

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 17 September 2018 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

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

Apologies: Cllrs: J Bell (Alternative commitment), D Jackson (Holiday), A Trueman (Work commitment)

In attendance: County/District Cllr: G Dadd

C875 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C876 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance.

C877 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd noted that Thirsk had suffered a lack of water at the weekend and advised that he would again be writing to the Chief Executive of Yorkshire Water concerning a number of ongoing issues.

C878 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C879 Minutes

C879(a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 August 2018

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 August 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the correction of a spelling error in item C867 Open Forum.

C879(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk advised that the Town Councillor vacancy was currently advertised on the Town Council's Facebook page and on the notice board and that at present four applications had been received.

C860(d) Town Council Office Lease

Following a query by Cllr Adamson, the Clerk advised that the office lease had actually expired on 31 August 2018 and therefore the occupation would be on a rolling monthly tenancy. He indicated that he and the office staff had visited the vacant premises above Thirsk Community Care and he felt that this may be suitable for office accommodation, subject to confirmation of one or two matters of detail. Cllr Duffey stated that a meeting of the Personnel & Office Committee should be arranged in order for the matter to be considered fully.

C871(a) Christmas Lights

The Clerk advised that he had contacted Mr S Dresser who had agreed to install the Town Council's Christmas lights at the same price as had been charged by the previous contractor. He noted that Cllrs Jackson and Trueman had indicated that they wanted to consider the purchase of new lights for the town clock.

C872 Finance

The Clerk indicated that he had obtained the paperwork to enable the new bank signatories to be authorised and that he would arrange to have these completed by Cllrs Dalgleish-Brown and Gibson-Brown. He also advised that he had arranged to

view an accounts package which had been specially designed for Town and Parish Councils and had been approved by the National Association of Local Councils.

C880 Committee Minutes and Reports

(a) Planning Committee – 16 August 2018

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 16 August 2018. The Clerk noted that the two previous Planning Committee meetings had been held on the Thursday prior to the Town Council's monthly meeting and, as this arrangement had assisted the office in organising its workload, he suggested that Planning Committee meetings continue to be held on a Thursday evening, subject to the agreement of members of the Planning Committee.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C881 Burial Board

There were no memorial applications to consider.

C882 Correspondence/Items Raised

C882(a) Credit where credit is due

The meeting received an email dated 22 August 2018 from Hambleton District Council which attached an email from a visitor to Thirsk who had written to say that he had been very impressed with the shops, the cleanliness, the flowers and the yarnbombing displays.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C882(b) Road Closure – Finkle Street, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 3 September 2018 from North Yorkshire County Council advising that Finkle Street was due to be closed for two days between 19 and 20 September 2018.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C882(c) Driving Economic Vitality, Including Markets

The meeting received an email dated 6 September 2018 from Hambleton District Council concerning a review to examine how successful the Council was in "Driving economic vitality, including markets." Discussion took place and Town Councillors made a number of suggestions such as introducing different types of markets, reducing charges for stall holders and providing incentives to new traders.

Resolved: that the Clerk completes the questionnaire in accordance with the observations made by Town Councillors.

C882(d) Citizens Advice Mid-North Yorkshire Annual Report 2017-2018

The meeting received an email dated 6 September 2018 from Citizens Advice Mid-North Yorkshire which contained a request that the Town Council consider making a donation towards their running costs.

Resolved: that the Town Council makes a donation of £200 to Citizens Advice Mid-North Yorkshire.

C882(e) Road Closure – Masonic Lane, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 6 September 2018 from North Yorkshire County Council advising that Masonic Lane, Thirsk would be closed for a period of five days between 24 and 28 September 2018.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C882(f) Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting

A letter dated 6 September 2018 was received from Hambleton District Council which confirmed that the next Hambleton Parish Liaison meeting was due to take

place on Thursday, 22 November 2018 at the Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton. The Clerk noted that Cllrs Jackson and Trueman normally attended Parish Liaison Meetings.

Resolved: that Members who wish to attend the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting on Thursday, 22 November 2018 contact the Clerk.

C882(g) National Association of Local Councils Chief Executive's Bulletin

The meeting received an email dated 7 September 2018 from the National Association of Local Councils which contained various information.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C882(h) Police & Crime Commissioner Community Mapping in Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 7 September 2018 from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire concerning a proposal to arrange a meeting with representatives of the Town Council to discuss a number of topics including the crime concerns of residents and improving the engagement of the Police & Crime Commissioner with the Town Council.

Resolved: that the Community Mapping Project Officer be invited to attend a Town Council meeting to discuss the issues raised in his email dated 7 September 2018.

C882(i) Carriageway Resurfacing, Signing, Bridge Works – Blakey Lane, Sowerby

An email dated 13 September 2018 was received from North Yorkshire County Council advising of carriageway resurfacing, signing and bridge works scheduled to take place at Blakey Lane, Sowerby for a period of four weeks commencing 3 October 2018.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C883 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 17 September 2018 be approved and cheques signed.

C884 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Duffey reported that he had attended a recent meeting of Thirsk Rotary in Bloom and that Rotary was looking to undertake some works next year which included replacing some of the flower tubs/containers and improving the appearance of Bakers Alley. However, he was aware of the mess created by the pigeons in Bakers Alley and stated that this would need to be resolved prior to any works commencing. The Clerk advised that he had sent a reminder email to the owners of the former NatWest Bank premises who had previously indicated they would carry out works which would hopefully improve the situation with the pigeons and, in addition, Hambleton District Council had agreed to power wash the alley on a more frequent basis. Cllr Duffey indicated that Rotary also hoped to undertake additional work on Ingramgate.

Cllr Duffey advised that he and Cllr Dalgleish Brown had received a number of suggestions vis-à-vis the money donated by Shine Television following the filming of the television series. Cllr Dalgleish-Brown added that proposals which had been put forward included the provision of leisure activities/equipment for the disabled and the elderly and she requested that if anyone had further suggestions these should be passed on to herself or Cllr Duffey. It was also proposed that monies should be allocated to the high school towards the provision of the segregation unit planned. The Clerk advised that requests for funding from the money donated by Shine

Television should be brought to a Town Council meeting for consideration and approval.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that she was in the process of submitting a funding application for East Thirsk Community Hall which, if successful, would provide free sporting activities and a lunch for children in the school holidays.

Cllr Gibson-Brown advised that the Town Hall and Rural Arts had lost revenue recently as she understood that Thirsk Community Library had provided a room to some organisations free of charge. Cllr Ward stated that, so far as she was aware, all organisations were charged for room hire but that she would raise the concern with the library's management committee.

Cllr Dagleish-Brown reported that she had attended a welcome service at Thirsk Methodist Church for the new Minister, Reverend Denise Williamson, on 30 August 2018. She had also attended the Hambleton Business Awards hosted by Hambleton District Council on 11 September 2018 and the opening of a new suite for racehorse owners and trainers at Thirsk Racecourse.

C885 On-Going items

Nothing reported.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.