

Thompson Parish Council (TPC)
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held in Thompson Community Hall on Tuesday 15 November 2022

Present:	Jean Kaye	Chair
	Duncan Gregory	Vice Chair
	Kate Winslow	
	Angus Welch	
	Kim Austin	Clerk

Also present: There were 6 members of the public present.

The meeting opened at 19:30.

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Wagner who had work commitments. Apologies were accepted.

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 20 September 2022

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Gregory proposed approval of the minutes and Cllr. Welch seconded the proposal. On a vote, this was carried unanimously and the minutes were signed by the Chair, Cllr. Jean Kaye.

4. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes (Tuesday 20 September 2022) not on the agenda.

There were no matters arising.

5. To adjourn the meeting for public participation, an opportunity for members of the public to raise any queries and concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:35. The chair decided to bring the planning section forward in order that members of the public attending could participate. (See item 12).

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

There were two drop-in sessions, both well attended. There will be a workshop in December aimed at a wider audience to discuss views. Project work going on in the background.

7. To discuss Thompson Community Hall as 'Warm Space for Winter'

Cllr. Kaye had applied for a 'Warm Space' grant of £2000 from Norfolk Community Foundation and had been successful. Very well done to Cllr. Kaye. Need to assess demand. Cllr. Cowen Mentioned the Communities Team at Breckland. They are very proactive and in 2020 were awarded £1 million to help vulnerable people, e.g. those affected by domestic abuse and also 'silver social' activities. Would be worth contacting them as they may see Thompson Community Hall as a 'good hub'. Contact is Sam Armitage for the Communities Team. Contact for silver socials is Alison Webb. Will also look at working with neighbouring villages.

8. To discuss Rural Mobility in Parishes, survey.

The Clerk had printed out a copy of the questionnaire. The councillors answered all the questions. The Clerk submitted the questionnaire online after the meeting.

9. To update on ROW/3227322 Public Inquiry, Norfolk County Council (Thompson, Pockthorpe Lane).

Signed

Date

The Public Inquiry started on Tuesday 15 November in Thompson Community Hall and would potentially last 3 days. The Planning Inspector spent some time setting the scene. The applicant and objectors put forward their statements of case. The applicant witness explained justification to regularise the pathway, including Pockthorpe Lane extending to Sparrow Hill. Legal advisers were present for NCC and the objectors. A document that had not previously been submitted, was put forward by a representative for a resident objecting to BOAT (Byway open to all traffic) very late in the afternoon! Time would be given for this late document to be read.

10. To receive reports

10.1 Breckland District Councillor (PC)

Nutrient Neutrality. A countrywide issue. Has been some progress. Mitigation strategy whereby positive guidance given to applicants. No level of commonality, need a consistent approach. Some applications have positive or no impact but still 700 houses held up. Not all new, but where there are conditions, the conditions are held up. Will fall behind in housing delivery. Opens the way for hostile developers.

New Local Plan - Call for Sites. List of potential sites for development produced but no assessments made as yet to determine viability. Communicated to the community.

Shaping the environment. A current consultation.

Autumn statement. Local government settlement figure needed. Putting the budget together. Inflation eating into costs, but not reducing services.

Schedule of Land Quality. Ensure that good agricultural land is not taken out of production.

10.2 Norfolk County Councillor (FE)

No report received from Cllr. Eagle.

10.3 Thompson Chair's report (JK)

Autumn Litter pick. Small amount of litter only due to vegetation still high.

Spring Litter Pick will be slightly earlier than normal - Saturday 25 February.

10.4 Community Hall report (KW)

Need more hall bookings. Not returned to pre-Covid levels yet and certainly not at a profit. There were 35 people at the Greek night. Need more volunteers to join in with the planning of events. Need to get a better idea of what people want and will attend. Electricity costs have increased from £2500 to £12000! So, need to find £1000 per month without paying for anything else. Need to increase regular bookings. Used for elections. Book Sale next Saturday. Tree lighting on 2 December.

