

# North Thoresby, Waithe and Grainsby Parish Council

## Request for Information Decision

Date of request: 07/08/2025

Date of decision: 18/08/2025

### **Request:**

I request that you provide the following information electronically to me at the following email address XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

1. I am not satisfied with the council's response to this FOI and request an internal review on the following grounds:
  - This response has not been signed - the proper Officer is a statutory officer, so please advise which person is actually the clerk and who is sending this email
  - You state the website is controlled by the clerk. You are making a false statement in response to a lawful Freedom of Information request; as the government guidance states, the clerk is the registrant and the person "responsible for managing, renewing, authorising changes and protecting the domain" on behalf of and following the instructions of the parish council - managing is not the same as controlling. The control of the website falls to the Webmaster or the person employed by the Webmaster who administers the council's domain on the instructions of the clerk. The Chair, Cllr XXXXXX, advised there would be no further costs because the parish council "will be taking over the running of the website", so one of the councillors will be the new Webmaster. As requested, please advise the name of this person who has control of the parish council website.
  - You clearly have a date where an agreement was reached with whoever became the council's domain administrator, and this will be easy to determine from your formal letter to the new administrator and the financial approvals of their payment for the service and the domain.
  - You state only the clerk could make changes to the council website, yet as the archive shows, the October 2023 minutes were deleted in February 2024 when there was no clerk, and were reposted in October 2024 with an unauthorised statement attached - and in a separate FOI request "Statement of Parish Council Website" you say you have no information regarding that statement. Clearly your response that "only the clerk can make changes to the council website" is a false one, so please advise who made these unauthorised changes to legal documents on a UK government domain (I can supply archived copies of the council website to substantiate this, although you will obviously have the council's records and these will be easy to access)
  - You state that the council became inquorate on 13th January 2025. You are making a false statement in response to a lawful FOI request. Your own website states that the 2nd January meeting was cancelled due to the council already being inquorate. I have also contacted ex councillor Orrill and he categorically states that Cllr XXXXXX had told him in December that an email that he had sent constituted a resignation so he was no longer a councillor. There has also been no public notification that councillors Bunn and Willerton also resigned in December, and your records will contain their resignations along with that of Cllr Orrill, and the email that the clerk or

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Cllr XXXXXXX sent to the ELDC informing them of those resignations and the date the council became inquorate. Please supply a truthful answer to the FOI request

- You state that the council website is administered by LALC Webmaster services. In the October 2024 parish council minutes you stated "The Chairman advised the member of the public that going forward there will be no further costs concerning the website as the Parish Council will be taking over the running of the website." Those minutes are a legal document and this is the whole purpose of the FOI request - to find out who this person is who is running the website. There will be minutes of a meeting where the decision to do this is discussed, there will be meeting of the finance committee where the costings are discussed and a financial risk analysis, there will be a record of the formal agreement or contract being signed - and clearly, if any payments were made after this date to LALC that constitutes fraud
- Please look at the parish council's archived website and the changes that were made between XXXX XXXXX resigning and Cllr XXXXX becoming the acting clerk - clearly a councillor has had access to the website and you are making another false statement in response to a lawful FOI requests  
([https://web.archive.org/web/20250000000000\\*/https://north-thoresby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/](https://web.archive.org/web/20250000000000*/https://north-thoresby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/))

## Decision:

In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you are advised that North Thoresby, Waithe and Grainsby Parish Council does hold information that falls within the description specified in your request.

1. Noted, the Parish Council will undertake an internal review
  - a) As the complainant you will be invited to attend the meeting at which the complaint will be considered, and be offered the opportunity to be accompanied by a representative.
  - b) Seven clear working days prior to the meeting, the complainant is required to provide the Council with copies of any documentation or other items on which the complaint is based.
  - c) Date of meeting will be sent to you in due course.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

## Your right of appeal:

After the Meeting:

- Any decision will be confirmed to the complainant within seven working days, together with details of any further action to be taken.
- The Council's decision on the matter will be final, and no further appeal process will be offered.