

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 19 June 2017 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: H Dalgleish-Brown (Chairman), D Adamson, J Bell, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, A Trueman

Apologies: Cllr: J Watson (Holiday)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C695 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C696 Police Report

PCSO Warby introduced the new PCSO. He advised that PC Mayes had left Thirsk due to a temporary promotion and that PCSOs Laws and Walker had also moved to other stations.

PCSO Warby circulated the crime report for the previous month. Cllr Dadd noted ongoing issues at Carrs Field, which included the use of motorbikes, and that the police were continuing to monitor the area.

Cllr Dadd asked if the police had identified a suspect following a recent serious assault in the Market Place. PCSO Warby did not believe anyone had been arrested for the offence.

C697 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that he had followed up concerns relating to the public right of way through the Golden Fleece yard and that the Golden Fleece had been served with a notice to make good the right of way.

Cllr Dadd indicated that the trial parking restriction on Cemetery Road was coming to an end and an informal consultation would be held. He believed that the favoured option may be to place double yellow lines on the stretch of road from the junction adjacent to the church up to the cemetery.

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that an excessive number of vehicles appeared to have parking badges for Riverside Mews. Cllr Dadd confirmed that residents and visitors permits issued by NYCC were only valid for the area for which they were issued. He suggested that Cllr Gibson-Brown email him photographs so that he could investigate the concerns.

(b) HDC

Cllr Dadd reported that a number of false allegations concerning HDC's CCTV had been made on social media following a serious assault which had taken place in the Market Place. He confirmed that the CCTV cameras recorded 24 hours a day, seven days a week and that they had been of assistance to police investigating the incident.

C698 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mr P Rush of Thirsk Tourist Information circulated copies of a new visitor leaflet which had been designed by volunteers at Thirsk Tourist Information. He explained that the leaflet was aimed at visitors coming into Thirsk Tourist Information who wanted to explore the town and also to attract distant visitors to come to Thirsk and the surrounding area. He requested that the Town Council contribute towards the

cost of printing further copies. Town Councillors were impressed with the leaflet and Cllr Adamson congratulated everyone who had been involved in its design and preparation.

Resolved:

(i) that the Town Council contributes £100 towards the cost of printing Thirsk visitor leaflets;

(ii) that standing orders be reinstated.

C699 Minutes

C699(a) Town Council Meeting held on 15 May 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 May 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C699(b) Matters Arising

C686 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that she had received confirmation that the utility box in the grounds of East Thirsk Community Hall belonged to Thirsk Community Primary School.

C700 Committee Minutes and Reports

C700(a) Planning Committee held on 15 May 2017 and 25 May 2017

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 15 May 2017 and 25 May 2017.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C700(b) Notes of Long Street Community Gardeners Meeting held on 25 May 2017

The meeting received the notes of the Long Street Community Gardeners meeting held on 25 May 2017.

Resolved: that the notes be received and noted.

C701 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorial for Pat Fitch, Stanley Lewis Josephs and Allan Michael Leng be approved.

C702 Correspondence/Items Raised

C702(a) Encouraging Visitors to Come to Thirsk

(Dealt with under C698 Open Forum).

C702(b) Premises Licence – Aldi, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 24 May 2017 from Hambleton District Council concerning a new premises licence in respect of Aldi, Topcliffe Road, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the Town Council has no objections in respect of the premises licence for Aldi, Topcliffe Road, Thirsk.

C702(c) The Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day

The meeting received a letter dated 26 May 2017 from Seafarers UK concerning flying the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day on 3 September, 2017.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C702(d) Street Clean – Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 31 May 2017 from Mr T Jordan concerning excessive weeds and a proposal that a "Thirsk Team" be set up to carry out weed spraying with funding being provided for materials and equipment. Cllr Adamson indicated that Cllr Dadd had also received a copy of the email and had requested

that costings be obtained to carry out spraying works. It was noted that appropriate licences were required to undertake weed spraying in public places and that there were also public liability insurance requirements.

Members noted that NYCC had previously undertaken road and street weed spraying.

Resolved:

a) that NYCC be contacted regarding weed spraying.

b) that Mr Jordan be advised of the various issues.

