

Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Wednesday 30th July 2025 – 7:30pm held at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall

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

C Popplewell (CP)

District Councillor V Thomson

Minutes: T Higlett (TH) (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies from L Patterson were noted.

2. To receive declarations of Interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.

None

3. Public Forum including County and District Councillors.

District Councillor Vic Thomson gave a summary of his report which is available on the website. Chair asked about the proposed location of the new settlement in South Norfolk if approved. The area proposed is above Hethel right of the A11 and close to the A47. Infrastructure would be funded by government and in place first. IC asked if there was any funding available to refurbish the village sign. Cllr Thomson asked for costs to be obtained and forward onto him for consideration. Flagpole on the church also requires repairs and council were asked to include this as well. County Councillor not in attendance.

4. To approve the minutes from the meeting held on the 28th May 2025.

These were approved.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

1. George and Dragon Car meets – It was noted that the meetings held in July had been quiet and no concerns. The owners of the George and Dragon had reminded attendees to respect the residents of Thurton and neighbouring Ashby St Mary when attending meetings. One person had been banned from attending the car meets due to vehicle related anti-social behaviour. The meets are being policed by the organisers.

2. Bus stop maintenance and lighting, NCC funding. Clerk advised council that she had been successful in obtaining an 80% grant towards the remedial maintenance to be carried out on the two council owned bus shelters. The parish council's contribution will be £393.00. CP advised the bus shelters could do with cleaning out and showed council a photograph recently taken showing litter and vegetation underneath the seating area. Council will see if they can appoint someone to clean out on a regular basis. Clerk asked council if they felt the shelter would benefit from having the open sides glazed but members felt this could be open to vandalism and damaged by passing vehicles. Bus stop lighting on Manor Farm and Prospect Place bus stops was briefly discussed, and it was felt that the residents of Prospect Place will be canvassed to get their views on proposed lighting. Members

- also discussed painting 'bus stop' on the road opposite Prospect Place to make motorists aware. This stop is just around the bend coming from Norwich on the A146 and the vegetation in the area makes it very difficult to see.
3. Parish Online free.Gov.uk email address. Council has a new.gov.uk email address and Clerk will advise when the new address is to be used.
 4. Parish Council newsletter. CP will proof read document prior to printing. Members will then distribute.
 5. Defibrillator maintenance handover. Resident of Thurton has taken on overseeing the defibrillator on Ashby Road. IC advised he had ordered a set of paediatric pads for the unit and has a set of spare adult electrodes if required.
 6. Residency at Fly Trap Plants. Clerk advised she had received correspondence from South Norfolk, and they would be investigating. Chair asked members if they heard any barking dogs in the area. But there has been nothing to raise concerns over.
6. Planning.
1. Planning decisions.
2025/1275 App Type: Householder. Location: 33 Ferry Road Thurton Proposal: Replacement of rear porch, erection of garden wall, internal alterations to existing house and new roof-light Decision: Approval with Conditions.
7. Administration
1. To review statutory documents
 - a. Bullying and Harassment Policy – This was reviewed and agreed.
 - b. Complaints policy – This was reviewed and agreed
 - c. Lone Workers Policy – This was reviewed and agreed
 - d. Equality and Diversity Policy – This was reviewed and agreed
8. Finance
1. Councils current financial standing – first quarter accounts presented.
 2. The following were approved for payment:
 - a. T Higlett Salary Jun/July 2025 - £610.06
 - b. HMRC – Taxation for June/July 2025 - £139.60
 - c. Lloyd's Bank - £8.50
 - d. T Higlett Expenses printing - £24.34
 - e. T Higlett Wix website - £144.84
 - f. L Trueman Audit £50.00
9. Highways and Village Issues
1. Cutting back vegetation on the A146. Norfolk County Council advised that vegetation obscuring highways signage on the A146 would be cut back. Tree obscuring visibility accessing the A146 from Ashby Road. NCC will be sending a letter to the property owners requesting that they cut back their trees at the earliest opportunity. Visibility is also not good coming from Norwich towards Prospect Place where the road bends. This is privately owned land. Clerk to notify Highways.
 2. A146 Highways Safety- Council are still awaiting the results of the traffic and pedestrian survey which was conducted during February/March.
The council had been advised that the team were studying them and would be discussing options with the Highways team at the beginning of April. Council should have been issued the final report by the end of April. Clerk has contacted Cllr

Mason Billig for the report. Proposed Clerk to contact NCC Project Engineer (Infrastructure) to see if he could assist. PB suggested perhaps a FOI request if nothing is forthcoming during August.

3. A146 Fixed Camera figures for June 2025. Figures had been obtained from the fixed camera team which showed the camera had been activated 98 times for the month of May 2025

10. Correspondence

1. South Norfolk Mini Recycling Centre. Clerk has corresponded with the environmental team regarding nonpayment. This will be backdated to 2023.
2. Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership Scheme. To be discussed at next meeting.
3. County Councillors parish report July 2025.
4. South Norfolk free Climate Change and Sustainability workshops. CP considering attendance.
5. NCC Further Funding to Support Bus Shelter Installations Across Norfolk.

11. General Parish Issues (for information only).

CP advised that through the South Norfolk Tree Warden Network she will be able to obtain trees and asked for orders before the 23rd August. This includes hedging, stakes and tree guards.

12. Date of next meeting 1st October 2025.

Members agreed to change the date of the September meeting due to insufficient attendees.

Meeting closed at 21:05