

North Thoresby, Waithe and Grainsby Parish Council

Request for Information Decision

Date of request: 10/10/2025 to 15/10/2025

Date of decision: 19/11/2025

Request:

I request that you provide the following information electronically to me at the following email address XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@XXXXXX

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request — Section 14(1) Notice

1. Email 10 October 2025

Subject: Information and document request re North Thoresby Grainsby & Waithe 2024/25 AGAR (2)

With respect to the above submittal, and to ensure this is clearly understood to be a specific request, please supply the following information:

1. A copy of the Agenda and meeting summons where the council would consider the approval of an Independent Auditor (none has been published)
2. A copy of the minutes of the public meeting where the council considered and approved the appointment of XXXXX XXXXXXXXX as the Internal Auditor and where he is identified as such (none has been published)
3. The date that the council agreed the appointment of Mr XXXXXXXXX would take effect and the inspection would take place (none has been published)
4. What procedures the council followed to ensure Mr XXXXXXXXX was independent (knowing that Mr XXXXXXXXX was the LALC clerk, would be involved in the activities and remunerations of the LALC Webmaster administrator, Mr XXXX XXXX, and that Mr XXXX had already created and edited the council's documents that formed part of the governance that would be inspected by Mr XXXXXXXXX, and that LALC were already a supplier of external services to the parish council)
5. A copy of the letter of engagement of Mr XXXXXXXXX setting out his role and responsibilities, his reporting requirements, his rights to access information, his period of engagement, his remuneration

These are all documents that will already exist and should have been published on the council's website, so I will accept the PDFs that have already been written.

This request has been copied to the other members of the parish council, as the power of appointment rests solely with them as a corporate body instructing the clerk and the Chair by democratic vote

2. Email 12 October 2025

Subject: FOI Information Request – North Thoresby, Grainsby & Waithe Parish council – 12/10/25

With respect to the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2024 and approved within the 2024/25 audit period on 8th April 2024, please supply the following information:

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Items 1 and 2

What legislation was used to approve Cllr XXXXX XXXX to be simultaneously Chair and Acting Proper Officer of the council, as this is in breach of the LGA 1972

Item 5 (b)

Please supply the proof that the clerk had made unauthorised amendments to the minutes of the 13 November 2023 meeting, as these had been approved in a public session and signed by the Chair at the December meeting

Please supply what legislation was used for the council to retrospectively approve the deletion of the minutes of June 2023, July 2023 August 2023, September 2023, and November 2023, that had already been approved by the council at the time, as evidence presented to the EA and the council with respect to the 2023/24 IA and AGAR show these had been deleted by Cllr XXXX when she seized control of the website by fraudulent claims and using a fraudulent council email address.

Item 12 Village Hall

Regarding the statement that revenue had declined due to the unnecessary closure of the village hall in February by the previous clerk – please provide evidence the council used to support this as the previous clerk's last day of employment was 1st February and the evidence shows that Cllr XXXX had already fraudulently seized control of the website on 31st January.

3. Email 12 October 2025

Subject: FOI Information Request – North Thoresby, Grainsby & Waithe Parish council – 12/10/25

With respect to the parish council meeting of 8th April 2024,

Item 5 states

NOTED: A resident enquired who would be preparing the minutes. Councillor XXXX stated the council are using locum clerk services at present and one of a number of experienced clerks may do this.

With respect to this

- please supply and advise the agenda and minutes of the meeting where the locum clerk was interviewed and appointed, their name and whether this was as an employee of the council or as a contractor, his agreed scope of work and length of employment.
- Please advise what date this person was given access to the council's financial and confidential documents
- As Cllr XXXX had already been approved to be the acting clerk, please supply (a) the agenda and minutes of the meeting where Cllr XXXX stood down as acting clerk, or (b) advise what legislation was used to override the LGA 1972 that stipulates only one person can be the Proper Officer at any one time.

Item 9 Clerk's Report

States "To receive an update from the (Acting) Clerk on any matters progressed since the last meeting".

- Please advise which of the 2 different clerk's is actually writing this update

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Item 9 – payroll states “Had the ex-clerk remained in post for 2024-25, this data shows that the council’s wages bill would equate to 84% of its precept income.”

