

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held remotely on Monday, 18 January 2021**

Present: Cllrs D Duffey (Chairman), D Adamson, H Dalgleish-Brown, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, L Hunter Bell, D Jackson, K Mountford, F Potter, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: None

In attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

C1156 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1157 Police Report

It was noted that a police report had been emailed to Members prior to the meeting which all Members confirmed they had read.

C1158 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported on the budget setting process at North Yorkshire County Council. He advised that COVID-19 had cost approximately £100,000,000. He indicated that it was likely that council tax would increase by 1.99% in the next financial year.

He acknowledged that nobody wanted to increase council tax but that there was little alternative as reserves were being used at present. He noted that the peak of the pandemic was expected to occur in the next week and that the NHS was currently facing the most acute phase. He advised that North Yorkshire Police was taking robust action with regard to complaints of house parties and flouting of the coronavirus regulations.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh requested that Cllr Dadd pass on her good wishes concerning the organisation of the vaccination programme, which was taking place at the Forum, Northallerton. Cllr Dadd advised that more vaccination centres would be opening within the county in the coming weeks.

b) HDC

Cllr Elders echoed Cllr Dadd's comments in respect of budgets for the next financial year. He noted that residents and carers in local care homes had been receiving the Pfizer/Astrazenica vaccines.

Cllr Elders advised that he had been made aware of the crumbling condition of the surface of the Millgate coach park and advised that HDC intended to carry out repair works in the next few weeks.

Cllr Elders reported that the work to upgrade Thirsk & Sowerby Leisure Centre was due to commence on 1 February 2021 and that it was anticipated the work would be completed in September 2021. He noted that the work would result in the leisure centre becoming a 24-hour premises.

Cllr Elders advised that it was hoped that HDC's new crematorium would be completed by September 2021.

Cllr Elders indicated that the planning application to construct a BP filling station on land adjacent to York Road had been approved.

C1159 Open Forum

No members of the public joined the meeting.

C1160 Minutes

C1160(a) Town Council Meeting held on 16 November 2020

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 November 2020 be approved as a correct record.

C1160(b) Matters Arising

C1127(i) Johnson Close Play Area

The Clerk advised that the Town Council would submit an application to Hambleton District Council's Making a Difference programme for funding to install solar powered lighting at the Johnson Close Play Area.

C1161 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1161(a) Planning Committee – Summaries dated 21 December 2020 & 18 January 2021

The meeting received summaries of planning applications which had been considered by the Planning Committee dated 21 December 2020 and 18 January 2021.

Resolved: that the Summaries be received and noted.

C1161(b) Open Areas & Greens Committee – Minutes dated 10 December 2020

The meeting received the Minutes of a meeting of the Open Areas & Greens Committee dated 10 December 2020.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1162 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that there had been one application for a memorial which had been approved. He advised that there had been some mole activity at the cemetery and that work to resolve the issue would be carried out in the next few weeks.

C1163 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1163(a) Citizens Advice Mid-North Yorkshire - Donation

The meeting received an email dated 17 November 2020 from Citizens Advice Mid-North Yorkshire thanking the Town Council for its donation of £200.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1163(b) Street Naming and Numbering Legislation – Certificate of Registration for New Property/Address

The meeting received a certificate dated 19 November 2020 from Hambleton District Council which confirmed the registration and formal postal address of a new property to be 56A Hambleton View, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the certificate be noted.

C1163(c) Census 2021

The meeting received a letter dated 1 December 2020 from the Census Engagement Manager, Office for National Statistics, which advised that the Census for England and Wales would take place on 21 March 2021.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1163(d) York Disabled Workers Co-operative

The meeting received a letter dated 11 December 2020 from York Disabled Workers Co-operative which outlined the work carried out by the organisation and requested the support of the Town Council.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1163(e) Licensing Application – Twisted Automotive, The Old Cinema, Long Street, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 23 December 2020 from Hambleton District Council which attached a licensing application by Twisted Automotive. Members noted that the licensing application submitted by Twisted Automotive had been withdrawn.

C1163(f) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – Training Bulletin

The meeting received a training bulletin dated 24 December 2020 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations which gave details of various training sessions and forums available for Members to attend.

Resolved: that the training bulletin be noted.

C1163(g) Street Naming and Numbering Legislation – Certificate of Registration for New Property/Address

The meeting received a certificate dated 8 January 2021 from Hambleton District Council which confirmed the registration and postal address of a property at 2B Millgate, Thirsk, YO7 1AA.

Resolved: that the certificate be noted.

C1164 The Future of Thirsk as a Vibrant Market Town

Cllr Duffey reported on a meeting held with members of the Town Council, Sowerby Parish Council HDC officers and the Business Association. He advised that the group had prepared an aspirational plan and that work was ongoing. Cllr Hunter Bell had set up an Instagram account which aimed to promote Thirsk and the surrounding area and she was examining the possibility of setting up a new website to promote the area. It was noted that other individuals may wish to join the group.

C1165 COVID-19

The Clerk reported that he had reviewed the Town Council's risk assessment in relation to COVID-19. Cllr Gibson-Brown stated that she had witnessed incidents where visitors to Thirsk from other areas had openly broken the coronavirus regulations. The Clerk indicated that he was unaware of any information which suggested that play areas should be closed during the current national lockdown.

C1166 Finance

The Clerk advised that Mr C Amy had not yet submitted an invoice. He indicated that an invoice in the sum of approximately £2,800 had been received to cover the cost of repairs which needed to be carried out to the clock at St Mary's Church. It was suggested that Hambleton District Council may be able to assist with regard to funding and the Clerk stated that he would contact Ms Lisa Wilson, HDC's Communities Manager.

Resolved:

(i) that the accounts for payment as at 18 January 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

(ii) that an item in respect of St Mary's Church Clock be placed on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting to be held on Monday, 15 February 2021.

C1167 Reports from Members/Representatives

There were no further matters to report.

The meeting closed at 7.47 pm.