

THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council Meeting held at Pumpkin Pie Nursey, URC Hall, West Thirston on Thursday 31 October 2019.

Present: Cllrs E Davidson, D Green, T Jackson, H Lindley and J Marshall.
The Parish Clerk in attendance – Mrs L Hamlin

- 65 Apologies for absence** – Cllr S Allan and County Councillor Sanderson
- 66 Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda** – Cllr Green – Matters Arising (b) Light in Eshott Village
- 67 Public Questions (max 5 mins per person)** – None
- 68 The minutes of the meeting 19 September 2019** were signed as a true record.
- 69 Matters Arising therefrom:**
- a) **Bus stop sign replacement of** – Still not installed. Clerk to chase NCC on this again. Clerk
 - b) **Street light in Eshott Village** – NCC state the light is being switched off. Cllr Green confirmed that the light was being switched off but an hour later than promised – maybe due to clock change. Also no baffle has been fitted so still very bright. Clerk to pursue. Clerk
 - c) **Bottle Bank Area – bramble removal and flytipping sign relocation** – Clerk met with NCC and they have agreed to relocate the flytipping sign. Still no agreement to cut back the brambles, it was agreed to remove this from the agenda as NCC will not cut back brambles. Clerk
 - d) **Road to Longhorsley to Burgham complaint** – The Clerk to contact NCC again on this, however the Clerk was advised that this was surface dressing which has a limited lifespan of 3-5 years and works took place in June 2016. Cllr Jackson reported that the surface dressing came off within a few months of works being done, damaging cars. Clerk
 - e) **Wintrick Junction – white lines request** – Clerk has met with NCC and they have agreed to re-paint the white lines at the junction of Wintrick Road however they don't think they can mark out the layby area but will check and get back to the Clerk. Clerk
 - f) **Grass Verges into West Thirston – cutting of** – Only one quote has been received and this would be for £70 + VAT per cut, cutting every 3-4 weeks. Clerk to seek more quotes and find out when NCC cut the verges to ascertain when further cuts are needed. Clerk
 - g) **The Bridge Newsletter – online and interactive request** – no update on this.
 - h) **Potholes along Wintrick Road** – no works undertaken to date, Clerk to pursue NCC. Clerk
 - i) **Response from police on arson attacks** – PC Teasdale responded to state “they are being investigated. Some have been assessed as electrical faults whilst others have been recorded as a crime but there have been no further reports at this time. I will let you know if I hear anything else.” Since this response there has been another arson attack, this time on the hay bales between airfield and Blackbrook Farm which is currently being investigated.
 - j) **Bottle Bank Bins** – NCC has investigated the complaints re disposing of waste at the recycling point and using the bottle bank bins for bottles. Both businesses were contacted and NCC are satisfied no further action is required however the businesses were given advice on their Duty of Care and the repercussions if caught disposing their commercial waste illegally.
- 70 Report by County Councillor Sanderson**
Traffic calming work - the signs are due to go up next month and the build outs will take longer - this is because Northern Powergrid are needed to do some cabling work and it could take them a few months to do this.
- 71 Report back from Meetings and Representations on behalf of TPC**
Cemetery Meeting – Remembrance Day arrangements were discussed. H&S courses for staff being looked into.
Recreation Field Meeting – no meeting held since last PC meeting.

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72 Potential Projects

- a) Footpaths/Rights of Way –
- b) Landscaping – Contractor has confirmed he will remove the dead shrub. The Clerk has requested a quote for works for 2020-2021.
- c) Neighbourhood Plan Update – Pre-Submission Draft of Plan was put on website along with questionnaire for feedback on the proposed policies. A public consultation was held in Felton Village Hall. The numbers attending were disappointing, 15 residents attended and only 7 feedback questionnaires have been received. Clerk to put questionnaire on website as a word document as well as pdf for easier completion. Plan is now waiting on NCC responding on the Screening Opinion. An email was received on 10 October stating an in principle answer would be received on that day – as yet nothing and this is holding up the process.

Clerk

73 Planning:

a. To report on any planning decisions:

- 17/02923/VARYCO - Burgham Park Golf Club - Vary Cond 13 - remove holiday restriction – objections submitted – Removed from Planning Portal
- 19/02787/FUL – 9 Bridge End – Conversion of garage to form habitable room. Remove garage door and replace with stone wall and sash windows. Small summerhouse in rear garden – APPROVED
- 19/03471/VARYCO – West Moor Farm – change of use of land from agricultural to residential – WITHDRAWN

b. Planning applications pending:

- 18/03534/FUL - Bywell Shooting Range - retro - retention of ground butt
- 18/03562/FUL - Bywell Shooting Range - Form mound, widen paths, erect 16 shelters
- 18/03736/FUL - Felmoor Park, East of A1 - 24 lodges, 10 caravans, miniature golf – Site visit undertaken – no objections
- 19/00300/PREAPP – Burgham Park Golf Club – Erection of 56 dwellings and improvements to course and club house – objections submitted and request for inclusion in pre-app discussions.
- 19/03449/FUL – Northumberland Zoo – Extension to existing reception facilities – no objections
- 19/03659/VARYCO – Eshott Airfield – make temporary hours of 7am to 11pm permanent – objections submitted
- 19/04011/VARYCO – Kirkhill – amend proposed windows to sitting room only – the Councillors reviewed the proposals and have no objections.
- 19/04112/FELTPO – Benson House, Eshott – removal of lower branch and epicormic growth – No objections

Clerk

19/00669/PREAPP – Plot 4, Eshottheugh – Holiday leisure park comprising 24 single story chalets and 19 two story chalets – objections submitted

APP/P2935/W/18/3217291 – Northumberland Estates application for housing – Planning Inspectorate Appeal.

