

Minutes of the Meeting of Thornton-le-Moor with Thornton-le-Street Parish Council held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 29th September 2021 at Thornton-le-Street Village Hall, Thornton-le-Street, Thirsk, North Yorkshire YO7 4DS

Present: Councillors: A. Wond (Chairman) B. Stockdale (Vice Chairman) J. Barker, Cllr Andy Robinson (HDC Councillor) and Cllr Robert Baker (NYCC Councillor)

Clerk: D. Robson

Attended by 3 members of the public

1. Apologies and Approval for Absence

None received

The chairman opened the meeting informing the council of the sad passing of former parish councillor, Denis Sturdy. The council took the opportunity to reflect on their own memories of Denis.

2. Police Report for period 27th July to 30th September 2021

The police report wasn't requested and received prior to the meeting.

Going forward, clerk to contact PCSO Kim Laws and request report so it is available prior to future parish meetings.

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday 28th July 2021

The council approved the minutes as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

- a. **Grass Cutting** - Clerk recently wrote to Harry Barker to request information on his grass cutting services. No reply as yet. Put on the agenda for the next parish council meeting.
- b. **Purchase of Commemorative Plaque for Thornton-le-Moor Defibrillator** – The plaque was purchased and has been fitted.

5. Correspondence

- a. **Request from Resident for the Parish Council to take Responsibility for Maintenance/upkeep of Village Commemorative Items**

In the past trees have been planted to mark special events such Queen's Jubilee. Benches/street furniture have been dedicated to former villagers. Over time eventually all these things require some sort of maintenance, upkeep and managing. At the time no plans were put in place to address this.

More thought and planning is needed before such items are considered. The parish council will maintain and upkeep what they have done including the defibrillator that the parish raised funds to buy. J. Barker will approach the village society to see if they are able and willing to help. Cllr Baker offered to cover the cost of replacing missing benches through his locality budget. His offer will be considered.

6. Recruitment of Parish Councillor

An advert placed in the locally distributed 'News and Views' has not produced any interest whatsoever. The council decided against doing a letter drop as they think everyone will have already seen the ad. The council will keep trying.

Cllr Andy Robinson advised that parish council elections are probably going to be brought forward to next year so coincide with the other council elections held in May.

7. Planning

a. Granted – none

b. New Applications

Application for construction of a pig finishing shed. Land West of Brockholme Farm, Corpse Road, Thornton-le-Moor, North Yorkshire. Ref: 21/01928/FUL

The council decided that the clerk should reply highlighting the application is poor, inadequate, too vague and raised points such as how often the slurry is emptied and where. The council don't have a problem with the building but recommend the roof be painted a darker colour to enable it to blend in with the landscape and surrounding. These are observations not objections.

c. Black Swan, Thornton-le-Moor

The chairman advised the council that he had seen on the portal a renewed application by a different agent remodelled the pub into something smaller. No details received. The council find this curious and will look out for any further development.

d. Refused - none

8. Thornton-le-Street Potholes

Cllr Stockdale raised concerns over the state of the road in Thornton-le-Street. At present the road has numerous potholes filled with mud and dust, surface water is starting to settle, the road is in a poor state.

Cllr Baker will contact highways and set up a site visit to assess and investigate what needs to be done.

9. NYCC Councillor Update

Council Unity

Cllr Baker gave the council an update on the council unity and incorporated some questions he had received by email by a member of the public present at tonight's meeting.

They have established an Implementation Executive, members will consist of County Councillors, 7 district leaders and the existing county council executive members. This team will support the changeover. Elections will be held in May they will run

together until the unity authority take over in 2023. To keep it uniform parish council elections will be brought forward a year and will take place in May 2022.

A new council budget is not yet established but will be from May 2022. HDC will continue to work to the existing budget. Next year the budget will be set by new division.

They have recommended 89 seats which will result in a greater work load on each county councillor this will more than likely result in becoming a full time job.

Post May a decision will be made on whether district buildings including Stone Cross and premises at Harrogate will be utilized.

Area committees will have more say going forward. Cllr Baker has got the role of Vice Chairman for this area.

Cllr Baker will set up a presentation by Gareth Dadd, Thirsk member and Deputy Leader regarding the council unity. Ideally this would be prior to the next parish meeting.

General

It has been highlighted that there is about 500 staff working in social services and care that haven't had a covid vaccination. As current legislation states all staff working in this sector are required to have the vaccination before 10th September 2021, it is believed they will be a mass exit of staff leaving a shortage. Covid is still causing big problem in the county. The councillors in NYCC are urging everyone to get vaccinated and have the booster.

Thirsk school kitchen was undergoing a refurbishment unfortunately due to building supply issues they were unable to finish on schedule. They have been without gas and electric but the kitchen is due to reopen on 11th October.

The stretch of road on the Thirsk to Northallerton road known locally as mad mile is atrocious and is scheduled to be properly redone in the next financial year.

10. HDC Councillor Update by Cllr Andy Robinson

Cllr Andy Robinson sent email with information on the new boundary's set out by the new council unity. Under the new system Thornton's and Bagby are amalgamated with White Horse and Raskelf making this a big ward for one councillor to cover.

A firm called Econ that maintains 85% of the UK maintenance vehicles have purchased a 24 acre site costing £7 million on Sowerby gateway this will create 50 new jobs.

HDC will be repeating the Making a Difference grants again this year. The parish council can apply for a grant which must be spent on anything to do with the community. Applications of smaller amounts of money are more likely to be successful.

11. Public Questions – None

12. Finance

a. Expenses to pay

Clerk Salary (1st July – 30th Sept 2021) £152.26

HMRC for Clerk Salary £38.00

b. Money Received - none

c. Precept

A spreadsheet was presented showing projections of expenditure and income until 31st March 2023. It suggested a surplus of £100 per year. The council decided that the precept should remain the same however the spreadsheet has been shared with the rest of the parish councillors and a final decision will be reached at the next parish council meeting in November. The deadline to reply is 31st December 2021.

13. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7.30pm** on **Wednesday 24th November 2021** at **Thief Hall**, Thornton-le-Moor, Northallerton, North Yorkshire

Note the earlier time to include a presentation on the local council unity by Garth Dadd, Deputy Leader.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: