

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 7.00pm.**

Present: Councillors  
Mrs Bloomfield  
Mr Jacques (arrived late)  
Mr Sandford  
Mr Waite

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Waite.

Also in attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington – Clerk, Members of the Public and Press.

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Smith, Skinner, Horne, Morley and Pilkington.

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

No interests were declared.

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

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

**4. Matters Arising from Minutes.**

No matters were arising.

**5. Police Matters.**

PCSO Baulf gave the crime report to the meeting.

She reported that a number of speed limit signs along Caring Lane were currently obscured by trees and were therefore not able to be enforced. Councillors Waite and Sandford stated that they would inspect these and cut back the overgrown vegetation.

***Action: Councillor Waite and Sandford to progress.***

**6. Village Design Statement.**

Councillor Waite spoke regarding this matter, he confirmed that he had attended a meeting with Jim Boot from MBC and he had reiterated the need for public participation. He stated that Jim Boot doubted the value of Village Design Statements and had advised that the Parish Council may be better placed to influence the LDF.

He stated that Councillor Horne was of a different opinion and he believed that the Village Design Statement could in itself influence the LDF.

Councillor Waite spoke further regarding the VDS and of his personal time constraints which would inhibit him from spending time working on this. It was agreed by members to defer this item to a future meeting.

**7. Public Comments and Observations.**

It was reported that a traffic count was currently being undertaken along Crismill Lane near to the gymnasium.

**8. Kent International Gateway.**

Councillor Waite spoke regarding the KIG planning application.

He reported on the Inspectors meeting that he had attended with John Horne and Gavin McLaggan.

He confirmed that timescale of the Inquiry with a commencement date of 13<sup>th</sup> October.

Councillor Jacques spoke regarding the archaeological issues and informed members when the next JPG meeting was due to be held.

**9. Heritage Award.**

The Clerk circulated a report to all members regarding the Heritage Award Presentation. This report suggested a date in early August, the venue and the guest list.

Chris Lisle spoke regarding the facilities available to the PC by St Mary's Church and it was agreed that this would be the venue for the presentation event.

Members considered the report and agreed the date as 8<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at 3.00pm. To be held at St Mary's Church, it was proposed by Councillor Jacques that a budget of £300 should be set for the event; this was seconded by Councillor Bloomfield and agreed by all present.

***Action: Clerk to finalise details for the event and send out invitations as agreed.***

**10. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

**11. Clerks Report.**

The Clerks report was noted by all present.

The Clerk was asked to send a letter of congratulations to KCC Councillor Jenny Whittle.

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

**12. External Reports:**

*a. Ward Councillor's Report.*

Councillor Horne gave his apologies to the meeting.

*b. Liaison with outside parties.*

Councillor Jacques reported on the recent A249 meeting that he had attended. He stated that Kent Highways and Jacob Babbie had produced a report on the A249 which was available on the KCC website.

Councillor Bloomfield reported on the King George V Memorial Hall meeting that she had attended.

**13. Financial Matters:**

*a. Financial Statement.*

The financial statement was agreed by members. (Waite/Bloomfield).

*b. 2008/09 Accounts.*

The Clerk informed members that the accounts had been inspected by Councillor Smith and the Parish Councils Internal Auditor and circulated these to all present.

The Accounts, Annual Return and Statement of Assurance was then inspected and approved by all present.

It was proposed by Councillor Jacques and seconded by Councillor Bloomfield to accept the accounts and annual return.

These were then signed and dated by the Chairman.

**Action: Clerk to forward accounts to Audit Commission for audit.**

**14. Parish Matters.**

a. Play Area Improvements.

No matters were raised.

b. Footpaths and Bridleways.

Mr Perring passed a report on footpaths to the clerk, this was discussed by members. It was noted that there was still a problem with the footpaths crossing the golf course at the Tudor Park and the Clerk was asked to write to the hotel regarding this matter.

**Action: Clerk to write to Tudor Park Hotel.**

c. Website.

The Clerk reported on this matter.

**15. Committee Reports.**

a. Planning.

No planning applications were received during the month.

Councillor Sandford spoke regarding the recent activities along Thurnham Lane and the action being taken by MBC.

He informed the meeting that the Borough Council would be serving a Stop Notice to the owners.

He stated that the Borough Council did not have an official policy for gypsies and this was becoming a problem. He suggested that a letter should be written to MBC regarding this as it was unlikely that an official policy would be available until 2012, and this was being used for the benefit of gypsies at present.

Councillor Jacques supported the need for a letter to MBC and it was suggested that Councillor Bloomfield draft a letter to send to the Leader of MBC. This was agreed by all present.

**Action: Councillor Bloomfield and Morley to progress.**

b. Highways.

No matters were raised.

**16. Future Items.**

The following agenda items were agreed:

1. Consultation Documents.
2. BTCV request for financial donation.

**17. Date of next meeting.**

Date of next meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

***There being no further business, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.10pm***

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

**Chairman**

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