

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE THORNHAM MAGNA VILLAGE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 15th MAY 2014 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: 12 Members present including Joan Maughan (Chair), Tina Schwarz (Clerk and RFO), Julia Henniker (Minutes)
Attending: Cllr Jessica Fleming (SCC)

1 Welcome and apologies JM welcomed everyone and said that there had been apologies from Jude and Mik Farrell, Joe Vaudrey, Jenny Groeneveld, Bryan Haynes, Lorna Polke, Eileen Chandler and Diana Kearsley.

2 Nomination and election of officers Jan Eaves took the Chair and asked for any nominations. Both JM and TS had expressed their willingness to continue, there were no other nominations. JM was proposed by Pricilla Macrae and seconded by Jennifer Vaudrey. TS was proposed by James Fawcett and seconded by Ian Macrae. Both were elected unanimously. JH agreed to continue as Minute Secretary.

3 Chair's report on 2013/2014

Joan Maughan felt that the village had had a good year. Apart from the big event of the installation of the see saw in April, a lot had been happening: monthly film shows, the summer music weekend, and a series of events in the Village Hall.

JM expressed her personal thanks to everyone who had put in so much work.

The biggest event, however, was the proposal by Progress Power to build a gas powered power station on Eye Airfield with a substation on the other side of the A140 at Yaxley. This information had filtered through several months after PP had held their consultation meetings and allegedly notified the villages and settlements within 3 kms from the site. Both Suffolk County Council, MSDC and the local MPs had responded robustly to this apparent high handedness.

4 Financial report and approval of accounts The Clerk reported on income and expenditure since the meeting on 14th January 2014 when the budget and precept had been agreed. Christopher Dale had audited the figures locally. The full year's figures were presented and approved unanimously by the members present for submission to the auditors.

5 Minutes of the Meeting of 14th January 2014 were agreed and signed.

6 Matters arising

Transformation of the telephone box into a book exchange. Dave Cowdell to be consulted.

Speed limit flashing sign, Bryan Haynes ditto.

Thankyou to the Hall family for organising the litter pick in March.

7 Updates from various organisations

The Parish Hall needed a lot of work doing on the electrics.

The bellringers were to ring a quarter peel on safari round 4 bell towers to mark the centenary of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

The next Thornham Music weekend will be on 17th-20th July. The programme will be emailed asap.

Film nights will start again in September.

9 Loose dogs There had been a complaint to PSCO Dave Faulkner about loose dogs in the village. The Meeting agreed that all dogs should be on leads and under control at all times.

10 Proposed helping hand scheme Eileen Chandler produced a form for those interested in either helping or needing help to register. EC will prepare the scheme in the near future.

11 Future events

Bun Festival on June 21st

Dance on either August 9th or 15th

Quiz on either October 10th or 17th

JH suggested reviving the treasure hunts that John Henniker used to run round the Estate. She thought she might still have some of the old rhyming clues.

8 Power station

The Meeting voted with one abstention in favour of the village registering an interest with the Planning Inspectorate.

Councillor Jessica Fleming arrived and the discussion continued about Progress Power and their application, lack of consultation, and the responses from the local and county authorities. The MPs Dr Dan Poulter and David Ruffley had written and arranged a meeting with the management of Progress Power. An alternative to siting transformers at Yaxley could be to run high power feeder cables underground from the Eye site, but this is not a preferred option for the developers as it is much more expensive.

12 AOB

There was a long discussion about the state of the roads and speeding cars on the Gislingham road past the Thornham Walks entrance. For years the village had asked for an extension of the speed limit past Red House Farm as urgent, especially as now, with the building of the playground, the visitor numbers had risen.

JF explained that the repairs to potholes was very slow as the new contractors, Keir, had to assess each hole for safety before they could fill it and suggested that the Clerk emailed the authorities with our concerns once again. The Clerk agreed to do this quickly.

13 Date of next meeting and close of meeting The Meeting closed at 9.10pm. The next Meeting is 18th September at 7.30pm.