

## **DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE THORNHAM MAGNA VILLAGE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2017 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** 12 members including Joan Maughan (Chair), Tina Schwarz (Clerk and RFO) and Jennifer Vaudrey (Minutes)

**Attending:** Jessica Fleming (SCC councillor), Diana Kearsley (MSDC councillor) and one guest

**1 Welcome and apologies for absence:** Julia Henniker, Mick and Jude Farrell, Ian and Priscilla Macrae, Joan Calkin and Joe Vaudrey.

### **2 Matters arising:**

Possible new bench for play area: Janine Eves suggested that perhaps a seat with a back rail would be more suitable, clerk to investigate costings and report back at next meeting. The plastic caps also need replacing and Janine said that due to the increasing use from Parish Hall hirings she would ask the Parish Hall Trustees if this could be funded by them. The playground annual inspection was still to be undertaken by MSDC, clerk to remind them again. (Report now received by Clerk.) Janine undertakes the regular checks. A work party to be arranged for later this year to cut back overhanging branches and general maintenance.

**3 Financial report:** Copies of the accounts, budget and risk assessment were circulated for approval along with the signed off annual return audited by BDO. TS read through the summary receipts and payments with the opening current account balance as at 1st April 2017: £905.77 and the closing balance as at 31st August: £1250.77.

**4 Report from Tree Warden:** Frances Jannaway, new tree warden for Thornham Magna and Parva, (also acting chair of Suffolk Tree Warden Network, which is run by volunteers) gave an interesting talk on the important work of village tree wardens. Frances can help and advise on local trees and TPOs (Tree Preservation Orders).

Joan expressed concern about the recent felling on the Estate and ash die back. Frances advises that when buying trees please only buy from reputable sources and use experienced tree surgeons.

For more information contact Frances on 01379 672987 or email frances.jannaway@gmail.com.

**5 Live party noise:** Suzanne Thurlow commented that in July late live music, apparently from the direction of Wickham Skeith, was extremely loud and anti-social. JM suggested that as a matter of courtesy people should contact neighbours if they are holding a late party.

**6 Speeding update:** No further news to report from Jessica Fleming, other than it remains a high priority once the SCC procedure for agreeing speed limit amendments is in place. James asked if static flashing speed signs could be installed? Unfortunately as a Meeting we do not have the status/powers to fund these, but we can request a special order from MSDC, however the costs involved would be between £2.500 and £3.000 for the equipment, installation and running (they would need battery packs or possibly solar panels). Small grants could be obtained but we would have to increase the precept.

### **7 Report from Jessica Fleming, SCC:**

Jessica now sits on Suffolk's New Strategic Priorities committee. Highways: new arrangements have started and the Thornhams will now be served from Rougham centre, customer service 0345 6066171 or [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk).

School transport: Far-reaching plans to change the provision for 11-16 year olds, with consultation in October. Jessica urges anyone with school-age children to take a close interest and respond to the consultation.

Diana Kearsley spoke about the new Joint Local Plan (clerk has a copy) with meetings for two representatives from each parish to attend (Chair and Clerk).

Work has started on the archaeological excavations in Gislingham on the housing development site and is expected to take six months.

**8 Suffolk Cabins:** This summer there has been some noise and activity at weekends from the Cabins, with a possible breach of planning permission. As a guest, Tom Lund Lack said that the cabins were used largely for mindfulness retreats and educational use only and was unaware of any problems. Joan reported that MSDC has reopened the case.

**9 AOB:** Best wishes for full recovery to Margaret Keeley and Joan Calkin were sent by those present. JW explained that the north end of the village still had no date or further news for Superfast Broadband. SS is collecting photos from villagers of the Tour of Britain Cycle Race as a record of this exciting event, he will circulate the results. The Suffolk Preservation Society is giving free membership to all Suffolk Village meetings, the clerk has a copy of their magazines.

The meeting ended at 9.25pm

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 16th January 2018