

## **DRAFT MINUTES OF THE THORNHAM MAGNA VILLAGE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15th JANUARY 2015 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** 13 members including Joan Maughan (Chair), Tina Schwarz (Clerk) and Julia Henniker (Minutes)

**1 Welcome and apologies for absence** from Joe Vaudrey, Eileen Chandler, Brian and Jean Haynes, Dame Anne Warburton, Janine Eaves, Cllr Jessica Fleming (SCC) and Cllr Diana Kearsley (MSDC)

JM welcomed a new resident, Richard Jannaway, and sent good wishes to his wife Frances hoping they would be happy in Thornham.

**2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th September 2014** were agreed after an amendment to item 5 – the location of the nearest public defibrillator being at the fire station in Eye – and signed by the Chair.

**3 Matters arising** There were no matters arising which were not covered in the Agenda.

**4 Financial report** TS presented the Financial Report. There had been an overspend on the grass cutting. The Meeting shares the cost of a cut with the Village Hall, the contractor had continued to cut until the end of November which produced a bill to the Meeting of £326 (40% of the total). This included the unusual cost of £50 for dealing with a wasp nest. The Meeting agreed we should aim for 13 cuts fortnightly in 2015, bearing in mind that none of us could predict the weather. The budget for 2015/16 was discussed and set at £908.

It was proposed by Mik Farrell after a general discussion, that the precept should be increased to £7 per household, amounting to £690.

The vote was carried unanimously.

**5 Health and wellbeing in the village** JM outlined the progress that had been made, largely by the Clerk, on the provision and cost of providing a defibrillator for the village, which included the Walks and the two training projects.

TS had talked to the Ambulance Service and discovered that they had equipment that they could donate as long as it was installed before the end of March. Dame Anne had since donated £500 which could cover installation which, it was suggested could be on the wall of Street Forge behind the telephone box which would be an easily identifiable landmark. (JH would hope to arrange this with the manager of Street Forge). The defibrillator would be in a 100 percent vandal proof box and would be accessed via a 999 call when instructions on how to use it would be given.

Dr James Warner had sent a paper to the Meeting, describing the advantages of having such equipment and offering to undertake any required monitoring and maintenance and to organise any training needed.

A long discussion followed and it was generally agreed that any first aid courses could be linked into a campaign due to be promoted by the Ambulance Service this summer, while instructions on how to use the equipment could be run by Jo Pitt a first responder from Gislingham. Ben Hall stressed that CPR training was also essential and needed to be ongoing so that a good percentage of the village was trained.

The Chair proposed that: the Meeting should accept with gratitude Dame Anne's generous cheque and that the donation of a defibrillator by the Ambulance Service should be accepted and that CPR training and possibly other first aid training should be organised and that the equipment should be shared with neighbouring villages.

Agreed 11, abstained 2

**6 Proposed power station on Eye Airfield and Yaxley substation** JM explained that the consultation period was now over and no more submissions would be accepted. A decision by the Planning Inspectorate was waited for.

David Burns (MSDC Councillor) and others had done an enormous amount of work, he had chaired the working group of concerned parishes. Each parish had been tasked with looking into different aspects of the proposals. A fighting fund had been set up and had realised £3,500 from private donations which had been spent on the commissioning of experts. By far the most significant point of contention over the siting of the substation, was the prehistoric landscape features, which are of national significance.

Both SCC and MSDC had issued dissenting views, regretting their earlier support of the project. Dr Dan Poulter MP had also submitted a dissenting view.

JM to consider writing an open letter to the press to get their attention.

JM and TS had been to several meetings and digested all the documents, they would forward the summary to those who would like them

**7 Litter pick** fixed for March 22nd at 10am, meet at the Village Hall. Ben Hall has again agreed to organise this.

**8 Forthcoming events**

23rd Jan: film: Pride

6th Feb: Quiz Night (volunteer cooks needed)

20th Feb: film: Gone Girl

15th March: Early music concert at Thornham Parva Church

20th March: film: Mr Turner

24th April. film: Imitation Game

**9 Any other business**

**a** The Meeting was concerned that Margaret and George Keeley had moved to be near their son's home as George became ill. The Meeting sent their best wishes and thanks for all they had done for the village over the years. A card will be sent.

**b** The Clerk was asked to contact BT to ask if our broadband speed will be improved as a result of fibre cables reaching neighbouring villages from which some of us are supplied.

**10 Date of next Meeting** 14th May 2015

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm