

# THIRSTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom on Thursday 20 January 2022.

**Present:** Cllrs S Allan, L Clarehugh, E Davidson, D Green, T Jackson and Cllr Marshall  
The Parish Clerk in attendance – Mrs L Hamlin

**92 Apologies for Absence - None**

**93 Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda – None**

**94 Public Questions (max 5 mins per person) - None**

**95 The minutes of the meeting 9 December 2021** were agreed as a true record.

**96 Matters Arising**

- Ditch on the Burgham Park Road blocked – still outstanding by NCC. Clerk
- Street light request for East Thirston – waiting on a response from NCC on their investigations. Clerk
- Replacement bus stop sign – still outstanding by NCC. Clerk
- Directional sign, left over the bridge – still outstanding by NCC. Clerk
- Noticeboard at Eshott – Clerk to look prices for a non-wooden replacement. Clerk
- Invitation to Council Leader or Cabinet Member – Rob Murfin will be attending the March meeting.
- Path and steps leave removal – This was been undertaken.
- Tree Officer re checking of trees within the parish – no response from NCC Tree Officer. A tree at the top of the Peth is looking rather precarious and Clerk to ascertain whose land this is on, it may be NCC land, and look to getting this removed. Clerk
- Hole in steep bank pathway – this has been repaired.
- Audit – future arrangements – JPAG and PC checklist paperwork has been circulated to the Councillors. The Auditor has confirmed that the Clerk will have to restate the accounts for last year to take into consideration the Cemetery holdings. Clerk
- Facebook post re damage in Parish – The Clerk only received one tree issue and this tree has now been removed. Clerk
- Blocked drain and manhole cover at Wintrick – still outstanding by NCC.
- Bins at bottle recycling point – the flytipping at this area was getting out of hand and the Clerk sent an email to NCC including CC Sanderson with a photo of the situation. The large black bin has been retained but now had glass bottle stickers on and the two smaller green bins have been removed. However since this there has still been flytipping, one from Felton (NE65 9DT) a box for a curved gaming monitor however they removed the contact details – this should have been put in their own recycling bin. Clerk to thank NCC for their swift response on this issue. Clerk

**97 Report by County Councillor Sanderson – None**

**98 Report back from Meetings and Representations on behalf of TPC**

**Meeting with NCC and CAA** – This meeting was informative and PC happy with the progress that is being made.

**99 Potential Projects**

- a) Footpaths/Rights of Way – None
- b) Landscaping – the Clerk has requested a quote for works for the next two years
- c) Councillors to suggest short term/medium term/long term projects – nothing at present.

**100 Planning:**

**To report on any planning decisions:** None

**Planning applications pending:**

**20/02026/COU** – Cottages at Burgham Park Golf Club – Change of use from holiday cottages to residential dwellings – No Objections

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**20/02094/FUL** – Land NW of Burgham Park Golf Club - Remove green keepers compound and erection of 56 dwellings plus upgrade of access road, electric sub station, SUDs, domestic package treatment works and domestic gas storage. CC Sanderson has confirmed that this application will go to Committee.

**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

**21/02064/FUL** - Northumberland Country Zoo Animal house to include pool and on-show viewing area for the public – no objections

**21/03090/FUL** - Northumberland Country Zoo - Extend cafe to add a large indoor soft play facility to create an all year round attraction – no objections

**21/02941/FUL** - Dukes Cottage, West Thirston – Side extension and front porch – no objections

**21/04084/FUL** – Land W of Foxhemels – 2 storey residential dwelling – no objections

**21/04280/FUL** - Paintballing Site Eshott Heugh - Hybrid planning application consisting of a detailed application for 30no holiday lodges, storage barn, parking and access and an outline application with access and all other matters reserved for the associated leisure building (Use Class E)

**21/04762/FUL** - East Of Bockenfield Manor – partial demolition of existing building to allow for Eastern extension to provide attached garage, Northern extension for entrance and Southern extension for enlarged kitchen including other minor works for chimney and new stonework – no objections

**22/00093/PRUTPO** - Chapelside House, Eshott - Pruning of Ash tree by removing single bough, southside of the tree to reduce the lateral loading being carried through the main two trunks – no objections

Clerk

## 101 Requested Agenda Items:

**Finalise Budget** – The Clerks contract of employment had an addendum letter attached to confirm increase in hours. Thirston PC has written to Felton PC with the decision on contributions to Recreation Field. These two items have been incorporated into the budget and has been reviewed by the internal auditor with no issues. The Council agreed to adopt this budget and the precept for 2022/23 is set at £9,500. Clerk to submit precept request to NCC.

Clerk

**Speed Camera fault** – The speed camera on the way into Thirston from the A1 was not working. The Clerk put in a maintenance request and this was repaired within 48 hours.

**Bridge Entry** – It was agreed to increase the presence of Thirston PC in The Bridge. It was also proposed that we have a “meet the Councillor” slot in the Bridge Magazine – Cllr Clarehugh to be the first to provide information.

Cllr  
Clarehugh

## 102 Correspondence:

- Email from Felton and Thirston WI re Queens Jubilee Arrangements – no arrangements have been made but Cllr Clarehugh to speak to Pumpkin Pie to see if there is anything the PC can help with if they are planning anything and Clerk to contact Felton PC to see if there is a joint project that can be done and report back to the WI.
- Verbal request to review the bus stop just before the A1 – it was agreed to contact NCC and request this e power washed.
- Email from NALC re virtual meetings – NALC confirmed that it is best to have a zoom meeting than no meeting at all and at the first face to face meeting have a formal agenda item to confirm and retrospectively adopt any decisions made via a zoom meeting. Cllr Jackson to ask the Golf Club if meetings can be held in the room off the bar should it be needed.
- Anne Marine Trevelyan - Copy letter to Kemi Badenoch requesting support for continuation of virtual meetings following Clerk’s letter to both KB and AMT.
- Data Protection Fee assessment email – the Clerk has undertaken the assessment and there are no changes to the annual payment by the PC.

Cllr  
Clarehugh  
Clerk

Clerk

Clerk  
Cllr  
Jackson

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- NCC – Storm Arwen Review – submissions are requested from the PC as part of an examination into NCCs handling of the storm situation. Submissions are requested during January and February – It was agreed for the Councillors to review the documentation and discuss as an agenda item at the next meeting.
- Emails from NALC - circulated

**103 Finance**

(a) **Financial Summary** was reviewed with no issues and the current balance stands at £14,059.48. This 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:		
IB132	L Hamlin Salary and Expenses 24 hours at £15.50 (£372.00) Cartridges (69.99) 2 x zoom (£28.78) 2 x home working allowance (£22.18)	£493.15
IB133	John Hood Landscaping (now charging VAT)	£480.00
DD	Mr & Mrs Bates – Defib payment for electricity	£50.00

(c) **Income** – None

**104 Urgent Items –**

- Light on the steps down from the Peth not working
- Give way sign onto the A1 from West Thirston has been knocked down
- Defibrillator needs registering with new “the Circuit” database
- Kerb stone on the left hand bend into West Thirston off the A1 need resiting
- 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

Clerk  
Clerk  
Clerk  
Clerk  
Clerk

**105 Items for next agenda –**

NCC – Storm Arwen Review

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Date of Next meeting: 10 March 2022