



## **THORPE-LE-SOKEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk: Mrs Shirley Howe, 7 Rectory Road,**

**Weeley Heath CO16 9AY**

**Telephone: 01255 830995**

**January 2019/2020 – 10**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD MONDAY 13TH JANUARY 2020  
7.00 PM AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH SCHOOLROOM**

**PRESENT;** *CLLRS: LAND – CHAIRMAN, POWELL VICE-CHAIRMAN, COOPER, RAFTERY, EWART, BLANDFORD, CARPENTER, STARLING AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANDY ERSKINE.*

*Also present were 8 members of the public.*

**APOLOGIES;** *Jessica Ball (New Clerk)*

*As there were insufficient councillors that were going to attend the December meeting, there was not enough to make a quorum so The Chairman said he had to make the decision to cancel the meeting.*

***Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed fellow Councillors, Members of the public then announced that after working for the Parish Council since May 1983 The Clerk has now decided to retire and will cease employment at the end of April 2020.***

***Confirmation of Minutes*** of last meeting held Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

*Cllr Cooper proposed seconded Cllr Powell all in favour that the November 11<sup>th</sup> minutes be signed as a True Record and Signed by The Chairman.*

***Declaration of Members Interest:*** *There were none.*

***Public Discussion*** *Listed below are Concerns expressed by the following residents.*

*1) Ian resident who lives in Tendring Road asked Cllr Fielder if he could cut a fallen tree. Chairman said he was aware of what Ian was talking about. The tree has fallen across the footpath.*

*Cllr Fielder said if it had not been moved by Friday, which is the next day,*

he would do it. A large pot-hole o/s The Horse Box yard in Tendring Road needs attention – please can the PC flag up.

2. Ray Chrystal also expressed his concerns and said the High Street looks a complete disgrace, pot-holes are everywhere and the Highways and Footpaths are in desperate need of attention. The Latest pot-hole that Ray is aware of that has been reported is outside the W.I. Hall. Keep Left Bollards outside Country Mouse have been missing for a very long time, and it is very hazardous for motorists.

3 Pat reported a further large pot-hole outside Tesco Express.

4 Peter Cannons reported a bad leak outside Rolph School and told the meeting that it was an offence to endanger the highway due to flooding. Cllr Carpenter said the Premises Manager was aware of it but she will have a further word with him. Peter asked The Chairman if he could make arrangements to meet with the Board Member Portfolio holder and invite him to walk along the High Street with him.

Alan Newman expressed concern re the condition of the footpath up from Thorpe Station and up Harwich Road.

**Chairman's Report:**

- General update on planning and Local Matters
- TTC Parking (New Thorpe Avenue)
- Thorpe It's A Knockout 2020: As it's A Knockout 2019 was a Huge success councilors Unanimously agreed that it be given thumbs up for 2020

Letter received from Mr Price expressing concerns reference cars being parked in and around the premises of Station Garage adjacent to the Railway Bridge. Cars are being parked with no consideration being given to motorists.

**Thorpe Christmas Festival:** Motion to Council: To part fund (50%) of the ice-skating ring for the Christmas Festival. On the day the firm came to install the Ice Rink payment was required but due to no discussion being held by the Parish Council. Payment was kindly paid by a Member of The Thorpe Festival Trust, and it was unanimously agreed that the Thorpe Festival Trust be reimbursed (refer to cheque No. 2472 for £1491.00) The Ice Rink was very well supported and would be considered again for future years.

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

**For more in-depth information on planning applications refer to January Agenda: .**

**Grass Maintenance First & Second Greens: Two Year Contract 2020 & 2021**

**First Green: One cut only late in July, depending on Weather conditions.**

Due to First Green only having ONE cut, Sid has said that it gets very tall and unmanageable, therefore it will take longer to cut. Also included in the quotation price, is cutting the bunding **Once each year. PRICE: £400.00 + VAT PER YEAR**

**Second Green:** **One cut for Second Green in late July, depending on Weather Conditions.** This price includes both sides of the Second Green And along kerb side of the roads. **PRICE: £180.00 + VAT PER YEAR**

**BOTH QUOTATIONS GIVEN ARE ON THE BASIS THAT NO GRASS IS PICKED UP**

The Chairman proposed, seconded Cllr Ewart unanimously agreed that the above quotation be accepted, subject to further cuts according to the weather.

