

The Thoburn Land Trust.

Minutes of a meeting of the Thoburn Land Trust

held on Thursday 21 May at 9pm

in Rolvenden Village Hall

Present: Councillors: A. Hinge (Chair), Cllrs. Back, Balch, Geerts, and Hodge

In attendance: Louise Goldsmith, Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence:

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. Walker and Gilchrist and the reasons for absence were accepted.

2. Declarations of interest:

None.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16 October 2026 were approved.

4. Finance

a) Allotment Rent

It was noted that £299.00 of allotment rent has been received.

b) Annual Grazing Fee

It was agreed to keep the annual grazing fee at the same as last year namely £500.00. The Clerk will raise an invoice.

c) To receive information on the accounts

The Unity Trust Account balance as at the 21 May 2026 was £6779.26.

5. Allotments

It was noted that the Annual General Meeting took place on Saturday 7 March 2026. Cllrs. Hinge and the Clerk are due to attend the annual inspection of the allotments taking place on Monday 15 July 2026.

6. Land Registry

The Clerk advised that the Solicitor has checked on the status of the Land Registry application and that it could be several months before the parkland, title number K806834, is correctly registered.

7. Future use of the Land

a) To receive a draft outline management plan and capital works plan from

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the draft outline management plan and capital works plan from CLM following a site visit on Wednesday 27 August 2025.

b) To discuss the next steps

It was noted that the Clerk and Cllr. Hinge will be meeting with four contractors on Friday 29 June to quote for all the required fencing, hedges and kissing gates. It was also noted that Antony Weston from CLM has advised the Clerk that they expect that the SFI will be open from June 2026 and that capital grants could be available from July 2026. Antony Weston is happy to submit any application when a quote for the works has been agreed. Cllr. Hinge suggested that the War Memorial Trust may be able to assist with funding these works. Cllr. Hodge offered to meet with representatives from the Mildreds Trust who have expressed an interest in finding out more about the future of the land as a nature resource.

8. Date of the next meeting:

Thursday 18 June 2026 after the Full Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.19pm

Signed:

Date: