

Minutes of the annual meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st May 2024 commencing at 730pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

Those Present: Cllr Sutton (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Bertram, Cllr Foggon, Cllr Tuckey, Cllr Aplin,

In attendance: C Miller (Clerk)

2024/37 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2024/38 Election of Chairman

Cllr Sutton proposed and seconded as Chairman and duly elected.

2024/39 Election of Vice Chairman

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

2024/40 Election of Joint Burial Committee Member

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

2024/41 Election of Coquetdale Cluster Member

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

2024/42 Election of Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan Member

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded as Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan Member and duly elected.

2024/43 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Tuckey declared an interest in agenda item: **2024/47/01 Invoices for authorisation.**

Cllr Tuckey advised a Parish Cllr from a neighbouring council had made a Code of Conduct complaint against him relating to the village grasscutting contract, alleging that declaration of interests had not been made. After investigating, the Monitoring Officer advised there was no evidence to support the allegation.

Cllr Sutton advised a Code of Complaint had been made against him which involved his role on Thropton Parish Council, Rothbury Parish Council, and the Rothbury Joint Burial Committee. Further details could be provided, if Cllr's wished to speak to him in private.

2024/44 Public Questions

There were no public questions.

2024/45 Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 19th March 2024

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 19th March 2024 be accepted as a true record.

2024/46 Thropton Play Area

2024/46/01 Play area. Members to consider replacement play area equipment

Public consultation would be required to gain grants from outside organisations. A five a side football pitch, climbing frame and slide considered, which would result in the seesaw having to be moved, and one swing

removed.

RESOLVED:

Cllr Bertram to canvas public opinion. Ball park figure for removing seesaw to be sought.

2024/46/03 Fence repair. Members to approve repairs.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to repairs requiring 12 new posts and straining wire.

A budget of £100 approved.

2024/47 Finance

2024/47/01 Invoices for authorisation

PAYABLE TO	DETAIL	NETT	VAT	GROSS
C Miller	Coquetdale Cluster salary y.e. 31.3.24	£245.94	NIL	
CSM Windows and Guttering	Play area grasscutting 22.3.24; 1.5.24 (retrospective)	£150		
CSM Windows and Guttering	Play area strimming and ground work 15.4.24 (retrospective)	£112.50	NIL	
Kidd Garden Design	Monthly inspection of play area, October 2023 to March 2024	£120	NIL	
Rothbury Parish Council	Burial precept	£5035.50	NIL	
Northumberland Association of Local Council's	Annual subscription	£144.44	NIL	
Mijan Ltd	Easy PC Accounts, annual subscription	£78.00	NIL	
HMRC	PAYE	£155.60	NIL	
Jubilee Institute	Meeting room hire, Cluster meeting	£30.00	NIL	
CSM Windows & Guttering	Grasscutting 1/5/24 Grasscutting 13/5/24	£75 £90	NIL	

RESOLVED:

Members approved the payments.

2024/48 Planning

2024/48/01 Planning applications received

- 24/01065/FUL: Cross Keys Inn – amendments to ground floor entrances and first floor flat, install ramped external entrance, internal amendments for ground floor pub area, amend cottage extension roof line, install gate to gable external space – no objections.

2024/49 Highway Matters

2024/49/01 Members to receive update on footpath from Three Wheat Heads upwards; B6341 road dip
Road dip had been earmarked for repairs.

2024/50 Members to receive update from Rothbury Joint Burial Committee

Plans being drawn up for machinery store.

2024/51 Parish noticeboard to be located at Village Hall. Members to receive update.

Item to be removed from agenda.

2024/52 Audit of accounts y.e. 31/3/24

2024/52/01 Members 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.

2024/52/02 Members to approve the Governance Statement

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Governance Statement.

2024/52/03 Members to approve the draft annual accounts 2023/2024

RESOLVED:

Members approved the draft annual accounts 2023/2024.

2024/52/04 Members to approve the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances.

2024/52/05 Members to approve the Exemption Certificate

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Exemption Certificate.

2024/52/06 Members to approve public right of inspection dates of 3/6/24 to 13/7/24

RESOLVED:

Members approved the public right of inspection dates of 3/6/24 to 13/7/24.

2024/53 X14 Bus Service. Members to receive information regarding increasing

County Council Officer Neil Easton had advised he would contact Arriva and request a price to extend the hours of operation of the X14. As long as the cost was sensible, County could look to fund an enhanced service.

2024/54 Safeguarding Policy. Members to consider adoption of policy.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to defer adoption of the policy until the grant application(s) for the play area were ready for submission, further to public consultation. Community group Climate and Nature could assist in future discussions regarding landscaping of the area.

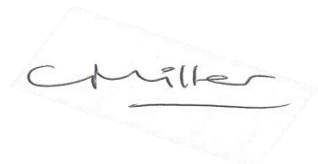
2024/55 Urgent Business/Items for next meeting

Improved relationship with residents and parish groups to be added to next meeting.

2024/56 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 16th July commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 845pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Miller". The signature is written on a light-colored rectangular background that appears to be a stamp or a piece of paper with a faint border.

C Miller, Clerk/RFO

DRAFT