- Please provide evidence to support this financial forecast

Item 9 – Invoices states “It was also noted that an invoice of £86 was paid for ex-Chair XXXXX XXXXXXXXXX to be shown how to burn a still image from the council’s CCTV. Only the police should have access to do this.”

- Please supply a copy of this invoice
- Please advise why this potentially libellous statement has been made and why I have been named in these minutes (FYG it has been the practice since at least as far back as 2018 for both the Chair and the Hall manager to have the access to the CCTV recording on receipt of a lawful request, so there will normally be at least one person available to respond to police or insurance requests for access – the CCTV maintenance person can only access the hall as contracted so the only other alternative is that the council to pay for CCTV training on the council’s system for every policeman and insurance investigator in Lincolnshire)

Item 9 – Accounts states “A locum RFO has started building a set of accounts from various financial records, including Lloyds Bank Statements found on the council’s laptop.”

- Please supply the agenda and minutes of the meeting where this locum clerk was appointed, his name, his terms of employment or contract, his scope of work, the procedure used to rebuild the accounts when Cllr XXXX already had a copy of the council’s financial status on 9th January and she has deleted online records commencing 31st January 2024

Item 9 – Bank access states “Unity Bank requested signatures on a mandate from XXXXX XXXXXXXXXX and XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX, who are both existing signatories. Both were approached and asked to provide this for the good of the village. One declined and one didn’t respond.”

This is a false statement, neither myself nor Ms XXXXXXXXXX have ever been approached by Unity Bank, nor would they, nor would the parish council be made aware of any such communication between the bank and members of the public.

- Please advise and send copies of the relevant evidence to support the allegation that the Unity Bank had contacted members of the public who have been named in council documents that have then been approved by the council

Item 9 – council assets states “District Councillor XXXXXXX XXXXXXX has been unable to secure return of the council’s assets (email accounts, passwords, financial accounts and invoices from the ex-Clerk. This has been referred to the police as theft and the council will now move forward with a range of measures to put itself in an operational state as soon as possible.”

- Please supply evidence of this. A previous FOI request states that the council have no record of the police being informed and have since claimed that this was a private statement by Cllr XXXX. However, it is in parish council minutes that have been approved by the council and is repeated in the council’s official AGAR documents submitted for 2023/24, so it is clearly an official parish council statement

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Item 10 – Finance states the council is “At present it is unable to identify outstanding invoices until the locum Clerk has contacted known suppliers.

- There is no record of the appointment of a locum clerk, so a member of the public is, without any authority, contacting suppliers for invoices containing confidential information
- Please advise the name of the member of the public who is the locum clerk referred to
- The email account he was using to contact suppliers
- If the email account is that of the parish council clerk, what date this member of the public was given access to the clerk’s email account and how he signed emails
- The clerk’s email account also gives the holder the ability to instruct the Webmaster to effect changes on the council’s government website, so please provide copies of all communications from the clerk’s email account to the webmaster between 1st April 2024 and 30th October 2024

4. Email 12 October 2025

Subject: FOI Information Request – North Thoresby, Grainsby & Waithe Parish council – 12/10/25 (C)

With respect to the minutes of the EOM of 29th April 2024

The minutes are not signed, and simply state that they will be constructed by an unknown person using a recording

It refers to a locum clerk numerous times, but there is no record of a locum clerk ever being appointed, who that person is, terms of employment etc.

- Please provide a copy of the minutes where the locum clerk was appointed, terms of employment etc
- Please provide a copy of the minutes where Cllr XXXX steps down from being the Acting Clerk/RFO and hands over to the currently unnamed locum

The minutes of the meeting, where numerous financial matters are discussed and agreed, has not been signed and the author is not named

The names of the councillors attending the meeting has not been included, as is required under the legislation, yet these minutes were then approved at the council meeting on 13th May 2024

- Please advise and supply the emails where this departure from the legislation was agreed by the councillors

5. Email 12 October 2025

Subject: FOI Information Request – North Thoresby, Grainsby & Waithe Parish council – 12/10/25 (d)

With respect to the payments made to XXXX XXXX for locum clerk services, please supply:

1. the minutes of the meeting where his appointed was agreed and whether he was employed directly or on contract
2. The terms of his contract – scope, dates etc

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3. what steps were taken to ensure there was no conflict of interest, given that he was also employed by LALC and the council was already using LALC to provide a service as webmaster, which gave him access to the council's financial records

