

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE THORNHAM MAGNA VILLAGE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2013 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: 18 members present plus Joan Maughan (Chair), Tina Schwarz (Clerk and RFO) and Julia Henniker (Minutes). Diana Kearsley attended as MSDC member. Apologies were received from Mik and Jude Farrell, Jess Palmer, Ben and Clare Hall, James Fawcett.

1 Welcome: JM welcomed everyone including four new members: Thelma and Tim Thorogood and Jo and Mark Utting. She said the village had had a busy summer with a lot of events – Church concerts, films and talks in the Village Hall, a Henniker wedding and the Big Love event at the campsite. She thanked people for working hard to present these events and supporting them.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 21st May were read and agreed as a correct record. There were no matters arising from the Minutes which weren't covered in the Agenda.

3 Finance: The Clerk presented the accounts from 1st April 2013. She explained that there had been an £8 fee charged on the deposit account because of the late transfer of funds from the current account. There was a discussion about keeping the deposit account, closing it or changing to another Bank given that the tiny amount of interest on our small funds hardly warrants the work in running two accounts. It was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to close the deposit account.

TS had attended a SALC conference which she had found useful. Two points emerged of interest to the Meeting, a. In spite of the auditors warning about too large a balance in our accounts over the years, they cannot insist we reduce the level of our funds. b. If the population increases, the Meeting cannot be forced to become a Parish Council with all the attendant expense and politics.

4 Report from the police: There had been 14 crimes committed in Thornham Magna in the last year. A big increase. It was agreed that Dave Cowdell would attend one of the open meetings being held by the new Police and Crime Commissioner in October. These were thought to be more effective for discussing the increase of unresolved cases and the perennial problem of speeding than the police run meetings. There was yet again a long discussion about speeding and the danger to Walks visitors whose numbers have possibly increased to 20,000 pa since the playground opened last year. This problem has been ongoing for 20 years. Brian Haynes suggested the Meeting borrow two flashing warning lights which could be moved about the village. There was no way any penalties could be imposed but the lights could make a few people slow down. BH will look into this.

5 Update on tree diseases in the area: Ash die back would almost certainly arrive in the village. People were asked to notify the Forestry Commission if they found the disease. Acute Oak decline was already on the Estate. Removing an infected limb was very often a solution and enabled the tree to recover its strength. The Chestnuts were unaffected by the leaf virus although it looks unpleasant.

6 The redundant telephone box: The Meeting was keen to preserve the box and perhaps use it as a book exchange and information point. BT will keep the electricity connection free of charge for approx five years. The Clerk to check insurance, BT contract, tell the MSDC Responsible Officer of our intention to buy the box from BT for £1. BH and DC will look into any repairs and alterations needed. It was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to go ahead with purchase and have a budget of up to £100 for expenses.

7 Any other business

Diana Kearsley gave her report on the Police and Crime Commissioner's open meetings in Stowmarket and Bury in October. Previous meetings had been dominated by speeding problems.

She was asked to find out why the Village Meeting had not been notified of these meetings and of consultation meetings. There was a meeting in Eye Town Hall on 26th September to talk about an action plan for Eye. The Meeting felt it needed to be kept informed and involved especially in relation to the proposal for a power station on the Eye airfield in addition to more turbines and that Thornham Magna fell well inside the area that will be affected by these developments. DK said she would look into the lack of communication.

She also said that the police were to have special training for dealing with people who have mental health problems and dementia.

There had been further cuts to MSDC/Babergh for the Health and Wellbeing budget from Central Government. Future events: 27th September, film *Late Quartet*; Big Coffee at Star House Farm; 6th October, Orlando Jopling cello concert, 4pm in the Church; 13th October, Apple Day in the Walled Garden 11.30 to 4 and Harvest Festival followed by lunch at Coach House.

Seesaw for the village playground, Barney Farrell has shaped the oak which will form the elegant seat. The metalwork is on order.

Bridge over the stream: JH had received a request, revived from 2007, relating to a new bridge to serve Brook House. The Meeting discussed the pros and cons; the Meeting was anxious that all bridges should be able to be used by all. BH though we should move with the times and felt it understandable that people wanted more access. Other members were concerned about loss of trees and the length of splay which would be required. It was thought Planning Permission will have lapsed, the Clerk is to look into planning status and report to the Meeting.

8 Date of next Meeting: Tuesday January 14th 2014

Note from the Clerk, 25th October 2013

The phone box now belongs to the village! Volunteers for refurbishment will be needed fairly soon, please help. Previous planning permission for a bridge opposite Brook House has lapsed. Deposit account closed and all monies transferred to our current account.

November events

Christmas Fair at the Village Hall on 16th November, 10.30am to 1pm

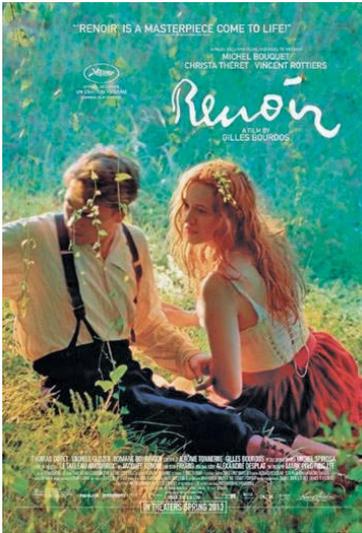
Looks like there will be some great festive fair, crafts, plants and much more. Make sure you put the date in your diary and come along for a cup of coffee and start getting into the Christmas spirit!

Jolly Jars needed! Please help support the Christmas Fair by donating a Jolly Jar! Let your imagination run wild! Fill a jar with sweets, buttons, small toys, ribbon or just a surprise! Bring your jar to The Old Post Office or the Village Hall on the morning of the fair!



Renoir, the next film, Village Hall, 7.30 on Friday 22nd November

£5, on the door or in advance from Priscilla, 01379 672903



1915. While war rages in Northern France, on the Cote d'Azur Pierre-Auguste Renoir (Michel Bouquet) is tormented by the loss of his wife, the pains of arthritic old age and the news that his son Jean (Vincent Rottier) has been wounded in action.

But when a young girl suddenly enters his world, the old painter is filled with a new, wholly unexpected energy. Blazing with life, radiantly beautiful, Andrée (Christa Theret) will become his last model, and the wellspring of a remarkable rejuvenation. Back at the family home to convalesce, Jean too falls under the spell of his father's new redheaded muse. In French with English sub-titles.