**Accounts for period 12<sup>th</sup> November to 9<sup>th</sup> December inclusive**

Cllrs to approve Cheques for Signature, Agree D/Debits and S/Orders:  
All cheques to be signed by two designated members of The Parish Council

**Motion to Council:** To approve payment of £350 for new Clerks CILCA registration.

**Motion to Council:** To approve mileage claim of £36.90 (82 miles) for new Clerks October CILCA training in Great Dunmow.

**Motion to Council:** To pay £1491.00 to Thorpe Festival Trust – reimbursement of Parish Council's half of payment for Ice Ring.

The above were Approved by The Chairman, Seconded Cllr Powell, unanimously agreed

<u>Cheque No:</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>To whom Paid</u>	<u>Budget Area</u>
002463	£ 78.00	£13.00	Sid Hutchby Grass maint.	P.F.
2464	£395.00	-	J Bradfield, Lighting Works	Xmas Lights
2465	£ 17.00	-	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath
2466	£ 66.90	-	Cllr Dan Land-Train Ticket to London	(Lifhouse High Court)
2467	£105.60		Signs Made Easy	Xmas Festival
2468	£350.00		SLCC	Clerk Training
2469	£736.99		Jessica Ball	Clerks Wages
2470	£ 63.57		HMRC	Clerks Tax & Ins
2471	£750.00		St Michaels Church	Annual Donation
2472	1491.00		Thorpe Festival Trust	Ice Ring donation
2473	36.90		Jess Ball mileage to attend meeting. 82 miles.	

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**£4090.96 December 2019 cheque payments**

2474	2400.00	£400.00	mrl productions – final payment 50% of work
2475	840.00	140.00	mrl products Floodlight for Church
2476	78.00	13.00	Sid Hutchby & Sons Grass Cutting P.F. (20/11)
2477	40.00		GDPR/Data protection Act 2018
2478	-	-	cancelled
2479	736.99	-	Jess Ball Clerk wages

£4094.99 January 2020 cheque payments

**STANDING ORDERS:**

**Billing Period**

30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	£ 21.48	£ 3.58	One Com - Invoice 270896	Telephone
31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	£ 17.90	£ 2.54	One Com “ 280398	Telephone
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	£21.48	£ 3.58	One Com	Telephone
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	£ 78.00	£13.00	A & J Lighting	Street Lighting
Nov Statement			e-on energy	Street Lights
Dec Statement	£167.14	£ 7.48	e-on energy	Street Lights

**DIRECT DEBIT'S will be paid by Bank on 12<sup>th</sup> of each month**

- Shirley Howe - Clerk – Wages & Expenses £778.39
- J.A.Ruddock - P.F. Maintenance £340.00

30 <sup>th</sup> October	Treasurers A/C	£45,669.38	Business Bank A/C:	£30,427.24
29 <sup>th</sup> November	“	£40,192.62	“	£30,428.62
31 <sup>st</sup> December	“	£35,119.16	“	£30,429.79

**Sub Committee Reports:**

- Fibre High Speed Broadband: Cllr Ewart Nothing to report
- BMX Track Cllr Raftery “ “
- Christmas Lights: Cllr Raftey “ “
- Highways & Pavements: Cllr Blandford said she continues to monitor the Highways and Pavements and reiterates what has already been reported regarding The condition.
- Lockyer's Wood: Cllr Coulter Nothing to report
- Parish Footpaths & Village Greens: Cllr Fielder. “ “

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|---------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| g. Playing Field:   | Cllr Starling     | “ | “ |
| h. Street Lighting: | Cllr Land & Clerk | “ | “ |
| i. TDALC:           | Cllr Powell       | “ | “ |
| j. Thorpe in Bloom: | Cllr Carpenter    |   |   |

**Insurance Renewal:** Just to remind councilors that the Renewal comes up again this June. Cllr Ewart said he was aware and is dealing with it.

**Please let The Clerk** know of any items for consideration at the next meeting  
7 clear working days prior to date of meeting

Date/Time/Venue of next meeting:

**MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 7 pm at the Baptist Church Schoolroom.**

**\_Shirley,  
Clerk to The Parish Council.**

**Just to let you know that this will be the last time that you will see my signature as I am retiring and will finish work on the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2020. I would like to Thank all my fellow councillors previous and existing and members of the public for all the support that I have received. I joined the Parish Council in May 1983 when Marjory Wright was Chairman and from then up until now I have witnessed a lot of changes some of which I have not always agreed with.  
The New Clerk for Thorpe Parish Council is Jess Ball.**