

THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th March 2025 commencing at 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

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

In Attendance: C Miller (Clerk), two members of the public

2025/15 Apologies for absence

Cllr Aplin

2025/16 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Tuckey declared an interest in Agenda Item NO: 2025/25/01, invoices for payment / Thropton play area.

2025/17 Minutes of previous meeting held 21st January 2025

RESOLVED:

Members agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting held 21st January 2025 were a true record.

2025/18 Public Questions

There were no public questions.

2025/19 Thropton Play Area

2025/19/01 Play area. Members to consider resident consultation, improvements to play area

The main consensus is for seating / picnic area; installation of a slide for seven and unders, and creation of five a side football pitch.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to carry out a site visit Sunday 23d March 1030am.

2025/19/02 Play area inspection reports. Members to consider items raised, and repairs required

Gate and fence had been repaired and weeds attended to. Matting had been ordered.

RESOLVED:

Further weed killing to be actioned.

2025/20 Environmental Issues within the Parish

The Clerk had circulated a questionnaire from County Council inviting Councillors to complete a survey relating to biodiversity / green spaces.

2025/21 Finance

2025/21/01 Invoices for authorisation

PAYABLE TO	DETAIL	NETT	VAT	GROSS
C Miller	Six monthly salary	£633.56	NIL	
	Six monthly expenses	£6.75		
	Play area matting	£149.94	£30.00	£179.94
N Tuckey	Play area grasscutting	£210		
	New gate latch	£3.95		

RESOLVED:

Members approved the payments.

2025/21/02 Provision of grit bin, Village View. Members to consider resident request.

The Clerk advised a grit bin would need to be funded by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED:

After consideration, members agreed not to fund a grit bin at Village View.

2025/22 Planning

2025/22/01 Planning applications received

No planning applications had been received.

2025/22/02 Cherry Tree on green at The Meadows. Members to receive update on TPO request.

There was no further information as regards County Council assessing the tree.

2025/22/03 Removal of parish signpost. Members to receive update from Clerk

County Council were to write to the householder regarding replacing the signage, further to installation of a driveway to their property.

2025/23 Petition to lower speed limit to 20mph. Members to receive update

No further information had been received regarding lowering the speed limit to 20mph. Cllr's Bertram and Tuckey had agreed to carry out Radar speed monitoring training. Members agreed Right of Way signage at Thropton bridge should be clearer, stop lines required re-painting, and signage should be clearer to state there is a footpath on the bridge. These measures would improve traffic management issues.

RESOLVED:

The Clerk to request the above measures via Fix My Street.

2025/24 Review of internal controls

The Statement of Internal Control was considered.

RESOLVED:

- 1.Members agreed the current internal controls were adequate.
- 2.Members agreed payments to HMRC should continue via Direct Debit

2025/25 Review of internal auditor

Mrs A Winter had agreed to carry out the internal audit year ending 31.3.25.

RESOLVED:

Members approved the engagement of Mrs A Winter.

2025/26 Review of Risk Assessment

Members reviewed the Risk Assessment

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the Risk Assessment was adequate

2025/27 Review of insurance policy

Members reviewed the current insurance cover as follows.

Public liability £10m; Employers liability £10m; Officials indemnity £500K; Libel and slander £250K; Fidelity guarantee £150K; Street furniture £35K; Play area equipment £60K.

RESOLVED;

Members agreed the current insurance cover was adequate.

2025/28 Northumberland Open Space Assessment – Draft document for consultation

The draft document was noted.

2025/29 Northumberland County Council. Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981. Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way. Members are asked to note receipt of the following Definitive Map Modification Orders.

