

# THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council Meeting held at Pumpkin Pie Nursey, URC Hall, West Thirston on Thursday 23 January 2020.

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

- 94 Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Jackson and County Councillor Sanderson.
- 95 Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda** – Cllr Green – Matters Arising (b) Light in Eshott Village
- 96 Public Questions (max 5 mins per person)** – None
- 97 The minutes of the meeting 6 December 2019** were signed as a true record.
- 98 Matters Arising therefrom:**
- a) Bus stop sign replacement of** – NCC has stated they have no budget left this financial year to install this so the work will be done after 1 April 2020.
  - b) Street light in Eshott Village** – the baffle has still not been fitted and the light is on from midnight to about 5.30/6am. Clerk to pursue. Clerk
  - c) Road to Longhorsley to Burgham complaint-** The Clerk forwarded Cllr Jackson's contact details to Mr King following his request to meet the PC on site but Mr King has not responded to Cllr Jackson to date. Clerk
  - d) Wintrick Junction – white lines request** – still awaiting NCC installing these.
  - e) Email to Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP requesting update** – Tom Forrester has responded on AMT's behalf. Anne-Marie has been working with the SoS for Transport to bring all unregistered airfields under the operational control of the CAA. There is a meeting of the Castle Morpeth Area Council on 10 February. I understand that the airfield is likely to be discussed. All residents who have contacted Anne-Marie recently have been advised to register their objections through the planning portal on NCCs website. Anne-Marie had a meeting with Daljit Lally recently and she mentioned the issues with the airfield and was informed that NCC had received further legal advice. When there are any further developments he will let the PC know. This information has been superseded as the airfield is not going to Committee in February. Clerk
  - f) Steep Bank – slippy surface** – no action to date. This has been confirmed as an urgent action for NCC and they are undertaking an inspection. Clerk
  - g) Repairs to drain close to Glenshotton** - Still no action taken by NCC. Clerk
  - h) Ditch on the Burgham Park Road blocked** – Clerk perusing with NCC. Clerk
  - i) Potholes on the road to Eshottheugh** – outstanding, Clerk and Zoo have chased NCC and NCC will make these a priority, Clerk
  - j) Households not connected to electricity** – Clerk awaiting response from property that this may apply to.
- 99 Report by County Councillor Sanderson**  
Email report from CC Sanderson:
- Budget time is on us but thankfully my areas of responsibility aren't facing draconian cuts. In fact I am hoping my Cabinet colleagues will agree to an increase in roads funding to help us combat the effects of very wet weather and deists which has been tough on our roads (as you know).
- The rest of the traffic calming through West Thirston will be done in the summer because I want to link that with the road repairs which are needed.
- The inter active signs have gone down well with villagers and a number have written to thank us so that is appreciated.
- And the bridge parapet will be back in place subject to disasters in March - and I continue to nag about painting the crash barrier.
- 100 Report back from Meetings and Representations on behalf of TPC**  
None

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## 101 Potential Projects

- a) Footpaths/Rights of Way – Nothing to report.
- b) Landscaping – Nothing to report.
- c) Neighbourhood Plan Update – NCC requires information before they can commence working on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). NCCC has identified certain information which they need from the Parish Council/Steering Group in relation to the preparation of the Plan. This concerns the other options which were considered alongside our plan. Also the Clerk has confirmed that not all the grant has been spent in the time period applied for due to delays incurred by the requirement of the SEA so this has to be paid back to Groundworks UK but it will not cause issues with future grant applications.

## 102 Planning:

### a. To report on any planning decisions:

19/04011/VARYCO – Kirkhill – amend proposed windows to sitting room only - APPROVED

### b. Planning applications pending:

18/03534/FUL - Bywell Shooting Range - retro - retention of ground butt

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 Cub – Erection of 56 dwellings and improvements to course and club house – objections submitted and request for inclusion in pre-app discussions.

19/03659/VARYCO – Eshott Airfield – make temporary hours of 7am to 11pm permanent – objections submitted

19/00669/PREAPP – Plot 4, Eshottheugh – Holiday leisure park comprising 24 single story chalets and 19 two story chalets – objections submitted – a meeting with the applicant has been arranged for 3 February to discuss his proposals.

ALL

19/04134/FUL – 7 Bridge End, West Thirston – Conversion of garage to form habitable room. Remove garage door and replace with timber wall and sash window – No objections

19/04826/FUL – Briggend, 6 Bridge End, West Thirston – replace timber doors to front elevation with 3 glazed bi-folds, infilling or rear opening with 3 pace glazed bi-folds – concerns were raised about the front bi-folds as this is glass and with the bus stop being directly outside the property this may cause issues with privacy.

19/04921/VARYCO – Crematorium, Woodland Burial Site, Bockenfield – Vary Condition 2 to update drawings – no objections,

19/05017/OUT – Outline permission to change of use of agricultural land and construction of 9 residential dwellings (incl 22% affordable housing) – Land East of Greycroft, W Thirston – on circulation. Clerk to put notification on website and also email residents that have expressed comments on previous application.

