

THORNER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 08th September 2026 at the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

Present;

Councillors: C.Burrows (Chair), D.Aindow, J.LeRoy, S.Llewellyn, T.Mycock, A.Scott, V.Forster, A.Wallis and C.Wilson.

Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.

7 members of the public were in attendance for parts of the meeting.

1.Apologies.

Full attendance.

2.Ethical Code.

Councillor Scott and Councillor Llewellyn both declared a Personal Interest in agenda item 8.3.

Councillor Wallis declared a Personal interest in agenda item 11.a.

Councillor Wilson declared a Pecuniary Interest due to having received a ticket for the Leeds Festival.

Councillor Wallis informed the Parish Council that she had also received a ticket for the Leeds Festival but had declared this to Leeds CC.

3.Minutes.

The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting, were approved and signed by the Chair Councillor Burrows.

4.Admission of the public and press and representations.

a. The Clerk would record the meeting.

b. No notified representations received.

c. A representation not notified to the Clerk before the meeting was made by a resident concerning agenda item 8.3; to enquire how the outstanding matter concerning the unpaid invoice (minute 8.3), would be resolved and provided information on the way the work was carried out as opposed to that requested.

A resident was in attendance to show a model and provide information on the Butts Garth story board, which would be discussed under agenda item 10.a.

The resident also commented on agenda item 13.b. and suggested that if a newsletter was produced once a year, then it should be printed in high quality and delivered to every residence.

A resident provided information on the proposed apple pressing event to be held at the Boules area on Sunday 27th September 2026 from 10.00am and asked for permission to utilise the water supply from the gardens and the electric supply from the Boules shelter, members had no objection to the request.

d. No Ward Councillor in attendance.

5.Confidentiality.

In addition to the information itemised under agenda item 16.; agenda item 11. was of a special and confidential nature that required the public and press to be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw (Standing Order 13).

6.Police.

The link for reporting non-emergency crimes or Anti-social behaviour is

www.westyorkshire.police.uk

The link for the Police web site-

<https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/west-yorkshire-police/leeds-north-east/>

Councillor Burrow commented that there were 3 crimes recorded for July 2026. These were violence and sexual offences and a vehicle crime.

It was noted that the next PACT meeting would be held on Thursday 08th October 2026 at Wetherby Police Station.

Community Alert scheme.

<https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/west-yorkshire-community-alert>

7.Planning applications/appeals/enforcement action, received.

7.1 Members duly noted application 26/04198/FU, for new and replacement windows and doors to all sides at Beech View Barn, Carr Lane. with no objection.

7.2 Having reviewed application 26/04020/FU, for a two-storey extension to side, new door to rear at 4 Kirkfield Crescent, the Clerk was asked to submit an objection on the basis that the design of the development and its appearance was out of character with its surroundings.

7.3 Having reviewed application 26/04335/FU, for the demolition of an existing lean-to structure; erection of detached garden outbuilding at Southern Cross, St Johns Avenue, the Clerk was asked to submit a comment to raise concerns about possible light pollution and that although the application states that no trees are to be removed, that the Cherry Tree would not be even though it is consumed by Ivy.

7.4 Members duly noted the information provided in the planning log.

8.Financial Matters.

8.1 Members were informed about the payments for September 2026;

Resolved: that the following be approved and passed for payment:

Accounts for Payment:

Date prepared	Sep-26			
EFT Type	Details	Net	VAT	Total
BACS	Clerk Salary	£799.84		£799.84
BACS	Clerk Salary adjustment	£127.76		£127.76
BACS	Clerk Home Allowance/Mileage	£27.00		£27.00
BACS	British Telecom - Phone	£44.02	£8.81	£52.83
D/Debit	Nest - Pension	£67.49		£67.49
BACS	Parks Services Ltd	£810.00		£810.00
BACS	S.Brittain Grounds Maintenance	£760.71		£760.71
	Total Payments	£2,636.82	£8.81	£2,645.63

8.2 Members were in agreement with the content of the monthly budget monitor and bank reconciliation report for appropriate governance.

It was noted that having received the donation from Voneus to purchase a new flowerbox, that one would be purchased no later than October and would be positioned in an area by the Ford or in Sandhills.

8.3 Having received the reasoning that the new fencing had been erected as a stock fence (see minute 4.c.), it was established that it had not been requested as a stock fence and therefore not completed to the requirements agreed. Following discussion, it was accepted that a compromise between the Parish Council and the contractor be reached, to enable this the short post would be replaced and the side rail removed in consideration for the Parish Council to pay £530 to the contractor.

9. Action Plan.

The updated report with the relevant actions completed and to be undertaken were noted and agreed. Specifically, it was confirmed that the invoice received for the replacement battery for the defibrillator would be paid the following day.

The Clerk confirmed that a site meeting with playground contractors had been arranged for Thursday 10th September at 11.00am.