1.A 2.74m wide path, from the Throptonhill Cottage public road, in a north-easterly, south-easterly and north-easterly direction crossing Footpath No 14 to a junction with Footpath No 27 and also Footpath No 3 and Bridleway No 43 in the Parish of Rothbury, north of Brae Head

2.From the Black Chirnells – Primrose Cottage road, south of Spout Hill, in a south-easterly direction by Chapel Hill and crossing Bridleway No 28 to join Footpath No 7, in the Parish of Rothbury, east of Glitteringstone

3.From Footpath No 26, south-east of Chapel Hill, in a south-westerly direction crossing Bridleway No 28 and Bridleway No 25 to a junction with Bridleway No 12, and also Footpath No 2 and Bridleway No 43 in the Parish of Rothbury, north of Brae Head

4.From Bridleway No 4, in the Parish of Rothbury, north of Brae Head, in a north-easterly direction to join Bridleway No 42 in the Parish of Rothbury, south-east of Chapel Hill

5.From Footpath No 44, in the Parish of Rothbury, in a westerly and southerly direction to join Bridleway No 28

6.From Bridleway No 25 south-west of Lynnholm, in a south-easterly direction by Red Chirnells, to the former Cartington – Thropton Parish Boundary. Thereafter, as a 1.83 to 2.74m wide path, in a north-easterly directly along the south side of the former parish boundary to a point 210m south of Glitteringstone. Thereafter, as a 1.5m wide footpath, in a northerly direction for a distance of 180m, then in north-easterly direction for a distance of 85m to a point 55m north-west of Glitteringstone. Thereafter as a path, a north-westerly direction to rejoin Bridleway No 25, north-east of Lynnholm

7.From the Lorbottle Cartington road, opposite Bankhead in a westerly, south-westerly, south-easterly, easterly, southerly and south-easterly direction, by Whittle and Sandylands, to join the Cartington – Thropton road at the Spout Burn, north of Blue Chirnells.

8.From Bridleway No 20, south of Whittle, in a south-easterly and westerly direction, crossing the Back Burn by the footbridge, to join Footpath No 6 in the Parish of Snitter

9.From Bridleway No 10 in the Parish of Snitter, in a north-westerly and northerly direction, crossing the Spout Burn, to join Bridleway No 20, south of Sandylands

10.From the Cartington – Thropton road, west of Red Chirnells, in a north-westerly direction to join Bridleway No 8 in the Parish of Snitter

11.From Footpath No 6 north-west of Red Chirnells, in a north-easterly, south-easterly, north-easterly and south-easterly direction by Lynholm crossing Footpath No 27, to join Bridleway No 28, north-east of Brae Head

13.A 1.5m wide moorland path, from Public Footpath No 7, in the Parish of Callaly, 210m south-east of Sunbrough, in a southerly direction for 1920m, passing over the summit of Cartington Hill, to join the U4047 road, 1030m east of Cartington Castle

14.From the Cartington – Thropton Road, at the south side of Cartington, in an easterly, south-easterly and southerly direction by Castle Cottage, South of Cartington and crossing the Spout Burn, to join the Black Chirnells – Primrose cottage road

RESOLVED:

Members noted the amendments.

2035/30 **British Telecom, Digital Voice. Members to note public meeting 17/4/25 10am to 4pm Jubilee Institute**

Members noted the public meeting relating to digital switch over.

2025/31 **Local Elections 2025. Clerk to give verbal update on process**

The Notice of Election to be published Thursday 20th March which officially opens the election period. From Friday 21st March to Wednesday 2nd April the Returning Officer can accept nomination forms.

Nomination papers must be delivered by hand to the Lindisfarne Centre Alnwick, or County Hall Morpeth.

2025/32 **Urgent Business/Items for next meeting**

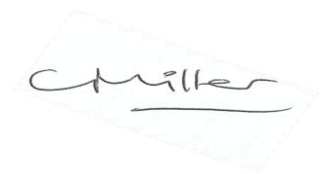
There was no urgent business / items for next meeting.

2025/33 **Date of next meeting**

The Annual meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 20th May 2025 commencing at 715pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

The Annual meeting of the Parish will commence at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 745pmn

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Miller", is written on a small, rectangular, light-colored piece of paper. The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

C Miller, Clerk/RFO