



Minutes of Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2019

in the Thornton Steward Village Institute

Apologies – Julia Waterman

Present – Jim Brierley, Guy Wilman, Yvonne Wilman, Carol Brierley, Jo Gedling, Neil Thompson, Wendy Hoare, Cllr Richard Ormston, Chris Leak, Steve McCormack, Angela McCormack (Chair/Clerk)

1. **The Annual Return.** Chris advised the meeting that the Annual Return had been completed and fully audited. Rachel Simpson (Internal auditor) approved the documentation to be added to the website and circulated as per current rules. Chris advised the papers would be available to view from 3rd June to 12th July with copies sent to Jim and Wendy for publication. Unanimous approval was given from the meeting and signed off by Angela (chair), ready to be forwarded to the external auditors.

2. **Future funding of the Institute.** Jim explained the future of the Institute is at risk due to lack of funding. He circulated a document detailing previous historical payments from local residents back in 1926. He appealed to the meeting for the Parish to support the Institute via a grant, to the sum of £500 per year. As financial officer, Chris agreed that the Parish has a surplus that could be used to support the Institute. There was a unanimous agreement that the Institute should be protected for future years and that the £500 grant be arranged. Cllr Ormston informed the meeting that a grant of £1k could be applied for, to be used in future projects, which could benefit the village/institute. Note: it cannot be applied for retrospectively. Closing date is 5th August 2019

3. **Herriot Hospice homecare walk.** Jim received an application from The Herriot Hospice to use the village green in front of the Institute on 14th July for the display of keepsake flowers. Groups of walkers will be coming through the village and enjoying refreshments in the Institute. The meeting warmly agreed to give permission for this.

Jim also noted that Yordale Arts would like to set up easels and use the village green for a class on 4th July. The meeting agreed to this too, suggesting a donation to the Institute would be appropriate. Note: Can we request that car parking does not encroach onto the village green and stops short of the notice board/telephone box.

4. **Financial Officer Vacancy.** As no one at this time has come forward to take on the financial role in the Parish. Chris has kindly offered to stay on until he moves away from the village and offered his full support during the transition to a new officer. Rachel Simpson will stay on as Internal auditor. Jim then noted that he had approached a financial organisation (Many Bookkeeping and Accountancy Services) who are fully licenced AAT accountants. They estimate costs for this service to be circa £150. The meeting agreed this would be an excellent alternative. Cllr Ormston suggested the meeting keep a petty cash fund to enable incidental costs to be paid more easily.

Chris noted he would happily speak to Victoria at Many bookkeeping and pass on all the current financial information he holds. Angela will email Victoria and pass on Chris' contact details to her.

5. **Update on defibrillator.** Jim advised that the defibrillator and its battery are working well, however an engineer is in the process of replacing some parts to the cabinet. This will ensure that the defibrillator will still work if the temperature should drop below the recommended levels. There will be no additional costs to this work other than the original £483 payment.

6. **AOB.** Yvonne noted that one of the new trees planted on the village green in front of Lower Garth, is beginning to outgrow the support strapping, which is beginning to dig into the bark. Guy has offered to release the strapping to prevent further damage.

A date was set for next years AGM for Tuesday 12th May 2020.

Thanks to all for attending. The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.

Angela McCormack (Chair and Clerk to Thornton Parish Meeting)