> to confirm the various bin collection dates for individual addresses.

3. Our Inspiring communities programme was agreed at Cabinet and Scrutiny where it was explained that this was an innovative programme that represented a significant step forward to accelerate positive health outcomes and to support some of the most vulnerable residents across Breckland Council's communities. Officers are working with multiple partners to offer solutions to tackle health inequalities within the district. This programme is a testament to the collective and collaborative commitment as Councillors to build a stronger more vibrant and healthier district and provide hope to residents to let them know that Breckland Council wanted to support its residents, particularly those who are most vulnerable. Some outcomes have been:

- Supported over 1000 survivors of Domestic Abuse
- Recruited and trained over 100 volunteers to act as Daisy Ambassadors
- Helped almost 2000 residents to access low-cost food
- Trained 300 Mental Health Champions
- Supported over 200 residents with welfare support calls
- Helped over 90 young people and their families to manage their mental health while awaiting professional help
- Enabled the opening of Rest in Thetford, now supported over 1750 residents
- Worked with Citizens Advice to deliver >£700,000 of income gain to residents per year
- Engaged with 260 households; saved 3 lives through Community Health Worker project.

4. We were delighted to receive £20million funding over 10 years through the government's Long-Term Plan for Towns' Programme ring fenced for Thetford. This is vital investment in response to Breckland's continued assertion that Thetford is one of the highest opportunity towns in the

country, as well as one with significant needs and will enable Breckland working with partners to deliver substantial outcomes and benefits to the town. Moreover, we anticipate that the ripple effect of this investment in Thetford will flow out to the rest of the district, in both market towns and the rural communities.

## 9.2 **Norfolk County Councillor (FE)**

No report received from Cllr. Eagle.

## 9.3 **Thompson Chair's report (JK)**

**Litter pick.** This Saturday and has been advertised in the Waylander.

## 9.4 **Community Hall report (JK)**

A picture rail with hooks arrangement has been installed in the hall for attaching fairy lights for events, to display art and to serve as a paint line when decorated in the future. The recent book sale was very successful with the highest takings since Nov 2022. Refreshments were given more space for extra seating which seemed to boost sales. Arts and flower festival in June with events on the green for the children. No Easter egg hunt this year due to lack of volunteers and potential bad weather over the Easter break.

## 9.5 **The Millennium Green report (AW).** Angus Welch report was read out by the Clerk.

### **Committee**

No change. The committee works currently (and very ably!) without a chair but seeks a volunteer to take on this important role.

**Finances** Lottery income collection ongoing.

### **Boundaries and Green**

Diesel and/or Kerosene has been leaching into the ditch running along Tottington Road.

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The Environment Agency has been on site and registered the leak as Category 3 meaning action will only be taken as and when resources allow.

- The hedge laying on School Road boundary is now complete. The piles of shredded material will be used as mulch once the potential threat of disease has dissipated. All are asked not to cut through the hedge line whilst walking and allow it to mature in time.
- Extra hedge saplings have been planted along the Green's boundary to beef up those thin areas
- The fallen ash/sycamore trees along Tottington Road that fell in the high winds have been removed and walks are now fully open again.
- The ivy on the trees along Tottington Road will be cut this year to die back allowing the underlying planting to better thrive and prevent wind felling in the future. Cllr. Wagner said ideally only half the ivy should be cut back, leaving the important habitat for insects and wildlife to continue to live in.
- The entrance wall by the bus stop needs attention as flints have become dislodged. This will be repaired when the weather improves.
- T&Cs for (non-village) users of the Green is in final form and will be issued as required.
- A new contract for vermin control has been placed and the moles are now under control.
- The bench by the small mound at the Hallfield Road entrance has been removed as it was rotten. It is understood that the Thompson WI might be funding a replacement.
- Run Fair is being planned for this year - September 22nd.
- The broken car park bollard will be replaced once CE Clarke works through their overdue work schedule, exacerbated by the wet weather this winter. Post meeting note: The work has been done and Cllr. Kaye has the invoice.

#### **Play Equipment and Adult Exercise Area**

- The football net has been climbed on which has resulted in the net having a number of holes. All are asked to help ensure the net is not climbed on.

#### **Community Involvement**

- The school is using the green regularly for their outdoor activities. Willow work will be created in preparation for the Village Event with sculptures erected around the Green.

**Next Working Party** Future working days will be announced, as required.

**Next Committee Meeting** - Monday 15 April

This report was accepted by members of the Parish Council, in their role as Parish Councillors and as Trustee of The Millennium Green

## **10. To report on financial matters**

### **10.1 Financial position**

#### **Bank account balances at Tuesday 19 March 2024**

Barclays Community Account	£	9450.80
Barclays Business Premium Account	£	1637.53
<b>TOTAL as per bank</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>11088.33</b>

#### **Summary (Including monies allocated)**

Allocated to Sports Equipment maintenance (TMG)	£	1746.00
Allocated to Notice Board	£	1084.30
Thompson Parish Council	£	8258.03
<b>TOTAL as per bank</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>11088.33</b>

