

# Thorrington Management Committee AGM Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday 10 September 2024

**Venue:** Hayvern, Thorrington Scout Camp

**Attendees:** Bob Candler (BC), Lorraine Francis (LF), Jack Dowrick (JD), Chris Jay (CJ), Ivan Culham (IC), Colin Batchelor (CB), Hywel Edwards (HE),

**Apologies:** Liz Welch (LW), Dave Reid (DR), Helen Groves (HG)

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## Chairman's opening statement

BC opened the meeting and thanked all those present for their attendance.

## Previous AGM minutes

BC presented the previous AGM minutes from 2023 for approval, it was noted that CB's surname was incorrect, this was noted and corrected. All those present were in agreement to accept the corrected minutes; minutes approved as corrected.

The minutes stand approved as corrected.

## Chairman's report

BC addressed the attendees of the AGM, stating that it was good to see children enjoying themselves at Thorrington away from the pressures of modern-day childhood, explaining that Thorrington Scout Camp provides a place of well-being. BC then thanked the Warden Teams, stating that he had continuously received positive feedback and that without their assistance Thorrington Scout Camp would not be as it is today. Additionally, BC thanked all members of the committee, and paid homage to LF for her service to Thorrington, and stated that she will be sorely missed by all those involved with Thorrington Scout Camp.

## Treasurer's report

LF presented the following report of the accounts.

The accounts have been prepared although not yet examined and a summary is presented here. A comparison with the prior year is also shown.

Thorrington accounts to March 24 show an excess of expenditure over income for the year of just over £14k.

Fee income for the year to March 24 at £65k was £13k lower than the previous year. Income from Alpha House was £3k higher, however, fees from Hayvern and Papillon were £3.6k and £1.6k down. The main reduction versus the prior year related to campsite fees, where fewer bookings from outside organisations and non-repeated county and district events led to fees being £10k lower than the year to March 23.

Net income from activities at £7.5k was an improvement of £2.8k on the prior year mainly due to lower expenditure. Fees for activities earn the site about £8k per year, many thanks to all the teams who continue to help with activities.

Interest receivable at £2.6k showed an increase, with a number of higher-earning investment accounts being opened during the year.

This left overall income £10.6k lower than the last financial year.

Site running costs at £79k were £11.7k higher than the previous year, mainly due to higher gas and electricity costs and a catch-up in water costs.

Maintenance costs were higher, reflecting the increase in cleaning needs with higher Alpha House usage, decommission and installation of a new cooker in the lodge and an increase in plumbing repairs.

Fixtures and equipment spend included CCTV equipment and terminals to enable fees to be taken via card.

Site improvements were made through new fencing around the lodge and refurbishment of the shop. The main capital expenditure in the year was £11.7k spent on a major upgrade of the abseil tower.

Cash balances at the end of the year were £104,570.04. This more than exceeds the Thorrington Management Committee's policy of maintaining one year's running costs in reserves.

## **Election of positions**

No nominations were received in advance by the committee for the below positions.

### **Secretary:**

The current position is held by JD, who stated that he is happy to continue in this role. Following unanimous voting it was agreed that JD would remain in the role.

### **Treasurer:**

The current position is held by LF, the committee has received prior notification from LF of her intent to stand down from the role at this AGM. No nominations were received for the role of treasurer, therefore, the role of Treasurer is now vacant.

### **Booking Secretary:**

The current position is held by CJ, who stated that he is happy to continue in this role. Following unanimous voting it was agreed that CJ would remain in the role.

## **Vacant Treasurer position**

LF has stated that she will oversee a transition period, and will remain in a bookkeeping capacity until the end of the 2024/25 financial year.

BC advises that the role of treasurer is to be split into two aspects; bookkeeping and financial administrative tasks, with governance support from both Colchester North and Colchester Estuary districts.

## **Any other business**

### **Lorraine Francis:**

CB stated that when he first attended a TMC meeting after becoming District Commissioner he was impressed with both LF's knowledge of Thorrington as well as the multitude of tasks LF undertook and that she would be sorely missed by all close to Thorrington Scout Camp and would like to wish her well in her future endeavours and upcoming travels. IC then presented LF with a gift from the Warden Teams to thank LF for all of her hard work during the course of her role as Treasurer.

LF thanked those present for their gifts and wished all those involved with Thorrington Scout Camp the best.

## **Chairman's closing remarks**

BC thanked all those present for their attendance and closed the meeting.

**Date of next proposed AGM meeting: 9th September 2025**