



THAXTED PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the council meeting of Thaxted Parish Council held on Thursday 5th October 2023 at
7:30pm in Thaxted Guildhall

Present: Cllr V Knight (Vice Chair) Cllr Howells, Cllr Wattebot, Cllr Williams, Cllr Frostick, Cllr Perkins & Cllr Herbert, Cllr Young, Cllr Egan

Others Present

District Cllr Richard Haynes

Officer: Dena Oxley

Public: 2 present.

1	Apologies for absence Cllr Frater (Chair) received and accepted. Cllr Weakley received and accepted. Cllr Williams apologizes in advance as he is running late. District & County Cllr Foley received and accepted.
2	Declarations of Interest None received
3	Public representations None
4	Reports from District & County Councillors Report received and attached
5	Minutes Resolved To approve the 7 th September 2023 full Council minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
6	Committee Meetings To note the Open Spaces committee minutes held on the 21 st September 2023 To note the Planning committee minutes held on the 21 st September 2023
7	Cutlers Solar Farm - Rule 6 Cllr knight gives a verbal update in connection to the three-day appeal hearing details. We are hoping to finish next week on Wednesday with closing statements and then we await the report. Our heritage and landscape consultants have been particularly good and we are well supported giving lots of good points. The site visit is taking place this Thursday.
8	Chairman's Report Cllr knight gives a verbal update on behalf of Cllr Frater who was on other council business this evening. Attended the craft ability AGM Good update from the Windmill trust on how the Two organisations might work together, thanks was given to the PC for their support. Fielded a number of calls from a number of residents after the Local Plan was leaked. The shipping container is now in place at the REC for the TFT.
9	Monk Street – Byway Consultation Resolved to make no comment
10	UDC playing pitch & outdoor sports strategy survey. Uttlesford Town and Parish Council Survey

	To Consider TPC's response to the survey which is asking us to provide information on the facilities owned or managed in this sector surrounding outdoor playing provision in the area and experiences of your Council. Deadline for completion 2/11/23. Delegated to The Clerk/Assistant Clerk.
11	<p>Museums Essex Membership</p> <p>To consider the parish Council reinstating the membership at a Fee of £50 community buildings owned or managed by the council would therefore benefit e.g. the Windmill & Guildhall. It is therefore Resolved to rejoin.</p>
12	<p>Biodiversity Guidance</p> <p>To approve what action to take in connection to our Duty as a parish Council on the biodiversity within Thaxted.</p> <p>SLCC New Government Guidance on Biodiversity</p> <p>The Clerk will adapt policies to include the Duty of the Parish Council and return to an upcoming meeting.</p>
13	<p>Tri-Service coordinator – Item brought forward to before item 4.</p> <p>Andrea Adams spoke in connection to the Tri-Service role, & informed us on the progress of community speed watch, a newsletter is being created by the police community officer. An event on the 6th Nov at Stanstead fire station advertising a recruitment push for volunteers. Cllr Knight asks where the areas are which can be targeted. Cllr Frostick spoke of promoting the tri-service team to advertise in the star as this is a prominent area and generated a lot of interest in the past, also to promote free fire alarms.</p>
14	<p>Local Plan</p> <p>The Local Plan group met on Wednesday this week, and in summary the chairman of the Local Plan Working group was witnessed not voting for what the group was promoting.</p> <p>The Roadshows which are going to take place Manuden and great Chesterford and somewhere around Great Dunmow, where NO MAJOR housing developments are proposed, they appear to be avoiding any areas where major housing proposed being Saffron Walden, Takeley and Thaxted. The Clerk shall advertise the consultations via socials to rally the local residents to attend. It is resolved to write to Dean Hermitage In the first instance in connection to where the roadshows are being held and seek a response. It is also suggested that a working group be formed with the chair of our planning committee and shall disband 6 weeks from 3rd Nov. members are to include Cllr knight, Weakley, Perkins, Wattebot & Peter Neal.</p>
15	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>To receive an update on matters connection to the refresh of our NP</p> <p>Cllr Frostick suggests that we need to wait until the LP has been produced as what ever the NP contains it must have the new housing numbers. Grants must be assessed, and budgets should also be considered.</p>
16	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a) To review and sign on-line payments as per report for September 2023</p> <p>b) To receive the councils' full finances up to and including August 2023</p>
17	<p>Office Clerks Report</p> <p>See attached report</p>
18	<p>Guildhall Custodian Report</p> <p>To review a new monthly report on matters connected to the Guildhall, The Council thank Rob for a very informative report.</p>
19	<p>Items for the next agenda (not for resolution)</p> <p>Xmas Meal, to be considered in January (19th) Jenna is happy to organise and co-ordinate</p>