10.5 The Millennium Green report (AW)

- Committee
 - Martin Hayman has formally resigned as chair of the Committee and Tinas Sales has taken over as chair
 - Tim and Amanda Cottage were appointed as new members of the Committee
- Finances
 - Lottery income collection ongoing
 - A successful Thompson 10k Run 2022 was held on 2 Oct
- Boundaries and Green
 - A litter bin has been erected onto the Green by the picnic area. Thanks to Geoff Winslow for arranging.
 - Over late autumn and winter periodic hedge laying will take place along Hallfield Road from the pond to the property at the western edge of the Green at no cost - funded by Defra under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.
- Play Equipment and Adult Exercise Area
 - A grant application has been submitted to the Lovell Blake fund. Successful applicants will be notified in December.
 - A Work Programme has been formulated to action points raised from the inspection in May 2022 and specifically to identify items that require specialist input and funding.
- Community Involvement

Signed

Date

- A Clean the Green working day was held on 25 September.
- **Next Working Party** will take place on TBC.
- **Next Committee Meeting** 29 Nov 2022

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

11. Finances

11.1 To agree Clerk's annual pay increase (April 2022-April 2023)

National Salary Awards 2022-2023 - Clerk's Annual pay rise.

National Salary Awards have now been agreed and published. Pay should be backdated to April 2022. Level **SCP18** was £13.21 per hour from 1/4/2021. New hourly rate from 1/4/2022 is £14.21. **£14.21** x 4 hours per week, x 52 weeks per year. Is £2955.68 / 12 months = **£246.31** per month. **Post meeting note:** Simpler Tax have confirmed this monthly figure and backdated pay to April 2022 of £121.66.

11.2 Financial position

The bank account balances at Tuesday 15 November 2022

Barclays Community Account	£	10877.20
Barclays Business Premium Account	£	1615.15
TOTAL as per bank	£	12492.35

Summary (Including monies allocated)

Allocated to Sports Equipment maintenance (TMG)	£	1746.00
Allocated to Notice Board	£	1084.30
Thompson Parish Council	£	9662.05
TOTAL as per bank	£	12492.35

11.3 Money in since last meeting (20 September 2022)

27/9/2022	Breckland Council - Precept payment 2 nd of 2	£	3300.00
	TOTAL IN	£	3300.00

11.4 Bank Reconciliation

Opening balance at bank, Current (Last meeting, 20 Sept 2022)	£	8035.06
Opening balance at bank, Savings (Last meeting, 20 Sept 2022)	£	1615.15 (Total £9650.21)
PLUS Money in since last meeting (as above)	£	3300.00
MINUS Money out since last meeting (Total cheques 20 Sept 2022)	£	457.86
Closing balances at bank (This meeting, 15 Nov. 2022, as above)	£	12492.35

11.5 Cheques out (to sign)

CHQ 786	TTSR TMG grass cutting etc. Inv. 2/2 2022 as Contract	£	639.00
CHQ 787	TTSR TCH grass cutting etc. Inv. 2/2 2022 as Contract	£	193.42
CHQ 788	LCN.COM Website hosting 2 years - Reimburse Clerk	£	196.74
CHQ 789	Clerks Wages - Oct 2022 M7	£	228.93
	TOTAL OUT	£	1258.09

THOMPSON PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS				INCOME						
				YEAR ENDED 31 March 2023						
Date	From	Description		PRECEPT	SAVER AC INTEREST	RECYCLING GLASS & PAPER	GRANTS ETC	VAT	MISC	TOTAL
07/04/2022	Breckland Council	Precept 1 of 2	DIR	3,300.00						3,300.00
26/04/2022	HMRC	Vat annual refund	DIR					415.87		415.87
07/07/2022	Breckland Council	Glass recycling payment	DIR			185.49				185.49
05/09/2022	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		0.50					0.50
27/09/2022	Breckland Council	Precept 2 of 2	DIR	3,300.00						3,300.00
				6,600.00	0.50	185.49	0.00	415.87	0.00	7,201.86
									CHECK	7,201.86

