

## **Minutes of ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 commencing 730pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall**

**Those Present:** Cllr I Webb, Cllr R Aplin, Cllr J Sutton, Cllr N Tuckey, C Miller (Clerk), two members of the public during public questions

### **2021/51 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **2021/52 Declaration of Members Interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

### **2021/53 Co-Option Vacancies**

It was resolved to co-opt Nick Tuckey onto the Parish Council.

### **2021/54 Public Questions**

A member of Thropton Village Hall committee in attendance and reported new committee members were being sought. There was concern that if Covid-19 restrictions continued the Hall Committee could suffer financial hardship.

Two parishioners had concerns regarding Snitter bridge, and believed there was a very real danger for pedestrians crossing the road in the area. Walkers coming along the footpath need to cross over the road in order to continue along the footpath on the other side, with no signage currently insitu to indicate this. There had recently been a close encounter when an elderly man had been crossing at and narrowly missed being knocked down by a car coming from Snitter on the blind bend to the bridge. It is understood the gentleman was a little hard of hearing and the car was electric.

It was resolved the Parish Council would initially report the issue to County Council. If improvements were not forthcoming, the community could finance signage themselves, with the necessary County Council approvals.

Parishioner suggested a larger bottle bank would be required due to the proposed new housing development, and a receptacle could be placed at the new Spar development.

A parishioner complained about trees being removed from the play area last Summer, which he believed had adversely affected his view and value of his property, and was of the opinion two tree surgeons should be employed for such work – one to carry out a report on the tree's condition and the other to carry out the work.

### **2021/55 Minutes of previous meeting held Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 be accepted as a true record.

### **2021/56 Matters arising from previous meeting held Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

- **Traffic calming measures:** Report awaited from County Council, and with a significant increase in housing the situation would only worsen.
- **Seat repairs:** Two replacement seats on order.
- **B.T. telephone box:** The County Council had objected to the removal of the telephone box due to poor mobile phone signal, and the decision had been forwarded to the Secretary of State.
- **Repairs required to metal railings on path leading to Village View; grassed area at Cross Key's Bank; white wooden railings on approach to road bridge:** Issues had been reported to the County Council with no action taken, and it was resolved Clerk would forward concerns to the County Cllr.

### **2021/57 Finance**

### **2021/57/01 Invoices for authorisation:**

RoSPA – annual play area inspection - £90.60 - It was resolved to approve the payment

- Kidd Garden Design – play area inspections – no invoice received

### **2021/57/02 To consider request for funding received from Thropton Show Committee for “Thropton Together”**

A grant request had been received from Thropton Show Committee for a group that had been set up – Thropton Together – who had organised the Christmas tree and lights in 2020 and hoped it became an annual event. They also wished to be involved in other initiatives to improve the appearance and spirits of the community, such as repainting the inside of the bus shelter. The Thropton Show Committee had agreed to set aside £200 to the group on an annual basis, and asked if the Parish Council would grant matched funding. It was resolved to grant £200, on the basis of receiving proposals on what the money would be spent on; to ascertain whether the group were constituted and had their own bank account, or if the finances would be run through the Show Committee. A grant application would need to be submitted on an annual basis. A parishioner had contacted the Parish Council to ask if the Parish Council would be planning celebrations for the 2022 Queen’s Platinum, and it was agreed Thropton Together would be ideal to take this proposal forward.

Thropton W.I. had asked if they could plant trees/bulbs for the event, with Clerk to advise the play area was the only land that was the responsibility of the Parish Council.

