

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornton-le-Moor with Thornton-le-Street Parish Council held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 18th May 2022 at Thornton-le-Street Village Hall, Thornton-le-Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DS

Present: Councillors: J. Barker (Chairman) B. Stockdale, P. Pybus, R. Barr, Cllr Andy Robinson (HDC Councillor) and Cllr Alyson Baker (NYCC Councillor) (attended part of the meeting) **Clerk:** D. Robson

Attended by seven members of the public

Everyone was informed that the meeting will be recorded to aid the clerk writing the minutes. The recording will be deleted afterwards, no objections.

1. Election of Chairman

The councillors nominated to elect Jessica Barker to become the new chair. Jessica accepted the role and took charge of the meeting.

2. Signing Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The clerk handed each parish councillor a form and they were completed, signed and witnessed. This form will be retained by the clerk.

3. Apologies and Approval for Absence

None

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday 30th March 2022

Cllr Stockdale and Cllr R Barr approved the minutes as a true record and the chairman will sign them at the end of the meeting. The minutes are ready to be published.

5. Police Report

The police report was received after the clerk sent two emails to request it. The Chairman read out the main points which included the crimes committed and information about three scams that are currently occurring locally.

- a. The first is a phishing scam giving a fake message. Criminals claim to have attempted to deliver parcels from Royal Mail and UPS to residents home then, tricking people to think they have missed two deliveries. When residents phone the number to arrange delivery of the parcel, the criminals want £2-3 payment by bank transfer, then they remove more money later.
- b. The criminals send a WhatsApp message claiming that the resident's son or daughter has lost their phone and is in trouble needing money. The criminals are often successful when they ask for money, with relatives believing they are helping their relative.
- c. Residents receive a phone call from a criminal claiming to be a police officer, they say that a criminal has used their bank debit card to purchase expensive items such as laptops. To check the call is real they trick them into phoning the police to confirm the call is genuine, which it is not as they do not disconnect the phone. They convince people that they are under police

observation, still pretending to be the police, the criminals then advise them to withdraw all their money from their bank account before they rob their home.

6. Matters Arising

a. Closure of Footpath Bridge in Thornton-le-Moor

Brian Forbes sent the clerk his communication from Andy Brown, Public Rights of Way Officer, regarding the closure of the bridge for a further six months starting from 17th April 2022. At which time it will be reviewed again. Brian was unable to attend the meeting but asked the matter to be raised again. Previously the clerk has sent an email supporting his request to review the bridge closure, however recent communication has suggested that the funding will be allocated in April 2022 and Andy Brown is unsure at this stage if the bridge was successful in securing funding to repair it.

The council decided the clerk should send another, more forceful letter to Andy Brown and paths@hambleton supporting and urging the repair to the bridge. Maybe to set up a meeting.

b. Denis Sturdy

Previously the council decided to commemorate Denis's long service to the parish council. Cllr B Stockdale has consulted Denis's wife and came up with the idea of a small silver trophy awarded to 'Best Kept Garden in TLM' or something similar. The council approved, and thought the idea was an appropriate way to commemorate Denis's long service to the parish council.

Cllr B Stockdale to organise.

c. A168 Between Thornton-le-Moor and Thornton-le-Street (Mad Mile)

Cllr Stockdale wished to chase up the resurfacing of the road as it is becoming increasingly awful to drive on and possibly dangerous in its current state. Work on the road is planned for this financial year.

Clerk to contact highways and chase up

d. Thornton-le-Street Potholes

Cllr Stockdale thought it necessary to chase up the repair of potholes in the village. Work was agreed after a meeting was arranged by Cllr B Baker and Highways. Since the initial meeting Highways has come out twice and marked the areas highlighted for work. The second markings are wearing off. Work was scheduled to be completed in the last financial year. But no further action was taken.

Clerk to contact Highways and chase up.

7. Correspondence

a. Publishing the Parish Council Minutes

The clerk has recently investigated the possibility of publishing the parish council agendas and minutes using the North Yorkshire Data website. It is free and already

used by many parish councils. Councillors would also like to publish on the village websites.

Clerk to organise the set up on the website and will inform the council of the link to view documents.