4. The council already had an acting clerk (Cllr XXXX) and there is no record of her standing down or XXXX XXXX being appointed, therefore please advise the minutes where the council's financial regulations were changed to facilitate this

Please note that the statement already used by the council that they had "agreed to appoint a locum" is baseless – any appointment must be actually approved by the council

6. Email 12 October 2025

Subject: Information and document request re North Thoresby Grainsby & Waithe 2024/25 AGAR (3)

Good morning

Following my conversation on Saturday with Cllr XXXXXXXX (Chair), with respect to the 2024/25 AGAR and the published NPR, I would like to inspect the following documents (I will accept emailed pdf copies should this be more convenient).

A request to see the agenda and minutes of the public meeting where the council appointed Mr XXXXXXXX as the IA has already been sent under separate cover.

All the following documents will be readily available as they are already in your possession and will have been prepared in compliance with your regulations and procedures, but for reasons unknown and in breach of your regulations and procedures these ones have never been published or made public and are not available on your website:

1. Asset register on 31st March 2024 (as used in the IA)
2. The pdf document of April 2024 payments
3. The pdf document of May 2024 payments
4. The pdf document of June 2024 payments
5. The pdf document of July 2024 payments
6. The pdf document of January 2025 payments
7. The pdf document of February 2025 payments
8. The pdf document of March 2025 payments
9. A pdf copy of the Annual Internal Audit report for 2024/25
10. A pdf copy of the expenditure summary for 2024/25 (including the individual/bodies submitting invoices)
11. A pdf copy of the income summary for 2024/25
12. A pdf copy of the income for April 2024
13. A pdf copy of the income for May 2024
14. A pdf copy of the income for June 2024

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15. A pdf copy of the income for July 2024
16. A pdf copy of the income for August 2024
17. A pdf copy of the income for September 2024
18. A pdf copy of the income for October 2024
19. A pdf copy of the income for November 2024
20. A pdf copy of the income for December 2024
21. A pdf copy of the income for January 2025
22. A pdf copy of the income for February 2025
23. A pdf copy of the income for March 2025
24. A pdf copy of the bank statements for April 2024, May 2024, June 2024, July 2024, August 2024, September 2024, October 2024, November 2024, December 2024, January 2025, February 2025, March 2025.
25. A scan or images of the record of any cash received as either taking at the village hall or from other sources

I will be making objections to the EA in due course regarding false statements made on parish council minutes, minutes being changed without any authority or record of these having been discussed or approved by the council (as already proved by documents submitted with regard to the 2023/24 IA and AGAR).

7. Email 14 October 2025

Subject: FOI Request - North Thoresby Grainsby & Waithe Parish Council - 14/10/25 (1)

This is a Freedom of Information Request

The records show that previously approved parish council minutes were deleted commencing 31st January 2024 by Cllr XXXXX XXXX when she gained control of the parish council website (at a time when all the other parish councillors had resigned but Mr XXXXX XXXXXX was still employed as the council's Proper Officer.

The council ceased to be quorate on this date.

The current parish council are aware of this, matter and have evidence to both support it, and have also received signed copies of the minutes that were deleted by Cllr XXXX.

For confirmation, the attached screenshot is a social media post from 14th February 2024 where Cllr XXXX admits the council is inquorate but they have been deleted by herself following complaints. This has concerned other members of the parish.

As per the FOI Act, please supply the following information:

1. Evidence of the complaints that Cllr XXXX refers to in her post
2. Evidence that the complaints referred to had substance
3. Why all of those official and approved minutes have not since been reinstated by the council
4. What the potentially libellous statements were that were deleted

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5. A copy of what legal advice the council has received (if any) to support the libellous allegations
6. If the IA who conducted the 2023/24 audit and AGAR was made aware of this
7. As they have all still not been reinstated as of 14/10/25, if the IA who conducted the 2024/25 audit and AGAR was made aware of this prior to conducting his audit
8. If the IA was made aware, please provide a copy of the scope of work and instructions given to the IA (Mr S Fletcher)

For your guidance, a screenshot of the council's contact details at that time is attached, including Cllr XXXXX private mobile number, so you will be able to contact her and get the information that way.

