

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Councillors  
Mrs Bloomfield  
Mr Horne  
Mr Morley  
Mr Sandford  
Mr Skinner  
Mr Smith  
Mr Waite

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Morley.

Also in attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington – Clerk and members of the public.

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Jacques, PC Ian Loader and KCC Councillor Jenny Whittle.

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

No interests were declared.

**3. Minutes from last Parish Council Meeting.**

The minutes were discussed and agreed (Waite/Sandford); these were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

**4. Matters Arising from Minutes.**

Councillor Horne informed members that the trees at the Old School House were not covered by TPO's, he spoke further regarding the site.

**5. Public Comments and Observations.**

The Chairman invited members of the public to address the parish council regarding parish matters:

A resident asked the PC why members contact details were not placed on the website. The Chairman informed him that all councillors could be contacted via the Parish Clerk whose details were well publicised.

He asked members to explain the reasons why the Joint Parish Group minutes were now published on the Parish Councils website. The Chairman explained the reasons for this.

Members were asked about the provision of grit bins in the parish. The Chairman informed the meeting that the need for additional grit bins had been put forward to Jenny Whittle and would be progressed.

**6. Police Report.**

PC Loader gave his apologies to the meeting; however his written report was circulated to all members of the Parish Council.

Councillor Sandford spoke regarding his concerns about the vegetation covering the 30mph signs along Caring Lane.

Councillor Waite confirmed that at present both signs were visible.

Councillor Sandford expressed dismay at the lack of action taken by KCC and its associates regarding the vegetation.

7. **Review of Parish Plan.**

Councillor Smith led the next stage of the Parish Plan review and members considered recommendations 45 to 53 of the Parish Plan.

8. **Kent International Gateway.**

Councillor Waite gave members a report on this item.

9. **Heritage Award.**

Councillor Horne spoke regarding this item and he suggested that the Clerk writes to all Chief Executives of Kent District Councils to seek nominations for the Heritage Award. This was agreed by all present.

***Action: Clerk to progress.***

10. **Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

Parking in Thurnham Lane – The Chairman informed members that the parking restrictions had now been put in place along Thurnham Lane for one hour each week day.

11. **Clerks Report.**

The Clerks report was noted by all present.

12. **External Reports:**

a. **Ward Councillor's Report.**

Councillor Horne gave his report to the meeting.

He spoke regarding the Joint Transportation Board meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March and the agreed revised location of the safe crossing of Ware Street. He informed the meeting that the work on the crossing would commence on 6<sup>th</sup> April.

Councillor Smith expressed his disappointment at the revised location for the crossing; his concerns were supported by Councillor Skinner.

Councillor Horne spoke regarding the status of Village Design Statements by the Borough Council.

He reported on the budget set by the Borough Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Councillor Sandford asked if the planning enforcement provision had been affected by the cuts at borough level.

Councillor Horne stated that he did not feel that there would be a great change at MBC.

Councillor Smith questioned why MBC had made cuts in its front line services when their budget increase was the same as the 2.49% inflation.

Councillor Horne confirmed that front line services had been retained and £200,000 in savings had been found else where.

Councillor Sandford asked Councillor Horne about the current status of the G Forces planning application. Councillor Horne confirmed that at present there was no further information as to when a decision would be made.

Councillor Sandford informed Councillor Horne that he had received a petition from residents regarding the proposed development.

- b. KCC Councillor Report.  
KCC Councillor Jenny Whittle gave her apologies to the meeting.
- c. Liaison with outside parties.  
Councillor Bloomfield informed members that she was due to attend a King George V Hall Committee meeting the following evening.

**13. Financial Matters:**

- a. Financial Statement.  
The financial statement was agreed by members. (Skinner/Bloomfield).
- b. Concurrent Functions Grant.  
Members considered that balances of the Concurrent Functions Grant and it was proposed by Councillor Smith to allocate £1408.44 to the play area project, this was seconded by Councillor Skinner and agreed by all present.

**14. Parish Matters.**

- a. Play Area Improvements.  
Councillor Waite informed members that the land registry search for this area was being progressed by Land Registry and he would report back on this matter when the results were available.
- b. Footpaths and Bridleways.  
No matters were raised.

**15. Committee Reports.**

- a. Planning.  
MA/10/0253 The Retreat, Ware Street, Thurnham.  
Planning application for amendment to MA/08/0804 (erection of 1no three bedroom bungalow) being incorporation of additional living accommodation within roof, alterations to fenestration and erection of detached garage.

Councillor Skinner reported on the objections raised by the Parish Council with regards to the planning application submitted by G-Forces.

Councillor Waite reported on the enforcement action taken at Honey Hills Wood. He reported that the recent appeal was dismissed and enforcement action was now being taken and the site should be cleared within six months and put back to its original state.

- b. Highways.  
Councillor Waite spoke regarding the traffic survey and 30mph limit along Caring Lane.

**16. Future Items.**

No matters were raised.

**17. Planning related matters – confidential item.**

**18. Date of next meeting.**

Date of next meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

*There being no further business, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 9.05pm*

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_