8. Black Swan, Thornton-le-Moor

The parish council previously complained to HDC about the dilapidated state of the pub. (Cllr P Pybus read out the letter sent by Ann Rawlinson) The appearance of the pub does not fit in with the rest of the village and there is concern over a chimney pot falling on neighbouring properties. A home owner trying to sell their house blaming the appearance of the pub and grounds for putting off sales following 16 unsuccessful viewings.

The pub owners have successfully applied for planning permission to build four cottages at the rear of the property. The footings for these cottages have been laid and building materials clutter the site.

Cllr A Robinson stated that once work commences within 3 years of the permission, the owners are within the timescale.

Ann Rawlinson from HDC replied by letter dated 26th April 2022 to the complaint made by the parish council advising that they have logged the complaint and intend to conduct a site visit within five working days.

Cllr B Stockdale will phone HDC Enforcement Officer, David Seavers, to establish what is happening with the pub.

9. HDC Councillor Update by Cllr Andy Robinson

Cllr A Robinson gave a brief update of the latest news at HDC.

HDC are in the process of giving residents a council tax rebate of £150 for bands A-D, this will be paid directly into resident's bank account if they already pay direct debit, and residents will have to apply for it if they pay by other means.

On 17th May 2022 a District Council meeting was held and they elected Andy Wake as Chairman and Bridget Fortune as Vice Chair.

Nothing is changing as all committees are remaining the same. The government issued a letter stating that projects requiring in excess of £100,000 will not be approved without permission to ensure they do not leave any debt for the new council. HDC will cease on 31st March 2023.

Going forward Cllr A Robinson will only attend parish council meetings should there be anything to communicate, otherwise he will send his apologies.

10. Planning & Public Questions

The chairman combined public questions with the new application as all questions were connected to this matter.

a. New Applications

- a. Change of use of land for the siting of 6no. Proposed lodges for short term holiday let purpose. Church Farmhouse Thornton-le-Street. North Yorkshire. Ref: 22/00850/FUL

The parish councillors and residents expressed many concerns over this application. The clerk has already sent HDC a request to extend the response time to which they have not replied. The main concerns are as follows:

(Alyson Baker joined the meeting part way through the discussion)

- Everybody's main concern is that the access is located on a bend in the road.
- Concerned that the applicant wishes to grow the business and use all year including out of season (Christmas and Easter).
- Will there be a shop or pub selling alcohol.
- Noise
- Barbeque smoke.
- Would there be planning restrictions for a period of time to prevent people living there? Will guests need a different postal address?
- Size of site.
- Concerns over the type of business.
- Worried they will turn into residential units.
- Lights shining in neighbouring properties, would restrictions be applied to maintain some darkness in the village?
- Concern that fairground workers will live on site over winter.
- Two very different businesses on site, will they work side by side?

The councillors were puzzled that out of date legislation was used and that consultations were not done prior to the application.

The councillors cannot see any evidence of the green notice displayed.

The chairman urged all residents to write their own letters to HDC expressing their personal concerns and comments.

The councillors will draft a letter expressing their concerns and the clerk will send it to HDC.

b. Granted- none

c. Refused- none

11. NYCC Councillor Update by Alyson Baker

Newly elected Cllr Alyson Baker introduced herself. She briefed the councillors on the following matters:

- She agreed with Cllr A Robinson that HDC will cease on the 31st March 2023 and District Councillors are capped on spending in excess of £100,000 to ensure they do not pass on any debt.
- NYCC hosted their AGM today and elected Margaret Atkinson (from Masham) as Chairman, Carl Les as Leader and the Deputy Leader is Gareth Dadd (County Councillor for Thirsk).
- There are a lot of issues regarding using Linton-on-Ouse for holding 1500 young male refugees before transferring to Rwanda. The lack of a

consultation and residents have concerns over their own safety whilst dog walking and generally going about their business. The refugees will not be contained and they will be allowed to move around freely.

12. Public Questions- none

13. Finance

a. Approved Costs to Pay

Zurich Municipal Insurance £112.00

b. Costs paid

YLCA Training in April (JB) £25.00 paid earlier this month

c. Quotes for Approval

Ian Smithson Internal Audit £93.75

d. Bank Mandate

The councillors decided to add another parish councillor onto the bank mandate to allow them to sign cheques on behalf of the parish council. At present one councillor and the clerk are the only signees. Each cheque requires two signatures.

14. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **8.00pm** on **Wednesday 27th July 2022** at **Thornton-le-Street village hall**, Thornton-le-Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DS

Signed by Chairman:

Date: