

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 16 December 2019 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall**

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

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

### **C1051 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **C1052 Police Report**

PCSO Warby attended the meeting and circulated copies of the crime report for November. He advised that the neighbourhood police team was running a “Be safe be seen” campaign during the winter months and that funding had been obtained to enable lights to be fitted on children’s bikes free of charge. The report also contained information concerning an online counter terrorism training course which was available for members of the public to complete on the North Yorkshire Police website.

### **C1053 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk**

#### **(a) NYCC**

Cllr Dadd noted that emergency works carried out by the National Power Grid had caused serious traffic congestion in the Market Place recently. He advised that North Yorkshire County Council was unable to intervene when utility companies required works to be carried out as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Dadd noted that North Yorkshire was falling behind other areas with regards to devolution. He indicated that NYCC was supportive of a York city region deal which it was expected would bring in additional funding for infrastructure.

#### **(b) HDC**

Cllr Elders reported that Hambleton District Council was proposing to hold a total of 12 farmers markets in Thirsk during 2020. The intention was that the markets would follow the same format as those held in 2019 and would be held on the first Sunday of every month.

Cllr Elders indicated that a further seminar in respect of the proposed crematorium would take place in January 2020, following which the proposal was expected to go before HDC’s Full Council in April with construction hopefully commencing by the end of 2020.

Cllr Elders reported that HDC’s car parks would be free of charge on Thursdays up to Christmas, but he pointed out that the maximum two hours’ time restriction would still apply.

Cllr Elders advised that he had attended a hearing in connection with HDC’s refusal to grant planning permission for a proposed development on land adjacent to Shire Road (off Stockton Road). A decision was still awaited.

Cllr Duffey observed that there was a gas cylinder in one of the doorways of the Uno Momento restaurant (formerly Aspire). Cllr Elders advised that he would make enquiries at Hambleton District Council and update the Town Council as to the outcome.

Cllr Trueman thanked Cllr Elders for seeking clarification in respect of parking restrictions for the disabled parking bays. Cllr Elders advised that HDC’s policy was

that there was no time limit for parking in the disabled bays and that this policy would be reconsidered in connection with works to realign the parking bays in the Market Place.

#### **C1054 Open Forum**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

#### **C1055 Minutes**

##### **C1055(a) Town Council Meeting held on 18 November 2019**

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 November 2019 be approved as a correct record, subject to the resolution in Minute No 1046 being amended to read, "Resolved: that Mrs Kate Mountford be co-opted onto the Town Council".**

##### **C1055(b) Matters Arising**

C1045(b) VE Day 75 – 8 May 2020

Following a query by Cllr Duffey, the Clerk indicated that he would contact Mr C Northridge within the next few days as well as St Mary's Church and Thirsk Yarnbombers.

#### **C1056 Committee Minutes and Reports**

##### **C1056(a) Planning Committee – 18 November 2019**

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 18 November 2019.

**Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.**

#### **C1057 Burial Board**

Cllr Adamson reported that new tenants would be moving into Cemetery Lodge in the very near future. He also advised that a part-time amenity worker would be commencing employment for the Town Council in February 2020 and that the duties, would include, amongst other things, looking after the cemetery.

**Resolved: that the application for memorial for Winifred Stuart be approved.**

#### **C1058 Correspondence/Items Raised**

##### **C1058(a) Warm Up Hambleton – Free Energy Efficiency Measures**

The meeting received an email and attachments dated 18 November 2019 from Hambleton District Council concerning an energy efficiency scheme to help residents access funding to install energy efficiency measures which could save money on fuel bills.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

##### **C1058(b) Street Naming and Numbering Legislation – Certificate of Registration for New Property/Address**

The meeting received a certificate dated 20 November 2019 from Hambleton District Council which confirmed the registration and formal postal address of a property to be No. 10 Stammergeate, Thirsk.

**Resolved: that the certificate be noted.**

##### **C1058(c) NALC Legal Topic Note 22: Disciplinary and Grievance Arrangements – Updates and Revised Templates**

The meeting received an email dated 22 November 2019 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning updates to NALC's disciplinary and grievance

procedures. The Clerk advised that the updates would be incorporated into procedures which were already in place.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

**C1058(d) Thirsk Friends of the Earth – Litter Picks**

The meeting received an email and attachments dated 26 November 2019 from Thirsk Friends of the Earth concerning a series of litter picks which were being planned to take place in 2020.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

**C1058(e) 1<sup>st</sup> Thirsk Scout Group – Refurbishment of Scout Hall**

The meeting received a letter from 1<sup>st</sup> Thirsk Scout Group thanking the Town Council for the donation which had been provided to help finance the refurbishment of the scout hall and grounds.

**Resolved: that the letter be noted.**

**C1058(f) National Association of Local Councils – Chief Executive’s Bulletin**

The meeting received an email dated 10 December 2019 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations which attached the latest bulletin from the Chief Executive of the National Association of Local Councils.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

**C1058(g) Home Office Consultation: Strengthening Police Powers to Tackle Unauthorised Encampments**

The meeting received an email dated 10 December 2019 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning a Home Office consultation regarding strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments. The Clerk suggested that the Town Council submit a collective response and Members agreed that this should be in line with the stance taken by the National Association of Local Councils.

**Resolved: that the Town Council submits a collective response to the Home Office consultation in line with the stance taken by the National Association of Local Councils.**

**C1058(h) Office Opening Hours – Christmas/New Year**

The Clerk advised that the Town Council’s office opening hours over the Christmas and New Year holidays were normally in line with those of Hambleton District Council. This would mean that the office would close on Christmas Eve and re-open on Thursday, 2 January 2020. Cllr Duffey requested that emergency contact numbers be provided in case of any urgent matters arising over the holiday period.

**Resolved: that the Town Council office will close on Christmas Eve and re-open on Thursday, 2 January 2020.**

**C1059 Finance**

**Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 16 December 2019 be approved and cheques signed.**

**C1060 Reports from Members/Representatives**

Cllr Adamson reported that members and trustees of the Community Care Association had now formally agreed to an amalgamation with The Clock and papers had been submitted to the Charity Commission.

Cllr Hunter Bell advised that she had recently become aware of a Santa’s Grotto at The Clock and that she had found it difficult to find much information about the event. Cllr Jackson indicated that the Santa’s Grotto was a new venture for The Clock and that it had been publicised on social media.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that a free Christmas meal had been provided for approximately 90 older residents at East Thirsk Community Hall on Saturday, 7 December 2019. She thanked everyone who had donated raffle prizes and food for the event.

Cllr Duffey reported that he had been involved in judging the Best Dressed Christmas Window competition which many shops had participated in. He stated that the window displays had been fantastic and had been publicised on the Town Council's Facebook page.

Cllr Duffey advised that he Cllr Jackson and the Clerk had attended a meeting with representatives from various youth services of North Yorkshire County Council, the police and the church to consider the provision of services for young people in Thirsk. He advised that there was currently a lack of services for teenagers and suggested that the Town Council consider providing funding to help improve the position. It was anticipated that there would be input from a variety of organisations and Cllr Gibson-Brown indicated that she had become involved with the YouthBus project. Cllr Duffey advised that volunteers would be needed and requested that anyone interested in becoming involved to let him know.

### **C1061 On-Going Items**

Nothing reported.

**The meeting closed at 7.58 pm.**