

## THORPE MORIEUX PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ADDITIONAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

#### HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 8PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chair Cllr Jules O'Brien, Cllrs Ashley Simpson, Keith Lee, Garry Russell and John Squirrell.

Parish Clerk, Nicola Sturgeon was present at the meeting.

No members of the public attended were present at the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence:

- i. Cllrs Louisa Pepper and John Gagen gave their apologies in not being able to attend this additional meeting;
- ii. Cllrs consented to accept the apologies.

2. Members' Declaration of Interest:

- i. To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion – Cllr Keith Lee declared a pecuniary interest in item 3(ii) of the Agenda (Anglian Water planning application) as the proposed planning goes through some land that he owns;
- ii. To receive declarations of gifts of hospitality received – none;
- iii. To consider requests for dispensation for pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion – none.

3. Planning:

- (i) DC/23/00281 – 4 Blacksmiths Lane, Thorpe Morieux. Householder Application – Erection of two storey side and single storey front porch and rear extensions (amended scheme and re-submission of DC/22/05366). Cllrs considered the re-submitted plans under this new application compared to those submitted under application DC/22/05366. They noted the reasons the planning department refused the application under DC/22/05366, and that under this new application the size of the porch had been reduced and that the dormer window had been removed. Whilst some Cllrs considered that the presence of a porch remained out of keeping with the appearance of the row of houses at Blacksmiths Lane upon Cllrs voting it was agreed on a 3:2 majority that the Parish Council would not object to application DC/23/00281.
- (ii) DC/22/06309 – Anglian Water Services Bury to Colchester pipeline. Cross boundary hybrid planning application – Full Application for Bury St Edmunds to Colchester 69k Pipeline Scheme and associated above ground infrastructure at Raydon Water and Rushbrooke Water Treatment Works,

Signed.....

Dated.....

Raydon Tee Chemical Dosing Site and Wherstead Water Reservoir. Outline Application for above ground infrastructure at Little Saxham Water Reservoir, Little Whelnetham, Nedging Tye Water Reservoir, Hadleigh Water Reservoir and Great Horkesley with all matters reserved except for Access (accompanied by EIA Statement).

Cllr Keith Lee declared a pecuniary interest, and therefore left the meeting and did not take part in any voting/decision making.

It was noted that there were some 218 documents on the planning website in relation to this matter. Cllrs had tried to go through the ones that seemed relevant to the village.

Clerk will put up notices on the village website of details of how to contact the Parish Council if villagers had specific questions that wanted to be put to Anglian Water about this matter. Clerk also will put details of a meeting in Bradfield St Clare on 14 February 2023 at 7pm in their Village Hall where three persons from Anglian Water will be present if any villagers from Thorpe Morieux wanted to go along and speak to them/ask questions. It was such short notice between receiving notification from the planning department with the 218 documents and the time by which Parish Councils had to respond that the PC appreciated that not all villagers may have been aware and had the time to look at the documents properly and therefore may at some future date have questions they would like the Parish Clerk to ask Anglian Water.

Following discussion it was noted that:-

- (i) AW do provide alternatives routes to that proposed under the application, but having looked at the alternative route they would seem to cause potentially greater disruption within the village. However, it was noted that under AW preferred route on this application there was one land owner that was going to bear the greater amount of disruption;
- (ii) The proposed route of the AW pipeline through Thorpe Morieux unfortunately passes through several species-rich ancient hedgerows, some of which also join to Thorpe Woods SSSI. These hedgerows are important resources for wildlife and also act as corridors for wildlife to move around the countryside, in what is otherwise an intensive arable landscape. It is the Parish Councils hope that the section of hedgerow removed in this parish will be kept to the absolute minimum needed. We also hope that these missing sections will be

restored as soon as possible using appropriate species and then nurtured in future years (and not just left and possibly die off if not cared for appropriately in the first few years), so that the remaining hedgerows will be properly linked again as soon as possible;

- (iii) It was noted from the submitted documents that there will be potentially be some considerable disruption at Dakings Lane area of the village and the Parish Council would ask that any road closures/disruption be kept to a minimum. There are few routes in and out of the village and road closures for any period of time are very disruptive;
- (iv) The Parish Council noted the response from SCC Flood and Water. They state that there are errors and omissions in the submitted documents relating to flood risk and surface water drainage. This is of great concern to the Parish Council. It is important that that run off from the land that will be used to lay the pipeline is properly managed in the village. The village does not want to be left with future problems with regards to increased flood risk or surface water drainage as a result of any works carried out by AW as part of this application. It is crucial that the LPA take on board the comments made by SCC Flood and Water as the expert being consulted on such matters and that the Applicant correct any errors and omissions before the LPA consider approving any application. The Parish Council agree with SCC Flood and Water that if this is not done then the PC would object to the application. However, if these errors and omissions are rectified then the PC would not object;
- (v) Finally, it was of concern to Councillors that whilst the village would see all of this disruption whilst works were going on, and to the environment for some years whilst hedgerow was re-establishing, the village itself seemed to not benefit at all. The water pressure in the village is dreadful and had become worse over the years, could AW improve that whilst they were doing such extensive works in the village?
- (vi) The Parish Council would like to know how the route of the pipeline will be marked out once completed as the concern was the visual intrusion of items such as white poles across the landscape were unsightly and not in keeping with the rural nature of the village;
- (vii) On balance the Parish Council were neutral to the application provided the errors and omissions that SCC Flood and Water had noted were rectified before the LPA approved any planning application.

4. Date of next meeting: 9 March 2023 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed.....

Dated.....