

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 15th July 2025 at 7.00 pm
at Thursley Village Hall

Attendees: Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair) Cllr C. McClements Cllr M. de Vries
Cllr S. O'Brien Cllr. Taylor-Mathews Cllr P. Sullivan (from 8.00 pm)
Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

Also present: Ms A. Olejnik

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Munro and Cllr Harmer. These apologies were accepted.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No members disclosed any (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

3.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th June 2025 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) It was noted that the discussion about the cricket club was an agenda item to be discussed later in the meeting.

(4.2) The Clerk was asked to contact the WBC Enforcement team regarding the vehicle which is still situated at the entrance to Warren Park despite enforcement action.

(4.3) Cllr Mendelssohn reported that following discussion at the previous meeting regarding affordable housing options which had been discussed previously, it had been confirmed by WBC that there would be no further progress on this matter at this time.

(4.4) Cllr Taylor-Mathews confirmed that he had attended the opening of the Wealden Heath event but there had been no mention of engagement with Natural England. Cllr Mendelssohn agreed to contact them to discuss this matter further.

5.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Apologies had been received from both County and Borough Councillors so no reports were given.

6.0 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Roles & Responsibilities list was updated to include Cllr O'Brien.

7.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were no new planning applications for consideration or planning matters for discussion.

8.0 FINANCE

(8.1) The list of payments for June had been presented to Councillors in advance of the meeting. These were authorised and approved for payment as follows:

018	Zurich insurance	Annual premium	£1,122.06
	TOTAL		£1,122.06
019	ROSPA play safety	Annual inspection	£120.00
020	Maxwell & Co	Internal audit	£570.00
021	E. Felton	July payment	£361.07
022	HMRC	July payment	£251.02
023	Imperative training	Defib supplies	£172.80
	TOTAL		£1,474.89

(8.2) The Clerk reported that following receipt of the annual inspection report for the play area, she had asked RJ Playgrounds to prepare a quote so that the works could take place asap.

(8.3) It was noted that the invoice for the pavilion insurance premium had been sent to the cricket club.

9.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(9.1) Cllr McClements advised that he would follow up on an action for him to speak to Highways regarding improved signage at the A3 junction.

(9.2) Cllr McClements highlighted the recent road works, gas works and tree felling in Bowlhead Green.

(9.3) Discussion took place regarding the planned gas works on Thursley Road which is likely to increase traffic through the village.

(9.4) Discussion took place regarding charging the battery for the VAS unit and other possible solutions.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Ms Olejnik highlighted concerns regarding the future plans for the pub in the village. She suggested that there was significant interest by local people regarding discussions by the shareholders regarding the future of the pub. She stressed the importance of retaining it and suggested that shareholders should consider offering the purchase of 'mini' shares.

Cllr Mendelsohn advised that although not a matter for the Parish Council, he would share these concerns with the shareholders. Discussion took place regarding the poor condition of the parking area for the pub.

Ms Olejnik asked if the plans to split the county into East and West would impact residents due to their financial positions. Cllr Mendelsohn advised that the proposals suggest that the county may be split into two or three areas, yet to be agreed, and although his understanding was that some areas were less financially robust than others, he was not able to comment on how this might impact residents. He suggested that the parish has no public buildings so the change is unlikely to impact the village.

10.0 CRICKET CLUB

It was noted that following his absence at the June Parish Council meeting, Daud Nasir had been invited to attend the meeting to allow further discussion regarding the poor and deteriorating condition of the cricket ground and pavilion but he had not arrived. It was noted that this is in breach of the lease and although the Parish Council have made attempts to discuss the matter, cricket club representatives had not engaged or made required improvements.

It was agreed that Cllr Mendelsohn would write to the cricket club to express the frustration of the Parish Council and inform them that consideration will be given to how best to address the breaches.

11.0 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION CONSULTATION

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not respond to the consultation but individuals could provide their own response if they chose to do so.

12.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

It was noted that there are a number of properties for sale in the village.

13.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk reported that the arrangements for cutting the grass around the pond at Bowlhead Green, had not materialised. It was suggested that similar arrangements to those in the Dye House Road area be implemented so that parishioners maintain the areas close to their property.
- Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Councillors would empty and replace the bin bags along Dye House Road for a period of several weeks.
- Cllr Taylor-Mathews reported that there appear to be several asbestos sheets dumped on MOD land. It was agreed that this be reported to the Operations room.
- Discussion took place regarding the number of cars involved with the filming, travelling through the village early morning and late in the day. It was noted that although there is an agreed transport plan for large filming vehicles, the same does not apply to cars. Cllr de Vries agreed to follow this up.
- Following discussion regarding use of the Preserve Our Reserve funds by Natural England, the Clerk was asked to contact Elstead Parish Council to discuss the matter. It was noted that Thursley Parish Council believe that the funds should be used for the purpose that was originally intended and discussed by the working group.
- Discussion took place regarding marketing of Wealden Heath.

Cllr Sullivan arrived at 8.00 pm following attendance at a WBC meeting, and introductions took place.

- Cllr de Vries agreed to provide an online response to the request for feedback regarding off-roading/green laners in the village.
- Discussion took place regarding the recent fire on Hankley Common and the lack of communication received from WBC.
- It was agreed that the overhanging tree on Old Portsmouth Road, which is making visibility difficult for drivers, will be reported to Surrey Highways.

14.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above

The meeting closed at 8.19 pm.

The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 2nd September 2025 at 7.00 pm.**

Signed **2nd September 2025**