

THORPE MORIEUX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ADDITIONAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 9 JUNE 2022 AT 8PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chair Cllr Jules O’Brien, Vice Chair John Squirrell, Cllrs Ashley Simpson, John Gagen, Garry Russell and Keith Lee and Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence:

- i. Cllr Louisa Pepper sent her apologies due to a prior family commitment;
- ii. Cllrs consented to the apologies.

2. Members’ Declaration of Interest:

- i. To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion:
Cllr O’Brien declared a pecuniary interest in item 5(ii) planning matter for Chapel Farm, due to the proximity of her own home;
Cllr Gagen declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4 as his Wife was enquiring with the PC with regards to becoming the Tree Warden for the parish.
- 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. Public Forum:

In relation to item 5(ii) of the Agenda, a parishioner offered documentation showing a restrictive covenant between Chapel Farm Barn and Chapel Farm for Parish Cllrs to look at.

4. Tree Warden

The Parish Council have been approached by Jasmin Gagen as she would be interested in becoming the Tree Warden for the village. She has made enquiries with Suffolk Tree Warden Network and needs to be appointed by the PC.

Vice Chair Cllr Squirrell gave some background about the role of Tree Warden. He pointed out the loss of Ash and Horse Chestnut trees in the village and also the loss of some mature hedging.

Vice Chair Cllr Squirrell proposed that Jasmin Gagen take up the post of Tree Warden of Thorpe Morieux offered to her by the Tree Warden Network. Cllr Russell seconded the proposal. All present in favour (Cllr John Gagen did not take part in the voting).

Signed.....

Dated.....

5. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22

- (i) Certificate of Exemption – Total annual gross income was £3418.00 and total annual gross expenditure was £4461.42. The additional expenditure over the income received was in relation to some of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies being used to contribute to the payment of road chevrons in the village where several accidents have occurred over the years. The PC approved the Certificate of Exemption. This accorded with the cashbook entries. The RFO and Chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption.
- (ii) Annual Internal Audit Report – the audit had been completed on 7 June 2022. The PC approved the Annual Internal Audit Report.
- (iii) Annual Governance Statement - the PC approved the annual governance statement and the Clerk and Chairman duly signed.
- (iv) Accounting Statements – these accorded with the cashbook. It was noted that there had been small additional income of £110 within the accounting year and that had been due to a one off covid grant payment. RFO and Chairman duly signed.

6. Planning:

- (i) Application DC/22/02237 – Rattlesdon Gliding Club, High Town Green, Rattlesdon (Part in the Parishes of Felsham and Gedding), IP30 OSX. Application under section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for 3373/13 for the Removal or Variation of Condition 3 (Restriction: limit on hours, number and type of aerotow operations).

Cllr Keith Lee gave some background information about tug plane use. Club need to be able to use an alternative plane and expanding flying to include one full week of flying.

Following discussion, the Parish Council had no concerns about the changes proposed under the planning application.

- (ii) Application DC/22/02427 – Chapel Farm, The Green, Thorpe Morieux, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0NZ. Householder application – alterations to glazing on south gable and 3no. new rooflights in north facing roof. Erection of new garden shed.

Chair Cllr Jules O'Brien left the meeting as she declared a pecuniary interest. Vice Chair Cllr John Squirrell chaired the meeting from this point onwards.

Vice Chair Cllr Squirrell gave background information to the application. Clerk has sought information from District Cllr Robert Lindsay with regards to the restrictive covenant that the owners of Chapel Farm Barn had emailed the Clerk about. Both Robert Lindsay and another person at Babergh Council

had confirmed to two Parish Cllrs that a restrictive covenant are nothing to do with planning applications but instead are a civil legal matter agreed between parties and therefore if there is any breach of a restrictive covenant then it is a civil legal matter for those parties and not a planning application matter. Planning applications need to be considered in line with the Local Plan document and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which is a different matter than a restrictive covenant agreed between two or more parties. It is in effect a private contract between the parties. Any breach of a restrictive covenant was therefore not a reason on its own for the PC to not agree with the planning application.

There was further discussion with regards to the three roof lights in the North Elevation overlooking neighbouring property, and the South facing gable replacement with a modern window. There was discussion with regards to light pollution and overlooking of neighbouring property and Cllrs discussed whether a frosted type glass would be better regarding these concerns. Some Cllrs however had no objection whatsoever whilst others were minded to object to the application outright.

It was agreed that the PC would support the application but with conditions as follows:-

“The Parish Council is concerned about the size of roof lights and overlooking neighbouring property. The PC object to the size and direction of the roof lights. The PC would support window on South facing opening, and have no problem with the shed”.

Cllr Gagen proposed this approach and Vice Chair Cllr John Squirrell seconded. All Cllrs present agreed the wording as set out above.

7. Cllrs Reports

Vice Chair Cllr Squirrell reported that the Bee Orchids on the land at Whitethorn Ley meadow are thriving well.

Cllr Keith Lee commended the Village Hall Committee for the Jubilee event. All agreed that the Queen was suitably celebrated, and he thanked all who were involved.

Cllr Keith Lee also reported on the Anglian Water pipeline, and he felt that have wrecked the field of Oil Seed Rape. The archaeological dig team had, once completed their inspection, have a different team to return for backfill – he felt that it was time wasting and increasing costs.

8. Date of next meeting: 7th July 2022 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed: 9pm

Signed.....

Dated.....