### **2021/58 Planning:**

#### **2021/58/01 Planning applications received:**

- 21/01603/FUL: Overweigh, Overweigh Lane – single storey pitched roof extension to side of property. Application had now been approved by County Council.
- 21/01758/FUL: Carlton Cottage – proposed single storey rear extension and refurbishment works – no objections.
- 18/00751/REM: Land to the West of Northern 4 x 4 Centre, West End Garage – Reserved matters for 79 No dwellings with all matters to be considered including access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale on 13/03894/OUT (Revised Description 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021) – objections had been submitted, however an extension of time had been given for further submissions – the proposals had been ongoing for many years, with varying numbers of housing being submitted/amended. Developments within the parish had provide money towards affordable housing and education, however the Section 106 agreement relating to this development had expired, with Cllr Aplin having contacted County Council to ask if the Parish Council could be involved in discussion regarding the contributions. The current infrastructure in the parish and surrounding parishes of great concern, and it was believed the local school and G.P. service would not be able to cope with this and the Spar development, and the current unacceptable parking and traffic problems would be exacerbated – it was resolved to request a meeting with the planner to discuss infrastructure issues.
- 21/02320/FUL: 7 The Meadows – proposed two storey extension on ground floor alongside original single storey – no objections.
- 21/02440/FUL: East Cottage, Gallowfield – replacement shed and store with new larger shed – no objections.
- 21/02566/FUL: The Cottage, 1 Black Chirnells – single storey rear extension – no objections.

### **2021/58/02 Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan**

Steering Group to meet in the near future.

### **2021/58/03 Northumberland Local Plan Examination – Consultation on Main Modifications**

The local plan in its current form would fail the independent examination, therefore an additional consultation was underway, however Clerk advised it did not appear to contain anything of relevance to Thropton parish.

**2021/59 Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

**2021/59/01 To consider and agree the dissolution of the Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

Parish precept for Band D property within Thropton parish was currently £52.74, 68% being attributable to the running of Rothbury cemetery, at £35.86/household per annum. It was resolved to agree to the dissolution of the Committee and for Thropton parish to continue to contribute to the running costs of the cemetery.

**2021/60 To consider issues of concern within the parish**

**2021/60/01 Request to replace dog waste bins at Wreigh Burn going down stream, and track from village hall to river**

An anonymous request had been forwarded to the County Council for the two bins to be replaced and it was resolved the Parish Council would replace the structures, but slightly alter their locations.

**2021/61 To consider play area inspection report and findings**

The RoSPA play area report had indicated repairs to the seating and overhanging tree branches were required and it was resolved the issues would be actioned. Since the report the matting at the basket seat had been removed and posing a danger, therefore Clerk had arranged signage advising the equipment should not be used at the present time, with repair organised.

**2021/62 To approve Rothbury Parish Council arrange for Cartington Parish Council funds to be transferred to Rothbury Parish Council bank account, outstanding payments authorised, and surplus funds apportioned as follows:**

**Rothbury Parish Council - 80%; Thropton Parish Council - 20%**

Further to the amalgamation of Cartington Parish Council, it was resolved the funds would be transferred to Rothbury Parish Council, outstanding payments authorised and surplus funds apportioned between Rothbury Parish Council – 80% and Thropton Parish Council – 20%.

**2021/63 Correspondence**

Discussed earlier.

**2021/64 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk

[www.parish-council.com/thropton](http://www.parish-council.com/thropton)

**THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR RESUMING FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Description of Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
1.Room Set up and Dismantling	Transmission from setting out the chairs to hold the meeting.	Chairs and surfaces, eg door handles to be sanitised after use – members to sanitise their own chairs; Clerk/Chairman to undertake sanitisation on other areas. Chairs to be set out in horseshoe shape to avoid people facing each other.
2. Entering and leaving meeting	Close proximity to other members and the public entering and leaving the meeting and contact with doors.	Members to enter the meeting and leave in an orderly socially distanced way. Hands to be sanitised on arrival. Controlled, socially distanced, one by one, entry by other attendees.
3. Meeting Environment	Transmission through air and touch.	Socially distanced seating arrangement.  Windows and doors to be left open to facilitate the free flow of air though the meeting room.
5. Conduct of Meeting	Transfer through touch and air	Members and public to remain socially distanced at all times.  Wearing of masks except when speaking.  Shouting to be avoided.  The circulation of paper documents to be suspended.
6. Wider Issues	Members do not feel safe attending face to face meetings.	Members to stand when addressing the meeting so their voices will carry better.  Need to keep meeting “moving” so it does not last longer than necessary.
	Track & trace	Contact details of any members of the public attending to be taken.