

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Thornton-le-Moor with Thornton-le-Street Parish Council held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 30th March 2022 at Thief Hall, Thornton-le-Moor, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL7 9EH.

Present: Councillors: A. Wond (Chairman) B. Stockdale (Vice Chairman) P. Pybus, J. Barker, **Clerk:** D. Robson

Attended by seven members of the public

Apologies and Approval for Absence

Cllr Andy Robinson (HDC Councillor) and Cllr Robert Baker (NYCC Councillor) – absence without an apology.

1. Approval of the Annual Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday 27th March 2019

Councillors approved the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

2. Chairman's Report – Andy Wond

Due to Covid it's been three years since our last Annual Parish Meeting.

During the first lockdown, from March 2020, the Parish Council, alongside a number of residents, arranged a 'buddy' support system to help those isolating or unable to go out with shopping or other chores. As it was there wasn't a great need for assistance, but I'm sure that the fact that help was available to those who needed it was a great comfort.

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting the Parish Council have installed defibrillators in both Thornton-le-Street and Thornton-le-Moor, funded by donations, grants and community infrastructure levy.

At the end of a 2.5 year project, obtaining funding from the government Gigabit Voucher Scheme, the Parish Council were able to bring full fibre broadband into Thornton-le-Moor, taking the village from one of the poorest connected to one of the best connected villages in North Yorkshire. This has been vital in allowing many of us to work from home, during lockdowns and beyond.

Despite providing as much support as was appropriate, sadly it looks like the Black Swan will never reopen as a pub and is likely to be redeveloped as a residential property. Having been abandoned for nearly 8 years hopefully something will happen shortly as the dilapidated building is becoming an eye sore.

Although Jean Shipley first gave notice of her intention to retire as Clerk to the Parish Council in 2019 she kindly stayed on until 2020. In 2021 Debbie Robson became the Clerk to the Parish Council, Debbie is also Clerk to Newby Wiske, Maunby and South Otterington Parish Council.

Last year councillor Denis Sturdy sadly passed away, this was a great loss to the Parish Council and the community as a whole, also being a stalwart of the Cricket Club. Denis had served on the Parish Council for 34 years.

This will be by my last Parish Council Meeting, as a councillor anyway, as I am stepping down after 7 years of service. For all of that time we've struggled to attract people to the role and have been unable to replace councillors. With local government restructure the Parish Council will soon become the second tier of local government, ensuring some localism while working with a new, much larger, North Yorkshire Council. I would implore residents to think about what they'd like their Parish Council to be doing, and step forward to help.

3. Thornton-le-Street Church Report – Mrs Jackie Lee

The Parish of the Thorntons and Otteringtons

Annual Report for 2021

The Parish of the Thorntons and Otteringtons includes the three churches of North Otterington (St. Michael's and All Angels), South Otterington (St. Andrew's) and Thornton-le-Street (St. Leonard's) as well as the site of the former church of St. Barnabas at Thornton-le-Moor and the up-keep of the grounds at Thornton-le-Beans.

There are 12 members of the PCC including the vicar.

There are 63 people registered on the parish roll for 2021.

People may apply to join the Electoral Roll at any time, other than 14 days before the Annual meeting. (April 26th 2022)

Report of PCC Business for 2021

This year has been another very challenging year for the Parish. The coronavirus pandemic is still with us and resulted in severe restrictions from the beginning of January until May which included the suspension of all church services. During this time, telephone services continued and the church at South Otterington was opened for 2hrs per week, with Robert in attendance, for prayer or reflection. Churches were re-opened from 6th June, but still with special precautions, through to the end of the year. Due to many parishioners being in the 'vulnerable' or 'shielding' groups, attendances were understandably low. Further easing of restrictions meant that Christmas services were allowed to take place, but again with some conditions.

House Groups and Friendship Lunches resumed again in October and there was one wedding and a baptism.

The Diocese announced its mission plan "Living Christ's Story", and a radical plan to change the structure of the clergy in the Deanery of Mowbray. A special meeting of the PCC took place on 1st June for the scheme to be introduced. The Diocese will be split into two teams, with the parish of the Thorntons and Otteringtons being in the Northern section and centred on Northallerton. Following the initial introduction, consultation has taken place and discussions are continuing.

Early in the year, the Reverend Robert Williamson announced his intention to retire and left the Parish in June. The Parish is grateful for his work and his ministry during his time as vicar and wishes him well in his retirement. We are also grateful for his work as Chaplain at James Cook Hospital especially during the pandemic. In September, the Reverend Canon Stephen Treasure was installed as House for Duty to take over the parish duties. Canon Treasure works for the parish for four days each week.

