

## **THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the annual meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 commencing at 715pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

**Those Present:** Cllr Sutton (Chairman), Cllr Aplin, Cllr Foggon, C Miller (Clerk)

**2023/36 Apologies for absence**

It was resolved to grant Cllr I Webb an extended leave of absence due to medical reasons.

**2023/37 Declaration of Members Interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2023/38 Election of Chairman**

Cllr Sutton proposed and seconded as Chairman and duly elected.

**2023/39 Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded as Vice Chairman and duly elected.

Cllr Foggon to continue as Joint Burial Committee representative – to be ratified at July PC meeting.

Cllr Aplin to continue as Coquetdale Cluster representative – to be ratified at July PC meeting.

**2023/40 Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

**2023/41 Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 be accepted as a true record.

**2023/42 Thropton Play Area**

**2023/42/01 To consider most recent play area inspection reports**

Items identified requiring attention related to rocker dog and rubber cap on post/stopper, with Cllr Tuckey actioning.

**2023/43 To consider Traffic control/traffic calming proposals for the parish**

Clerk had contacted R Mckenzie of County Council regarding possible temporary extension of 30mph speed limit near to Spar. As the request relates to planning, R McKenzie had passed the request to County Council Development Control with response awaited.

**2023/44 Finance**

2023/44/01 Invoices for authorisation:

- C Miller - Coquetdale Cluster salary – £180.00
- HMRC – PAYE - £2.40
- Rothbury Parish Council – transfer of Burial Precept – £4945
- Kidd Garden Design – play area inspection - £80
- NALC – annual subscription - £136.81
- CSM Windows and Guttering – play area grasscutting - £420

- Jubilee Institute – rent for meeting room Coquetdale Cluster meeting 4/4/23 - £20  
It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2023/44/02 To consider request for litter bin near to Spar**

The store had increased staff litter picking duties and confirmed they would fund an additional litter bin in the village. It was resolved at the current time there did not appear to be a problem with litter, there were bins at Spar and the bus shelter, and no suitable land to place a bin between these locations.

**2023/45 Planning**

**2023/45/01 Planning Application received and permission granted from County Council**

- 23/00647/FUL: Overweigh, Overweigh Lane, Additional works to 21/01603/FUL comprising of flat roof addition to rear of proposed single storey pitched roof extension to side of property.

**2023/45/02 Approval of planning application received**

- 22/01802/FUL: Land West of Westfield House – creation of 4 No holiday huts.

**2023/45/03 To consider complaint received regarding noise and cooking smell nuisance from Thropton Spar**

Parishioner complaint had been received regarding “noise and cooking smell nuisance from vents at the Spar, which towers above the residents of Wreighburn Fields homes and gardens. This is having a negative effect on the residential amenity and the enjoyment of homes and gardens”. It was resolved the Parish Council would ask Spar to look into the complaint.

**2023/46 To receive update from Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

Nothing to report, April meeting being inquorate.

**2023/47 Audit of Accounts y/e 31/3/23**

**2023/47/01 To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor**

There were no matters arising from the report of the internal auditor.

**2023/47/02 To approve the Governance Statement**

It was resolved to approve the governance statement.

**2023/47/03 To approve the draft annual accounts for 2022/2023**

It was resolved to approve the draft annual accounts for 2022/2023.

**2023/47/04 To approve the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances**

It was resolved to approve the accounting statement and explanation of variances.

**2023/47/05 To approve the Exemption Certificate**

It was resolved to approve the exemption certificate.

**2023/47/06 To approve public right of inspection dates 5/6/23 to 14/7/23**

It was resolved to approve the public right of inspection dates 5/6/23 to 14/7/23.

**2023/48 To consider parishioner report of road flooding within the parish**

County Council had advised there is a major Surface Dressing scheme included in this stretch and pre patching work may be able to be shaped to prevent water standing in the dips. However County Council advised it could be the landowner of the fields above's responsibility to stop water flowing onto the road by means of ditching on

their land. It was resolved to forward photographic evidence to ensure the County Council were referring to Thropton Main Street, as the comments received referred to the "landowner of the fields".

**2023/49 To consider response from County Council regarding reducing the villages dependence on heating fuel and expensive electricity**

Further to parishioner comments considered at previous Parish Council meeting, County Council had advised they were not against the installation of a smart meter mast in Thropton Parish. They had no principle issue with such a mast being installed in the parish, and if an application were made by a developer that was in line with current policy, they would support the application. The Planning Department would not seek to suggest locations to developers that would be suitable, but can and do consider all locations proposed. Clerk had forwarded comments to parishioner and item would be removed from agenda.

**2023/50 To receive update on request to Northumberland County Council to review the current level of service of X14 bus route**

County Council had requested evidence to back up the request for an increased bus service, however social media consultation carried out by Cllr Aplin had not indicated enough support to increase the level of service of X14 bus route. Item to be removed from agenda.

**2023/51 To consider request from Coquetdale Cluster to fund public meeting relating to analogue telephone switchover, with M.P. and Department of Media, Culture and Sport Minister**

The Coquetdale Cluster had agreed to request a public meeting with M.P. and a minister from DMCS regarding the analogue telephone switchover. The main hall at the Jubilee Hall would need hired, and it was resolved RPC would contribute to this cost through their Cluster membership. the M.P. had initially agreed to attend a Cluster meeting.

**2023/52 To receive confirmation police personnel to attend next Parish Council Meeting**

Northumbria Police had agreed to attend the next Parish Council meeting to be held Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**2023/53 To consider Local Government Boundary Commission draft recommendations for division boundaries in Northumberland**

The Boundary Commission had published draft recommendations which did not affect Thropton parish, however Elsdon and Hesleyhurst were to be moved from the Coquetdale ward.

**2023/54 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 740pm.



Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk