The Thoburn Land Trust.

Minutes of a meeting of the Thoburn Land Trust

held on Thursday 17 September 2026 at 10pm

in Rolvenden Village Hall

Present: Councillors: A. Hinge (Chairman), Cllrs. Balch, Back, Bryant, Geerts, Gilchrist and Hodge.

In attendance: Louise Goldsmith, Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies for absence:**
   All present

2. **Declarations of interest:**
   None.

3. **Minutes**
   The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 June 2026 were approved.

4. **Finance**
   a) To receive information on the accounts

The Clerk the Unity Trust Account balance as at the 17 September 2026 was £7,251.26

   b) To ratify a decision between meetings to accept the SFI26 agreement offer for the Thoburn Trust land.

Members noted that the application for Sustainable Farming Incentive was successful and that the Rural Payments Agency has agreed the following grant:

Agreement Year 1				
Action code	**Action title**	**Total quantity (hectares/metres/unit)**	**Payment rate**	**Total annual payment**
CHRW2_26	Manage Hedgerows	959.0000	£ 13.00	£ 124.67
CLIG3_26	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs	8.1694	£ 151.00	£ 1,233.58
GRH8_26	Haymaking Supplement (late cut)	3.1200	£ 187.00	£ 583.44
WBD1_26	Manage ponds	1.0000	£ 257.00	£ 257.00
			Total	**£ 2,198.69**

Agreement Year 2				
Action code	**Action title**	**Total quantity (hectares/metres/unit)**	**Payment rate**	**Total annual payment**
CHRW2_26	Manage Hedgerows	959.0000	£ 13.00	£ 124.67
CLIG3_26	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs	8.1694	£ 151.00	£ 1,233.58
GRH8_26	Haymaking Supplement (late cut)	3.1200	£ 187.00	£ 583.44
WBD1_26	Manage ponds	1.0000	£ 257.00	£ 257.00
			Total	**£ 2,198.69**

Agreement Year 3				
Action code	**Action title**	**Total quantity (hectares/metres/unit)**	**Payment rate**	**Total annual payment**
CHRW2_26	Manage Hedgerows	959.0000	£ 13.00	£ 124.67
CLIG3_26	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs	8.1694	£ 151.00	£ 1,233.58
GRH8_26	Haymaking Supplement (late cut)	3.1200	£ 187.00	£ 583.44
WBD1_26	Manage ponds	1.0000	£ 257.00	£ 257.00
			Total	**£ 2,198.69**

Summary:

Action code	**Agreement Year 1**	**Agreement Year 2**	**Agreement Year 3**	**Total Agreement Payment**
CHRW2_26	£ 124.67	£ 124.67	£ 124.67	£ 374.01
CLIG3_26	£ 1,233.58	£ 1,233.58	£ 1,233.58	£ 3,700.74
GRH8_26	£ 583.44	£ 583.44	£ 583.44	£ 1,750.32
WBD1_26	£ 257.00	£ 257.00	£ 257.00	£ 771.00
Total	**£ 2,198.69**	**£ 2,198.69**	**£ 2,198.69**	**£ 6,596.07**

c) To approve the payment to CLM

Resolved to approve the payments due to CLM of £964.80 and £234.00.

5. **Allotments**
   There was no update.

6. **Land Registry**
   a) To received the registration documents

The Clerk advised that the Solicitor from Wellers Law Group forwarded a copy of the of registration documents received from the Land Registry on the 23 July 2026. The title number K806834 was correctly registered to the Parish Council on the 12 June 2026.

   b) To discuss the next steps

Cllr. Hinge agreed to contact some local valuers to obtain an estimated valuation for a variation to lift the restrictive covenant on the car park.

7. **Future use of the Land**
   a) To receive any update on the capital works application

It was noted that CLM has advised the Clerk that afternoon that the application for a capital works funding from the Rural Payment Agency was in the main successful.

Parcel name	Parcel Number	Item Code	Length/ Unit Number	Payment Rate	Max. Value	Completion Date	Claim By
	TQ8430 7288	BN11	320 m	£ 22.97 /m	£ 7,350.40	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8430 7288	BN6	90 m	£ 5.33 /m	£ 479.70	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8431 5506	BN6	154 m	£ 5.33 /m	£ 820.82	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8430 7288	FG12	2 u	£ 489.90 /u	£ 979.80	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8430 7288	FG2	1727 m	£ 7.47 /m	£ 12,900.69	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8431 5506	FG2	562 m	£ 7.47 /m	£ 4,198.14	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8430 7288	LV7	2 u	£ 152.92 /u	£ 305.84	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8431 5506	LV7	1 u	£ 152.92 /u	£ 152.92	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8430 7288	LV8	285 m	£ 3.31 /m	£ 943.35	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
	TQ8431 5506	LV8	140 m	£ 3.31 /m	£ 463.40	31/08/2029	30/11/2029
				Total	£ 28,595.06		

Given the lateness of the hour it was agreed that Cllr. Balch should check the offer and agreement and confirm whether the Clerk should accept the grant offer. The Clerk to then arrange a meeting for Cllr. Hinge and Geerts and the Clerk to attend to review the grant available and to discuss a programme of works with the successful contractor.

a) To discuss the next steps in terms of S106 and grant funding applications

Deferred until a full appraisal of the awarded grants has been conducted.

8. **Date of the next meeting:**
Thursday 22 October 2026 after the Full Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed:

Date: