

THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st January 2025 commencing at 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

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

In Attendance: C Miller (Clerk/RFO), seven members of the public

2025/01 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2025/02 Declaration of Members Interests

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

2025/03 Minutes of previous meeting held 19th November 2024

RESOLVED:

Members agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting held 19th November 2024 were a true record.

2025/04 Public Questions

Thropton W.I. representative advised the group had submitted a petition to County Hall to consider reducing the speed limit to 20mph from all roads entering Thropton. This issue is a particular concern with vehicles speeding whilst entering and exiting Thropton over the bridge. The petition is to safeguard the whole community, including visitors, whilst crossing the main road through Thropton. Statistics illustrate reduced vehicle speed save pedestrians from injury and death whilst also protecting drivers from injury with improved breaking time.

The petition aims to support:

1. All 30mph traffic signs replaced with 20mph signs.
2. The word Slow written in large capital letters on the road as approaching 20mph signs.
3. Large white circled 20mph painted on the road in the vicinity of each sign.
4. The main street of Thropton on entering from Rothbury has the heaviest traffic, a digital sign installed encouraging drivers to slow down with the words Thank You for complying with the 20mph before reaching Thropton bridge. Also, digital signs on entering Thropton from the west and from Snitter.
5. Further 20mph smaller circular signs along main street, to encourage drivers to keep to the reduced speed limit.

Resident believed a 20mph speed limit would be ignored, and the major problems were at parish entrance and Exists, the only solution would be enforcement. The parking situation is so dire that vehicles cannot go over 20mph.

The Parish Council did liaise with the County Council regards traffic calming measures several years ago, however there was insufficient public support.

The Parish Council were in favour of traffic calming measures, however 20mph does lead to problems Scotland were reverting back to 30pmh in some areas with police stating reduction had caused further problems.

Resident stated it is a fact of life agricultural/work vehicles travel through the village, however it is a rural road. Enforcement, education and reduction of speed limit important.

Village Hall Trustees meeting had discussed the 2025 local elections. The Hall Committee were to host a “meet the villagers” meeting where the Parish Council could talk about the role of the Parish Council.

Resilience planning to be considered with Thropton Together.

Brownie leader was to submit response to the to play area consultation.

2025/05 Environmental issues

There was local activity in terms of environmental issues by community groups such as Climate and Nature and Rothbury W.I. People interested in solar panels had got together to look into better tariffs. Signal connectivity with smart meters continue to be an issue.

2025/06 Thropton Play Area

2025/06/01 Play area. Members to consider resident consultation, replacement play area equipment

School to submit response to resident consultation.

2025/06/02 Play area inspection reports. Members to consider items raised, and repairs required

Matting required, to be installed later in the year. Cllr Tuckey to confirm how many mats were required.

2025/07 Finance

2025/07/01 Invoices for authorisation

PAYABLE TO	DETAIL	NETT	VAT	GROSS
Jubilee Institute	Cluster meeting room hire, 15/11/24	£20.00	NIL	
Thropton P.C.	Coquetdale Cluster Fee	£24.96	NIL	
Jubilee Institute	Cluster meeting 3/12/24	£20.00	NIL	

RESOLVED:

Members approved the payments.

2025/07/02 Budget 2025-2026. Members to consider draft budget.

RESOLVED:

Members approved the budget 2025-2026.

2025/07/03 Precept 2025-2026. Members to consider draft precept.

RESOLVED:

Members approved the precept 2025-2026 as follows. Burial Precept £9918; Parish Precept £6500.

2025/07/04 Provision of grit bin, Village View. Members to consider resident request.

Request had been submitted to County Council to consider a bin at Village View.

2024/07/05 Members to note acknowledgement of grants from Thropton Together and Rothbury Wrestling Academy

Members noted the acknowledgement of grants.

2025/08 Planning

2025/08/01 Planning applications received

- 24/04146/FUL: Thirlmoor, East of Church Lane – Conversion of garage and change of external appearance to garage to rendered walls and slate roof – the Parish Council had no objections to the application.

2025/08/02 Cherry Tree on green at The Meadows. Members to receive update on TPO request.

County Council had confirmed the land is Council owned. The Tree and Woodland Officer is planning to assess the tree when he is next in the area.

2025/09 Members to receive update from Rothbury Joint Burial Committee

Nothing to report.

2025/10 X14 Bus Service. Members to receive information regarding increasing X14 night time service

There was no further information, item to be removed from agenda.

2025/11 Petition to lower speed limit to 20mph. Members to receive notice of petition

Discussed earlier.

RESOLVED

Members agreed they supported the petition to lower the speed limit to 20mph.

2025/12 Urgent Business/Items for next meeting

Clerk to request update on removal of a parish signpost which did not appear to have received highway's permission. Concern was raised relating to a shed being erected.

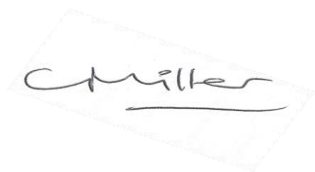
It was agreed to invite a Highways Office to a future Parish Council meeting.

2025/13 Local Election 2025. Members to consider promoting and publicising election

Discussed earlier.

2025/14 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18th March 2025 commencing 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Miller". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured rectangular background.

C Miller, Clerk/RFO

The meeting closed at 805pm