

# THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 commencing at 740pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

**Those Present:** Cllr Foggon (Chairman) Cllr Sutton, Cllr Mrs Bertram, Cllr Frazer-Kelly, Cllr Aplin

**In Attendance:** C Miller (Clerk), seven members of the public.

**2025/34 Apologies for absence**

All members were present.

**2025/35 Election of Chairman**

**RESOLVED:**

Cllr Foggon proposed and seconded as Chairman and duly elected.

**2025/36 Election of Vice Chairman**

**RESOLVED:**

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

**2025/37 To receive Declarations of Acceptance of Office**

Declarations of Acceptance of Office accepted.

**2025/38 To appoint member to Rothbury Joint Burial Committee**

Cllr Foggon proposed and seconded and duly elected.

**2025/38 To appoint member to Coquetdale Cluster**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded and duly elected.

**2025/39 To appoint member to Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Aplin proposed and seconded and duly elected.

**2025/40 Declaration of Members Interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2025/41 Minutes of previous meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**RESOLVED:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025 were accepted as a true record.

**2025/42 Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

**2025/43 Thropton Play Area**

**2025/43/01 Play area. Members to consider costings for groundworks**

Two digger operatives had submitted quotations to move goalpost and level ground. Over the widest section there would be a lot of debris, with any leftover to be moved near to the conifer. Contractor can peel off the

grass if parish Cllrs can assist with rolling and moving to the side, turf would then be relaid and the area maintained. If time permits, the seesaw can be dug up and moved to another position. The works would produce a five a side pitch. Further equipment would then be sought via grant funding, which could include adult exercise machinery.

#### **RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to accept the quotation of £480 from contractor Stephen Ford.

#### **2025/43/02 Play area inspection reports. Members to consider items raised, and repairs required**

Gardener had provided report. The grass is cut and strimmed approximately every 2 weeks. The new matting had been put down for the swing basket and upright rocker. Fence had been repaired by the garages. The bag and fir tree off cuts would be moved once a place at the tip had been booked. Astro areas of swings to be treated, baby swing area had been swept. Residents were in agreement that a picnic table would be a great addition to the area.

#### **2025/44 Environmental Issues within the Parish**

Residents had expressed concern / interest with environmental issues, and a further public meeting would be organised. Issues around solar panels had been discussed. Meter readings cannot be transmitted due to there being no appropriate mast in the parish. There was an alternative but which can take many months to install.

The village hall could provide a warm hub in the event of a power cut, due to solar panels being installed.

Water quality of concern with W.I. / rivers trust giving a presentation at a previous public meeting.

Resident advised a tree had fallen into a burn, however Environment Agency / Natural England were now responsible for this type of incidence. The tree had been there for many months.

#### **2025/45 Finance**

##### **2025/45/01 Invoices for authorisation**

PAYABLE TO	DETAIL	NETT	VAT	GROSS
HMRC	PAYE (retrospective) 24/4/25, Direct Debit	£158.40	NIL	
C Miller	Coquetdale Cluster Fee year ending 31.3.25	£152.00	NIL	
N Tuckey CSM Windows and Guttering	Grasscutting, strimming, fence repair, installation of new matting	£400.50	NIL	
Rothbury Joint Burial Committee	Burial Precept	£4959	NIL	

Jubilee Institute	Cluster meeting 15.11.24	£20.00	NIL	
	Cluster meeting 1.4.25	£20.00		
Kidd Garden Design	Play area inspection September 2024 to March 2025	£140	NIL	
Northumberland Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription	£153.20	NIL	
Mijan	Annual subscription accounts package	£84.00	NIL	
Zurich	Annual insurance policy	£452.26 Long term agreement	NIL	

**RESOLVED:**

Members approved the payments.

**2025/46 Planning**

**2025/46/01 Planning applications received**

No planning applications had been received.

**2025/46/02 Cherry Tree on green at The Meadows. Members to receive update on TPO request.**

No further information was available on the TPO request.

**2025/46/03 Removal of parish signpost. Members to receive update from Clerk**

No further information available relating to removal of signpost.

Cllr Aplin advised the Thropton nameplate is being obscured by a tree – the Clerk to report via Fix My Street.

**2025/47 Petition to lower speed limit to 20mph. Members to receive update**

Discussed during Annual Parish Meeting.

**2025/48 Review of Asset Register**

Members reviewed the Asset Register.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed the Asset Register was an accurate record.

**2025/49 Audit of Accounts year ending 31/3/25**

**2025/49/01 Members to consider and agree any matters arising from the report of the internal auditor**

There were no matters arising from the internal audit report.

**2025/49/02 Members to approve the Governance Statement**

**RESOLVED:**

Members approved the governance statement.

**2025/49/03 Members to approve the draft annual accounts year ending 31/3/25**

**RESOLVED:**

Members approved the draft annual accounts year ending 31/3/25.

**2025/49/04 Members to approve the accounting statements and explanation of variances**

**RESOLVED:**

Members approved the accounting statements and explanation of variances.

**2025/49/05 Members to approve the exemption certificate**

**RESOLVED:**

Members approved the exemption certificate.

**2025/49/06 Members to approve the public right of inspection dates 2nd June until 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**RESOLVED:**

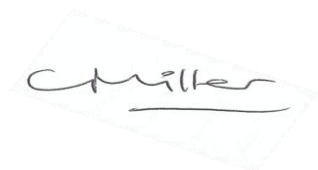
Members approved the public right of inspection dates 2<sup>nd</sup> June until 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

**2025/50 Urgent Business/Items for next meeting**

Parish Council Management Plan to be reviewed at next Parish Council meeting.

**2025/51 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025 commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Miller', is written over a faint, rectangular, light blue grid pattern.

C Miller, Clerk/RFO

The meeting closed at 825pm