C702(e) Street Collection Permit – Kidney Cancer Care

The meeting received an email dated 1 June 2017 from Hambleton District Council confirming that a street collection permit had been issued for Kidney Cancer Care for 5 August 2017.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C702(f) Tree Survey

The meeting received an email dated 5 June 2017 from Mr A Whitehead enclosing the 2017 tree survey. The Clerk advised that Mr Whitehead had raised some concerns regarding a number of willow trees and that he would arrange for copies of the tree survey to be forwarded to members of the Open Areas & Greens Committee. Cllr Adamson indicated that Mr C Amy was dealing with thinning the trees in the Millennium Green.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C702(g) Possible Request for Roundabout on the A170 at Bagby Lane End

The meeting received an email dated 5 June 2017 from Sutton Under Whitestonecliffe Parish Council concerning a proposal that Thirsk Town Council collaborates with Sutton Parish in asking NYCC to consider building a roundabout at the Bagby Lane End junction with the A170 following a recent serious accident. Town Councillors expressed the view that they were not qualified to make decisions on highways issues and felt that the decision needed to be made by NYCC.

Resolved: that the Clerk contact Sutton Under Whitestonecliffe Parish Council to advise that the Town Council did not consider it was qualified to make a decision in respect the request.

C702(h) Golden Fleece Yard – Public Right of Way

The meeting received emails dated 6 June 2017 from Cllr Dadd and North Yorkshire County Council concerning the obstruction of the public right of way through the Golden Fleece yard. Cllr Adamson confirmed that when he had contacted NYCC's public rights of way department he had not requested that all the tables and chairs be removed but that members of the public needed to be able to gain access without difficulty. Town Councillors noted that the public right of way sign had not been repositioned. The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted NYCC to request this be done.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C702(i) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – Hambleton Branch Meeting

The meeting received an email dated 7 June 2017 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations advising that the date of the Hambleton Branch Meeting had been changed from 21 June 2017 to 28 June 2017. Cllr Trueman indicated that he may be able to attend. The Clerk advised that it would be beneficial for the Town Council to have a further YLCA representative and that he would obtain dates of other YLCA meetings so that Cllr Trueman could consider whether he wished to become a Town Council representative.

Resolved: that the Clerk obtains information concerning dates of YLCA meetings to forward to Cllr Trueman.

C702(j) Town Clock

The meeting received an email dated 8 June 2017 from Smith of Derby advising that when they had inspected the town clock's mechanism following a recent problem they had found part of the mechanism to be very badly worn and that similar problems would arise again if the clock's system was not upgraded. Town Councillors noted that the mechanism would need to be removed whilst the work was undertaken and that the new system would incorporate an automatic re-start control unit. It was suggested that external sources of funding be investigated due to the high cost of the work and that the work be undertaken at the end of the tourist season.

Resolved: that the Town Council accept the quotation to upgrade the town clock's mechanism and install an automatic re-start control unit.

C702(k) Media Release – Local Health Services Marketplace Event

The meeting received an email dated 13 June 2017 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group concerning an open marketplace event and Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 27 June 2017.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C703 Co-option of Town Councillor

The Clerk received emails and information that had been received in connection with the Town Councillor vacancy and a paper vote took place.

Resolved: that Ms Shirley Ward be co-opted onto the Town Council.

C704 Finance

The Clerk indicated that it was necessary to arrange a meeting for an internal review committee to consider and approve the Town Council's internal controls prior to the Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Thursday, 29 June 2017.

Resolved:

(i) that the accounts for payment as at 19 June 2017 be approved and cheques signed;

(ii) that the budget balances ending May 2017 be received and approved.

C705 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Jackson advised that he and Cllr Trueman had attended the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting on 18 May 2017 and that Hambleton District Council had reported a large increase in the amount of contaminated waste in the kerbside recycling bins. Cllr Dalglish-Brown reported that her first engagement as Mayor of Thirsk had been to attend HDC's Flying the Flag Ceremony on 19 June 2017.

The Clerk reported that the Town Council had been approached by a television company who were considering Thirsk as a possible location for a new television series. He understood that some discussions had taken place but no decision had been made.

C706 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.