

THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council Meeting held at Northumberland Crematorium, Bockenfield on Thursday 15 June 2023.

Present: Cllrs L Clarehugh, E Davidson, D Green and J Marshall
The Parish Clerk in attendance – Mrs L Hamlin

Councillor Marshall took the Chair in the absence of Cllr Allan.

- 18 Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs Simon Allan and Jamie Day and County Councillor Sanderson
- 19 Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda** – None
- 20 Public Questions (max 5 mins per person)** – None
- 21 The minutes of the meeting 24 May 2023** were agreed as a true record.
- 22 Matters Arising therefrom:**
- 1) Matters arising there from (excluding outstanding actions in relation to NCC)**
- a) Dog Bin West Thirston – NCC happy for the PC to move the location of the dog bin, the PC has to purchase the bin and NCC recommended a general litter bin however it was agreed, due to smell issues, that a green closed top dog bin be purchased. Clerk
 - b) Light issue East Thirston – NCC lighting department has confirmed they will be coming out to sort these issues. Clerk
 - c) Lighting on The Peth – NCC lighting has handed this over to NCC trees/woodland department for them to undertake works first and then see if more lighting is required. Clerk
 - d) Missing Weldon Bridge signage – still waiting on replacement sign Clerk
 - e) Pot Holes in Wintrick – outstanding Clerk
 - f) Bus shelter works – the Clerk has spoken with the Handyman and he stated that the whole of the wood needs to come out and be replaced as it is actually one solid piece. Also there are birds nesting in the shelter so no work can be undertaken at present. He can do the works in September.
 - g) Mile marker repairs - outstanding Clerk
 - h) Meeting at the Zoo – the zoo is happy to meet with the Parish Council and also wish to hold an evening or two at the Village Hall to present their plans and keep local people informed of our intentions/species. The Clerk agreed to help organise this and it was agreed that the Parish Council meeting should take place first in July. Clerk
 - i) Boundary Commission – Ward response – Clerk circulated proposed wording, this was amended and agreed by Councillors and Clerk to forward to NCC. Clerk
 - j) Northumberland Rivers Trust – the information provided by Cllr Day into invasive species on both sides of the river has been sent to the Rivers Trust and they will come out to undertake works in the areas that the PCs and other third parties do not already cover.
 - k) Weed Spraying – NCC still to respond re the weed spraying in the village but it does appear they have been sprayed.
 - l) Powergrid has now moved the steps. Need to find out who owns the patch of land beside the substation as it looks very untidy at present. Clerk to ascertain who owns it. Clerk
- 2) Long-term Outstanding issues being addressed by NCC for information**
- a) Manhole cover at Wintrick (12/2021) – works order has been raised. Road from A1 to Longhorsley has raised iron works and the edges of asphalt badly broken away both of which can cause damage to cars (01/2022) – works order has been raised. Clerk
 - b) Pathway improvements at riverside (03/2022) Clerk
 - c) Path in West Thirston – water issue (08/2022) – Clerk to chase up with NWL to see if it is their issue or NCC issue. Clerk
 - d) Path in West Thirston – Cyclists (08/2022)
 - e) Road at Bywell Shooting Ground in need of repair (11/2022) – this cannot be added to LTP so Clerk to chase up and request a full patch not just infill of holes
- 23 Report by County Councillor Sanderson** - None
- 24 Report back from Meetings and Representations on behalf of TPC**

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NALC Session on Planning Enforcement - The Clerk and Cllr Day attended this presentation via zoom.

Felton PC Biodiversity and Climate Change Committee Meeting – Cllr Day was invited to attend this meeting but was unable to attend but would be happy to attend and report back to TPC. It was agreed Cllr Day should attend these meetings.

25 Potential Projects

- a) Footpaths/Rights of Way – Nothing to report
- b) Landscaping – Nothing to report.
- c) Short term / Medium term / Long term projects – Village gateways, bus shelters – ongoing. The village gateways at Eshott have been installed and look good.

