

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 18 September 2017 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

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

Apologies: Cllr: J Bell (Alternative Commitment)

C738 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C739 Police Report

No police representative was in attendance.

C740 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Nothing noted.

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson advised that the Making a Difference community grant scheme was open to receive applications until 30 September 2017 and that anyone interested should contact Mr Peter Cole at HDC.

Cllr Watson reported that around 650 visitors had attended the Open Day at the former Northallerton Prison on Saturday, 16 September 2017 and that there would be a further Open Day on Saturday, 30 September 2017.

Cllr Watson reported that HDC's cabinet had resolved to oppose the proposal put forward by North Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner to take over responsibility for the county's fire and rescue service.

Cllr Watson confirmed that HDC had received a planning application for the construction of six flats on the site of two derelict properties in Long Street, Thirsk. She also reported that HDC's Planning Committee had considered an application for the construction of a detached bungalow at land to the rear of 131 Long Street and it had stipulated that the vehicular access must be used only by the occupiers of 135 Long street and the new bungalow.

C741 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C742 Minutes

C742(a) Town Council Meeting held on 21 August 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 August 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C742(b) Matters Arising

C722(e) Exterior Lighting at St Mary's Church

The Clerk reported that Mr J Howse had carried out an examination of the exterior lights at St Mary's Church. Mr Howse had installed new protective grills, repaired one light and, as there were no further issues, was to issue an electrical safety certificate.

C731(b) Open Areas and Greens Committee held on 13 July 2017

The Clerk reported that the height of the foliage on Whitemare Roundabout had been reduced considerably and it was felt that visibility over the roundabout was much improved.

C733(i) Town Clock

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that the work to install the upgraded mechanism for the town clock would be completed by Thursday, 21 September 2017.

C733(h) Consultation for Street Names – New Development at Land Adjacent to Bellingham Close

Cllr Watson indicated that Hambleton District Council had decided that “Sutton Road” would not be included as part of the postal address for the new development adjacent to Bellingham Close.

C735 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to Thirsk Ambulance Station concerning overgrown foliage at the Picks Lane side of the Ambulance Station.

C743 Committee Minutes and Reports

C743(a) Planning Committee held on 21 August 2017

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 21 August 2017.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C744 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Rose Heather Dowell, Clifford William Smith and Frederick White be approved.

C745 Correspondence/Items Raised

C745(a) Pavements in the Market Place

The meeting received a letter dated 10 August 2017 from Mrs J Storey concerning the uneven surface of the pavements in the Market Place. The Clerk advised that complaints had also been received in respect of a section of the footpath across Castle Garth. Members noted that NYCC representatives had recently been assessing a number of pavements around the town.

Resolved: that Mrs Storey’s letter be passed to North Yorkshire County Council.

C745(b) Ex-Forces Support and Community Support/Volunteering North Yorkshire

The meeting received a letter dated August 2017 from Community First Yorkshire concerning the introduction of new support services for former members of the armed forces. Town Councillors felt that the letter may be of interest to Mr Colin Northridge, Royal British Legion.

Resolved: that the letter be passed to Mr Colin Northridge, Royal British Legion.

C745(c) WI House Open Morning – Cpad

The meeting received an email dated 24 August 2017 from Thirsk Community First Responders inviting Town Councillors to attend an open morning at the WI House, Norby on Tuesday, 17 October 2017 when the unveiling of the Cpad would take place. Cllr Dagleish-Brown confirmed that she would be attending the event.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C745(d) NYCC Home to School and LBS Contracts

The meeting received an email dated 1 September 2017 from North Yorkshire County Council advising that new contracts for a number of school passenger

transport services needed to be secured following the unfortunate death of one of its taxi and bus operators.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C745(e) NHS Consultation on Adult and Older People's Mental Health Services in Hambleton and Richmondshire

The meeting received a letter dated 1 September 2017 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group in response to a letter submitted by the Town Council on 18 August 2017 concerning the public consultation on mental health services.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C745(f) Land off Bellingham Close, Thirsk

The meeting received a letter dated 5 September 2017 from Hambleton District Council which confirmed the formal postal address of the new development adjacent to Bellingham Close to be Willow Mews, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C745(g) Office Computers

The Clerk reported that a number of issues had recently affected the operation of the office computers and that a quotation had been obtained from North Yorkshire County Council's Schools ICT Services to replace the present installation. The quotation included an option to purchase an annual support/breakdown package which it was felt would be beneficial. Town Councillors agreed that the current system was out-of-date and needed to be replaced in the near future. Discussion took place about obtaining software which would assist in the preparation of the annual accounts, and it was suggested that this be incorporated with the installation of the new equipment.

Resolved: that the Town Council accept the quotation provided by NYCC Schools ICT Services to provide and install a new office computer system together with an annual support/breakdown package.

C746 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 18 September 2017 be approved and cheques signed.

C747 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that East Thirsk Community Hall had obtained funding from Hambleton District Council to assist in providing afternoon teas for older residents of Thirsk.

Cllr Watson questioned whether the Town Council's Financial Regulations enabled the use of direct debit agreements and Cllr Adamson confirmed that this was covered. The Clerk advised that the matter would be pursued.

The Clerk reported that Millgate Public Conveniences would be closed on Thursday, 21 September 2017 in order for works to be completed in accordance with the legionella risk assessment report.

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that there had been a recent escalation in the numbers of "boy racers" in and around Millgate car park. It was agreed that Ms Gina Allen, HDC's Safer Hambleton Co-ordinator be advised.

Cllr Dalgleish-Brown reported that she had attended Julian Norton's (from The Yorkshire Vets) second book launch at the White Rose book café.

Cllr Dalglish-Brown reported that she and other Town Councillors had attended the defibrillator awareness session organised by Thirsk Community First Responders on Thursday, 31 August 2017.

Cllr Dalglish-Brown thanked Cllr Duffey for all his hard work involved in resurrecting Thirsk & Sowerby Festival in 2017.

C748 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

Part II

Resolved: that in accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and the public be excluded from the meeting for the discussion of confidential business

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.