Clerk

APP/01348/VARYCO – The Old Farm Byre, East Thirston – removal of conditions 10 (Highways), 11 (Permitted Development), 15 (Permitted Development), 16 (Permitted Development) pursuant to permission 13/01837/FUL. The residents have requested that a meeting with the PC/Clerk to look at how best to respond to this. The Clerk has agreed to meet with the residents on Sunday 3 November at 7pm and will feed back to the Councillors following the meeting.

Clerk

Planning Issues

New Beer Garden – Northumberland Arms – an application has been received by NCC but there is information missing. Once this has been received the PC will be consulted in the usual manner.

West Moor Housing buildings - Under the Town and Country Planning Order 1995, Class Q allows for the conversion of agricultural buildings to dwellings and the amended

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order in 2018 now allows for the conversion of agricultural buildings up to 465sqm into 5 dwelling houses without planning permission if they were for sole agricultural use on the 20th March 2013. The PC were therefore not consulted on this application which was submitted in 2018 under the reference 18/01327/AGTRES

Dog Training Centre – construction of compound – this has been constructed beside a residents property with dogs being housed in here which are causing issues for the resident with barking. As the compound fencing is less than 6 ft planning permission is not required however the Clerk has contacted Public Protection due to the noise issue who have also referred it to the Enforcement Team and will liaise with the resident. Clerk will contact the resident to ensure NCC has been in touch with him. Clerk

74 Services

- Repairs to drain close to Glenshotton – Clerk to pursue with NCC. Clerk
- 30mph flashing sign obscured – the hedge was cut back before the new sign was installed.
- Drain at the top of the road from Burgham Park to Longhorsley blocked. Clerk has reported to NCC as this has caused water to wash down the road into Burgham Park, to date no confirmation that any works have been undertaken. Cllr Jackson reported that it is actually the ditch running down the opposite side of the road from Burcham that is causing the issue. Clerk to report to NCC and Cllr Jackson happy to show NCC where the issue is if required. Clerk
- Clerk has reported pot holes on the road to Eshottheugh for repair.

75 Requested Agenda Items:

Duke Bank walkway – lack of maintenance – trees require cutting back. Cllr Davidson reported after the meeting that this had just been done by the Northumbrian Anglers Federation due to complaints from the anglers. Cllr Davidson thanked them and they said to contact them should they need doing again.

Steep Bank – slippery surface – two residents have fallen on this pathway. It is very slippery at the bottom of the bank where there is a different surface with little traction. Clerk to report to NCC as a matter of urgency. Clerk

Draft Budget for 2020/21- Some amendments were made to the draft budget and this will be circulated before the next meeting. To be added to the December agenda. Clerk

76 Correspondence:

NCC – Whose Who of NCC – circulated to Councillors

Email in relation to issues with Recreation Field – this has now been resolved.

Felton PC - Joint Planning Presentation by Rob Murfin to PCs – Date still to be confirmed.

Copy of letter from Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP to resident re the Airfield – for information. It was agreed to request an update from Anne-Marie Trevelyan following the meeting with the PC. Clerk

CAN AGM Invite – 4 November 2019 – No one attending.

Citizens Advice AGM invite – 20 November 2019 – No one attending.

Newcastle University – booklet on making toilets more accessible to disabled users – for information.

Donation Request – Great North Air Ambulance – It was agreed to donate £50.00. Clerk

Donation Request – Northumberland CAN – no donation made

Hospice Care Information Booklet – for information.

Emails Forwarded: NALC circulars

To Circulate: CPRE Newsletter

77 Finance

(a) **Financial Summary** was reviewed with no issues and the current balance stands at £15,670.89

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

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| Payments this meeting: | | |
|------------------------|--|----------|
| IB72 | Ludman Planning (already approved and paid) | 2,500.00 |
| IB73 | L Hamlin Salary, Expenses & N/H Plan | 429.28 |
| IB74 | Viking Direct – stationery for PC and N/H Plan | 138.74 |
| IB75 | Complete Weed Control – last payment for JKW | 270.00 |
| 011 | Great North Air Ambulance Donation | 50.00 |
| 012 | Royal British Legion – wreath payment and donation | 30.00 |

(c) **Receipts** – None

78 Urgent Items - none

79 Items for next agenda
Budget for 2020/21

Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm

Date of Next meeting: **Thursday 5 December 2019** – DATE CHANGE DUE TO ELECTIONS ON 12 DECEMBER