

Minutes of ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 27th September 2022 commencing at 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

Those Present: Cllr J Sutton (Chairman), Cllr I Webb, Cllr C Foggon, Cllr N Tuckey, C Miller (Clerk), one member of the public

2022/74 Apologies for absence

Cllr R Aplin

2022/75 Declaration of Members Interests

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

2022/76 Public Questions

Parishioner made comment that notice regarding the postponement of the Parish Council meeting scheduled for 20th September had not been displayed to the public, along with minutes from the previous meeting, however postponement had been stated on the Parish Council web-site, along with the draft minutes. Agendas and draft minutes were also posted in the Parish Council noticeboard.

2022/77 Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 19th July 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th May 2022 be accepted as a true record, with the inclusion of I Webb as being present.

2022/78 Thropton Play Area

2022/78/01 To consider most recent play area inspection reports

Repairs to play area to be considered under 2022/78/03.

2022/78/02 To receive update on net for goalpost

Bespoke netting had had to be ordered with delivery awaited.

2022/78/03 To consider quotation for repairs to play area

It was resolved to accept the quotation of £950 for repairs to rocker dog, rotator and basket swing matting.

2022/78/04 To consider future improvements to Thropton play area and financial implications

There had been no further contact from the community group interested in improvements to the play area and item would be removed from agenda.

2022/79 To consider Traffic control/traffic calming proposals for the parish

Integrated traffic management had been included in Local Transport Programme 2022-2023 requests, however this did not guarantee any improvements would be authorised for the parish. It was noted there would be a large increase in traffic in the future due to the Spar and housing development(s).

2022/80 To consider parishioner concerns regarding parking near to Cross Keys and option of double yellow lines

County Council had advised they would consider double yellow lining on the junction, further to parishioner complaints regarding vehicles parking near to the junction. It was resolved the Parish Council would support double yellow lining opposite the Cross Keys, and to voice concerns about the rest of the road down to the school car park, due to cars frequently parking on the roadside.

2022/81 Finance

2022/81/01 Invoices for authorisation:

- Rothbury Parish Council (RJBC) – transfer of Thropton burial precept - £5073
- Kidd Garden Design – grasscutting/playground inspection July/August - £245
- C Miller – six monthly salary/expenses - £624.13
- HMRC – Paye on above - £124.40
- Spanglefish – annual web-site fee - £103
- Hucknets – bespoke pair goal nets - £114.05 (to be paid once nets received)

It was resolved to approve the payments

2022/81/02 To consider computerised accounts package at £60/annum

It was resolved to purchase an computerised accounts package at £60/annum.

2022/82 Planning

2022/82/01 Planning applications received

- 22/02687/FUL: The Garage – Build new boundary wall along part frontage, install 2 new flagpoles, refurbish existing totem sign, car jet wash hard standing, resurface existing forecourt area and mark out parking bays – no objections
- 22/03134/FUL: West Acre Road, North Thropton to Blue Chirnells – freestanding greenhouse – no objections
- **2022/82/02 Approval of planning application received**
- 22/02473/VARYCO: Shalamar, Pondicherry – Variation of Condition 2 to 21/04086/FUL to allow change in the design by removing the side extension to the west side and by increasing the width of the side extension to the east

2022/83 To receive update from Rothbury Joint Burial Committee

Nothing to report, next meeting scheduled for 10th October 2022.

2022/84 To receive update from Rothbury Parish Council Crises Management Working Group

A full day Crises Management training event had been arranged by the Working Group for Saturday 15th October 2022 9am to 5pm in the Jubilee Institute, Rothbury, with practice scenario to be staged.

2022/85 Police Report

There was no police report.

2022/86 Northumberland County Council – Northumberland Town and Parish Council Climate Change Toolkit

Cllr R Aplin had summarised information in the toolkit as follows:

“The aim of the Plan is to achieve a key target of a Net Carbon Neutral Northumberland by 2030. The Priority Action Areas include: Heating existing buildings and new buildings, Transport, Renewable Energy Generation, Natural Resource-based Carbon Sequestration, Reducing Waste. There are several experimental schemes in place or in preparation but these mostly affect the more heavily populated areas. None of the Action

Areas has any direct implications for Thropton Parish Council, although we might want to make representations to the County Council regarding certain issues; e.g.:-

Heating existing and new buildings and Renewable Energy generation

When we are looking at planning applications we could pay particular regard to how the buildings are being heated and insulated and whether the NCC planning authority is following Action Plan guidelines when making demands on developers and when considering their approval.

Transport

The Action Plan says that “we will continue to encourage and support increased use of public transport”. Thropton is more fortunate than many rural communities in being the terminus for the X14 bus route. However, the last bus back leaves Newcastle at 6.38pm and Morpeth at 7.15pm. A bus service to Alnwick is almost non-existent. An extended service giving later travel options would mean that local people would have easier and more environmentally sound access to evening cultural, social and entertainment events which do not take place in small rural communities.

Reducing Waste

The County Council “recognises that it must do more and is committed to reduce waste” and we know as local residents that many ‘recyclable’ items are excluded from the Council’s own Recycle Collections and are destined for land-fill or incineration. The Climate Change Action Plan is well worth a read as it outlines the Council’s priorities and can inform some of the decisions we may have to make as Parish Councillors and some of the questions we may want to ask County Council members and officers when we get the opportunity!”

This link will take you to the Plan:-

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/About-the-Council/Climate%20change/Climate-change-action-plan-2021-23.pdf>

2022/87 To consider Thropton parishioner concerns regarding road Closure at Church Street, Rothbury and Northumberland County Council proposed pedestrian zone consultation

The road had been closed during the coronavirus pandemic. Concerns had been received from a Thropton resident about the ongoing temporary closure due to pandemic restrictions no longer being in place, parking/traffic flow issues, intimidation to pedestrians and unfairness on other businesses. County Council were currently carrying out a consultation regarding a permanent closure, however it was resolved the Parish Council would not make comment.

2022/88 To consider maintenance issues with Riverside Footpath

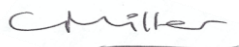
Cllr I Webb understood the footpath is on private land, but believed there is shared responsibility between the householder, County Council and Parish Council, however the Parish Council had not historically paid towards the upkeep of the footpath. County Council had confirmed they had responsibility but could only finance minor maintenance at the present time.

2022/89 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 15th November 2022 commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

Cllr N Tuckey had attended the Planning Committee Meeting to oppose 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 28th May 2021) on behalf of the Parish Council, however the proposals had been passed by the Northern Area Planning Committee.



Claire Miller

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

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