### **10.2 Money in since last meeting (16 January 2023)**

4/3/2024	Barclays Savings Account - Interest	£	6.10
	<b>TOTAL IN</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>6.10</b>

### **10.3 Bank Reconciliation**

<b>Opening balance</b> at bank, Current (Last meeting, 16 Jan 2024)	£	10370.64
<b>Opening balance</b> at bank, Savings (Last meeting, 16 Jan 2024)	£	1631.43 (Total £12002.07)

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PLUS Money in since last meeting (as above)	£	6.10
MINUS Money out since last meeting (Total cheques 16 Jan 2024)	£	919.84
<b>Closing balances at bank (This meeting, 16 Jan 2024, as above)</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>11088.33</b>

**10.4 Cheques out (to sign)**

CHQ 822	Clerk's Wages - Feb. 24 M11, Mar. 24 M12 (x2)	£	527.28
CHQ 823	Defib Warehouse - G3 Battery - Reimb. Teresa Blake	£	346.80
CHQ 824	Clerk's reimbursements, post/ink June23 - March24	£	37.19
	<b>TOTAL OUT</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>911.27</b>

THOMPSON PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS					INCOME						
					YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024						
Date	From	Description	CHK	RECYCLING						TOTAL	
				PRECEPT	SAVER AC INTEREST	GLASS & PAPER	GRANTS ETC	VAT	MISC		
07/04/2023	Breckland Council	Precept 1 of 2	DIR	3,600.00							3,600.00
21/04/2023	Thompson Hall	Repay TTSR grass cutting	CHQ							386.84	386.84
05/06/2023	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		3.37						3.37
26/07/2023	Breckland Council	Glass recycling payment	DIR			142.91					142.91
30/08/2023	HMRC	Vat annual refund	DIR					322.27			322.27
04/09/2023	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		4.34						4.34
27/09/2023	Breckland Council	Precept 2 of 2	DIR	3,600.00							3,600.00
04/12/2023	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		5.66						5.66
04/03/2024	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		6.10						6.10
				<b>7,200.00</b>	<b>19.47</b>	<b>142.91</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>322.27</b>	<b>386.84</b>		<b>8,071.49</b>

**£8071.49**

THOMPSON PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2023 - 2024														EXPENDITURE						
														YEAR ENDED 31 March 2024						
Date	From	Description	CHK	COUNCIL TRADES HALL										TOTAL						
				CLERKS WAGES	POSTAGE	PLY ROLL EXPENSE SERVICES	NO	INS	PRINTER	INSURANCE	AUDIT	CONWAYNS	SEBS		GRASS CUTTING @ 100	MISC	CAPITAL	VAT		
01/05/2023	TTSR Limited	Grass cutting 1 of 2 (50%)	799												593.25			118.65	711.90	
16/05/2023	Info Commissioner	Annual Data Protection Fee	800												40.00				40.00	
16/05/2023	Sally Foreman - Plans	Internal Audit "Plant Hammer"	801											30.00					30.00	
01/05/2023	NALC	Annual Subscription - renew	802												145.17				145.17	
16/05/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M12, M1, M2 2023	803	738.93															738.93	
16/05/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Reimb. Post/ink/paper	804		20.43					14.35									34.78	
22/05/2023	Zurich Municipal Insur	Annual Insurance - new supplier	805							241.00									241.00	
23/05/2023	Annual donation	Thompson Community Hall	806												300.00				300.00	
23/05/2023	Annual donation	Wandland Partnership	807												300.00				300.00	
23/05/2023	Annual donation	Millennium Green - TMSCT	808												500.00				500.00	
18/07/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M3/M4 2023	809	492.62															492.62	
18/07/2023	Thompson WI	One off donation	810												150.00				150.00	
01/08/2023	British Bird Grass	Reimb. T Blake - adult defib cost	811														56.45	9.90	66.35	
19/09/2023	NALC	Annual payroll services 23/24	812		96.00														19.20	
02/09/2023	Helping Hands	Litter picking boxes x 10 Reimb	813														99.90	19.98	119.88	
12/07/2023	Tesco	ink cartridge - black	814						10.00										10.00	
19/09/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M5/M6 Aug/Sept	815	492.62															492.62	
26/10/2023	Breckland	Uncontested election fees 5/23	816														75.00		75.00	
21/11/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages Oct 2023 - M7	817	248.31															248.31	
21/11/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages Nov 2023 - M8	817	263.64															263.64	
21/11/2023	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages 1/4/31/10 backlogs	817	121.31															121.31	
01/05/2023	TTSR Limited	Grass cutting 1 of 2 (50%)	818												593.25			118.65	711.90	
18/01/2024	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages Dec/Jan24 M9/10	819	526.28															526.28	
18/01/2024	Kate Winslow	Reimburse for TPC Xmas Trees	820														65.96		65.96	
11/12/2023	Ballies of Norfolk	2 x pallets of 15kg sandbags	821												273.00		54.60		327.60	
19/03/2024	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages Feb 2023 - M11	822	263.64															263.64	
19/03/2024	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages Mar 2023 - M12	822	263.64															263.64	
				<b>3,408.99</b>	<b>20.43</b>	<b>96.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>24.35</b>	<b>241.00</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>185.17</b>	<b>1,186.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>470.41</b>	<b>99.90</b>	<b>340.98</b>	<b>7,353.73</b>

**£7353.73**

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Date .....

