

THORNWICK ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the parish of Thornwick St Mary, Mereshire

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held on Tuesday, 14 January 2025 at 7.30pm
in the Committee Room, Thornwick Village Hall, High Street, Thornwick St Mary

Present: Cllr M. Pearson (Chairman), Cllr D. Whitfield (Vice-Chairman), Cllr S. Iqbal, Cllr D. Marsh, Cllr P. Hollis, Cllr R. Yeoman, Cllr G. Duckworth

In attendance: Mrs L. Carrow (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr T. Baxter, 3 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr A. Foxton (unwell)

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman welcomed those present. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Foxton, who was unwell.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made in respect of items on the agenda.

3. Public Participation

Mrs J. Fenner raised concerns on behalf of several parents about vehicles speeding along High Street outside the school at drop-off and pick-up times, and asked whether a 20mph limit could be considered. Mr R. Slater raised concerns about the condition of the swing chains on the playing field playground. The Chairman thanked both residents and confirmed both matters would be considered under the relevant agenda items.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2024 had been circulated. It was **RESOLVED** that they be approved as a true and accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

None not otherwise covered on the agenda.

6. County and District Councillors' Reports

District Cllr Baxter reported on Averbury District Council's ongoing Local Plan review consultation and encouraged residents to respond before the closing date. Cllr Wetherby (Mereshire County Council) had sent her apologies and a short written report on the County's highways budget for the coming year, which was noted.

7. Planning

Application 25/00142/FUL - conversion of a redundant barn to two dwellings, Hollow Farm, Netherfield Road, was considered. Members expressed concern regarding the proposed vehicular access onto Netherfield Road close to a blind bend, and the resulting increase in traffic movements. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council object to the application on highway safety grounds and that the Clerk submit these comments to Averbury District Council before the consultation deadline of 28 January 2025.

8. Finance

Item	Amount
Balance brought forward	£24,760.18
Clerk's salary (January)	£412.60
HMRC - PAYE/NI	£58.40
Thornwick Village Hall - room hire	£15.00
Parish newsletter - printing	£64.20

Balance carried forward	£24,209.98
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The bank reconciliation for December was tabled and checked by Cllr Whitfield against the bank statement, and signed as a true record.

9. Thornwick Village Hall - Roof

The Chairman reported that the Village Hall Management Committee had notified the Council of a leak in the main hall roof, discovered following recent heavy rain, which had caused staining to the ceiling below. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk obtain a minimum of three quotations for repair to bring to a future meeting.

10. Highways - Speed of Traffic on High Street

Following the concerns raised under item 3, and similar comments received by email over the Christmas period, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to Mereshire County Council Highways requesting a formal speed survey on High Street and asking that consideration be given to a reduced speed limit or additional signage near the school.

11. Playing Field and Playground

Further to the concern raised at item 3 regarding the swing chains, the Clerk confirmed that the annual RoSPA safety inspection was already due in February and agreed to ask the inspector to attend as a matter of priority.

12. Correspondence

The Clerk noted receipt of a Public Path Diversion Order notice from Mereshire County Council relating to land at Poachers' Field, for information only; no comment was required from the Council.

13. Any Other Business

The Royal British Legion had queried reimbursement of the cost of the wreath laid at the 2024 Remembrance Sunday service; it was agreed the Clerk confirm the exact cost and bring the matter back for approval in February. The Clerk was asked to confirm a date in May for the Annual Parish Meeting.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 11 February 2025, 7.30pm, Thornwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.

Signed (Chairman) _____ Date: _____

Thornwick St Mary Parish Council — Clerk to the Council: Mrs L. Carrow — clerk@thornwickstmarypc-demo.org.uk — These minutes are draft until formally approved and signed at the next meeting of the Council.