Should this prove difficult, Cllr XXXXXXXX has previously made an allegation about myself to the police regarding retention of council documents that the police have said have no substance (as included in the September meeting minutes), and the complaints referred to by Cllr XXXX will constitute official council communications sent to the contact details supplied by Cllr XXXX; therefore, should she refuse to supply these documents Cllr XXXXXXXX will no doubt demonstrate his probity and integrity by contacting the police again to request Cllr XXXX make these communications available to the council

8. Email 14 October 2025

Subject: Information and document request re North Thoresby Grainsby & Waithe 2024/25 AGAR (4)

With respect to the above submittal, and to ensure this is clearly understood to be a specific request, please supply the following information:

With respect to the engagement of Mr XXXXXXXX as the Internal Auditor, please supply the following information:

The agenda of the Finance Committee meeting where his employment was considered

The recommendation to the full council for his employment has already been requested but not answered

The document informing Mr XXXXXXXX that the financial and other documents carried over to the 2024/25 AGAR were based on ones from the 2023/24 AGAR that had been "recreated" by his colleague XXXX XXXX, Cllr XXXXXXXX and Cllr XXXX following their unlawful deletion by Cllr XXXX while the council was inquorate (as evidence already in the council's possession and submitted to the EA show, and is further confirmed by Cllr XXXXX attached post on social media on 14th February 2024)

9. Email 15 October 2025

Subject: Re: Information and document request re North Thoresby Grainsby & Waithe 2024/25 AGAR (3)

1. For clarity, please see the parish council website that was archived yesterday (14th October 2025) at 16:03 which evidences that the documents that you state are available on the website were not actually available 23 hours ago.

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2. If you look at the Internal Audit report that has only now been made available, it states that Mr XXXXXXXX wrote this on the 3rd September 2025 following an online inspection between 18th August and 2nd September, and that Mr XXXXXXXX clearly states required documents were not available online.
3. The parish council's RFO have provided no explanation of the "no" responses that have then been laid before the full council, approved and submitted with the AGAR return
4. There are no dates on either the income summary, nor the expenditure summary, and they have actually been prepared by yourself in the last few hours and not the council's Proper Officer (please see the documents for the 2023/24 AGAR for the quality that is required)
5. The asset register is clearly incorrect
6. For further clarity, with the exception of the council's bank statements, the other documents that I asked to inspect are the ones that **should** have been available on a monthly basis on the council's website, and that the IA has correctly identified as being missing - this is why I requested the pdf copies (failing this, the Proper Officer's email that was sent each month to all members of the council and the finance committee prior to every full meeting will have these documents attached)
7. I am unable to make any of the dates you say you can make documents available for inspection, but the ones you have made available online in the last few hours show they were also not available for the IA, nor have you completed the AGAR . Accordingly I will lodge objections with the EA and ask that the EA to ensure all parties receive copies, and pursue the other information through Freedom of Information requests (I'm sure you will agree that the public need to be assured of the council's competence and probity).

Decision:

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information requests received from 10 - 15 October 2025

After careful consideration, the Council has concluded that your recent series of requests are **vexatious** under **Section 14(1)** of the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**.

This decision takes into account:

- The **number and frequency** of requests (Nine requests from 10 - 15 October 2025)
- The **overlapping and repetitive nature** of the subjects requested, and (Correct)
- The **disproportionate burden** that responding would place on the Council's limited administrative resources.

The Council recognises its obligations under the FOIA but must also balance these with its ability to deliver core local services. Having considered the guidance of the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the Council is satisfied that these requests impose a **grossly oppressive burden** and are therefore vexatious.

This means the Council is not obliged to comply with these requests.

If you would like to make a single, focused request that addresses a specific subject of interest, we would be happy to consider it in line with the Act.

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Please note Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows you to request information and records held by this public body. It does not require the council to provide explanations justifications or clarifications about the information , records or the decisions made.

References and guidance:

- [ICO: Vexatious and repeated requests](#)
- [ICO: How do we deal with a single burdensome request?](#)
- Legislation.gov.uk: Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Section 14

Your right of appeal:

If you have any queries regarding this decision, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request an internal review of our decision (within 40 days of this decision notice) you should write to:

North Thoresby, Waithe and Grainsby Parish Council, North Thoresby Village Hall, The Square, North Thoresby, DN36 5QL

Email address: clerk@norththoresby-pc.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint / the Internal Review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

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