

THORNER PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 09th
September 2025 at the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

Present;

Councillors: A.Scott (Chair), V.Forster, S.Llewellyn, T.Mycock, A.Wallis and C.Wilson.

In attendance: Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.
5 members of the public were in attendance for parts of the meeting.
Ward Councillor Firth.

1.Apologies.

Councillors Brittain and LeRoy.

The reasons for not attending were accepted.

2.Ethical Code.

a. Councillor Llewellyn declared a personal interest in 10.b.

3.Minutes.

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

4.Admission of the public and press and representations.

a. There was no person wishing to record the meeting.

b. There was no representation notified to the Clerk before the meeting.

c. A member of the public made a representation not notified to the Clerk before the meeting about waste left on Main Street opposite the Beehive Public House and in the stream following the cutting back of vegetation by the farmer. The Clerk would notify the land agents for Mexborough Estate who organised the work done.

A resident commented on speeding vehicles evident at the four village entrances and that the provision of speed indication devices (SID), be made as he felt these were more effective than just static speed signs, and other villages had them but not Thorner (see minute 10.b.). The resident was informed that provision was dependant on permission being obtained from Leeds CC and funding being acquired. Ward Councillor Firth also commented that he was awaiting a response from Leeds CC about the promised SID for Bramham Road and suggested waiting for the response before further consultation is given elsewhere about provision and how it can be funded.

A resident commented that the Ironman event would be continuing and concerns resulting from this year's event should be addressed, in response Councillor Scott stated that it would be an agenda item for the next meeting. Ward Councillor Firth was also awaiting a review meeting to discuss the outcomes, he also stated that any complaints concerning the event should be posted to the following email; Complaints@leeds.gov.uk.

Members received a presentation from a resident who was applying to be a Parish Councillor, he provided information on himself in support of his application. Councillor Scott advised him that there would be an agenda item for the next meeting for members to confirm his application be approved.

d. Ward Councillor Firth provided members with an update on matters previously raised; The white line markings outside 48 Main Street had been provided by Leeds CC Highways and not by a resident.

In response to HGV's driving through the village, he reiterated comments made previously (see minute 13. 08th July 2025), that the HGV assessment survey had resulted in no action to be taken. An alternative would be to seek a weight restriction on Sandhills.

With regard to the hole in the stone wall on Main Street (opposite Gesling Hill), although the Parish Council had sought costs to repair it, he informed members that Leeds CC were making enquiries into ownership.

He had now received a response from the Leeds CC Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team (CNT) about the numerous issues the Parish Council was waiting on regarding bins. With regard to the Dog poo bag dispensers, it was advisable for the Parish Council to not attach any dispensers to the two post mounted bins referenced as these were close to end of life and may be removed as part of the bin audit, if the bins were damaged as a result of the fixtures, they may be removed altogether.

Dog bins were placed in high footfall areas, so a review would be needed before moving the dog bin on Main Street.

It was thought that the circular open bin on Millenium Green with Leeds CC signage, was not a CNT bin, an enquiry would be made on whose responsibility it was but may be one of the longer standing agreements that the Parish Council had provided it and CNT empty it. The team responsible for emptying bins would be contacted to ensure the litter bin at the Mexborough Arms is emptied as per the schedule. As this was an old bin, it is likely to get upgraded as part of the bin audit (see above) and replaced with a newer one.

5. Confidentiality.

There were no agenda items other than any itemised under agenda item 17. requiring discussion that would require the exclusion of the public and press.

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/your-area/west-yorkshire-police/leeds-north-east/>

Councillor Scott commented that there were 4 crimes recorded for June 2025. There were 2 burglaries, 1 other for theft and another for anti-social behaviour.

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 25/04888/FU, to raise roof height, extension to gable and 2x dormer windows to rear with rooflights to each side for Hillsmead, Wetherby Road, with no objection.

7.2 Members duly noted application 25/04903/FU, for the erection of a single storey extension to rear; erection of a detached car port to existing parking space; replacement roof to existing single storey element incorporating roof lights; new doors to rear and a door infilled to side; addition of a roof light to side; removal of a flue replacement doors and windows; partial new material finish incorporating additional render and replacement cladding for The Barn, Main Street, with no objection.

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

8. Financial Matters.

8.1 Members were informed about the payments for September 2025;

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

Accounts for Payment:

Date prepared	Sep-25			
EFT Type	Details	Net	VAT	Total
BACS	B Riley- Clerk Salary	£783.78		£783.78
BACS	B Riley Home Allowance/Mileage	£27.00		£27.00
BACS	British Telecom - Phone	£38.20	£7.63	£45.83
D/Debit	Nest - Pension	£67.49		£67.49
BACS	Stockheld Farms Ltd	£698.75	£139.75	£838.50

BACS	PKF Littlejohn LLP	£210.00	£42.00	£252.00
BACS	Wolseley Ltd	£6.72	£1.34	£8.06
BACS	Parks Services Ltd-Grounds Maintenance	£460.00		£460.00
BACS	S.Brittain - Grounds Maintenance	£714.00		£714.00
D/Debit	HSBC - Bank Charges	£8.00		£8.00
Total Payments		£3,013.94	£190.72	£3,204.66

8.2 Members were in agreement with the content of the monthly budget monitor and bank reconciliation report for appropriate governance.2

8.3 Members discussed the quotes and invoices received for the work requested from the previous meeting and the one for flagpole maintenance;

It was agreed to accept the quote from Harrison's for the flagpole.