The PCC would normally meet four times during the year but during lockdown this was reduced to just one PCC and one meeting of the Standing Committee before the APCM. All took place in St Andrew's church where social distancing of 2m could take place.

At the APCM which took place in May, the PCC received reports from the Church Wardens, Deputy Church Wardens, Treasurers, Deanery Synod Representatives and South Otterington School.

Three more PCC meetings were held in the autumn.

Although the pandemic has again made things very difficult this year, the parish has strived to keep in touch with each other and hold together as a church family, offering help and support where necessary. The church has continued to be very active to ensure that members of the community are not left isolated. On his arrival, Stephen quickly made a point of introducing himself to as many people as possible.

The popular house which had been suspended resumed in October.

Throughout the pandemic, St. Andrew's has kept up its sponsorship of families in Uganda and in December held a fund-raising event to raise the fees which will allow a young man to take up his place at college to train as a mechanic. The children at the school also sponsor these families.

St. Leonard's takes advantage of its close links with Thornton le Street Village Hall by using the hall as the venue for holding the monthly Friendship Lunches. These are an essential part of keeping the finances in order but also provide a platform for the community to meet and socialise in a friendly and informal setting. These recommenced in October 2021.

Although the churches have re-opened, the numbers in the congregation have been low compared with pre-covid levels. Although the severity of the virus has decreased due to the massive vaccination programme, there is still a need to be cautious and many vulnerable people are not yet ready to return.

Safeguarding Policy

The churches follow the national C of E safeguarding Policy.

Barry Lee remains the Safeguarding Officer There were no issues reported during the year.

Buildings

General repairs and necessary maintenance to the churches and churchyards have continued at all three churches and premises kept safe and secure throughout the lock-downs. No major problems have been noted

Finances

In spite of the covid crisis, the finances of all churches have coped reasonably well, due to reserves but present income is less.

Charity giving

In common with 2020, the parish was unable to make its usual donation to charity this year. A donation of £240 from the Christingle Service was made to The Children's Society.

South Otterington School

Miss Amanda Gledhill continues in post as Headteacher of South Otterington School. In sept. 2021 there were 112 children on roll and 18 enrolled in Pre-School.

Our grateful thanks go to her and all the staff and pupils at the school for their tremendous efforts during another difficult year.

From the Headteacher's report:

4. Thornton- le-Street Village Hall Report – Mrs Jackie Lee

Thornton le Street and North Kilvington Village hall

Chairman's Report to the Parish Council

Another strange year as the Village Hall was still closed until 9th August 2021.

Throughout the closure the hall was maintained and regular checks were carried out. Safety measures and procedures were put in place and the hall was fully equipped with materials to make it covid safe. The sloping path to the main door was re-laid.

The cleaning rota was cancelled as those hiring the hall are now responsible for cleaning of the premises after each use. A cleaner has been appointed to do a thorough clean once a month and the hall is regularly checked in between.

After re-opening, some classes and activities did not return and bookings are still down on pre-covid levels. We have regular bookings for craft, upholstery, dog training and history group activities.

During the autumn the hall was also used for a private party, a Fish and Chip Night and the Christmas Draw .

The monthly Friendship lunches resumed in September followed by the Harvest Supper. Both events were well supported and together raised approximately £700 for the church.

Financially, the hall is presently running at a loss but Government grants have been received to cover losses due to covid which will allow us to continue without increasing the rental for the present. Discussions began on how to maintain and improve the village hall for the future. This will begin with redecoration of the main hall and installation of Wifi. Trustees will also look at easier use of the projector and sound equipment.

An Open Day will be held in the Spring.

Barry Lee, Chairman

5. Thornton-le-Street History Group – Bill Stockdale

Thornton-le-street History Group - Report of year's activities, April 2021 to April 2022 For Annual Parish Meeting

Overview - Our programme was once again curtailed because of the ongoing global pandemic.

Steering Group - the group is led by a Steering Group of 6 people who have met 7 times this year to plan and review activities.

Funding - The remainder of last year's National Lottery Heritage Emergency Funding has contributed to funding Zoom Webinar licences and speaker fees, thereby increasing the number of people accessing our events through Eventbrite, attracting an international audience including Ireland, Belgium, Germany, USA, Serbia, Switzerland, Austria, Canada and Iceland.

Supporters - Our email contact list has continued to increase this year - we now have nearly 400 supporters.

Publications - Our first book 'Thornton-le-Street *The Archaeology and History in its Landscape has continued to be popular with further copies sold including at a Village History Open Day in Thornton-le-Beans Methodist Church.

