

# THORNHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Thornhaugh Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022 in St Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh

### PRESENT

Chris Smith (Chairman)  
Yana Clipsham  
Neil Croft-Taylor  
Louise Molesworth

### IN ATTENDANCE

Lindsay Freeman, Mike Kealey, Martin Witherington (Members of the Public)  
Deirdre McCumiskey, Clerk to the Council

The original Agenda was adjusted to include a discussion relating to a Home Farm Village Green under AOB. Martin Witherington and Mike Kealey will explain the current situation and funding request under item 10 (ii).

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Camilla Plumb and PCC Ward Councillor Gavin Elsey.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest. A reminder that we should be vigilant about strangers in the village and cold callers.

### 3. PUBLIC FORUM

The members of the public present did not have any issues to raise.

### 4. POLICE MATTERS

There were no police representatives present.

5. MINUTES of the meeting of the Thornhaugh Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were reviewed and approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Proposed by:-** Yana Clipsham

**Seconded by:-** Louise Molesworth

### 6. MATTERS ARISING

#### i) Highways Issues

The Chairman gave an update on the following highways issues:-

- She had written to Highways England regarding the potholes at the entrance from the A1, had asked why the layby cannot be closed and asked why the road markings have been renewed for a defunct bus stop. Sean Sharp, Highways England has confirmed that the potholes need to be repaired by Peterborough City

Council and has raised this as an action. He is also asking the A1 Project Manager why the lines have been reinstated for the defunct bus stop and whether the grass buffer on the left-hand side of the exit can be removed. She is awaiting an answer

- 'She raised the issue of blocked drains again with PCC on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022. PCC has confirmed that the drains have been cleared and those in Meadow Lane have. Louise Molesworth said that the drains in Russell Hill have not been dealt with to date. The Chairman will raise this again with PCC.

ii) **Defibrillator Training**

Louise Molesworth has not had the time to arrange the Defibrillator Training. This will be looked at in the New Year.

iii) **Website Update**

The Chairman, Neil Croft-Taylor and the Clerk had had a productive meeting with Jay Allsopp who had taken on board what the Parish Council wishes to do. Neil Croft-Taylor agreed to take some photos of the village for Jay Allsopp to use on the website. Jay Allsopp had produced a draft website and had confirmed his quotation of £500.

iv) **Flagpole**

An approach had been made to St Andrew's PCC to see if its members wish to have a flagpole in the churchyard and it has been confirmed they do. The Clerk will obtain a quotation for the costs to remove, refurb and erect the flagpole which has been kindly donated by Yvonne Birch of the Old Post Office.

v) **Social Events**

The Christmas Tree/Carol Singing event will take place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (not Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 as initially mentioned). Nicky Rogers has completed the publicity and will distribute it to the residents. She has once again, donated the cost of the Christmas Tree from the Bill Rogers' Memorial Fund. The Christmas Tree is being delivered on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022. The Chairman has purchased the minced pies and the mulled wine for the event.

vi) **Village Sign**

Glyn Mould had provided a quotation of £935 to undertake this work and it was agreed by all present to go ahead with this as the sign is now 10 years old and has deteriorated over the past few years. It is hoped that this work will be completed before King Charles III's Coronation.

7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- i) Planning Application 22/01492/FUL -Change of use of land within the existing farmyard to Use Class B8 (storage and distribution) and change of use of existing agricultural buildings to Use Class E(g) (office, research and light industry) - Retrospective at Manor Farm, Russell Hill, Thornhaugh. Awaiting Decision. The Parish Council has submitted No Objections subject to this not extending the village envelope and not being granted permitted development rights.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- i) Daniel Warley, PCC - Consultation for the Local List Project

9. **FINANCE**

- i) Statement and Bank Reconciliations 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 was reviewed and approved as presented.  
**Proposed by:-** Louise Molesworth      **Seconded by:-** Chris Smith

- ii) **Barclays' Mandate Change**  
The Parish Councillors present signed the Change of Mandate Form. The Chairman will ask Camilla Plumb to sign it before posting it off to Barclays'.

## 10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### i) **Meeting Dates in 2023**

Dates of Meetings in 2023 – 16<sup>th</sup> Jan, 20<sup>th</sup> Mar, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 17<sup>th</sup> Jul, 18<sup>th</sup> Sept and 20<sup>th</sup> Nov – these were agreed. The Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual General Meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

### ii) **Home Farm Village Green**

Martin Witherington stated that he wanted to update the Parish Councillors on the acquisition of the Green, the lane and a further strip of land to the east of both, referred to as the verge. The objective was to save this land for all the residents of Home Farm and enhance the approach into the hamlet by a post and rail fence along with a new boundary backed by a new hedge. The existing ten old apple trees, the remnant of the original orchard would be retained within the wider grass verge that would result.

- **Progress and Current Situation** – the former landowners of the whole area had agreed to Martin Witherington's request for part of the land (the area to be designated as the Green) to be passed to him. On 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022, the green was gifted to him for the benefit of the community. He paid the legal costs of £1,004.80.
- **GrantScape's Position** – an application seeking grant support for the works is proposed through the Augean Community Fund and Martin Witherington has had discussions with the Director of Grants at GrantScape (the organisation which approves grant applications).
- **Owner's Position** – Mike Kealey, who has lived at Home Farm for seven years, has purchased the field which was overgrown and in a poor condition. He has begun to tidy it up and he intends to grass it. He plans to install two wooden gated accesses to the field and to make the road wide enough for two cars to pass by each other on two passing areas.
- **Home Farm Residents' Position** – Home Farm residents have all received a newsletter setting out the proposals and are fully supportive of the plan to maintain the hamlet's own Green and hedges.
- **Current Position** – Martin is asking the Parish Council to agree to making an application seeking grant support from GrantScape (as only organisations, not individuals, are allowed to do this). A Third-Party Contribution is also required. The deadline for applications was 16<sup>th</sup> November (but has been moved to 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 to allow the Parish Council the chance to discuss it at the Parish Council Meeting)

The Parish Council asked Martin Witherington and Mike Kealey many questions about the project. Lindsay Freeman was extremely helpful in explaining GrantScape's expectations (she is a member of the Augean Community Fund).

It was agreed that the Parish Council would make the required Third-Party Contribution (approximately £1,700). The Chairman asked Martin Witherington to complete a draft submission as he is closest to the technical details of the project. The Chairman and Neil Croft-Taylor would check the application form once Martin Witherington has completed it. However, time is very tight and although best efforts will be made, in the event the application may have to wait until the May 2023 deadline, it being better to ensure that we do the best application possible, rather than the quickest.

The Chairman thanked Martin Witherington not only for his efforts relating to the grant application, but also doing a mountain of work to enable the residents of Home Farm, plus of course the wider village and the general public, to enjoy a Village Green, with benches to rest weary legs when walking the footpaths.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of Thornhaugh Parish Council will take place **at 7.00 pm on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 in St Andrew's Church.**

**11. CLOSURE**

There being no further business to discuss, **the Chairman** closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

**SIGNED**

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**Chairman**

**DATE**

**16/01/23**

**ACTION POINTS**

<b>Highway Issues</b>	Chris Smith
<b>Defibrillator Training</b>	Louise Molesworth
<b>Flagpole</b>	Deirdre McCumiskey
<b>Christmas Tree</b>	Chris Smith Neil Croft-Taylor
<b>Home Farm Village Green</b>	Chris Smith Neil Croft-Taylor Deirdre McCumiskey