

THIS IS A SUMMARY ONLY AND HAS NOT BEEN PASSED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

Ref: 2016/17-4

MINUTES OF THORPE LE SOKEN PARISH COUNCILS MEETING HELD MONDAY 11TH JULY 2016 7.00 PM AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH SCHOOLROOM.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Land Chairman, Powell Vice-Chairman, Blandford, Carpenter, Ewart, Fielder, Raftery, Roe, Cty Cllr Andrew Erskine, Roger Hawes Tree Warden and 3 members of public.

Apologies: Cllr Rich

Confirmation of Minutes: Minutes of the June meeting having previously being circulated were agreed as a True Record and signed by The Chairman.

Declaration of Members Interest: There were none

Public Participation:

Hazel Cannons expressed concern regarding the Parish Councils decision not to object against application 16/00838 for outline planning for construction of up to 49 houses together with Access Roads etc., Land to the South of Frinton Road. Hazel said she was of the opinion and understanding that Councillors were on the Parish Council to represent the Village and not to just give their personal views.

Cllr Ewart said he was one of the Councillor's who had no objection to the application and gave his reasons why. When a Public Consultation was arranged at The Lifehouse for all interested parties to attend, there was approximately a dozen people who attended and for that reason it was assumed that residents were no longer anti and against the application. Hazel became enraged and said that the event was not advertised enough which meant that not everybody knew about it - to which Cllr Ewart replied that The Parish Council Chairman put a piece in the village magazine and sent e-mails to all interested parties who had an e-mail address. Around 10,000 properties have got to be built around the Tendring District over the next 10 years, therefore, we have to recognise that Thorpe will get a fair level of that figure.

Cllr Carpenter said E.C.C. have not recognised any problems with the application and as there are no legal grounds for opposing it she felt that there was no reason to object. This comment was reiterated by Cllr Blandford.

Cllr Raftery said we have to accept change and that we need more new houses.

PAT BODIN: *Did the County Council not consider that a parking congestion was a big enough and a reason for opposing the application. Pat said she feared that a parking ban would eventually be introduced in the High Street to alleviate the problem of congestion. Cty Cllr Erskine said he felt this would never happen, from E.C.C. prospective they would not want to remove all parking in the High Street, it would only increase the speed of the traffic. All monitoring and enforcing of Public Parking Restrictions are carried out by the National Parking Partnership in Colchester and Cllr Nick Turner is the person to contact to enquire if parking bays would be permitted with a possible 2 hours parking for people who wished to shop with no return within 4 hours.*

The Chairman said he felt confident that the objections previously given by The Parish Council were withstanding and said the most important ones were that this application was partly in the conservation area, outside the settlement development boundary and bordering the Historic Parks & Gardens of Thorpe Hall.

Chairman's Report:

- *Now for more positive news: Recently Cllr Erskine arranged a visit for the Chairman to meet with Eddie Johnson, Cabinet Member for Highways & Transportation and they were both pleasantly surprised by the outcome. Results of a surface water drainage survey carried out in December 2015 in Thorpe clearly shows that all the drains are pretty much knackered (worn out). To start with and allocation of £250,000 has been granted to look at the most pressing problem areas. Focus will be on system 2 Comarques, High Street including Coolmoore Lodge and System 3 Garage forecourt, Surgery & Bowling Green, High Street*

Good news usually comes with a problem and that is that it will take approximately 17 days of work and there will be massive upheaval, it has got to be a significant Dig for the work to be done properly and the counter-productive side is that there will be no highway repairs until the work has been completed.

SPECIAL THANKS WERE PAID TO ANDY ERSKINE FOR HIS DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT IN HELPING WITH THE ABOVE.

Drainage Scheme – Playing Field: *Work has now been completed and the invoice will be presented for payment this evening. The Invoice for £2450.00 will be reimbursed from TDC from the Section 106 money which is raised from development in the village.*

Golden Lane: *The entire length of Golden Lane will be closed 18th July for approx. 10 days. Alternative route will be via Landermere Road, High Street, Colchester Road and Vice- Versa.*

Summer Dance: Special thanks were paid to Peter Harrison for another successful Summer Dance. The evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

Monthly Update: For more in depth information please refer to July Monthly update.

Correspondenc/e.mails:

A & J Lighting re LED lights: Clerk has spoken to Andy A & J Lighting and he confirmed that the cost of a LED unit was £120.00 and this would include rewiring to bypass the control and to operate the LED Lamp.

