

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornton-le-Moor with Thornton-le-Street Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 26th July 2023 at Thornton-le-Street Village Hall, Thornton-le-Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DS

Present: Councillors: B. Stockdale, P. Pybus, R. Barr and Cllr Alyson Baker (NYC Councillor)

Clerk: D. Robson

Attended by seven members of the public

The meeting was done out of order to the agenda to allow Cllr A Baker to leave.

1. Apologies and Approval for Absence

J. Barker (Chairman) Vice Chair, B. Stockdale chaired the meeting.

2. Police Report Received for Period May and June 2023

The report for May was circulated to the Parish Council and revealed that no crimes were reported for the calendar month of May.

A report for June was not received and the Parish Council could not understand why sending a police report ahead of the meeting was proving to be a challenge.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 29/03/23 and Tuesday 23/05/23

The Clerk had amended the typo on the March meeting minutes and the Parish Council approved both minutes as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

a. Accident on A168

The Parish Council had requested information from the police about a crash on 18th February 2023 on A168, which closed the road South of TLS. Cllr A Baker did provide comprehensive details however it is a shame the details were not included in the monthly police report or by responding to the Clerk's request.

b. News & Views Community Magazine

Cllr A Baker has allocated some of her available locality budget funding to contribute to the cost of producing the magazine.

c. Improvements in Police Communication

The Clerk was instructed to investigate why receiving a report is so inconsistent? And why the report lacks any contents and detail of crimes/serious traffic accidents that the community is aware of?

Zoe Metcalfe did not reply to the Clerk's question regarding this matter that was submitted to the online public meeting held on 25th May. They said there was too many people to reply to individually so they sent a link to watch the meeting, which was 3 hours long.

The Parish Council instructed the Clerk to contact the police and seek an explanation. B Stockdale is willing to meet with any police officer to discuss this matter.

d. Bench Maintenance

The bench checks introduced by the Clerk highlighted that a further inspection is needed to determine maintenance requirements.

5. Planning

Ongoing Planning Application

- a. Creation of a replacement workshop (Use Class E) Church Farmhouse, Thornton-le-Street, Thirsk. Ref: ZB23/01088/FUL

The Chairman briefed the Parish Councillors and members of the public on the application to date. The application is missing significant contents.

Residents of TLS are concerned about, increased noise levels, access and why it should be there? And if the property will end up a showman's yard. So far, residents have submitted 15 objections/observations which have been uploaded onto the NYC website. The applicants agent in their rebuttal statement claimed the reasons for the objections are not relevant and do not hold any weight.

Information and documents have taken too long to be loaded onto the NYC website, a Parish Councillor has not received a reply to his request for an update sent 6th July.

Further information received from the applicant was only uploaded on NYC website this afternoon. NYC received this information on 6th July and took 20 days to upload it on their website.

The Chairman reminded everyone to direct questions on the planning application to the Parish Council as Cllr A. Baker can only listen and is unable to offer an opinion.

The Parish Council expect the determination date to be extended from 20th July as the Planning Officer is still in the process of reviewing documents.

The application is ongoing and the Parish Council will react to updates as they occur.

6. Public Questions Concerning the Above Application

The public questioned why it is taken so long to update information on NYC website and asked about the next stages of the application. The Chairman offered the changeover of Council as a possible explanation for uploaded information and explained briefly about the next stage of the planning process.

7. NYC Councillor A Baker Update

Cllr A Baker explained that she preferred to hold surgeries and meet the public rather than sending out flyers which would be costly and probably just get binned. She has had two surgeries planned for this week. Details were displayed on the Parish notice boards.

Going forward, she plans on holding one surgery a month and she reminded everyone that she is very accessible via email or phone.

This year Sutton bank will be closed for one week 10th – 17th September to do maintenance.

NYC are offering funding on renewable energy to households with an annual income of less than £31,000. The funding can be used to install solar panels or air source heating etc. Details can be found on the North Yorkshire website. northyorkshire.gov.uk/hub2

(Cllr A Baker left the meeting)

8. Correspondence

a. Thornton-le-Moor Footpath 10.155/4640 Delay in Replacing Bridge

The residents and footpath users are very disappointed that the bridge replacement is delayed until October. They are keen for the bridge to be replaced and commented about the poor service. NYC has previously stated the replacement should be done in the summer months however, the landowner has requested the crops are harvested before the Council starts work.

Clerk to enquire if the replacement is on schedule for October.

b. Complaints about Overgrown and Inaccessible Public Footpaths Around TLM

A local landowner has trimmed some vegetation back along Thief Lane footpath following a request from a TLM resident.

