

## THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 commencing at 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

**Those Present:** Cllr Sutton (Chairman), Cllr Aplin, Cllr Foggon, Cllr Tuckey, C Miller (Clerk), Daniel Palmer (Northumbria Police)

**2023/55 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2023/56 Declaration of Members Interests**

Cllr Tuckey declared an interest in Agenda Item No 2023/66/01.

**2023/57 Meeting with Northumbria Police**

Daniel Palmer of Northumbria Police present and who reported no crimes had occurred within Thropton parish during the past two months. The problem of speeding traffic in the village discussed. Traffic often speeds up when going over the bridge and uphill, however the large volume of cars parking in the village does ease difficulties. The problem could be improved by moving the 30mph speed limit further back from the Spar village entrance. DP advised Speedwatch can be carried out in the parish and community volunteers should be sought to carry this out, however there is a long waiting list for training.

DP then left the meeting.

**2023/58 Co-Option Vacancy**

Further to Cllr Webb's resignation, the Notice of Election had been displayed, with County Council confirming there had been no requests for an election to be held. A Co-option notice to be displayed on web-site and in Council noticeboard, with applicants to be considered at September meeting.

**2023/59 Election of Rothbury Joint Burial Committee representative**

Cllr Foggon proposed and seconded and duly elected as Joint Burial Committee representative.

**2023/60 Election of Coquetdale Cluster representative**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded and duly elected as Coquetdale Cluster representative.

**2023/61 Election of Neighbourhood Plan representative**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded and duly elected as Neighbourhood Plan representative.

**2023/62 Election of Climate Action Rothbury representative**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded and duly elected as Climate Action Rothbury representative.

**2023/63 Public Questions**

Parishioner had posted comments on facebook referring to problems with dog mess in the parish. This was an ongoing problem, and Clerk advised offenders should be reported to the County Council Dog Warden.

**2023/64 Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 be accepted as a true record.

**2023/65 Thropton Play Area**

**2023/65/01 To consider annual RoSPA play area inspection report**

Inspection report had indicated rotten timber on gate, overhanging trees branches, unintended grass, moss and weeds on swing surface, and remnants of rocker dog requiring removal. Cllr Tuckey to carry out a site visit and action as necessary.

**2023/66 To consider Traffic control/traffic calming proposals for the parish**

County Council had confirmed that the wider traffic management proposals had been dropped following public consultation, except for priority signage at the bridge which is included in the Local Transport Plan programme. A 20mph speed limit had been put in place at Thropton School. Previously recorded speeds in Thropton show that a signed only 20mph limit would be ineffective and physical traffic calming measures such as speed humps would be required to ensure compliance. Such measures were hard to justify when compared to other locations with higher speeds and/or accidents and were unlikely to be appropriate in a rural village setting.

**2023/67 Finance**

**2023/67/01 Invoices for authorisation:**

- CSM Windows and Guttering – play area grasscutting May/June - £255; £75 (14<sup>th</sup> July)
- RoSPA (Playsafety Ltd – annual play area inspection report - £98.40
- HMRC – PAYE - £45.00
- Jubilee Institute – Cluster meeting, room hire - £15
- Kidd Garden Design – Play area inspection, March to June 2023 - £80

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2023/67/02 To consider request for grant from Citizens Advice Northumberland**

It was resolved to ask the organisation how many parishioners in Thropton had been assisted in the last financial year, before authorising a grant.

**2023/68 Planning 2023/68/01 Planning Application received**

- 23/01762/VARYCO: Shalamar, Pondicherry – Variation of Condition 2 of 22/02473/VARYCO and approved by Northumberland County Council.

**2023/68/02 Approval of planning application received**

As above.

**2023/68/03 To consider parishioner complaint received regarding noise and cooking smell nuisance from Thropton Spar**

No further information had been received from parishioner.

**2023/69 To receive update from Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

New tractor had been delivered to the Whitton Bank Cemetery, with proposal for a further storage shed to be considered. Burial ground roundabout had been removed.

**2023/70 To consider parishioner report of road flooding within the parish**

Graham Bucknall of the County Council had requested the gully tanker attend site, with cleansing activity recorded on Karbon Tech. If wider issues than blocked gullies were indicated, these would be reported.

**To consider request for parish noticeboard to be located at Village Hall**

Thropton War Memorial Hall Committee had asked if the Parish Council could fund a noticeboard to be placed at the village hall, for use by the Parish Council and Hall Committee. It was resolved the Hall Committee should seek quotations for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting, and in principal the Parish Council would be prepared to fund 50% of the net cost.

**2023/72 To consider request for additional seating in the parish**

Thropton War Memorial Hall Committee had reported some of their elderly hall users were finding it difficult to walk up the village to the Spar, suggesting seating be placed somewhere on the north side of the Main Street, especially as there was no longer a seat by the telephone box. However Clerk reported the W.I. were still proposing to place a seat near to the Spar.

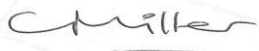
**2023/73 To consider Local Transport Plan Requests 2024 -2025; 2023-2024 requests being**

It was resolved to request 1.drainage improvements to the Main Street; 2.traffic calming near to Spar entrance and 3.traffic calming near to school entrance.

**2023/74 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 8pm.



Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk