

THORNHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council held on 20th July 2020 at 10b Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh

PRESENT

Chris Smith (Chairman)
Louise Molesworth (Vice Chairman)
Ashleigh Kewney
Martin Lewis
Adrian Rodgers

The Chairman opened the meeting by confirming that Members of the Public have not been invited to join the meeting to ensure safety for all involved during the continued Covid 19 crisis. Residents have been asked to pre-submit any issues they wish discussed at the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Ashleigh Kewney declared an interest in 7 ix) Planning Application 20/00691 as it is his property.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

The Members of the Public had the following issues to raise:

- Hedges and Grass Verges – this question was raised at the last meeting by Alan Frost/Joan Devaney and a response has been received and sent to Alan and Joan. Peterborough City Council has confirmed that Aragon are now the sub-contractor to PCC and that the grass verges are cut four times per year and only the hedge from the A1 to the first corner of Russell Hill is maintained by them. All other hedgerows should be maintained by residents. The Chairman has asked for further information on what conservation guidance they follow in terms of the grass cutting for preservation of wildflowers and hedge cutting or wildlife.
- Footpaths on Meadow Lane and Russell Hill – Lee Moore, the Footpaths Officer has been out to look at the footpath at the end of Meadow Lane and the one from Russell Hill to the A47 (both across Sharpley's land). A very positive response from Lee Moore to the initial enquiry. The builder has made some attempt to rectify the one at the end of Meadow Lane but it is still very muddy in wet weather. No remedial action has been taken on the other path. Lee Moore hopes to make a visit w/c 27th July 2020.
- Footpath on the Chicken Farm – Martin Witherington had passed on the good news that Peterborough City Council are publishing the Footpath Order towards the end of July 2020. This Order will declare Lime Tree Avenue as a public footpath. A statutory consultation period follows where objections can be registered. If an objection is raised, the matter then goes to a hearing which can be paper based or a more formal public hearing. Martin and Lindsey Freeman had met on site with the Footpaths Officer and PCC's consultant. They had also held prior discussions with the farm owners.
- The Clerk had received a telephone message about speeding in the village and it was agreed to remind residents of the correct speeds within the village.

4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present. Apparently there had been break-ins in a couple of sheds and outbuildings. Residents are reminded to be vigilant at all times.

5. **MINUTES** of the Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council held on 16th March 2020 were reviewed, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by:- Louise Molesworth

Seconded by:- Chris Smith

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

i) **Defibrillator**

The Chairman reported that she had been in contact with Rev J Tailby who apologised that she has not yet submitted the paperwork to the Diocese Committee but she will do this as soon as she can. The Chairman will continue to press for a decision.

ii) **Thornhaugh Heritage Project**

Martin Lewis will be arranging a meeting for interested residents when Government Guidelines allow such meetings to take place.

iii) **Augean Community Fund**

The Chairman stated that as there are not sufficient potential projects to total the required £5,000 minimum for a grant, no application will be made at present.

iv) **Diverted Traffic through Thornhaugh**

The Chairman reported that the Police deny all knowledge of the diversion. A request has been made that Thornhaugh is never used as an official diversion in the event of incidents on the A47 or A1. There is no way of stopping drivers using the cut-through generally.

v) **Coronavirus**

The Chairman reported that residents had supported each other in many ways during the lock-down. Some residents have had the 'gift of time' which they had used to refurbish the noticeboard, information board and the telephone box. Thanks were expressed to those people who have continued to work during the lock-down both in the front line and to keep the economy afloat. It was agreed to re-open the Book Exchange in line with guidance for libraries. Louise Molesworth has agreed to source a hand sanitiser.

vi) **Complaint about Bird Scarers**

This was addressed at the time with Peter Sharpley and rectified. Louise Molesworth reported that she had heard more bird scarers recently but it is believed that they are at Sacrewell Farm.

vii) **Drains in Meadow Lane**

There has been a major issue with the drain at the junction of Russell Hill and Meadow Lane for some time. This has now been resolved by Peterborough City Council

viii) **Light Pollution**

This issue has been referred to the Pollution Office at Peterborough City Council. No reply has been received to date. This issue has been chased up twice.

