

Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Extraordinary meeting held at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 – 7:30pm

In Attendance: K Calderwood (KC) Chair, Jan Whitehouse (JW), I Capps (IC), P Black (PB)
C Popplewell (CP)

39 members of the public were also in attendance.

Minutes: T Higlett (TH) (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence
L Patterson
2. To receive declarations of Interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.
None

Chair proposed bringing forward item 4 to enable members of the public to hear council's views.

Planning applications

a. [2025/2460](#) Location: Street Record Vale Road Thurton Norfolk.

Proposal: Outline planning permission for a proposed residential development consisting of 24 Dwellinghouses (8 Affordable Dwellinghouses) Application Type: Outline Planning Permission. Comments by 6 September 2025.

Members spoke of the additional properties already being built in neighbouring parishes and the increase in volume of traffic. If this application is approved the plans show, there are 40 parking places identified on the site. The additional vehicles will have an effect on the A146. Access to the A146 from Vale Road, Ashby Road and The Street is already very difficult. This is not a safe access to the main highway. Highway safety is imperative to the village. Recent traffic count carried out by NCC highways, identified 9000 vehicles travelled in each direction through Thurton village over a seven-day period. The traffic count had also identified the difficulty pedestrians have crossing the A146 and the recommendation of a signalised pedestrian. There are no funds available to carry out the change.

Concerns around proposed footpaths being installed opposite garages. Footpaths along Vale Road are owned and maintained by residents. It was brought to councils' attention that the developer has already cleared the road to enable vehicular movement.

In 2020 an assessment of this site was carried out under the South Norfolk Village Clusters Plan and rejected on grounds of access. The narrow access to the site between two houses in Vale Road was deemed inadequate. It was also felt too

dangerous to increase the traffic exiting Vale Road onto the A146. Vale Road was not built to take large vehicles. The parish council are monitoring the accidents which happen on the A146. Chair stated that Norfolk police only record incidents where they have been in attendance.

Vale Road is known to flood. Development will have soakaways installed and these would need to be fit for purpose. Concerns that even with a soakaway, and the build of these properties this could make the problem worse than it is now. The proposed development relies on connecting to Anglian Water's mains drainage system. This is however already over stretched.

Environmental survey has already been carried out, but it did not come up with anything significant, although this site may have been affected by the grass having been cut before the survey took place.

The consensus amongst the 39 attendees was an objection to the development. One resident suggested more single-story properties would be more appropriate as these would be more affordable for residents to downsize into.

Two of the wooden safety posts installed along the A146 have been knocked down by drivers. Clerk will investigate whether these could be changed to a metal railing perhaps using the Parish Partnership Scheme for highways improvements. Chair spoke of the Loddon bound brick bus stop which has recently been severely damaged by a vehicle. If anyone had any information on how this happened council would appreciate knowing. Parish council has informed their insurers regarding the incident.

Chair thanked members of the public for attending and advised them how to place their comments on the South Norfolk Planning website. Public was invited to remain for the rest of the meeting.

Council continued with the agenda.

3. Resignation of councillor.

L Patterson had resigned from the parish council. Members of the council all agreed they would miss her valued input and thanked Lynn for all she has done for the village including her time on the Thurton Thunderer. South Norfolk Electoral Services Office have been advised of her resignation.

4. Planning

Previously discussed. Clerk advised she had contacted the planning department and asked for an extension on the date for comments. This has been extended to 12th September 2025.

5. Finance

1. The following were approved for payment:

- a. T Higlett Salary Aug 2025 - £305.03
- b. HMRC – Taxation for Aug 2025 - £69.80
- c. Lloyd's bank - £4.50

- d. Community Heartbeat – Defib. Pads £122.34
 - e. South Norfolk Dog Waste Emptying Service £451.20
 - 2. Payments made between meetings.
 - a. Autela Payroll Services -£118.70
 - b. Autela Payroll Services - £87.00
 - 3. The nationally agreed salary review for the Clerk for 2025/26 was noted.
6. Date of next meeting
Council agreed the next meeting would take place on the 6th of October 2025.

Cllr Capps advised that the management of the defibrillator on Ashby Road was now overseen by Gary Corbett. Council passed on their thanks to Mr Corbett.

Cllr Popplewell spoke of this year's request for orders of trees and hedging through the South Norfolk Tree Warden Network. It was proposed the charity land on Whiteheath Road could have six oak trees planted to compensate the trees that have been flattened. These had been planted last year. Charity land was given to the parish in 1650. Landowner whose land borders onto charity land has spoke of installing a hedge too. Trustees are in favour of the proposed.

Meeting closed at 20:55