



Minutes of Parish Meeting held on 11th August 2020

at the Thornton Steward Village Institute

Apologies – Cllr Richard Ormston, Stephen McCormack

Present – Jim Brierley, Wendy Hoare, Maureen Ayre, Angela McCormack (Chair/Clerk)

1. **The Annual Return.** Angela (with support from Jim Brierley) advised the meeting of details regarding the Annual Return, which was agreed by all and signed by Angela as Chairperson. As the Parish meeting has employed the services of Victoria Bush at Many Bookkeeping as our internal auditor, Jim advised Angela to approach Victoria in completing part 2PM (Internal control objective) Once this is completed and signed, Angela advised the meeting that copies will be available publicly to view from **1st September to 12th October 2020** and forwarded to Wendy for publication on the Thornton Steward Website. Unanimous approval was given from the meeting. The AGAR exemption certificate will be forwarded to the external auditors on full completion before the September 1st deadline.
2. **AOB.** Angela spoke to the meeting about an email from Cllr Angie Dale (leader of Richmondshire District Council) which had been circulated to clerks around Richmondshire.) Content was regarding the Government's plan to devolve power from the wider communities, councils and parishes, in creating a two-tier system. Angela outlined the proposals Cllr Dale made which indicated initial ideas for this process of devolution, should be submitted to Government in Early September. Cllr. Dale welcomes the views on how local government can and should be organised for the best outcome for residents and she stated NYCC is determined to create a Super Council moving forward. In response Cllr Richard Ormston (via an earlier email (dated 11.08.2020) had noted that these proposals were in the very early stages and that her views had not been yet agreed by many of the Richmondshire District councillors. He said the bigger picture should be considered, taking account of everyone's differing views. He also suggested that in small communities such as TSPM we need to be part of these discussions and deals which may significantly affect us all. Maureen noted (as an employee of NYCC, she had also received information regarding this devolution of power and that the Government are looking to create two-tier system. Wendy asked if there was a website where people could air their views. Angela said she would look into this and pass any information on to all via email/village notice board. Further information about devolution can be found on the Richmondshire District council website.
3. **AOB** Jim asked Angela to speak to Victoria about an invoice for her services to TSPM. Angela agreed to chase this up.
4. **AOB.** Maureen asked that roles of clerk and chairperson be officially reoffered. Angela willingly accepted, although added that due to a personal change in circumstances, her role as Clerk and more especially Chairperson would need to come to an end in March 2021.

The meeting closed at 7.15p.m

Many thanks

Angela McCormack (Chair and Clerk to Thornton Parish Meeting)