

THROWLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 6.30pm, Sheldwich Village Hall

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Present:

Roger Clarke	(TPC Chairman)
Adam Jastrzebski	(TPC Vice Chair)
Paul Furneaux	(TPC Councillor)
Sian Lewis	(TPC Councillor)
Alan Murphy	(TPC Councillor)
Di Lintott	(TPC Councillor)
Sarah Jane Tormey	(TPC Councillor)
Sarah Selby	(Clerk)

Guest: Gary Morris PC, Kent Police

1. Apologies:

Rich Lehmann	(KCC Borough Councillor, Swale East)
Terry Thompson	(SBC Councillor, East Downs)

2. Agree minutes of previous meeting (Chair) - All agreed minutes.

3. Update on actions from previous meeting (Chair)

Clerk update on response from KCC Public Rights of Way officer – unfortunately they are under resourced and unable to offer much assistance unless individual footpath issues are reported.

Action: Clerk to add footpath issue to next meeting agenda to discuss land ownership

Action: Chair to contact Ed Linch to confirm grass cuts

4. Welcome to Gary Morris PC and discussion on rural crime issues impacting Throwley parish

New beat officer for East Downs and surrounding area. Large patch and only one PC but hopes to build knowledge of issues impacting the area.

Gary will review all reports made in his area and his email address is available to contact Gary directly: "Gary Morris PC 46011013" <Gary.Morris@kent.police.uk>

Gary will support issues including theft, burglary, anti-social behaviour. The rural crime team will still be responsible for issues such as hare coursing.

The Council raised issues including speeding, flytipping, 'petty' theft, trail bikes on the Forstal and tractor speeds during the harvest.

Gary would be able to support all of these issues and encouraged everyone to report **all incidents** either by calling 101 or reporting online on the Kent Police website.

Gary also recommended 'Farmwatch' and 'My Community Voice' as sources of up to date information.

Gary will be carrying out speed checks across the area. He can also potentially help to identify flytipping culprits if people note the time when rubbish is dumped.

The crime statistics for our Parish are very low and probably don't represent the full picture due to underreporting – Gary emphasised that he can only act on issues that are reported.

Action: Clerk to update local policing details on the Throwley website

Action: Clerk to invite Gary Morris PC to Parish meeting in 2024

Action: Council to share details with Parish via WhatsApp and village email.

5. Finance update (Clerk) - Latest bank balance and payments

↓ Date	Description		Paid in	Paid out	Balance
03/10/23	SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL	• Precept Oct-Mar24	1,874.50		
02/10/23	Direct Debit (EDF ENERGY) • 673113018992			-19.96	
30/09/23	Service Charge			-18.00	
21/08/23	THE THROWLEY FETE • Electricity Charge		25.00		
04/08/23	B/P to: LandscapeSolutions	• EDLINCHGRASS70859		-375.00	
04/08/23	B/P to: Sheldwich V. Hall	• THROWLEY PC 031023		-39.00	
04/08/23	B/P to: Sarah Selby	• KIOSK PADLOCK		-17.41	

6. Latest planning applications (Chair) - Agree comments on Park Farm 23/503989/FULL

Concerns barn may be used for domestic not agricultural reasons. The Council would like to see conditions on use.

Council concerned about existing barn which may have been converted to a dwelling without appropriate planning permission.

Action Clerk to ask SBC for advice: why full application not agricultural? What action to take regarding possible change of use to barn.

7. Forstal trees work - (Clerk) Council to review quotes and agree next steps

Conservation area tree works notification determination due 23rd October. If no objections received, the Council agreed to proceed with Landscape Solutions for the tree work. They provided the cheapest of the 3 quotes received and they have verbally confirmed that they have the appropriate training and insurance to carry out the works.

8. Throwley website costs (Vice Chair)

Hugo Fox have hosted current website free of charge for a number of years. They are now introducing a charge for this service. It is £9.99+ VAT for the basic package. £19.99+ VAT for the basic package plus additional services including provision of planning updates for the Parish.

Action Cllr Jastrzebski to ask Hugo Fox for a reduced rate for the enhanced package.

9. Update from our Chair

Cllr Clarke plans to step down from his role as Chair and to resign from TPC at the next Council meeting.

On behalf of the Council, Vice Chair, Cllr Jastrzebski, thanked Roger for his service and all agreed we would be very sorry to see him leave both TPC and the Parish.

10. November meeting date

6.30pm, Tuesday 28th November at Sheldwich Village

11. Any other business

Cllr Lintott kindly offered to paint the village noticeboard again but recommends that a new noticeboard and village map will be needed soon.

Action Cllr Tormey will ask Brendan Clarke if it can be repaired

Cllr Lintott proposed installing bollards to protect the water meter on the Forstal from future damage.

Action The Chair to ask Nick Steers to quote for replacing the bollards that used to protect this corner of the Forstal from vehicle damage.

The Council discussed the bollards near the car park area which will also need replacing in due course but agreed this was not urgent.

Cllr Furneaux asked about the fete equipment and replacement storage containers.

Action Cllr Jastrzebski will follow up with Throwley Entertainment Association (TEA) to confirm whether TEA or TPC own the containers and the fete equipment.

Currently TPC insures the contents of the containers but not the containers themselves.