Signed

Date

THOMPSON PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2022 - 2023

EXPENDITURE

YEAR ENDED 31 March 2023

Date	From	To	Description	CHQ	CLERKS WAGES	POSTAGE SERVICES	PAYROLL EXPENSES	COUNCIL TRAINING	HALL HIRE	PRINTER	INSURANCE	AUDIT	DONATIONS	SUBS	GRASS CUTTING Etc.	WEB SITE	MISC	CAPITAL	VAT	TOTAL	
17/05/2022			Instaprint		775												84.36			84.36	
17/05/2022			Kim Austin		776	333.99														333.99	
17/05/2022			Kim Austin		777	228.93														228.93	
17/05/2022			Info Commissioner		778									40.00						40.00	
29/04/2022			TTSR Limited		779										693.68			138.74		832.42	
17/05/2022			Sally Foreman - Plan		780						30.00									30.00	
17/05/2022			Kim Austin		781	228.93														228.93	
10/06/2022			Bus. Services at CA		782						207.48									207.48	
19/07/2022			Kim Austin		783	228.93														228.93	
19/07/2022			Kim Austin		784	228.93														228.93	
20/09/2022			Kim Austin		785	457.86														457.86	
31/10/2022			TTSR Limited		786										532.50			106.50		639.00	
31/10/2022			TTSR Limited		787										161.18			32.24		193.42	
28/10/2022			LCN.COM		788											163.95			32.79	196.74	
15/44/2022			Kim Austin		789	228.93														228.93	
						1,936.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	207.48	30.00	0.00	40.00	1,387.36	163.95	84.36	0.00	310.27	4,159.92

£4159.92

11.6 Budget Vs Actuals

Thompson Parish Council Budget Vs Actual 2022/2023				
AT 15/11/2022				
	Budget	Forecast	Actual to date	
	2022/2023	2022/2023	2022/2023	
INCOME				
Precept	6,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00	
Recycling	120.00	120.00	185.49	
Interest (Barclays Saver)	0.20	0.20	0.50	
Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	
VAT	400.00	400.00	415.87	
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total	7,120.20	7,120.20	7,201.86	
EXPENDITURE				
Staff Costs including PAYE	2,852.22	2,852.22	1,936.50	
Payroll services	72.00	72.00	0.00	
Internal audit fee	30.00	30.00	30.00	
Postage	15.00	15.00	0.00	
Insurance	250.00	250.00	207.48	
Grass cutting	1,387.35	1,387.35	1,387.36	
Training	100.00	100.00	0.00	
Printer/consumables	50.00	50.00	0.00	
Website	70.00	70.00	163.95	INCREASE
Capital	70.00	70.00	0.00	
Defibrillator	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Miscellaneous/Contingency	200.00	200.00	84.36	
Donation - St. Martin's Church	500.00	500.00	0.00	
Donation - Wayland Partnership	300.00	300.00	0.00	
Donation - Thompson Community H	300.00	300.00	0.00	
Donation - Thompson Millenium Gre	500.00	500.00	0.00	
Subs - Norfolk ALC	117.45	117.45	0.00	
Subs - Community Action Norfolk	50.00	50.00	0.00	
Subs - Info Comm Registration	40.00	40.00	40.00	
VAT	300.00	300.00	310.27	
Total	7,204.02	7,204.02	4,159.92	
PRECEPT £6600	Budget	Forecast	Actual to date	
2022/2023	2022/2023	2022/2023	2022/2023	

Signed

Date

Finance Notes/Clerks Notes:

LCN Renewal

LCN hosting of the parish website thompsonvillage.org.uk expired on 31 October 2022 after 2 years. The Clerk failed miserably in her mission to renew at last year's price of £77.96 and has had to renew at £163.95 as quoted. No special rates for Parish Councils this year. As agreed at the last meeting, the Clerk renewed using her credit card and has been reimbursed with cheque 788.

Precept setting. Thompson Precept needs to be agreed at the January meeting. Forms need to be completed, signed, and returned to Breckland by 31 January 2023. In the interim, the Clerk will prepare budget projections and circulate to all councillors.

Extra Bank Holiday to mark the King's coronation.

The government has announced that an extra bank holiday will take place two days after the coronation ceremony on Saturday 6 May. It will therefore fall on Monday 8 May 2023, which is in addition to the Bank Holiday already scheduled for Monday 1 May.

Local Council elections 2023.

The local elections will take place on Thursday 4 May 2023. Bearing in mind that there will now be a bank holiday on 8 May, new councillors will take office a day later on Tuesday 9 May. The Annual meeting of the Parish Council (AGM) needs to be held from Tuesday 9 May and Tuesday 23 May inclusive. Fortunately, Thompson's May meeting is scheduled for 16 May.

12. To consider planning applications

12.1 Planning outcomes since last meeting (20 September 2022)

There were no planning outcomes since the last meeting.

12.2 Applications pending outcome

3PL/2022/0098/F GORAM/Dersingham House/Stornaway/Chalet bungalow/Waste plant (050).

