

THORPE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th May 2006

PRESENT: Mr R. S. James (Chairman) Mr B. P. Fitzmaurice (Vice Chairman)
Mrs O. M. Campbell Mr G. Rowe
Mrs S. E. Eltringham Mr N. Shaw
Mrs W. M. Howes Mr D. R. C. Spooner
Mr P. J. Harwood Mrs Y. Utting
Mr E. A. Newberry Mr J. M. Ward

1.) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs J. Baker, Mr D. E. Eley,
Mr J F Fisher, Mr I. J. Mackie

2.) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3.) COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2006, previously circulated to members, were approved and signed as a true record.

4.) Announcements

Chairman:

The Chairman considered the flower display at River Green to be extremely good this year and wished grounds staff to be thanked for taking such good care during the recent hot weather. A member of the public had remarked that they considered the baskets were "better than ever before".

The Chairman had attended the opening of the new Technology Centre at Thorpe St Andrew School which marked the school's new status as a Technology College in addition to its Sports College status.

Mr R. S. James had attended a site meeting held by Norwich City Council at 14 Harvey Lane. Later that day the City Planning Committee had considered the planning application, which had been strongly opposed by the Parish Council, for the site and refused permission for the proposed dwelling by 7 votes to 1.

Clerk:

The Clerk announced that Dr Ian Gibson M.P. had agreed to support the Parish Council's views by signing the Early Day Motion for the Sustainable Communities Bill.

Two copies of the District Council's Local Development Core Strategies and Options Consultation for the Local Development Framework had been received and were available for members to read prior to being considered at the next meeting.

Norfolk County Association of Parish & Town Councils had sent an invitation to members to attend the Larger Councils Meeting at Fakenham on the 12th July.

A meeting had been held with Thorpe Rovers F.C. to discuss fees for the 2006/07 season. Members of the Recreation Committee had recommended that the block booking arrangement that had been in place for many years should cease and that fees should be charged in line with all other clubs that used parish facilities.

Summer Fayre

Mrs S. E. Eltringham, Chairman of the Events Committee, asked for volunteers to assist at the Summer Fayre. Assistance would be needed to erect a marquee, market stall and to run the bar and Parish Council stall.

5.) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Parish Constables:

The Parish Constables were in attendance and informed the meeting that crime figures for the previous month were slightly below average compared with other areas. Theft from motor vehicles had reached double figures and extra policing would be provided to address the matter. Under age drinking continued to be a problem and the Youth Shelter had received regular visits by Police Officers who had confiscated alcohol from youths.

Items Raised by District and County Councillors:

Mr N. Shaw informed the meeting that the Orbital Bus Service would be re-routed to travel along Booty Road and Beechwood Drive. It was understood that the pedestrian crossing in Thunder Lane would be installed during the autumn half term holiday period. Mr Shaw had attended meetings regarding Norwich Airport operations and was working to ensure night flights were not extended beyond 11.00pm.

Mr P. J. Harwood would be chairing a public meeting on August 3rd at 6.30pm where members of the public would have the opportunity to discuss the proposed waste incinerator and the Orbital Bus service.

Members of the public

Laundry Lane residents raised their concerns regarding the speed of traffic in the area near the school and asked if flashing 30mph signs could be requested. Approximately 1,800 pupils accessed the school and Mr N. Shaw agreed to take the matter up with officers at the County Council.

A resident of The Cottage Drive asked if the parish council could intervene with a Belmore Road resident who had indicated they wished to form an access into the road. As this would be on private property the council had no powers.

A resident raised concerns regarding overhanging vegetation impeding the use of mobility scooters and was directed to bring those concerns to the parish council office where they could be forwarded to the County Council for appropriate action to be taken.

6.) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Cheques numbered 001702 to 001818 to 001726 and 001855 totalling £16,484.29p, vouchers 292 – 373 and cheques numbered 001856 to 001875, vouchers 384 – 408 totalling £7,250.91p on the 2005/06 payments list were approved and signed.

7.) COMMITTEES

Plans Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th and 26th June 2006 were presented by the Vice-Chairman, Mr J. M. Ward, and noted.

Finance and Staffing

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2006 were presented by the Chairman, Mrs W. M. Howes, and noted. The new temporary groundsman had been appointed and was expected to start on 17th July 2006.

8.) Morse Pavilion

The builder had completed remedial works and a final invoice was expected shortly.

9.) Norfolk County Council

(i) Broadland Business Park – Waiting Restrictions

The proposed No Waiting at Any Time restrictions was supported. Concerns would be raised regarding the possible impact on Old Chapel Way.

(ii) Little Plumstead Hospital Development

There were no objections to the proposed traffic scheme.

(iii) Thunder Lane pedestrian crossing

The formal Notice of the scheme was noted.

10.) Broadland District Council

(i) Local Initiatives

Information on a number of parish council initiatives that have benefited the local community would be forwarded to assist with the campaign to increase awareness of parish and town councils.

(ii) Emergency Incident News

Information on a new web presence covering Incident News on the web site was noted.

11.) Anti Social Behaviour

Information on three meetings that would take place in July and August was noted.

12.) Energy Saving Trust

Information on two energy saving initiatives the trust could offer was noted.

13.) Campaign to Protect Rural England

(i) Information on assistance with producing a Community Landscape Statement was noted and further information would be requested.

(ii) Information on the refusal of a planning inquiry regarding a wind turbine proposal in a National Park was noted.

14.) Specialist lawyer for Parish and Town Councils

Information on a specialist lawyer in Norwich was noted. Legal advice could also be provided free of charge by the National Association of Local Councils.

15.) BBC Governors – Annual General Meeting

Information on the meeting in Norwich was noted.

16.) No 'U' Turn signs, Pound Lane/Ring Road junction

The highway engineers would be informed that the parish council continued to regard the proposed 'No U Turn' signs at the junction to be unnecessary street clutter.

17 NPFA Annual General Meeting

Information on the meeting was noted.

18.) Street Lighting – WyFi Antenna

Information on the government funded project called WyFi to provide free broadband connectivity for internet access currently being trialled in Norwich by installing wireless antennae on the tops of street lighting columns was noted.

19.) Election of Tree Wardens

Mrs M. Amos and Mr P. Rope, had indicated their willingness to carry out the role of Tree Wardens for a further period, there being no other candidates, were duly elected.

20.) Town status for Thorpe St Andrew

The Chairman had moved:

(a) that the Parish of Thorpe St Andrew shall have the status of a town with effect from 1st September 2006.

(b) that the Council of the Parish shall bear the name of the Town Council of Thorpe St Andrew.

(c) that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council shall respectively be entitled to the status of Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor.

(d) That the Parish Clerk shall be officially styled the Town Clerk.

It was proposed by Mr P. J. Harwood and seconded by Mrs S. E. Eltringham that that the motion be amended as follows:

“To defer the date of implementation for at least two months to consult and inform residents of the neutral implications of the move.” On a show of hands by six votes to two the amendment was declared **CARRIED**.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

21.) Norfolk Rural Community Council

Information regarding the Annual General Meeting on the 17th July 2006 was noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - Parish Council on 7th August 2006 at the Meeting Room, Dussindale Centre.