

**THORPE-LE-SOKEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Meeting held Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

**7.00 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: Land Chairman, Powell Vice Chairman, Blandford, Ewart, Roe, Cty Cllr Andrew Erskine, Roger Hawes Tree Warden & 8 Members of Public.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs: Carpenter, Fielder, Raftery, Rich.

**Confirmation of Minutes:** Minutes of the November 2016 meeting, having previously been circulated, were agreed as a True Record and Signed by The Chairman after amendments were made.

**Vacancy for Parish Councillor:** In November Tina Starling sent in a brief summary of her interests & why she would like to become a Councillor for Thorpe le Soken. As Tina sat in at the November meeting and has had a month to think about if she would still like to become a Councillor for Thorpe, The Chairman asked her what her decision was to which she replied Yes she would like to become a councillor. A vote was recorded, Cllr Land Proposed that Tina be accepted onto The Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Ewart with all the remaining Councillors at this evenings meeting being in favour of offering Tina co-option onto the Parish Council to which she accepted. After the Chairman gave a formal introduction/explanation of what is required by a person who becomes a Councillor, Tina duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance and was welcomed as a Councillor onto The Thorpe Parish Council.

**Declaration of Members Interest:** Tina Starling re planning application for her property in Station Road.

**Public Participation:** Alan Newman asked if there was any update on **Paradise and Barnards Alley's** as he was becoming increasingly concerned that names of existing roads/areas would be renamed and all the heritage of Thorpe would be erased. The Chairman said, "at the moment there is a lot going on in Paradise Alley as they are trying to resolve the flooding" A further concern was that the Forbourns site would be renamed.

**Chairman's Report: Development update:** The Chairman said without a doubt this has been one of the most difficult times he has experienced during his tenure as Chairman and it has certainly been a learning curve will all the new planning applications that have been submitted. i.e. Frinton Road, Landermere Road, Colchester Road including various infills.

[ One of the main concerns is that the sewer will not be able to cope, it already has problems and overflow tanks have been put in Byng Crescent and End of Kenilworth Road. ]

**Chairmans Report continued:**

With Regards to the Landermere Road development, this went to committee and the numbers of oppositions went up significantly within the last week with 6 in favour and 1 abstention. The Allotment site is due to start in the New Year and disruption is to be expected. No additional large sites are being allowed onto The Local Plan as a pre-application is being submitted in the New Year and they will be followed by a Full Application. Concern was expressed that Mr Carswell has taken rather unusual interest in the village and he has been noticed on approximately 2/3 occasions and on each occasion he has been accompanied by a number of colleagues. \

**2016 Xmas Lights/Christmas Festival:** The Chairman paid special thanks to the Festival Committee for putting on another splendid Event. A lot of effort goes into arranging the evening and it was very well attended and enjoyed by all who went. The Gazebo's purchased with a section 137 grant from the P C were an asset and were put up on Tesco's Forecourt.

**Monthly Update:** Refer to sheet included with Agenda/Minutes

**Correspondence/ e-mails:** For more in depth information refer to December Agenda.

**TDC Planning determinations:** none were received

**New Planning Applications:** For more in depth information refer to December Agenda.

**16/01811/TCA , 16/01886/TCA** Leave to decision of TPO

**16/01819/OUT** Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the erection of 6 single Storey dwellings with associated access, garages & parking. The Elms Colchester Rd **Rec. Refusal:** Parish Council do **not** support this application and consider it to be over development of site.

**16/01861/FUL** Rear extension, Stonecroft, Station Road. Vote Recorded -Cllr Powel proposed **NO OBJECTION** seconded Cllr Land, **and agreed by all cllrs at this evenings meeting.**

**16/01882/FUL** Proposed detached dwelling & outbuildings to replace existing house & cottages James Farm, Colchester Road. Vote Recorded: Cllr Powell proposed.....  
Seconded Cllr Land, .... For, ..... Against.....abstained

**16/01910/FUL** Replacement dwelling, Pitts Meadow, Mill Lane. **No objection.**

**Cheques for signature:** Permission was given by all councillors at this evenings meeting for the following cheques to be signed. For more in depth information refer to December Agenda.

