

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 7.00pm.**

Present: Councillors  
Mr Horne  
Mr Jacques (arrived late)  
Mr Morley  
Mr Pilkington  
Mr Skinner  
Mr Waite

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Morley.

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

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Councillor Bloomfield, Smith, Sandford and Jacques (Late).

**2. Declaration of Interests.**

No interests were declared.

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

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

**4. Matters Arising from Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Police Matters.**

PCSO Baulf attended the meeting and gave a crime report to all present.

Councillor Morley spoke regarding a questionnaire received from the police regards the percentage increase for the police precept. Members discussed this and agreed on a response. The Clerk was then asked to respond.

***Action: Clerk to submit response to questionnaire.***

**6. Report from the Chair of Governors from Thurnham Infants School.**

John Wale the Chair of Governors from Thurnham Infants School attended the meeting to give members a progress report on the school. He summarised that work of the school since its Ofsted Inspection in 2006.

He informed members of the ethos of the school and its environment, he praised the work of the Headmistress and staff at the school, and informed the meeting of the number of children attending the school.

Councillor Skinner informed the meeting that his children attended the school and he praised the achievements and work of the school.

Councillor Horne asked for his views on ways in which it could develop its links with the Parish Council. Mr Wale stated that the school would look at ways in which these links could be developed.

Councillor Morley thanked Mr Wale for attending the meeting.

**Action: Clerk to write letter to school.**

**7. Village Design Statement.**

Councillor Waite reported on this matter.

He informed members that he was due to attend a meeting with Phil Turner on 31<sup>st</sup> January regarding the Village Design Statement.

Councillor Horne spoke regarding the Local Development Framework programme and suggested that this should be kept in mind when considering the village design statement.

**8. Public Comments and Observations.**

Mr Perring spoke regarding footpaths and gave a report to members detailing footpaths that needed to be maintained by KCC.

Mrs Richards asked members about the progress of the parish plan and her dismay that the recommendations had not yet been implemented.

Councillor Morley informed Mrs Richards of the reasons for the delay

**9. Kent International Gateway.**

Councillor Jacques spoke regarding the KIG planning application. He informed members that the re-consultation period for the additional details had commenced and was due to run until 6<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

He spoke regarding the possible date for the MBC Planning Hearing and he gave a report on the working of the JPG to all present.

Councillor Horne reported on the developments at MBC.

**10. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman gave his report to the meeting.

**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 bridge in Caring Lane, he referred to a letter written by Councillor Sandford regarding the heritage of this and informed members that MBC was due to hold a site meeting to discuss this further.

He reported that the Ware Street crossing was currently in the hands of the Leader of KCC.

*b. Liaison with outside parties.*

No reports were given.

**13. Financial Matters:**

*a. Financial Statement.*

The financial statement was agreed by members. (Horne/Jacques).

*b. Request for financial support from Bearsted Woodland Trust.*

It was agreed by members that this item should be discussed as a confidential item.

- c. Request for financial support from King George V Memorial Hall.  
It was agreed by members that this item should be discussed as a confidential item.

**14. Parish Matters.**

- a. Play Area Improvements.  
Nothing to report.
- b. Footpaths and Bridleways.  
Nothing to report.
- c. Website.  
The Clerk reported that this matter and the lack of progress by the web designers. It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with them to inform G Forces to establish the deadlines.  
Action: Clerk to progress.

**15. Committee Reports.**

- a. Planning.
- MA/08/2383 Apple Tree House, Ware Street, Thurnham – No Objections.  
Application for first floor extension (resubmission of MA/08/1724).
- MA/08/2426 Plot 1 Valhalla, Ware Street, Thurnham. – Objections.  
Creation of vehicle crossover and provision of hard standing.
- MA/08/2425 19 Fulbert Drive, Thurnham – No objections.  
Erection of a pitched roof to side and rear and part conversion of garage in habitable accommodation.
- MA/08/2446 Unit 3 Detling Aerodrome, Aerodrome Approach, Detling – No Objections.  
Erection of single-storey extension to north-west elevation to provide new pack house.
- MA/08/2467 Layby on A249, Detling Hill, Thurnham – Application noted.  
Overhead electric lines - Notification of intention to erect a substation at layby on A249.
- MA/08/2475 Leyfield Lodge, Ware Street, Thurnham – No Objections.  
Extension to existing games room to form granny annex ancillary to main house.
- b. Highways.  
Councillor Pilkington spoke regarding highways matters. He spoke of his concerns regarding the potholes in the lanes that had been marked by the Council however not yet reinstated.

The parking restrictions along Thurnham Lane were discussed and the Clerk was asked to ascertain the time scale for the implementation of the restriction.

**Action: Clerk to action.**

**16. Future Items.**

The Clerk was asked to place meeting start times on the agenda.

17. **Date of next meeting.**

Date of next meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

*There being no further business, the meeting was closed to the press and public at 8.35pm*

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

**Chairman**

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