

# THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Meeting of the Council held in the Coquet Room, Felton Village Hall on Thursday 1 February 2018.

**Present:** Cllrs E Davidson, H Lindley, A Morton and J Secker.

- 84 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr D Green, Cllr J Marshall, Clerk Lisa Hamlin, Co Cllr Sanderson
- 85 **Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda** – None
- 86 **Public Questions (max 5 mins per person)** – None
- 87 **The minutes of the meeting 14 December 2017** were signed as a true record.
- 88 **Matters Arising therefrom:**
- a) **Railings at the top of The Peth** – the Clerk reported that the fixings were loose to NCC and is waiting a response. Clerk
  - b) **Water from wall at top of the Peth** – no water leakage to report. Agreed to remove from agenda Clerk
  - c) **New website – pictures required** - Only Cllr Green to provide a photo now. Cllr Green
  - d) **Brambles at Field of Hope to be cut back** – Quotes are being sought for this work. The councillors emphasized that it needs to be done quickly as daffodils starting to appear through soil. Clerk
  - e) **Letter to Planning Department** – it was thought by all Councillors that a letter should be sent to the Planning Department stating that the Parish Council was generally unhappy about how conditions made as part of Planning Approvals are not adhered to and not enforced by the County Council . The two examples mentioned at the meeting were the caravan at the West Moor Canine Centre which is still there despite NCC issuing an enforcement notice for its removal plus other issues of noise and the lack of the required acoustic barrier. Also the airfield at Eshott where the operating hours are being disregarded. Machinery and aircraft are being operated outside the permitted hours. Clerk
  - f) **Notice Board** – Councillors looked at the information and choose the aluminium notice board and were happy with the siting of the board agreed at the last meeting. The colour black was decided but the total price was not calculated. Also no discussion of colour of the insert option or the push button lock system took place. Clerk to look into final pricing and available options and relay to Councillors via email. Clerk
  - g) **Bin request for Wintrick Road** – NCC is happy to have a bin on the Wintrick Road. The Clerk to purchase a bin at a cost of £309.04 plus VAT and arrange to have it installed at the old layby on the Wintrick Road. Councillors agreed. Clerk
  - h) **NALC – Diversity Commission Census Survey** – Following the last PC meeting it was found that the Councillors have to respond direct to this survey and the Clerk informed them of this.
- 89 **Report by County Councillor** – no report
- 90 **Report back from Meetings and Representations on behalf of TPC**  
No report from Recreation Committee as Cllr Marshall not present.

Planning Meeting run by NCC attended by Cllrs Secker and Lindley. Both Councillors thought that the meeting was worthwhile and good presentations given. Mark Ketley gave an update on the Northumberland Plan, when finished it will combine the best parts of the Core Strategy with an evidence based Local Plan. Much progress has been made. At present the County has a 6.5 year housing supply and the Government specifies you must have 5 years. Draft plan will be published by the end of the year.

Neighbourhood plans were discussed. There are 27 Neighbourhood plans at various stages of preparation in Northumberland of which four are adopted. NCC have a web site with more information. It was suggested that the Neighbourhood plans that had been adopted or submitted, which were available on the website, could be used for guidance.

The Planning Application process was explained. An outline Planning Application if granted

# THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

has the same validity as a Full Planning Application but with some reserved requirements such as appearance and materials to be used that needed to be confirmed at a later date. There were a lot of questions from the floor about specific applications. Also an explanation of the 106 agreement list was given.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which include the Pennines and a 2.5 mile width of coastline in the North of the county have been defined. Information was given about issues in respect of Planning Applications in these areas.

## 91 Potential Projects

- a) **Riverside** – Nothing to report.
- b) **Footpaths/Rights of Way – FP4.** – no response from NCC re bridge concerns, Clerk to pursue. Clerk
- c) **Landscaping** – John Hood Landscaping has quoted £290 for maintaining the rockery for 2018/19.
- d) **Neighbourhood Plan** – The designated area of Thirston Parish for the Neighbourhood Plan has been approved by NCC. The Clerk is to arrange a meeting of the Working Group in February to look at possible policies to be included in the Plan in the first instance. NCC has recommended not to apply for funding yet as grants have to be spent within 6 months of being granted so until the PC are in a position to identify what spend is required and within what timeframe. No grants will be applied for until later. The Clerk has contacted the Working Group members to ask them to think about planning issues within the parish as this is the first area to be addressed so policies can be devised. Clerk
- e) **New building for Recreation Field** – No update as Cllr Marshall not present.