002198 - 002206 inclusive £2211.29                      **S/Orders:**    £ 329.44

<b><u>Current A/C</u></b>	£23607.12	as at 27/10/16	<b><u>Business A/C:</u></b>	£30382.44	10/10/16
	£20988.21	“ 28/11/16		£30383.69	9/11/16

**To approve Quarterly Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.** Each councillor received a copy of the Quarterly Accounts to **31<sup>st</sup> October 2016** to peruse in preparation for discussion at December 12<sup>th</sup> Parish Council meeting. After a period of questions/answers Cllr Ewart proposed that the Quarterly Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Land and unanimously agreed by all councillors who attended the meeting this evening.

The Clerk asked for permission to change the January 2017 meeting, the reason being that the Finance Committee have to meet, inspect and agree on the proposed expenditure for 2017-2018, and agree the annual precept, which has to then be presented to full parish council for approval and be received by TDC by the 25<sup>th</sup> January. It is imperative that all the Finance committee attends the meeting as a minimum number of members must be present to constitute a valid meeting. That is **THREE** excluding The Clerk and Accountant. The Clerk said she was becoming increasingly concerned that all councillors may not attend and after a discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ewart, seconded Cllr Land that Cllr Graham Roe be a substitute if any of the committee was unable to attend. **I have today (13<sup>th</sup> Dec) arranged a Finance Committee meeting that is to be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom and for the Parish Council meeting to be held Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017- 7.00 pm also at The Baptist Church Schoolroom.**

**Application for section 137 Grant:** Cllr Roe said that as a result of the recent planning applications that are being submitted, some residents felt that they were not informed enough and certainly not in time for any comments or recommendations to be made and that urged Kelly Coulter to open up a web-site and represent the village so they would be informed. The Web Sight is THORPE-LE-SOKEN ON LINE and so far the feedback has been good - 152 residents have registered against the application in **Frinton Road** and 7 have been in favour. This may also lead to leaflet drops and flyers being put up in the village and Cllr Roe asked if Kelly would be entitled to any funding from the section 137 money.

**Tree Warden's Report:** Ropger said there were no major problems to report

**County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Erskine updated throughout the meeting

**Sub-Committee reports:**

**Street Lighting:** further checks have been carried out during the last month and it has been noted the following 2 lights were not working: No 4 from Thorpe Cross adjacent the Bus Stop and one on The Memorial – pointing down towards Frinton. This has been the same for the last couple of months and with councillors permission I would like to get them repaired. Permission was given. A further light added was a light in Byng Crescent to the rear of the green outside property 41. These were reported and repaired with the exception of the one on the green as the contractor's equipment would not reach the light. Chairman to make enquiries. I have spoken to A & J Lighting about the light and he would have repaired it off a ladder had he been able to get to it but the pole is encircled by a tree & shrubs and the light is covered by a canopy of the tree. Chairman said he would investigate the matter.

**Highways & Pavements:** Cllr Blandford said there were no major problems

**Lockyers Wood:** No Report due to Cllr Raftery's apologies being received

**Parish Footpaths:** No Report due to Cllr Fielders apologies being received

**Playing Field:** Cllrs Land/Raftery

**TDALC:** Cllr Powell reported on the November meeting

**Transport:** Cllr Roe - Nothing to report.

**Thorpe in Bloom:** No Report due to Cllr Carpenters apologies

**Village Greens:** Cllr Roe & Roger Hawes said they propose to do more work on The Green

**LED Lighting:** C/ OVER TO Jan 2017

**Village Signs:** c/over to Jan 2017

**Superfast Broadband:** Cllr Ewart reported on a recent meeting he attended.

The majority of properties in Thorpe le Soken has access to 30 mbts or higher. However, there are a still a significant number of Homes and Businesses that do not. The good news is that Tendring District Council have declared that Phase 3 of the Broadband roll out will ensure that 100% of premises both Domestic and Commercial have a minimum of 30 mbts. It is anticipated that Phase 3 will start May 2017 and be completed by the end of 2019.

**Up – to – date information can be found at: [www.superfastessex.org](http://www.superfastessex.org)**

**DATE/Time/Venue of next meeting: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**7.00 pm at The Baptist Church Schoolroom.2017**

**Close of meeting: There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.35pm**