26 To report on any planning decisions:

21/04280/FUL - Eshott Heugh - for 30no holiday lodges, storage barn, parking and access and an outline application with access and all other matters reserved for associated leisure building (Use Class E) - APPROVED

23/00711/FUL – Land North of The Shaw – new entrance - APPROVED

23/00850/FUL – Old Chapel, Eshott Village – conversion to a residential property - WITHDRAWN

Planning applications pending:

20/04177/FUL - Land North East of Felmoor Caravan Park - Extension to existing holiday comprising 139 no. pitches for holiday lodges plus ancillary features including water feature, play area and vintage vehicle museum – objections based on Neighbourhood Plan

22/04112/FUL - Northumberland Arms Construction of first floor rear extension to provide 1no. additional en-suite bedroom and store room, and ground floor rear extension to provide covered goods reception area

22/04113/LBC - Northumberland Arms Construction of first floor rear extension to provide 1no. additional en-suite bedroom and store room, and ground floor rear extension to provide covered goods reception area

23/00547/REM - Land East Of Greycroft West Thirston - Reserved Matters application for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for 9mo. residential dwellings on refused application 19/05017/OUT (appeal reference APP/P2935/W/20/3254874)

23/00601/S106A - Land East Of Greycroft West Thirston - Modification of S106 agreement dated 07-10-2020 on approved application 19/05017/OUT in order to change tenure of the 2 Affordable Homes from Rented Units to Discount Market Value Houses

23/01436/FUL – Northumberland Zoo - Proposed building for housing 15% of the worlds' captive population of a critically endangered species – Already constructed

Planning Issues:

All the issues below are being addressed by NCC in a number of ways and feedback will be provided to the Parish Council when NCC are able to.

Bockenfield Caravan Park – blue lights illuminating entrance

Eshott Airfield – viewing area and café

Eshott Airfield – Enforcement Notice

Felmoor Park – Tree removal and building works without planning

Felmoor Park – Entrance lighting and signage

Felmoor Park – not complying with planning approval for timber cabins

East Thirston – Enforcement letter has been issued

27 Requested Agenda Items:

Policy Review – The following policies were reviewed –

Financial Regulations – minor amends – this was approved and adopted by the Council

Standing Orders - minor amends – this was approved and adopted by the Council

Disposal Policy - no changes – this was approved and adopted by the Council

Publication Scheme - no changes – this was approved and adopted by the Council

Risk Assessment - no changes – this was approved by the Council

Complaint procedure - no changes – this was approved by the Council

Clerk
Clerk

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Local Transport Plan

Suggestions were Footpath at East Thirston, New bridge repairs and Bywell Road – the latter two cannot be submitted for LTP as general maintenance for the Clerk to report. It was agreed to submit passing place at Eshott and Bockenfield layby entrance widening.

Clerk

Bus timetables

To be addressed by the group who are looking at bus stops – it maybe that only a QR code is required.

28 Correspondence:

- NCC - Community Chest Fund – notice to be put in noticeboard
- NCC – email re flytipping at bin recycle area – this has now been removed and CCTV has been requested again.
- Citizens Advice Donation Request – it was agreed to donate £25.
- Emails re Eshott airfield breaches – already circulated
- Copy email in relation to incorrect mapping off Eshott Airfield – already circulated

Clerk

Clerk

29 Finance

(a) **Financial Summary** was reviewed with no issues and the current balance stands at £11,788.48 TPC funds and £4,929.97 FCJC Funds totaling £16,718.45. The balance was reconciled with the bank statement and agreed by the Councillors.

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

Payments this meeting:		
IB170	L Hamlin Salary and Expenses 15 hours at £17.58 (£263.70) Home working allowance of 3 weeks (£3.00) NALC Training Course (£5.00)	£271.70
IB171	Northumberland Estates Rent for Riverside Path	£5.00
IB172	Citizens Advice Bureau donation	£25.00

(c) **Income** – None

30 Urgent Items

- Road from Wintrick to East Thirston needs pot holes addressing
- Road from Felton to Bockenfield has a gully in the tarmac that needs addressing.
- Letter to be sent to Ordnance Survey Team re inaccuracies of land ownership in the parish.

Clerk

Clerk

Cllr

Marshall

31 Items for next agenda – None

Cllr Marshall gave his thanks to Cllr Clarehugh for allowing the Parish Council to use the Crematorium for meetings

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm

Date of Next meeting: 3 August 2023