3PL/2022/0634/O LAND GROUP BRECKLAND - AMENDMENT/Tom's Haven, Tottington Road/2 x 2-bedroom houses. (052,053). To be called in. Environmental report submitted and decision date put back. Unanimous decision that the environmental report is immaterial, makes no difference and all submitted objections still stand.

Cllr. Phil Cowen agreed and confirmed there was no more information regards date for this application to be called in. Countrywide delays are caused by the issue of nutrient neutrality. Particularly in the Wensum Valley and the Broads in Breckland. This relates to all applications for overnight accommodation. Huge problem. Reserved matters, sign off being held up. Cllr. Cowen agreed there was no need to change the PC's previous objections. There was unanimous agreement.

12.3 New applications since last meeting (20 September 2022)

3PL/2022/1115/F JONES/Land southwest of The Thistle, and Land west of dwelling under construction off Marlpit Road IP24 1PR/Change of use of land from agricultural to residential and erection of ground installed 30no. solar panels. (055/056)

There was much discussion with participation from those neighbours, adversely impacted by the application.

- New application not part of original curtilage given PP, therefore must be treated completely separately
- Agricultural to residential means application is now in open countryside. Change of use should be denied.
- Outside settlement boundary, completely.
- Intrusion into open country spoiling views. The fence is larger than the original application, different and looks very permanent.
- Roof space and ideal orientation exists on new build to accommodate roof panels and therefore using open countryside to facilitate what could be done on existing building is against the zeitgeist of current UK thinking
- Unacceptable impact on neighbours.

Signed

Date

- 30no panels is excessive for a single domestic dwelling. Possibly sneaky way to get change of use and precursor to application for another property.
- Support Mr and Mrs Atkinson's objections, already circulated to councillors.

The occupiers of the neighbouring properties reported that although they had sent comments to Breckland Planning, they had not been posted on the website and therefore not publicly available to view. It was agreed the deadline for comments should be extended until all comments were available to view online. The Parish Council unanimously agreed they should review the residents' comments before commenting themselves. Also, problem with letters from Breckland to neighbours not being received.

Post meeting note: It would appear the delay may have been caused by comments being sent to the case officer directly and not to admin at Breckland Planning. The case officer agreed to extend the deadline from 16 December to 18 December.

The Parish Council would submit their comments by the deadline of 18 November. There was a unanimous decision to object to this application.

3PL/2022/1167/F PARROTT/Land off Hallfield Road IP24 1PT/Retrospective application for the retention of one timber cabin (to be used as a holiday let). (057)

The Parish Council had no objection to just one hut, but shared concerns about potential for expansion. Other points that were discussed are summarised:

- Hallfield Road is single track and a proposed entrance for more traffic opposite the primary school with very congested and busy pick and drop off times for small children is not a safe and secure option. This proposal exacerbates a known danger spot for the most vulnerable
- The proposal of this being a holiday let intimates a restricted number of occupancy days, vehicles on site and persons being accommodated. These should be defined and stated as part of the application
- Outside the settlement boundary
- In the open countryside
- Method of disposal of waste is not detailed enough

The Parish Council would submit their comments by the deadline of 18 November. It was agreed they had no objection to one hut but had some concerns relating to future plans for the site and needed more information on various points.

13. To discuss any correspondence.

The Clerk had received a letter of resignation from Cllr. John Newnham which she read out. I am coming up to 80 in the early new year (and Alison will be 78 at the same time) and therefore we are having to reorganise our priorities. From my point I have to give notice of my termination of being a Council member of the Thompson Parish Council with immediate effect. I do hope that I can be of help to the village by way of the Millennium Green working party, litter picking and the Thompson Run in the future. I take this opportunity to wish the members well in the future - Cllr. John Newnham.

John was thanked for his time on the Council and his resignation accepted.

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

Flower tubs. Cllr. Winslow asked if Linda May could be reimbursed for expenses for looking after 2 flower tubs in the village. All councillors were in agreement.

Xmas Tree. Eight-foot Christmas tree needed. Duncan may have a small trailer that can be used to collect it. All councillors agreed to the Parish Council donating the tree.

Barn Corner. Cllr. Gregory said Barn corner was a problem. A lorry has just taken out the bollards that were put in. Highways have been notified. Cllr. Kaye agreed to write in support of Cllr. Gregory's letter and would copy in Cllr. Phil Cowen and Cllr. Fabian Eagle.

15. Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 17 January 2023 starting at 7.30pm in Thompson Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.16

Signed

Date