## 92 Planning:

### To report on any planning decisions:

17/03693/CLEXIS – Bywell Shooting Ground – to regularise the continued use of land outside the area subject of CM/20090506 as a shooting ground – PERMITTED

17/03889/FELTPO - Woodlands House, Pipistrelles - TPO - Fell beech tree – REFUSED

17/03914/FUL - Land West of West Moor - Conversion of agricultural building to 3 dwellings – GRANTED

17/04115/FUL - 2 Eshott Heugh Farm - New building to incorporate new entrance/gift shop – GRANTED

### Planning applications pending:

17/02923/VARYCO - Burgham Park Golf Club - Vary Cond 13 - remove holiday restriction – objections submitted – to be decided by the Local Area Council

17/04073/COU - Woodland Burial Site, Bockenfield - COU of woodland for pet burial service – No objections

17/04077/LBC - Felton New Bridge - LBC for removal, refurbishment & reinstate parapets – No objections

17/04290/OUT - COU of land and construct 30 houses - Land East of Greystone – Objections submitted

17/04477/FELTPO - Studley Cottage - Thirston Fell 2 trees and crown reduce one – Objections submitted

17/04453/FUL - Eshott Airfield - Construct activity centre for team building – No objections but condition that the operating hours to be the same as permitted for the airfield. A meeting was held with the Planning Officer and Mrs Muir with the Clerk in attendance. The Planning Authority has requested a noise assessment report and more detailed information on the application. It was also noted that the incorrect paperwork had been submitted as the applicant is stating they are the owner of the Airfield which is not the case. The Clerk also asked for confirmation of when the public site notice was posted. This was displayed at the airfield entrance on 15 January however this was no longer in place by the 16 January – either it had blown away as only affixed by sticky tape or it had been removed. This was relayed to Planning Officer. Councillors wanted to emphasise the opening sentence “no objections but ...”

# THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clarke Telecom – proposed base station installation at South Farm, Eshott – No objections

## Planning Issues

Canine Centre Caravan – The Clerk has reported to NCC that the caravan is still in situ. The Councillors were dismayed that the caravan is still there despite the efforts of NCC to get it removed.

### 93 Services:

- Peth pathway – Clearing of moss at top of steps – on NCC's winter programme list – some work has been done. Clerk to pursue. Clerk
- Main pathway – hedges require cutting back – on NCC's winter programme list. Clerk
- Arriva timetable and update of bus numbers on shelters – Clerk waiting on details from Arriva or NCC due to the new initiative being instigated. Clerk
- Cutting back of hedge around 30mph sign on entrance to village – this is the responsibility of the hedge owner which is the farm. Clerk has chased NCC on this issue (however as there are no leaves on the trees at present it is not a pressing issue).

### 94 Requested Agenda Items: None

### 95 Correspondence

- HMRC – Changes to VAT reclaiming notification – for information only
- NCC – Training Session on Planning – Cllrs have attended this event (reported above)
- NCC – Car Parking Studies for Alnwick, Morpeth, Hexham and Berwick report for comment – request for Councils to look at the study and submit comments to NCC. Some comments have been submitted.
- NCC – VCS Consultation (Voluntary and Community Sector) to help for future NCC budget – it was agreed to answer this as a PC and Clerk has requested a printable version of the questionnaire. Clerk
- NALC – Confirmation email that parish, town and community councils are not to be subject to the referendums for precept increases for 2018/19.
- NALC – Norfolk County Association second home survey – survey was reviewed at the meeting and most parts of this were not applicable so the Councillors abandoned completion of the survey.
- NALC – DCLG Park Homes Consultation – It was agreed that as there are no known issues with the Holiday Home sites within the Parish then no response to be given.
- Planning Inspectorate – consultation on next stages of A1 dualling public consultation. – deadline 23 February – information has been circulated to Councillors to see if they have any comments to make on the consultation. Receipt noted.
- Copy of email from Mr Krzyzosiak in relation to advertising of Annual Parish Meetings in The Bridge Newsletter – for information only.
- Email to all Councillors from Mr Krzyzosiak re concerns with Felton Recreation Field Group and Felton Joint Cemetery Committee minutes not appearing of Felton PC website. Cllr Secker responded acknowledging receipt of the email. Since receiving the email Felton Parish Council has updated their website to include the minutes of the above meetings. This was noted.
- Email for Brain Tumour Research – how communities can get involved. Councillors said this could be looked at in the future when the charity list is revisited.
- Great North Air Ambulance – thank you letter for donation

**Emails Forwarded:** NALC News

**On Circulation:** None

**To Circulate:** CPRE Newsletter, Clerks and Councils Direct

### 96 Finance

(a) **Financial Summary** was reviewed with no issues. The current balance is £13,329.74

# THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

(b) **Payments** - The following list was put before members and was approved:

Payments this meeting:		
IB42	L Hamlin (salary and expenses)	351.60
DD	ICO (Information Commissioners Office)	35.00

(c) **Receipts** – None

The Clerk has requested that Felton PC draw up the invoices for the Recreation Field costs as no payment have been made to date for this financial year. To date no invoices have been received.

**97 Urgent Items** – Cllr Secker thought the times for the litter picks should be booked. The dates suggested were 7 April for West Thirston and 8 April for Eshott. NCC to be asked for equipment delivery as usual to Cllr Lindley and collect equipment from Eshott and arrange for rubbish collection from the usual collection points. Clerk to arrange.

Clerk

**98 Items for next agenda** - None

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

Date of Next meeting: 22 March. Apologies for Cllr Morton