

Minutes of Thurton Parish Council (TPC)

Monday 12th January 2026 – 7:30pm held at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall

In Attendance: K Calderwood (KC) Chair, J Whitehouse (JW), I Capps (IC), A Soanes (AS)

P Black (PB)

District Cllr V Thomson

Minutes: T Higlett (TH) (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence
CP had sent her apologies – council approved.
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.
County Councillor - January report available on parish website
District Councillor – report forwarded to members prior to meeting. Cllr Thomson advised the South Norfolk bin app has been revised and people are being asked to update.
Talk around delaying the mayoral election. The decision will come from parliament.
Consultation on re-organisation closed on the 11th January 2026.
4. To approve the minutes from the meeting held on the 26th November 2025.
These were approved with the inclusion of agenda item 9.3 omitted from draft minutes.
5. Matters arising from the Minutes
 1. Quotations for bus Shelters on A146 Prospect Place, Loddon bound and Norwich bound – Chair and representative from Bergh Apton PC had met with Able Engineering. Separate quotes had been done for the shelters enabling parish councils to pay for shelters in their parish. Some properties at Prospect place sit within Bergh Apton. The preferred style of shelter would be a cantilever with a perch. These would cost around £7,820.00 +vat each including concrete base. If traffic management is required this would be an additional £2,750.00 + vat. At the time of meeting, it was suggested this could be required on the Loddon bound side of Prospect Place. Both councils can apply for a grant towards the cost, but the initial cost would have to be paid by councils and grant would be claimed from Norfolk County Council. A second quotation for shelters has been applied from Westcotec. Bergh Apton have yet to discuss the proposed installation at their parish council meeting. It was also proposed that residents of Prospect Place should be contacted for their views. Members were in favour of the shelter and applying for a grant, but would wait to hear from neighbouring PC and would only go ahead as a joint venture with Bergh Apton.
 2. Update on accident repairs to bus shelter.
Clerk has contacted Zurich for an update as the case is now with the Loss Adjusters. A breakdown of the quotation had been requested. Clerk has communicated to Zurich the importance of the bus shelter and that a temporary stop has been strategically placed but when a bus pulls in it causes problems with the traffic flow on the A146 as it is not in the layby. Council also commented on

the costs of the repair may have increased. Chair will draw up a letter of complaint to Zurich asking for the claim to be approved as a matter of urgency.

3. Maintenance to Norwich bound bus shelter. – No quotation has been received. IC asked the clerk to contact the builder who had previously quoted to see if they were now in a position to carry out the repairs.
 4. AGAR Assertion 10 training – Clerk to attend on the 22nd January and cascade information to councilors.
 5. Update on Dragons Den License application – South Norfolk Licensing team advised council that the Licensee had withdrawn his application.
6. Responding to and working with other bodies.
1. Consultation on proposals for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Norfolk. Council noted that the closing date was the 11th January 2026.
7. Finance
1. Councils current financial standing
Community account balance on the 19th December 2025 £19,532.28
 2. The following were approved for payment:
 - a. T Higlett Salary Dec/Jan 2026 - £639.54
 - b. HMRC – Taxation for period 9 & 10 - £146.80
 - c. Lloyd's bank - £4.25
 - d. SLCC – FILCA qualification fee -£120.00. to be reimbursed by SLCC as fully funded by a bursary.
 - e. SLCC subscription - £84.00
 - f. Norfolk PTS – AGAR Assertion training - £43.20

IC advised he had still not received the batteries which had been ordered from Community Heartbeat in November 2025. Clerk will contact them and ask for a refund if they are unable to supply in the next few days.
 3. Payments
 - a. Second Chance restorations- cleaning of bus shelter - £25.00
 - b. Lloyd's bank - £4.25
 4. To approve budget for 2026 /27
Clerk gave an overview of proposed budget. There was a slight increase in clerks' salary to cover annual pay increase, training for councillors, audit fees and village maintenance. A significant increase in budget for defibrillator sundries as council has overspent by £400 this year. Ashby PC have advised the council they will contribute towards the running costs of the defibrillator on Ashby Road. Council approved the budget.
 5. Precept 2026/27
Consensus was that the precept should be increased to £10,084.00 for 2026/27. Precept for 2025/26 £9604.00, an increase of £480.00.
 6. Appointment of Auditor for 2025/26
Clerk advised she had approached Robin Goreham to carry out this year's audit and he had accepted.
 7. Grant application for Thurton VC Biodiversity project.
Clerk advised that the school had asked for this to be deferred to the March meeting.

8. Management of Parish Council

1. Society of Local Council Clerks Membership - Auto renewal. This will now automatically renew unless council wishes to cancel subscription.

9. Highways and Village Issues

1. A146 fixed camera figures. There were no figures available at the time of meeting.
2. A146 safety meeting. Chair advised she had not received a reply from Cllr Kay Mason Billig and Graham Plant to her letter sent in December 2025. Clerk advised of editorial in the EDP regarding £12million which county had received from the governments Active Travel Fund. It stated this was to be used to improve walking and cycling infrastructure, bike lanes, pedestrian crossings and footpaths.
It was proposed council should acknowledge the support the parish council has received from Ben Goldsborough MP.

10. General Parish Issues (for information only).

City Fibre are working in the village. PB advised they will remove all debris left on the road.

11. Date of next meeting March 25th 2026.

Meeting closed at 21:00