Councillors Llewellyn and Wallis, were to arrange a meeting with the new Headmaster of the School to discuss their involvement in the Christmas event on Millennium Green. Councillor Llewellyn was to borrow a marquee from the Victory Hall in case of rain on the night of the event.

10. Matters arising from previous minutes.

- a. A draft model of the proposed story board for Butts Garth showing the water colour painting produced by the local artist Michael Brereton, with superimposed brief comments about features of note, was presented to members. It was proposed that an A2 size panel of this artwork be commissioned and mounted on a steel lectern in the vicinity of the market cross. It was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for the story board on receipt of MICE funding from the Ward Councillors (see minute 8.3 11th August 2026). Michael Brereton was thanked for his contribution.
- b. No further progress had been made on the provision of a mobile phone signal, Councillor Wallis would contact Sir Alec Shelbrooke MP, to ascertain information.
- c. Comment was made that a meeting to review the Neighbourhood Plan was to be arranged by Ward Councillor Firth, he would be contacted about providing an update.

Regarding having the hedges cut and shaped on Millennium Green (see minute 13. 11th August 2026), a quote received of £1450 was accepted.

11.To consider any new correspondence received and decide action where necessary.

- a. See minute 16.
- b. Due to a change in the Chair of the Council, comment was made on whether a change was required to the Community Emergency Response Plan, following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Scott would remain the Lead in the short term.

12.To receive reports from outside bodies.

Following the end of the Leeds Festival, a meeting had been held to discuss anything that had occurred during the event, Councillor Wilson as the Thorner Parish Council representative made comment that the "21-day letter" had in some cases, not been received into the village until 12 days before the festival opened and in some cases had not been received until the week of the festival. This had caused major problems and a lot of extra time and work for the two Parish Councillors tasked with the distribution of the extra vehicle access passes. It was confirmed that Festival Republic had sent the 21-day letter out to the printers in the required time but that the problem appears to be down to Royal Mail, as the letters were issued as 2nd Class post and given there are only likely to be two deliveries a week, this caused the delay.

Additionally, there was a mix-up on the distribution of the actual passes resulting in several roads in the village being totally missed out. It has been agreed with Festival Republic that an electronic copy of the letter, will be sent ahead of the 21 days to enable it to be put onto Facebook and also print out for the various noticeboards advising when and where to collect the extra passes.

Several villagers have offered to help in the distribution for next year and along with the Parish Council members, we will strive for a better system.

We are also of the opinion that it is probably better that extra passes can be collected on a Saturday and Sunday to solve the problems of people working late etc.

A courtesy telephone call had been received from Festival Republic on Sunday morning advising that the Police were instructing the returning Leeds buses to come through the village on the Sunday night due to the time it had taken them to clear

people from the site the previous evening, as this was a Police decision the Parish Council had no option but to accept.

There was comment at the meeting, that they would like to go back to this system every night whilst the festival is on. Councillor Wilson stated that at the moment this was not an option and would have to be agreed with the Parish Council in the future. Because traffic could not exit to Thorner from the ELOR at the roundabout from the A64, the general consensus has been that the traffic problems caused in previous years has resulted in little extra traffic coming through Thorner. It did mean several extra minutes driving up to the roundabout on Wetherby Road but the benefit to the wait time on Skeltons Lane was better. It was confirmed that this road layout would definitely be implemented again next year.

13.To receive a report from the Clerk or Councillors, on any new or ongoing minor matters.

a. Having issued the timetable for the arrangements for the 2026 Remembrance Parade, the allocation for each responsibility was confirmed. Paul Oldfield for the RBL, confirmed that members of the public were allowed to march in the parade if they wished to do so.

It was noted that a First Aider had been appointed whilst the Parish Council resolved to appoint a Councillor to be able to provide cover for Parish Council events.

Following discussion, given Councillor Aindow had previously undertaken training, he agreed to take a refresher course so that he could provide cover for future events.

b. Despite information being posted on the Thorner Facebook page about road passes for the Leeds Festival, it was evident that only a minority took notice of it and could not be relied on to receive newsletter articles. Taking into account the budget provision for a newsletter, the existing arrangement for a hybrid approach would continue and would be reviewed at the next budget discussion.

14.To notify the Clerk of matters for inclusion on the next Agenda.

Outcome of playground meeting held on 11th September 2026.

Confirm arrangements for Christmas event on Millennium Green.

Confirm procedure for the issue of the newsletter.

15.Date of next meeting.

Having discussed changing the date or cancelling the October meeting, it was agreed not to do so.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 13th October 2025 in the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

16.Matters to be discussed at the exclusion of the public and press.

The letter given to Councillor Scott (minute 11.a.), concerning a rat infestation at a property on Stead Lane, was not a Parish Council matter, it had now been reported to Leeds City Council to resolve.

Members noted the new pay rates applicable to the Clerk's employment, which would be back dated from 01st April 2026.

Signed
Chair Thorner Parish Council

Date.....

The meeting closed at 8.46pm.