

# Therfield Parish Council



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Chairman Andy Osbourne

## MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of Therfield Parish Council held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>  
January 2023 at 7.30pm at Therfield Chapel.

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### Present

Present: Cllr Andy Osbourne (Chairman), Cllr Linda Laing (Vice-Chair), Cllr Clive Close, Cllr Julia Duncan, Cllr Tim Jeffries, Cllr David Whitby, Cllr Sally Whitby.

In attendance: Cllr Steve Jarvis, Cllr Gerald Morris, Clerk to the Council Sarah Wylie.

Members of the public: Mike Hartley.

Apologies for absence: Clive Hall, Conservator.

1.01.23	To receive and approve apologies for absence. Clive Hall.
2.01.23	To receive members' declaration of any pecuniary interest connected to the agenda. None.
3.01.23	To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2022, and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record. AO proposed, LL seconded.  Clerk confirmed that the playground mound had been seeded by Trevor Sharp.
4.01.23	To invite members of the public to address the meeting: Mike Hartley - pot holes. The Causeway, (reported in December by Debbie Jeffries - re reported them), New Road and the Heath Road.

	<p>Gerald Morris and Steve Jarvis - has been reported, but due to the weather conditions there are now six times more potholes than there were last year. It will take time to mend them as the demand is so high.</p> <p>Royston - building the entrance roads into the new estate - should be starting work this week. 40mph speed limit.</p> <p>LL asked - Will there be a school built? If not, what would be in its place? Steve Jarvis confirmed that they are not looking to build a school at the moment due to the fall in children numbers, but will leave the site bare in case the demand for one should occur. Ref: The Clothall Estate in Baldock - the site for a school there was left bare for 40 years.</p> <p>Reg and the gritting - would some sort of recompense for his work be appropriate? Dave Whitby to speak to Reg - to be discussed at the next meeting in March - invoice the Council to make a one off payment. JD raised the possibility of a new gritter for him?</p>
5.01.23	<p>To discuss matters relating to North Herts and Herts CC.</p> <p>Gerald Morris:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The flooding at Reed End - again has been reported to Highways - still outstanding.</li> <li>• Sewage treatment plant - cannot cope with the amount of raw sewage - particularly prevalent in Barkway and Therfield. Has asked for provision to halt any new builds until the sewage has been updated. Persistence is key! Therfield Council to add an addendum to any planning application responses stating that this should be the case. AO to draft and also</li> <li>• AO to ask Kelshall Parish Meeting to add their voice to the complaint.</li> <li>• Highlighted the adoption of the Local Plan.</li> <li>• Purple bins - cycle will changed to every 3 weeks in 2024.</li> </ul> <p>Steve Jarvis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide an update on work done on potential gateways on each road into the village and the resulting first proposal. Plastic lookalike gates (experimented in Weston), provide an entrance feature but should make people slow down. Which sites: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rooks Nest</li> <li>2. Kelshall Tops</li> <li>3. New Road</li> <li>4. Haywoods Lane</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20s Plenty - they are trying to get Herts to change its mind.</li> <li>• AO to forward the SJ report on the Gateways. Does the Council have the opportunity to negotiate where the gateways go? Yes. The Council agreed with the siting of all of them - except the New Road one - unsure...</li> <li>• DriveSafe - maybe a sub group meeting? Would be nice to have more volunteers.</li> <li>• Dane End - flooded again - HCC considering new consultation with residents and landowners in the vicinity to have different approach to the temporary fixes which have been made to date. Steve Jarvis following up.</li> </ul>
6.01.23	<p>To discuss matters relating to Heath and Greens.</p> <p>Feedback from the Conservators' workshop held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022. They haven't had a meeting yet anyway. The Council expressed its disappointment at the Conservators absence.</p>
7.01.23	<p>To hear from the Financial Officer including; monthly totals, approval for expenses, Clerk's salary, and invoices received and for prior approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget discussed. Precept 2023/2024 to be set as close to last year as possible - £6100. Deadline is the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023. AO proposed, LL seconded.</li> <li>• Outstanding: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clerk to pay school invoice - £150.</li> <li>2. To add the invoice for the benches need to be on this too.</li> <li>3. Plaques to be included at an additional cost of £40.</li> <li>4. Clerk to confirm increase in salary.</li> <li>5. Clerk to update the budget sheet and then discuss the cost of the benches with Gail Bishop.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Clocks estimate - LL has passed information on to the Clerk for her to apply for a grant.</li> <li>• Clerk training - AGAR training at the end of January.</li> <li>• AO to fill out a section 38 re the 'No Parking' signs.</li> <li>• New Councillor training - Sue at HAPTC has added TJ to its emails.</li> <li>• SILCA course for Clerk - to be confirmed.</li> </ul>
08.01.23	<p>To hear reports from the nominated representatives for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highways and Police. Dane End flooding - as discussed above.</li> <li>• Footpaths. Tree removed by Chris Ward.</li> <li>• AED - AO stated all checked, logged and up-to-date.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning items lodged by date of meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 22/03264/FPH at Slate Hall Farm - no comment.</li> <li>2. 22/03300/FP at Land East of Maple House - no objection to the application but will make a comment about the sewerage issue.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Any other items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Beacon update - AO and CC to speak to Tom Kingsley about possible sighting, and Margaret Hodge about storage.</li> <li>2. Coronation Celebration - deferred until the next meeting.</li> <li>3. Annual Parish Meeting - not this year.</li> <li>4. Litterpick - March 18<sup>th</sup> 2023.</li> <li>5. Debbie Jeffries has done the DriveSafe course - advert in the village magazine? Dog poo signs -TJ has put some more up... Arthur Foulser to continue representing the Council on the Therfield and Kelshall Trust Fund.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
09.01.23	Website - Training for TJ. Meeting between TJ and Simon Brazil. To be arranged.
10.01.23	To receive matters for report and/or referral to next agenda (info only). None.
11.01.23	Note correspondence received. None.
12.01.23	To confirm date of next meeting. Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March  9.10pm meeting closed.