The Latin Group - continues to provide transcriptions of local documents including Calvis Hall. These are available on RTTP website.

Key dates and activities - 4 Webinars were shown this year, and most were recorded for showing on our youTube channel to give access to a wider audience.

25 Nov 2021 - webinar on Seaton Delaval Hall by Mark Newman, National Trust

16 Dec 2021- Webinar on The Archaeology of Earthquakes by Prof Chris Gerrard

27 Jan 2022- webinar on North York Moors Diets by Dr Hannah Russ

24 Mar 2022- webinar on Auckland castle Excavations by John castling

Visits

30 June, Visit to Auckland Castle Excavations

26 Aug, Guided Tour of Kiplin Hall.

8 Sept, Bones Workshop in TLS Village Hall

10 Sept, Visit to Roman Aldborough

25 Sept, Hornby Castle Visit

Events

Talk by Dr Rose Ferraby on Art and Archaeology

Our Tees Valley Pottery Day launched our research and collaboration with other community groups.

Publicity/Comms

Twitter - 180 followers

Website - now includes further resources including Latin transcriptions.

Eventbrite advertises our events, gathers delegates' feedback and collects donations for us.

YouTube - our RTTP channel hosts our 3 videos and our 14 recorded webinars.

Zoom webinar platform - is used to host our webinar presentations.

Contact lists - c.400 email addresses on our supporter contact list" Additionally, 18 professional partners and 1g village/general email contacts. webinars led to 33 additional contacts.

CBA Yorkshire - advertises our events on its website and has offered to host our recorded webinars and videos on its Video Archive.

Durham Univ. Archaeology Dept - we have a reciprocal arrangement to circulate each other's events.

Darlington & Stockton Times newspaper is used to advertise our events in their Villages and Towns section

We continue to welcome both local people and those from further afield to participate and enjoy the events that we are providing. 30 March 202

6. Thornton-le-Moor Cricket Club Report - John

7. Thornton-le-Moor Village Hall Society Report – Ken Hughes

Thornton-le-Moor

Village Society Annual General Meeting

Tues 25th Feb 2022 at 7.30pm, ThiefHall, Thornton-le-Moor

Present:-

Committee:- Ken Hughes(Chair), Linda Carter, Rob Barker, Wendy Bradley, Juliana Hodgson, Alex Glenwright, Carol Kirk, Wynn Griffiths, Jessica Barker.

Residents:- *Jane & Adrian Monks, Peter Pybus, Emma Watkinson, Gill & Jeff Sutton, Sue Jackson, Brian Forbes, Georgina Hammond, Ian & Virginia Johnson, Alison Dale, K Bosomworth, Deanne Howell, B Myers, M Durran, Denise Parrett, K Winfield, M Curzon.*

Meeting opened at 7.30pm:-

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting, and thanked Jessica Barker for the continued use of ThiefHall.

Minutes of Last AGM:-

The Chairman went on to explain that because of the COVID emergency there had been no AGM or minutes last year but we should accept the Minutes from the previous AGM(2020) as a true record. (Proposed Rob Barker, Seconded Wynn Griffiths).

Matters Arising:-

No matters arose from the minutes.

Chairman's Report and Review of Events:-

A Garden Competition was held in June, this resulted in a somewhat disappointing number of entrants but was interesting to those who did enter.

A Village Fun Day was held on the Cricket Field in Sept, with some new attractions, including a display of Vintage cars & tractors. With live music provided by Lee, Rebecca & friends. This event was very well attended and raised some needed funds for the Society.

In Dec. a carol 'singalong' was held at 'The Cottage' TLM, by kind permission of Wynn Griffiths. Music was provided by Bedale Band. Mince pies and mulled wine were available, and much enjoyed.

Treasurer's Report:-

The treasurer reported that over the last 2 years we had only held the one event (Village Fun Day) that yielded any return. The account is at present standing at £2500.00.

The Treasure advised that owing to Bank mergers & closures, we will now have to use the Post Office for Deposits & Withdrawals, and will have to go to branches in Darlington or York for other matters.

Election of Officers:-

Thanks was given to Colin Wilkie, who has stood down from the committee after many years hard work and much needed help.

The following persons were re-elected to the offices:-

Chair Ken Hughes

Treasurer Linda Carter

Secretary Emma Fryer

Proposed by Wynn Griffiths, Seconded Rob Barker

Other Village Matters:-

The Millenium Book 'Everyone had a Pig' is still available, and being given to new village residents. A point was raised by Emma Watkinson, and was discussed, asking if any updates covering the last 20 years were available.

