

THORNWICK ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the parish of Thornwick St Mary, Mereshire

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held on Tuesday, 12 May 2026 at 7.30pm (following the Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.00pm)
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 A. Foxton, Cllr D. Marsh, Cllr P. Hollis, Cllr R. Yeoman, Cllr K. Ashworth

In attendance: Mrs L. Carrow (Clerk & RFO), approx. 25 electors at the preceding Annual Parish Meeting

Apologies: none

Annual Parish Meeting (7.00pm)

Ahead of the Council's own business, the Annual Parish Meeting was held and was well attended by approximately 25 electors. The Chairman reviewed the Council's activities over the past year, including the completion of the new playground roundabout and the churchyard boundary wall rebuild. As part of the evening, the new roundabout was formally opened with a short ribbon-cutting performed by a young village resident, to warm applause. Short reports were also received from the Village Hall Management Committee, the Women's Institute and St Mary's Church. No formal decisions were taken at the Annual Parish Meeting, and the meeting closed at 7.28pm.

Council Business (7.30pm)

1. Election of Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Pearson be re-elected Chairman for 2026/27. The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Whitfield be re-elected Vice-Chairman for 2026/27.

3. Apologies for Absence

All members were present.

4. Declarations of Interest

None.

5. Review of Register of Members' Interests

Members were reminded of their obligation to keep their entry on the Register of Interests up to date.

6. Appointments to Outside Bodies and Working Groups

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following appointments for the year: Village Hall liaison – Cllr Marsh; Playing Field and Playground – Cllr Hollis; Footpaths – Cllrs Iqbal and Ashworth (Cllr Yeoman having stepped back from this group as notified in November 2025; the Council recorded its thanks to her for her work on the footpaths group); Planning working group – Cllrs Pearson, Whitfield and Foxton; Churchyard/burial ground liaison – Cllr Yeoman; Neighbourhood Plan working group – lead Cllr Foxton, together with resident volunteers to be confirmed following the June drop-in meeting.

7. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2026 were **RESOLVED** as a true record and signed.

8. Matters Arising

None not otherwise covered on the agenda.

9. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2025/26

The internal auditor's report for the year ended 31 March 2026 was noted, with no matters of concern raised. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements, both to be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. The Council again qualified for the certificate of exemption from external audit, and agreed that the Notice of Public Rights be published in accordance with the regulations.

10. Finance

Item	Amount
Balance brought forward	£57,940.98
Clerk's salary (May)	£412.60
HMRC – PAYE/NI	£58.40
Room hire	£15.00
Zurich Municipal – annual insurance renewal	£510.00
Internal audit fee 2025/26	£75.00
Balance carried forward	£56,869.98

11. Planning

No new applications had been received.

12. Correspondence

None requiring discussion.

13. Any Other Business

None raised.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 9 June 2026, 7.30pm, Thornwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.24pm.

Signed (Chairman) _____ Date: _____