ix) **Footpath to/from Home Farm Adjacent to the Chicken Farm**

This has already been discussed under Public Forum

7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- i) Planning Applications 19/01795 & 19/01796 (LBC) Change of use of ground floor to A3 (Restaurant). first floor to C1 (Residential Guest Accommodation). The conversion and change of use of vacant stable building to A1 (Shops) and minor alterations to the stable courtyard buildings. Change 2 windows to doors (reinstatement on west elevation of Farmhouse and east elevation of stables west range) at Sacrewell Farm & Country Centre, Great North Road, Thornhaugh – Permitted
- ii) Planning Application 20/00040 Replacement of 4 existing front and 3 existing rear windows and 1 Set of French Doors at Apple Acre Cottage, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision
- iii) Planning Application 20/00277 Removal of large single Conifer at back of house due to concerns of damaging house in high winds at St Medard House, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision
- iv) Planning Application 19/01889 Change of use from an agricultural field and woodland to form an adventure play scheme including erection of indoor play and visitor amenity barn, a supporting toilet and changing block, staff welfare facilities, outdoor play equipment and car park at Land off Sutton Heath Road, Southorpe – Awaiting Decision

- v) Planning Application 20/00352 Internal alterations to create first floor bathroom and access created to void above kitchen to form bedroom, inclusive of modern ceiling to existing kitchen to be lowered. Externally visible alterations include installation of 2no. roof lights to north roof serving both new bathroom and new bedroom above kitchen and replacement of plastic window to north ground floor with flush fitting timber window at Croft Farm, Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh – Permitted
- vi) Planning Application 20/00415 T.1 Walnut Crown reduction by approximately 30% and removal of dead wood at 7 Meadow Lane, Thornhaugh – Permitted
- vii) Planning Application 20/00383 T.1 Scots Pine Fell at 15 Russell Hill, Thornhaugh – Permitted
- viii) Planning Application 20/0532 Cut back over-hanging Walnut tree from neighbouring property – Withdrawn
- ix) Planning Application 20/00691 Discharge of conditions C1 (3 years), C3 (Stoneworks), C4 (Written scheme), C5 (Ventilation gap), C6 (Timber Permission), C7 (Ventilation details), C8 (Building regulations) and C11 (Plans) of Listed Building Consent 18/01779/LBC at The Old Dairy, Home Farm, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision. No Objections
- x) Planning Application 20/00733 Erection of new play area within existing leisure site at Sacrewell Farm, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision. No Objections
- xi) Planning Application 20/00395 Driveway and garage adjacent to 16 Meadow Lane – Refused
- xii) Planning Application 20/00388 One dwelling at 16 Meadow Lane – Awaiting Decision

8. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no further correspondence that had not already been circulated.

9. FINANCE

- i) **Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 30th June 2020** was reviewed and approved as presented.
Proposed by:- Louise Molesworth **Seconded by:-** Chris Smith
- ii) **Bank Signatories**
It was agreed that the Chairman, Louise Molesworth and Adrian Rodgers will be the signatories to the bank accounts. The Clerk will find out how Adrian Rodgers can access the bank accounts on-line.
- iii) **Financial Procedures Document**
This has been pre-circulated. Version 0.2 incorporates comments from Adrian Rodgers.
- iv) **Internal Audit and Annual Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2020**
Karen Jones has completed the Internal Audit. The Chairman and the Clerk will sign the forms and then they will be put on the Website.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i) **State of Grass Verges**
This is a particular problem for Russell Hill and Meadow Lane because of the volume of construction work over the last 18 months but is also a problem with the increasing size of farm vehicles and delivery/collection lorries. Representations have been made to ask that more care is taken and that remedial action is taken if damage is caused. The owner of the building plot adjacent to 16 Meadow Lane has written to the residents of Meadow Lane explaining his building project and trying to keep people in the loop with major deliveries. He has asked people to ensure that they do not go on the site because of health and safety issues but, if anyone wants a tour, he is more than happy to show them round.
- ii) **Community Project**
Tracey Parker started the initiative by weeding and planting the triangle at the junction of Meadow Lane and Russell Hill. There are now sunflowers and other plants growing and previously forgotten cobble paving has been uncovered. Tracey was joined by Lee Ward, Penny Lewin-Watts and the Chairman as they expanded Tracey's initial efforts into the refurbishment of the 'village furniture' resulting in the refurbished lectern, noticeboard, bench and Telephone Box. This was a great initiative by Tracey and a great result. The Chairman will put an article in Living Villages to recognise the community effort. Thanks were expressed to

Penny Lewin-Watts who paid for the splendid new signs for the telephone box and the Chairman who paid for the paint. The net result is a small cost of around £28.00 to the Parish Council.

iii) **Drone Flying**

A letter was sent to the resident responsible for flying a drone over the gardens in the village explaining that this was neither acceptable nor legal. This problem has now been resolved.

iv) **Footpaths**

Ashley Kewney will see if there is anywhere to put a flower tub at Home Farm.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Next Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council will take place **at 7.00 pm on 21st September 2020**. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting.

12. **CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

SIGNED

Chairman

DATE

21/09/20