Brian Forbes announced he was restarting his monthly 'Village Walks' and gave brief details.

The 'Garden Forum' is still sending out newsletters by email, for further information contact Penny Helliwell.

The 'Coffee Mornings' have restarted in Thief Hall with the next scheduled for 1st March. It was suggested that the TLM Cricket Club be added to the list of organisations that benefit from the profits accrued,

A.O.B

Wynn Griffiths expressed concern that although we had a 'De-fibrillator' located in the Village, there were no 'officially trained' people to use it. He will be raising the matter with the Parish Council.

A letter of thanks should be sent to Colin Wilkie for his 30yrs of work as a member of the Society.

Questions were asked concerning the future of the 'Black Swan'. The Chairman explained that as the Pub had now been closed for some

8 years, it was now probably uneconomic to restore it as a 'going concern', so it's future is now in the hands of the new owners.

The Chairman asked for suggestions from the floor and wider residents, as to events that the committee should organise. A discussion ensued. Some suggestions included - Village dinner & speaker, Music nights, events for younger children,

Next Meeting:-

The next Committee Meeting was arranged for 7.00pm on 8th Feb.

8. South Otterington Primary School Report – Miss A Gledhill

This year (2021-2022) we have 112 children on roll and 12 children enrolled in Pre-School. The COVID19 pandemic continues to have an impact on our attendance figures for pupils and staff, with January 2022 our lowest attendance figures in the last two years!

Number on roll and class organisation We have maintained our four classes through Bubble School- Red (Y5/6), Blue (Y3/4), Green (Y1/2) and Rainbow Bubble EYFS Class Children Teacher(s) Rainbow Bubble 24 Reception/Y1 and 12 Preschool children Mrs Jenkinson, Mrs Eynon (TA) and Mrs Metcalfe (TA) Green Bubble 24x Y1 and Y2 children Mrs Fraser and Mrs Stamp (TA)

Blue Bubble 33x Y3 and Y4 children Mr Brown and Mrs Peacock (HLTA) Red Bubble 31x Y5 and Y6 children Mrs Richford and Mrs Wake, Ms Cooke (TA)

We have been working on our new curriculum in school making sure the children are 'knowing more and remembering more'. We had a fabulous Science Week in school last week and the children were involved in many different scientific experiments. These included a CSI investigations, worm hunting, floating and sinking and making a brain! This academic year we have also had a Five Pillars of Islam Week and Friendship Week. Further special weeks are planned for the rest of the year: French Week, Sports Week and Dales Week (to celebrate our co-operation with the other Trust schools).

We have a number of After School Clubs running including hockey, French, Football. Our Y6 children completed their 'mini-medics' First Aid training September.

All the children in school are still learning to communicate in Makaton (a form of sign language). We continue to sign the Lord's Prayer in our Collective Worship each day, led by our Collective Worship Star hosts. Our Christian Values for this academic year are: Endurance, Truthfulness and Wisdom.

We are delighted that Father Stephen will be holding Confirmation classes in school during May ready for the Confirmation service on Sunday July 10th at 10.45am with Bishop Paul. We welcome Jen Holder (New Life Baptist Church), Hayley Liversidge (Methodist Church), as well as Father Stephen, to our Collective Worship on a regular basis.

We continued with our Ethical Leadership Framework in school during this year and our Ethical Leaders and Collective Worship Stars raised money for a Himalayan Prayer Garden. The Writing Shed is now available for writing in our unstructured time- the Reading Shed continues to be a huge success.

Governance Our Governing body continues to be a valuable and active support to our school. We held a Governor Hot-seating in January so that the Governors could find out more about our school. We are now able to hold half termly meetings face to face in school. Links with St. Andrews We have been able to use St Andrew's for our celebrations during this year- we had our Harvest and Christmas services in church but without any parents in attendance.

We made a good donation of tins to the Hambleton Food Share from our Harvest collection. We had Christmas Carol Services outside school so that parents were able to see their children performing. We have been supporting the refugees in Ukraine with a number of collections eg toothbrushes, toothpaste. Collaboration We have continued to work very closely with the other Dales Academy Trust schools- All Saints Secondary school, Croft, Trinity Schools (Richmond), Ainderby Steeple, Kirkby Fleetham, Barton, Ravensworth, East Cowton, St Francis of Assissi, Thornaby, and Carnagill Community school. We warmly invite you to join us for Collective Worship, which are at 9.10am each day, so you can see our Christian vision and values at work. I look forward to meeting you all, Kind regards, Amanda Gledhill Headteacher

Signed by Chairman:

Date: