

**Minutes of ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 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), J Carr (part of the meeting)

**2022/17 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2022/18 Declaration of Members Interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2022/19 Co-Option Vacancy**

There were no applications for the co-option vacancy.

**2022/20 Public Questions**

J Car, member of Thropton Together and new Chair of the Village Hall present. The Committee were planning to register the hall as an emergency centre in times of crises. Community Group Thropton Together had set up community support, with 25 volunteers secured and the village divided up to carry out checks on parishioners in times of crises. Rothbury Parish Council had set up a Crises Management Working Group with community partners. J Carr willing to become part of the group, and it was agreed this would be beneficial for the parish.

**2022/21 Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be accepted as a true record.

**2022/22 Thropton Play Area**

**2022/22/01 To consider improvements to Thropton play area and financial implications**

Children had been spoken to about relocating the goalpost, however they play football both ways and the ball would still go through the fence. There had been goalpost nets in the past, however they are easily damaged and cause safety issues.

**2022/22/02 To receive progress with tree planting in the parish**

Three trees planted within the play area had already been knocked over. Gardener had advised cutting would take longer and lead to higher costs, and they should have been planted outside of the play area. Neighbouring residents had been spoken, along with a tree expert, who agreed with the location, however the trees nearest to the goalpost would be reassessed. There were 40 trees in total to be planted, and 80 surplus, which would be available to parishioners and be advertised via Thropton Together Facebook page.

**2022/22/03 To receive monthly play area inspection report(s)**

There were no matters that required immediate attention.

**2022/22/04 To receive update on relocation/improvements to goalpost**

Netting had previously been agreed to block the fence off and prevent balls entering the field. It was therefore resolved to request a quotation from A Kidd to place netting.

**2022/23 To consider Traffic control/traffic calming proposals for the parish**

R McKenzie had made contact and was to provide three A3 copies of the traffic proposals, for display in the two parish bus shelters and Village Hall.

**2022/24 Finance**

**2022/24/01 To receive National Joint Council for Local Government Services 1.75% payrise for year ending 31/3/21, to be backdated from 1/4/21**

Payrise noted.

**2022/24/02 Invoices for authorisation:**

- Employee – six monthly salary/expenses - £517.61
- HMRC – PAYE on above - £120.00
- The Stephen Carey Fund – defib pads - £45.00
- Thropton War Memorial Hall – meeting room 2022 - £66.00 for 2022

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2022/24/03 To consider request for grant from Citizens Advice Northumberland £50 granted November 2020.**

It was resolved to grant £50 to Citizens Advice Northumberland.

**2022/24/04 To consider request for grant from Northumberland AGE UK**

No grant given.

**2022/25 Planning**

**2022/25/01 Planning applications received**

- 22/00127/VARYCO: Lady Bank, Snitter – Variation of condition pursuant to A/2008/0224 to vary the house design – no objections
- 21/04917/VARYCO: Land South of Thropton Demesne – Variation of Conditions 2 to 21/00053/VARYCO to allow basement to be removed and additional accommodation provided above garage with external stepped access – no objections
- 22/00524/FUL: Three Wheat Heads Inn – Extension to existing timber chalet to provide ensuite accessible shower and W/C – no objections

**2022/25/02 To receive update on Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan:**

Steering Group to meet 24/3/22. Snitter parishioner had organised public consultation and it appeared the residents were interested in becoming part of the Neighbourhood Plan. Designation to be confirmed in due course, which entailed County Council carrying out public consultation.

**2022/25/03 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 Enforcement had carried out a site visit regarding refuse on the site.

**2022/26 Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

**2022/26/01 To receive update on cemetery matters**

There were no matters to update.

**2021/27 Review of Internal Auditor**

It was resolved to re-engage A Winter as internal auditor year ending 31/3/22.

**2021/28 Review of Internal Controls**

It was resolved the internal controls were sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council

**2021/29 Review of Insurance Policy**

Play area equipment valued at £33421; street furniture £16710; defibrillators £5K; public and employers liability £10m; Fidelity guarantee £150K, and which were agreed as sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2021/30 Review of Asset Register**

It was resolved the register was an accurate record of the current assets of the Parish Council.

**2021/31 Review of Risk Assessment**

It was resolved the Risk Assessment was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2022/32 To consider alternative site for bus shelter seat, and to consider offer from Thropton W.I. to donate seat to the parish to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee**

It was resolved to accept the offer from Thropton W.I. for a Jubilee seat and which would be placed near to the Spar. The W.I. would make a contribution to the Parish Council for the seat currently in storage which could not be located at the bus shelter.

**2022/33 To consider Thropton Parish Council Management Plan 2022-2025**

Draft Management Plan 2022-2025 considered, to be approved at May PC meeting.

**2022/34 NALC – The Armed Forces Covenant**

Northumberland Association of Local Councils – The Armed Forces Covenant - Northumberland County Council made a commitment to support the Armed Forces Community by signing the Armed Forces Covenant in 2012 and renewing their commitment in 2020. The Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served, and their families, are treated fairly. NALC had arranged an electronic information session.

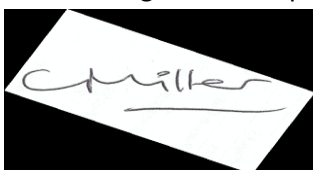
**2022/35 Rothbury Parish Council Crises Management Working Group**

Rothbury Parish Council had set of a Crises Management Working Group with representatives from County Council, Upper Coquetdale Community Transport, GP Surgery and Mountain Rescue/Local Resilience Forum. Hesleyhurst Parish Council and Thropton Together to join the group (discussed above).

**2022/36 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting, to be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 715pm. The Annual Meeting of the Parish will commence at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8pm.



Claire Miller, Parish Clerk [www.parish-council.com/thropton](http://www.parish-council.com/thropton)