Should the Parish Council wish for all of the 75 lights to be converted the price can be reduced to £94.00. **There are 2 existing lights that have been replaced with LED units and they are in Palmerston Road and Abbey Crescent. Please go and have a look.**

As the Finance Committee put money aside in the 2015/16 & 2016/17 precept to replace the existing units to LED Cllr Fielder proposed that the Parish Council replaced half now and the other half at a later date. I have today 12th July spoken to Andy and to replace a quantity of lights in one hit some arrangement could be made to reduce the unit price. (all prices are fully inclusive of materials, labour and access equipment but are subject to VAT)

Cressing Parish Council have experienced issues in relation to the results of Essex Highways Speed Surveys since the results are based on average speeds. They would like to know if there is any PC that would be willing to get together to try to encourage Highways to change the way they look at Speed Survey Results. **LETTER**

ECC – Winter Salt Bag Partnership Scheme. LETTER TO MARK COUSSENS.

New Planning Applications:

16/00833/FUL, 16/00872/FUL, No objection 16/00938 & 00965 Leave to decision of TPO

16/00529/FUL Erection of 3 det. Dwellings with associated garaging & ancillary works, Black Tiles, High Street. This is a reduced scheme with 2 entrances off High Street and One into Vicarage Lane. No objection

16/00991/FUL Variation of condition 2 of approved planning application 10/00563/FUL to allow use of marquee for 12 functions per year between April & October, Springfield No ob

The following cheques were approved for signature by all councillors who attended the July meeting.

Cheques: 00253 - 2621 inclusive = £4953.43 **Standing Orders:** £605.60

Current A/C: £19461.04 as at 26/5/16 **Business A/C:** £30376.03 as at 9/5/16

Tree Warden's Report: Report given by Roger Hawes: Essex Botanical have carried out an inspection of First Green and have noticed a good amount of Rare Grass on it. This is the only siting of that particular grass within Tendring.

Roger was asked when work could commence on the Green? Once the fledglings have left their nests, possibly next month.

County Councillor's Report: Cllr Erskine gave various reports throughout the meeting but did say that the works proposed for Walton Road/Kents Hill have now been removed from the work schedule and has been re-programmed for 2017/18

LED Lights: Refer to discussion under correspondence

Sub-Committee reports:

Highways & Pavements: Nothing to report

Lockyers Wood: Nothing to report

Parish Footpaths: Cllr Fielder said he had contacted Sarah Potter and a work gang should have come out last week but as far as he is aware nobody came. As footpath 15 had overgrown and nothing was being done by The Lifehouse Matt went out and cut it himself. Footpath 14 is also bad and is looking the worst it ever has. Again Matt will try to cut it. These are two very well used footpaths and with the weather we have been experiencing of late they are needing to be cut more frequently. As Cllr Fielder is on holiday this week he is hoping to meet with Sarah Potter.

The Spennells Fly tipping of residents grass cuttings. The area will be regularly monitored. It was reported that the end of Palmerston Road also needs attention. This area will also be inspected.

Playing Field: Play Equipment Inspection has been carried out and there has been no major problems reported. Danny Kimble will be asked to look to look at the report and do any minor repairs.

Street Lighting: Unit 9043 in Abbey Crescent has been replaced with an LED Light. Light between Nanny Jo,s and Elm Farm remains on 24 hours. Memorial Lamp facing Frinton Road is out. **Clerk has today 12th July spoken to Andy – all repair work will be carried out tomorrow.**

TDALC: Nothing to report. Next meeting is to be held **Wednesday 25th July**

Thorpe in Bloom: After one or two discrepancies the baskets are now up with the exception of the ones for Archways as the brackets have not been put up yet. Parkers have been told to leave the baskets on the property for the owner's attention. Clerk waiting to hear from Cllr Carpenter re sending invoices out. A lot of people have commented and said that the baskets are not as good as in previous years, they are a lot smaller, certainly not up to the standard of previous year and not worth the money. LETTER

Transport: Cllr Roe said he had returned a recent survey and has now got a bus timetable of all buses within Essex.

Village Greens: Apart from the reported wild grass noticed on the Green there is nothing further to report.

White Line Marker: Chairman asked if he had ordered the white line marker and he replied not yet.

Items for consideration at next meeting: Cllr Carpenter said she had been asked by a work college at TTC to enquire if the Parish Council knew of anybody who would like an allotment as they would like to tidy up the green space to the rear of the college.

Hazel Cannons, member of public said what they should do is to move the Tennis Courts to the rear then make the Tennis Courts into a car-park, this would help solve a lot of the parking problems.

Close of meeting: There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Date/Time/Venue of next meeting: Monday 8th August 2016 – 7 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom.

PLEASE NOTE: Permission was given by all councillors at the July meeting for the September meeting to be held on MONDAY 19TH (Cllr Ewart gave his apologies as he will be on holiday)

DATE TO REMEMBER:

Village Fete is to be held on Saturday 20th August at The Lady Nelson Playing Field.

Post:

12th July: Nancy Powell-Davies, Maurice Howard, RCCE, Scottish Power, Danny Kimble, P. J. Smith, Sid Hutchby, GCS Alarms Ltd., TDC Planning Views. Kirsty Childs TDC -Invoice