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 – no further action to date.

### Planning Issues

- New Beer Garden – Northumberland Arms – retrospective planning application - still no action on this.
- Dog Training Centre – construction of compound – no further update received.
- Tree Felling behind Northumberland Arms – concerns were raised about the cutting down of trees behind the pub, these had received approval in 2017 however there is still the outstanding issue of two trees requiring replanting from failed replants from 2015 works. The Clerk has raised this with NCC but to date no response has been received as the original case officer is no longer in this department.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

## 103 Requested Agenda Items:

Litter Pick – it was agreed to hold the litter pick on 4 and 5 April. High Viz jackets to be requested. Clerk to put notice in The Bridge and on website.

Clerk

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**104 Correspondence:**

- NCC – Members Interests request for updates if required – no updates required
  - NCC – Reminder for submitting Precept for 2020/21 – this has been submitted by the Clerk.
  - NCC – Litter Campaign Posters – already circulated – it was agreed to source a poster to put in the notice board. Clerk
  - NCC – Library Consultation information – circulated, questionnaire seems best to be completed by individuals as opposed to PC.
  - Northumberland & Newcastle Society letter re NCC Local Plan and renewable energies – update on ongoing efforts opposing the “identification of suitable Wind Turbine Development” in the County as identified in the Local Plan and requesting PCs the Examination Meeting on 6 Feb at Morpeth Town Hall. Clerk to circulate. Clerk
  - Highways England notification of A1 closures/diversions from Jan – Mar 2020 – for information.
  - Northumbria Police – email update – PC Teasdale as reported that there have been complaints about Quad Bikes speeding through Thirston on weekends and this may have been connected to Shoots that were on-going in the area however we have paid passing attention to this and will continue to. There are issues throughout the area with poachers who are frequently leaving gates open and livestock getting out. Please phone 101 and report any one you believe to be poaching on land so we are aware where there are problems.
- In Longhorsley we have had 2 reports of theft of heating oil this week and it looks like a vehicle towing a trailer is involved. If you have heating oil tanks please try and lock them or put a security light above them as a deterrent but with this information in mind it might be worth checking your tank.
- Clerk to put information on Website, Felton & Thirston facebook page and in The Bridge. Councillors asked the Clerk to contact PC Teasdale for an update on the fires. Clerk  
Clerk
- Email from resident re latest light aircraft crash asking if this has been reported to AAIB. The Clerk contacted AAIB and they confirmed this has been reported.
  - Email complaint re aircraft flying to close to properties – G-ATRM is repeatedly flying circuits close to trees and houses and the pilot is cutting short the recommended circuit to come in at an angle. They are becoming increasingly concerned about safety and overflying following recent crash.
  - Email of complaint from Felton resident re airfield – this resident has lived in Felton for over 30 years and has noticed a significant increase in overflying, larger aircraft. He states there should be no overflying of residential areas and it is affecting his ability to enjoy his garden.
  - Email re trees to rear of Northumberland Arms – an email was received from the landowner requesting details of who had been on his land asking the tree feller questions. The Clerk confirmed this was the Chairman of the PC following reports from concerned residents. This email had been copied to his solicitor but no further correspondence has been received since the Clerks response. A sign has been installed stating no trespassers.
  - NALC – Website statistics – since October there have been 95 new users to the website average duration of session is 8 minutes with 117 users in total.

**Emails Forwarded:** NALC circulars, CAN News

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

**105 Finance**

- (a) **Financial Summary** was reviewed with no issues and the current balance stands at £13,322.37
- (b) **Payments** - The following list was put before members and was approved:

Payments this meeting:		
IB79	L Hamlin Salary and Expenses	411.53
IB80	Viking Direct – printer ink	61.18

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IB81	Stephen Carey Fund – replacement electrode pads	37.00
IB82	Groundworks UK – repayment of part grant funding	581.32
SO	Mr & Mrs Bates – electricity for defib machine	50.00
DD	Information Commissions Office	35.00

(c) **Receipts** – None

**106 Urgent Items**

Concern raised by a resident in relation to the Bywell Shoot Ground and the major international competition they are hosting in July. Councillors felt this was event was a positive accolade for Northumberland however it was felt that the Shooting Ground had missed an opportunity to engage more positively with the residents and were also concerned that the Parish Council had not been informed as the same time as the residents. Clerk to draft a letter to Bywell shooting ground for comment before Cllr Green visits the shooting ground with said letter. A letter also to be sent to the resident stating the PC understand her concerns and that the PC are entering a conversation with the shooting ground.

Clerk

Clerk

**107 Items for next agenda**

As a number of Councillors cannot attend the 12 March meeting the date to be changed to 19 March.

Clerk

Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm

Date of Next meeting: Thursday 19 March 2020