

THORNER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 2026 at the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

Present;

Councillors: C.Burrows (Chair), T.Mycock, A.Scott, V.Forster, A.Wallis and C.Wilson.
Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.
6 members of the public were in attendance for parts of the meeting.
Ward Councillor Firth.

1.Apologies.

Councillors LeRoy and Llewellyn
The reasons for not attending were accepted.

2.Ethical Code.

No interests were disclosed.

3.Minutes.

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

4.Admission of the public and press and representations.

- a. The Clerk and Councillor Scott 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 the continued flying of the Ukraine Flag. Councillor Burrows provided the background and his thoughts to the flying of the flag from four years ago, which was followed by a statement read out from the resident on behalf of the Ukrainian family in the village to express what the flag means to them (see minute 10a).

A resident sought confirmation of which footpaths were being cut as part of the Grounds Maintenance contract, the Clerk would resend the information previously supplied to him. Following comment about the overgrown vegetation affecting access along footpaths Station Lane to Church View (known as Sam Sykes) and footpath Church Hill off Bramham Road (side of The Old Vicarage/side of Thorner Primary School leading to St. Peters Garth), which were both included within the above mentioned contract schedule, it was agreed that Ward Councillor Firth would report it to Leeds CC Highway Enforcement and also request that the grass border by the bus stop on Main Street opposite the Beehive public house, be cleared of detritus.

Comment was made about when the production of a newsletter was next due, this would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

A resident commented on an article he had received from the West Yorkshire Police Community Alert scheme (see minute 6.) about people power, tackling speeding drivers. The use of the Parish Council's SID (speed indication device). machine could be utilised to record speeding motorists which could then be reported to Leeds CC for consideration for a speed monitoring assessment. This could result in a safety camera van attending in the area to carry out enforcement action in direct response to community concerns. Councillor Burrows would raise the subject at the PACT meeting (see minute 6.)

A resident commented that the provision of a walkway from Thorner Lane to the ELOR was required in order to access the playground, Ward Councillor Firth commented that this was being planned.

- d. Ward Councillor Firth commented on efforts being made with the involvement of Sir Alec Shelbrooke MP, on the provision of a mobile signal.
He was aware of information circulating on the closure of Skelton Lane but he had received no notification of this to be able to comment further.

He informed members that the Leeds Local Plan (a document that guides how land is used across the district, such as where new homes, jobs and services should be located), would require further consultation to that held earlier in the year.

5. Confidentiality.

There were no agenda items other than any itemised under agenda item 16. 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/pu/your-area/west-yorkshire-police/leeds-north-east/>

Councillor Burrow commented that there was one crime recorded for May 2026. This was for a bike theft.

Community Alert scheme.

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

Councillor Burrows would attend the next PACT (Harewood Police and Communities Together) meeting on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 18:30pm, to be held at Wetherby Police Station, Boston Road, Wetherby, LS22 5HA.

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

7.1 Members duly noted 26/03552/FU, for the demolition of existing rear sunroom and bay window; single storey rear extension; associated alteration of rear doors to a window; new landscaping to form enlarged rear patio with glass balustrade and stairs, at 3 Prospect Court Main Street, with no objection.

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

8. Financial Matters.

8.1 Members were informed about the payments for July 2026;

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

Accounts for Payment:

Date prepared	Jul-26			
EFT Type	Details	Net	VAT	Total
BACS	Clerk Salary	£774.28		£774.28
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	HMRC	£826.53		£826.53
BACS	Parks Services Ltd	£2,300.00		£2,300.00
BACS	S.Brittain Grounds Maintenance	£760.71		£760.71
	Total Payments	£4,800.03	£8.81	£4,808.84

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

8.3 The quarterly budget report was accepted.

9. Action Plan.

The updated report with the relevant actions completed and to be undertaken were noted and agreed. Specifically, it was agreed that the replacement defibrillator battery at The Fox public house be purchased.

10. Matters arising from previous minutes.

- a. Having discussed the continued flying of the Ukraine flag (see also minute 4.c.) and following a vote it was agreed as follows, For 5; Against 0; for it to be flown.
- b. Members having applied due diligence to the documents issued for the governance of the garden plots, agreed to the revised garden tenancy agreement, procedure and reminder letters.

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

- a. Following the Clerk having contacted the representative from St Peters Church to clarify what was understood by his comment about the options for repairs to the churchyard wall adjacent to the playground and informing members of such, it was agreed that the work should commence subject to proof being provided by the contractor of his public liability and confirmation of the start and finish dates in order for Councillors Llewellyn and Mycock (appointed to playground management), to oversee the work.
- b. Having received information about the need for watering the flower boxes/planters and the details of a low-cost watering system to enable this, it was agreed they be purchased. Councillor Wilson informed members that the sponsorship of a planter had been received from the Post Box Deli.

12.To receive reports from outside bodies.

Councillor Wilson provided members with information from the Leeds Festival working party meeting held on 06th July 2026.

Bardsey Parish Council were to contact the Thorner Community Fund after the festival with a view to them sharing the Thorner bus to the Festival, however they were informed that there was not enough space on the bus for Thorner residents due to people from outside the village utilising them.

The Police will put additional restrictions on the roundabout at the end of Skeltons Lane to the ELOR to prevent motorists coming down Skelton Lane and then having to be turned around at the end causing long waits for village residents.

With regard to Thorner village residents access passes, she had requested that the letter to village residents reach them on or about the 12th August so that all are aware that the passes are to be collected from the over 60's bungalow on the 19th and 20th August. Concern was raised about a band called KNEECAP appearing at the festival as they are considered to be very controversial in their views on politics and religion.

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

- a. Having been provided with information on the benefit on purchasing a pole saw for trimming bushes/trees, it was agreed to purchase one, Councillor Mycock would progress this.
- b. Having discussed what the Mayor's Safer Communities Fund could be used for it was agreed not to apply.
- c. Councillor Wilson informed members that she had found it difficult to establish where the garden plots started and finished, information would be provided to assist with establishing this, assistance would be given to identify the plot number signs.

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

Newsletter production.

The gates to the gardens.

Provision of Wi-Fi.

15.Date of next meeting.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 11th August 2026 in the Over 60's Bungalow, Main Street, Thorner.

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

With reference to the comments minuted in the previous meeting to seek support for Councillor Scott (see minute 16. 09th June 2026), and having received advice from the Solicitors and the comments from Leeds CC Legal Services, it was agreed that due to the cost implication to the Parish Council, that it would not be pursued, however the Parish Council confirmed that it be recorded in these minutes that they were in total support of Councillor Scott and totally refuted the claim made by the two residents that the email sent was highly misogynistic.

Signed
Chair Thorner Parish Council

Date.....

The meeting closed at 8.04pm.

DRAFT