

**Minutes of ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 commencing at 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall**

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

**PART ONE**

**2021/80 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2021/81 Declaration of Members Interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2021/82 Co-Option Vacancy**

There had been no applications for the co-option vacancy.

**2021/83 Election of Parish Council representative to Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded as Parish Council representative to Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, and duly elected.

**2021/84 Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

**2021/85 Minutes of previous meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 be accepted as a true record.

**2021/86 Thropton Together**

**2021/86/01 Queen Elizabeth Platinum Celebrations 2022**

Thropton Together representatives present who reported the most popular suggestion for a celebration being a 50's themed street party at the Village Hall. Thropton Together, Thropton W.I, Thropton First School and the Village Hall Committee were to be involved. It would be beneficial if the Parish Council could be kept informed of preparations via the Clerk

A vote of thanks given to Thropton Together for the improvements being carried out in the parish.

**2021/86/02 Second defibrillator at West end of village**

Funding had been sought from Spar and the County Councillor for a second defibrillator to be placed at the Village Hall, with running costs to be met by the Village Hall Committee.

**2021/86/03 Request for additional street lamp near to Sylvan Cottage**

Clerk had re-contacted County Council regarding the long running request to relocate a street lamp near to Sylvan Cottage, however they had carried out resident consultation who were against an additional lamp in that area.

**2021/86/04 Request for handrail on Cross Keys bank**

Clerk had contacted County Council to request a handrail on the Cross Keys bank.

## **2021/87 Finance**

### **2021/87/01 Invoices for authorisation:**

- Kidd Garden Design – play area inspections/grasscutting - £130
- Broxap – seating - £915.60
- M Evens – noticeboard repair - £41.45; bench repair - £109.28
- N Tuckey – fuel for grasscutting - £7.00 – thanks given to Cllr Tuckey for play area grasscutting.

It was resolved to approve the payments.

### **2021/87/02 To consider grant to the following:**

- Great North Air Ambulance – it was resolved to grant £50.00.

### **2021/87/03 To consider replacing seating at play area and bus stop**

One seat at West End and seat near to Cross Keys replaced. Seat at play area had been repaired, and it was therefore resolved to only replace one further seat at the bus stop. M Evens had advised a section of fencing at the play area required replacing, with Cllr R Aplin to meet M Evens on site to consider further. The moveable goal posts had pieces missing with Cllr Aplin having inspected the play area twice, and could action repair. Trees or bushes could be planted behind the goal, the goalpost could be moved so that the ball did not go into the neighbouring field, or a high fence could be erected. It was agreed 120 Native Harvest would be requested via the County Council freetree scheme. There had been no further contact with the community group who had requested play area equipment upgrade, with Cllr R Aplin to contact representative.

### **2021/87/04 To consider budget and precept requirements for 2022-2023**

First draft of precept indicated a £500 rise in the parish element. Parishioners currently pay on average £52.74, with £31 to the Rothbury Joint Burial Committee. There could be an option for the parish to leave the Burial Committee and which would be discussed further at January 2022 meeting.

## **2021/88 Planning**

### **2021/88/01 Planning applications received**

- 21/03790/FUL: Hill Cottage, Thropton – Resubmission – Provision of 1 No parking bay, bin stance and decking to house frontage, proposed extension to rear – no objections
- 21/04066/FUL: Shalamar, Pondicherry - proposed single storey side extensions and front extension – no objections.
- 21/04231/REM: Land West of Thropton Demesne – Reserved matters pursuant to Planning Application NO 18/02244/OUT, 18 dwellings – no comments to be made.

### **2021/88/02 Approval of planning application received**

- 20/04376/FUL: Sherbrooke – replace existing septic tank with domestic sewage treatment plant

### **2021/88/03 Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan:**

Regular meetings being held, with all Parishes who wish to be involved to sign up to the plan, however there was a problem with Snitter as they do not have a Parish Council. The Northumberland Local Plan was due to be adopted early 2022.

Plans for the draft traffic calming measures for public display still awaited.

**2021/88/04 To receive update regarding Planning Application: 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)**

Planning Officer in charge of the proposals was on sick leave, however the County Council were aware of the problems with the unacceptable state of the current site, and would take action if required. It was resolved to reply to County Council to state the garage debris should be removed from the site as a matter of urgency. Request had been submitted to County Council for the Cabinet Member in charge of Planning to attend a future PC meeting, with Cllr Horncastle to attend the January meeting.

**2021/89 Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

**2021/89/01 To receive update on cemetery matters**

There were no issues to discuss.

**2021/89/02 To consider response to DEFRA consultation regarding environmental permitting regulations affecting burial authorities**

Consultation underway which may result in burial plots having to be enlarged, however smaller burial authorities with under 30 burials per year would be exempt from the proposals.

**2021/90 Playlist for Life – free resources for people with dementia and their families**

Playlist for life were an award-winning music and dementia charity who could provide free packs to share with people living with dementia or their carers. Clerk to circulate details to all Cllrs.

**2021/91 Northumberland County Council – Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation**

Four yearly consultation available on line. There were no amendments to the current document, and it was resolved there were no comments to be made.

**2021/92 To review Parish Council meeting schedule**

Cllr R Aplin proposed the Parish Council meet 10 times per year as opposed to six, however this would entail additional costs, and extra ordinary meetings could be held if required. Cllr Tuckey requested the meeting day be changed to a Tuesday and it was agreed future meetings would be held on the third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November.

**2021/93 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

## **PART TWO**

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

It was resolved to hold private session.

**2021/94 To review Clerk Salary – discussed in private due to personal information**

Cllr I Webb to speak to adviser involved in Parish Clerk salary scales.



Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk

The meeting close at 850pm

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