The quote received from Copeland Fencing (see minute 12.a. and 12.b. 12th August 2025). to carry out work on the gates and improve security at the gardens, was considered expensive, a further quote was required.

The invoice for the signage acknowledging the Parish Council picnic bench and Planters was agreed (see minute 8.3 12th August 2025).

The invoices relating to Christmas gifts for school children identified in the Action Plan were approved (see minute 9. 12th August 2025).

It was agreed to accept the offer received to repair the water supply metal cover at the Gardens (see minute 12.a. 12th August 2025).

It was agreed to accept the offer received to repair the small wall at the Archer's Cross on Butts Garth (see minute 14. 12th August 2025).

The budget for a donation to the Over 60's Association of £1000 was confirmed.

9. Action Plan.

The updated report was issued to members for approval.

An acknowledgment of thanks was given to the Ward Councillors for providing funding of the pollinator plants .these were to be acquired from the Arium.

With regard to the erection of the LED Christmas Tree which would take place on Saturday 06th December 2025 at 4.30pm, it was agreed to practice erecting it prior to the event.

A cash offer of £450 had been received for the scaffold which was conditional on a time limited basis, following discussion it was agreed to delay any decision to allow for another offer.

Due to audit expectation, the Clerk would need to action the new email address for the Parish Council forthwith rather than wait till March 2026.

The latest version of the plan would be updated on the website.

10. Matters arising from previous minutes.

a. It was agreed that the purchase of any bark be placed on hold.

b. Following comment at the previous meeting concerning the introduction of speed indication devices in the village, any decision would be delayed until the report had been received by Ward Councillor Firth (minute 4.d.). It was reiterated that although other villages had them, provision in Thorner was restrictive due to having no lampposts on which to place the devices, no electric supply and alternative solar devices were more expensive. There was also the question of how effective they were.

11.Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

There had been a technical issue with the base document losing picture links to the main backup file, once this had been resolved and added back into the document, the plan could be completed. Comment was made that the Parish Council would

need to proof read the completed document before Leeds CC Electoral Services agreed the referendum date.

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

a. Having considered the request to grant permission for use of Boules Shelter by Thorner Over 60's Association, to coincide with the Christmas event on Millennium Green (which would be Saturday 06th December 2025 at 4.30pm), it was agreed to do so.

13.To receive reports from outside bodies.

Councillor Wilson provided members with information from the Leeds Festival Zoom meeting held on 03rd September 2025. With reference to the shuttle bus numbers, there had been 3 on Friday night for driver training purposes, 50 on Saturday night and 30 on Sunday. A resident's concern about the number of buses had been dealt with by the Festival representative for Thorner, Bob Hoyle who it was noted went above and beyond his duties to provide care and attention to residents and at checkpoints.

There had been no local noise complaints, but some traffic problems occurred which was due to non-festival attendees trying to get to the coast for the Bank Holiday, the problem was exacerbated by Satellite navigation systems not showing a 'hard closure', eventually this was resolved by the Police. It was also noted that the road closure on the railway bridge in Crossgates also had an effect on accessing ELOR.

Taxis remained a problem as they continued to attempt to come through the village, it was noted that many had come from Wolverhampton.

A private party at the Victory Hall had guests ordering taxis, had caused problems over access as Road Marshalls at the checkpoints were unable to validate them. It was suggested that such a situation be avoided next year.

There were instances of poor driving from Thorner residents resulting from tempers being raised at the Road Marshalls due to not having their road passes available for inspection which resulted in traffic delays.

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

a. A representative for the Thorner & Scarcroft branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL), was in attendance to confirm the schedule (itinerary and timetable) for the Remembrance Sunday parade on the 09th November 2025. The persons and groups responsible for each requirement was confirmed specifically that the RBL would be responsible for appointing someone for the roles of Event Safety Officer and Event Security Crowd manager.

b. Having reviewed the IT (Information Technology) Policy which had been presented, it was agreed to adopt it.

Councillor Llewellyn informed members that a meeting had taken place with herself the Clerk and the grounds maintenance contractor concerning the work requirements within schedule 2. (see also minute 14. 12th August 2025). What emerged was that there was discord between the understanding of the requirement within the schedule, how it is implemented and how it is interpreted. It was apparent that the schedule was lacking in some detail which had not helped the contractor to deliver to expectation and caused some confusion. Also apparent was the need to move away from the volunteering element of the work, which was not tied to the schedule and resulted in restoration work being undertaken (which had been acknowledged and well received) but resulted in areas of work not being done. As the current year's schedule would be completed in October, it was agreed to continue with the current agreement (noting the agreed change to the playground maintenance see line 3 of this paragraph), following which a meeting would be arranged with the contractor and Councillors Llewellyn, Mycock and the Clerk, to discuss what should/should not be in schedules 1 and 2. This would dictate how work is allocated to either contractor and

that given recent developments, the footpath work may need to be removed or amended from schedule 2, also the maintenance of the planters/pollinators/ flower boxes may need to be added.

Councillor Llewellyn was having difficulty obtaining a slate effect plaque to replace the Jubilee stone plaque (see minute 8.7 08th July 2025). It was suggested that she obtain a different type of plaque and was provided with some alternatives.

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

Future Ironman events.

Continuation of the Leeds CC PROW (Public Rights of Way) agreement.

Co-option of candidate to become a Parish Councillor.

16.Date of next meeting.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 14th October 2025 in the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

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

No matters discussed.

Signed
Chair Thorner Parish Council

Date.....

The meeting closed at 9.43pm.