## 10.5 Budget Vs Actuals

Thompson Parish Council Budget Vs Actual			
AT 19/03/2024			2023 - 2024
	Budget	Forecast	Actual to date
	2023/2024	2023/2024	2023/2024
<b>INCOME</b>			
Precept	7,200.00	7,200.00	7,200.00
Recycling	190.00	190.00	142.91
Interest (Barclays Saver)	0.20	10.00	19.47
Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00
VAT	400.00	400.00	322.27
Other	0.00	0.00	386.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,790.20</b>	<b>7,800.00</b>	<b>8,071.49</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Staff Costs including PAYE	2,955.72	2,955.72	3,408.99
Payroll services	108.00	108.00	96.00
Internal audit fee	30.00	30.00	30.00
Postage	25.00	25.00	27.62
Insurance	241.00	241.00	241.00
Grass cutting	1,387.35	1,387.35	1,186.50
Training	120.00	120.00	0.00
Printer/consumables	35.00	35.00	54.35
Website	165.00	165.00	0.00
Capital	70.00	70.00	99.90
Defibrillator (Batts/Pads)	200.00	200.00	345.45
Miscellaneous/Contingency	200.00	200.00	413.96
Donation - St. Martin's Church	500.00	500.00	0.00
Donation - Wayland Partnership	300.00	300.00	300.00
Donation - Thompson Community	300.00	300.00	300.00
Donation - Thompson Millenium G	500.00	500.00	500.00
Donation - WI	0.00	150.00	150.00
Subs - Norfolk ALC	145.17	145.17	145.17
Subs - Info Comm Registration	40.00	40.00	40.00
VAT	300.00	300.00	398.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,622.24</b>	<b>7,772.24</b>	<b>7,737.72</b>
<b>PRECEPT £7200</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Actual to date</b>
<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>

### Clerk's and finance notes.

#### Barclays Mandate change - signatories

The clerk contacted Barclays again to change bank mandate, to add Cllrs. Ron Powrie and Jean Wagner as signatories. Mandate brought to this meeting for details from Ron and Jean and authorisation signatures from chair and vice chair. Kate Winslow to be removed once Ron and Jean set up.

### 11. To consider planning applications

#### 11.1 Planning outcomes since last meeting (16 January 2024)

**3PL/2023/1080/LB WOLSTENHOLME** College Farm, College Road IP24 1QG. Proposed Addition of Shower room window, stable door and x2 ground floor windows to end shed of Cow Barn (073) **PERMISSION**

#### 11.2 Applications pending outcome

There were no applications pending outcome.

#### 11.3 New applications since last meeting (16 January 2024)

**3PL/2024/0051/O FLOAT** Land to rear of 1 Pockthorpe Lane IP24 1PN, Outline application with all matters reserved for proposed self-build chalet bungalow and demolition of existing garage. **REFUSED**

No new applications received after agenda finalised.

#### 11.4 Planning Enforcement. None.

### 12. To discuss any correspondence.

**Portrait of King Charles:** The offer of a free portrait to all Town and Parish Councils of King Charles was declined.

Signed .....

Date .....

**Upkeep of Lane to Thompson Retreat - as pertaining to Item 12 of the Reasons/conditions set out for application 3PL/2016/1421/F.** The Clerk had written to Amanda Benton and she confirmed she had made plans for the material to be delivered to site but with the weather being so wet this had been delayed until areas had dried out and the forecast ahead had a long period of clement weather. She would keep us posted on progress.

**Waylander magazine.** Amanda also said she had only recently received her first 2 copies of the Parish Magazine in 20 years ! She would like to pass on her utmost gratitude to the person who delivered the magazine.

**13. AOB - To receive items for the next agenda.**

**Obstruction.** Cllr. Powrie had been informed about a log on a grass verge that had prevented a resident mounting the verge opposite to get past a supermarket delivery van that was parked on the road. It is always difficult to ascertain who owns the verges. This was considered to be a temporary obstruction.

**Extra bins.** A resident with a holiday let had queried if they should be paying extra for extra bins. It was thought if you have/need extra bins you would have to pay for them.

**Dog poo.** Complaints have been received about the mounting number of dog poo bags collecting outside 1 Pockthorpe Lane. Cllr. Powrie said he knew someone that maybe able to help and he would mention it to them. **Post meeting note:** The dog litter on the Marlpit Road verge of 1 Pockthorpe Lane has been cleared up.

**WI.** It was noted that the WI had recently folded due to lack of committee members, should new members come forward in the near future, Thompson WI could restart.

**14. Date of next Meeting**

**Tuesday 21 May 2024 - Annual Parish Meeting** starting at the earlier time of 7.00pm in Thompson Community Hall. To be followed by **Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM)**

**The meeting closed at 20:40**

Signed .....

Date .....