A resident has complained about the overgrown and inaccessible footpaths around TLM. In previous years residents have cleared the path themselves.

The Clerk has reported the problem to NYC using their new link and reporting procedure. It is not as easy as just sending an email and the Clerk is unsure if any action will be taken as the problem will cease after the harvest and growing season.

2. Bus Service to TLS and TLM

The Parish Council was requested to put together a report about the bus service in North Yorkshire, this includes private and council operated bus routes. The bus service is vital to the residents of TLS and they do not want to lose the valuable bus service. The deadline for replying is 3rd September.

B. Stockdale and J. Barker will complete.

3. Local Transport Plan

The Parish Council decided that Cllr R Barr would complete the survey by the deadline of 11th August.

4. A168 Footpath from Village towards Church

The footpath is in good order but the location of the footpath being so close to the A168 road with an advisory speed limit of 40mph, makes it feel scary and unsafe. The Parish Council wondered if the speed limit could be lowered to 30mph.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting with Highways as there are several items to discuss.

5. Road Signs

The Thornton-le-Street village name sign (A168 South) appears dull and has lost its reflective shine. Cllr B Stockdale has looked into replacing it but it is too expensive and could cost £1000. B Stockdale has given it a good wash to try and improve it. The village sign (A168 North) had some vegetation cleared around it and the sign was washed.

No further action will be taken.

6. Raised Area on Road in TLS Village

Cllr B Stockdale first noticed this about 7-8 years ago. It has worsened over the last 2 years to form a bump. It is at the point where some action is required. It could be a broken drain or tree root. The cause does need investigated.

Clerk to add on the list for Highways.

7. Brawith Bridge Stolen Parapet Capping's – Update

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that some action will be taken this year following the theft of the two capping end stones on the grade two listed bridge.

The Parish Council complained to Highways for not reporting the theft to the police. NYC don't have insurance and did not see any benefit. The incident has since been reported to the police.

8. Climate Literacy Training

This training is offered through YLCA, it consists of 8 hours online learning and the cost per delegate is £135. Cllr R Barr volunteered to complete the training but would like a few more details. The Parish Council approved the cost.

Clerk to contact YLCA and seek more information.

9. Updating Parish Council Policies

The Clerk continues to work her way through updating the Parish policies. Recently a risk assessment and bi-monthly bench checks of the Parish Council benches was introduced. The checks revealed some of the benches need a closer inspection to assess their safety.

The Clerk hopes to complete this task by the end of the calendar year.

Clerk to arrange further checks of the benches.

10. Public Questions

The questions from the public related to a fading cul-de-sac sign in the village which the Clerk has included on the list to discuss with Highways.

11. Finance

a. Quotes to Consider

TLS Defibrillator Replacement Batteries

Child £109 plus VAT Adult £105 plus VAT
Defibrillator service of both village defibs and replacement of pads/batteries.

The Parish Council considered the need to service the defibs as the checking system already in place is effective and adequate.

Clerk to add replacement battery costs to the next meeting agenda.

b. Money Received

HMRC Refund for Fee £200.83

The Clerks appeal was successful and HMRC have issued a refund to the fee incurred by not submitted periods of no payment on the PAYE system. The payment was received on 13th June and is showing on the Parish Council bank statement.

c. Expenses Paid

HMRC PAYE £5.40

This was paid to avoid a late payment fee.

d. Expenses to Pay

Clerks Salary £317.10

The Parish Council approved the cost.

12. AOB

Increase in Traffic passing through Thornton-le-Moor

The number of coaches and vehicles travelling through the village has increased. The Parish Council were recently refused traffic monitoring as it can only be performed every three years and the last monitoring was not long ago.

Clerk to send an email to transport about the increase of traffic.

Pub in Thornton-le-Moor

The Parish Council discussed the current situation with the pub and the state of the pub grounds continues to cause distress to the residents of Thornton-le-Moor.

Clerk to send another letter to the Enforcement Officer.

Proposed Closure of Northallerton & Thirsk Train Ticket Office

The residents are disappointed to learn that Trans Pennine are considering closing the ticket offices at the train stations. This forces people into purchasing tickets and accessing information online which isolates people in the community that are not computer literate or do not have access to a computer.

Clerk to send a letter objecting to the proposed closure.

13. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7.00pm** on **Tuesday 3rd October 2023 (TBC)** at **Thief Hall**, Thornton-le-Moor, Northallerton, North Yorkshire

Signed by Chairman:

Date: