

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 18 April 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), J Bell, H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, J Fisher, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, F Roberts

Apologies: Cllr: S Greenslade (Alternative Commitment), J Watson (Holiday)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C534 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C535 Police Report

No police representative was present.

C536 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Nothing noted.

(b) HDC

Cllr Dadd indicated that there appeared to be some confusion amongst members of the public concerning allocations of land for potential development following on from the Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation document. He advised that no land had been allocated at present and that various stages in the process were being undertaken before final options were submitted. He reiterated that there would be further opportunities for the public to comment in due course.

Cllr Roberts noted that there were a number of loose cobbles in the Market Place and she requested that repairs be carried out on a regular basis rather than waiting for many years and then having to undergo a costly refurbishment project. Cllr Adamson noted that some work to mark out parking spaces had not been completed following the relaying of the cobbles in 2013/2014.

C537 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C538 Minutes

C538(a) Town Council Meeting held on 21 March 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 March 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C538(b) Matters Arising

C525(a) Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

The Clerk reported that a litter pick on a section of the roadside verge adjacent to the A19 York Road had been carried out by Cllr Dadd together with young people from The Clock.

C507(c) Flooding Update

The Clerk reported that he and Mrs M Penson, Flood Warden, had met Mr Kevin Hollinrake, MP for Thirsk and Malton, on Wednesday, 6 April 2016 to consider issues of flooding and erosion of the river bank in the Riverside Mews/Mill Gardens area. He indicated that the river banks were eroding quite severely and that following the meeting Mr Hollinrake had requested a meeting with representatives of the Environment Agency.

C525(a) Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

The Clerk reported that a public meeting to discuss the future of the Lambert Hospital at Thirsk School and Sixth Form College on Tuesday, 22 March 2016 had been very well attended. Cllr Adamson noted that the Clinical Commissioning Group had arranged a number of drop-in sessions in the area and he urged members of the public to attend these events in order to receive information and to share their views on community health services.

C518(g) Thirsk Entrance Sign

The Clerk advised that a new "Welcome to Thirsk" sign had been fitted at the York Road entrance to Thirsk.

C530(e) Litter and Dog Fouling

The Clerk reported that the Town Council had received requests from residents for additional litter bins to be located on Stockton Road and Long Street. He advised that any new bins would have to be purchased by the Town Council and that these would then be serviced by Hambleton District Council. Cllr Hesmondhalgh felt that a bin for dog waste was also needed. It was agreed that the matter would be considered at the next meeting of the Open Areas and Greens Committee.

C539 Committee Minutes and Reports

C539(a) Planning Committee held on 21 March 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 21 March 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C539(b) Central Areas Committee held on 10 March 2016

The Clerk circulated the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 10 March 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C540 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Ruby Allenby and John Henry Merritt be approved.

C541 Correspondence/Items Raised

C541(a) Hambleton District Council Business Awards 2016

The meeting received a letter dated 21 March 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning the launch of its Business Awards for 2016. The letter requested that the information be circulated to all Town Councillors so that nominations could be submitted for individuals and/or businesses.

Resolved: that Councillors submit any appropriate nominations.

C541(b) Speed Complaint – Main Road, Thirsk (Barbeck)

The meeting received a letter from 95 Alive (The York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership) in response to a speeding complaint which had been reported by the Town Council following a complaint from residents. The letter indicated that the speed and accident data which had been obtained showed that the average speed of vehicles on the road was within the 30mph speed limit and that no further action would be taken.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C541(c) Area 2 Patching and Minor Kerbing/Drainage Works Programme 2016-2017 – Various Locations within Hambleton

The meeting received a letter dated 24 March 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council advising of a programme of carriageway patching and minor kerbing/drainage works at various locations within Hambleton. The Clerk advised that the letter was for information only as Thirsk was not affected by any of the proposed works.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C541(d) Call for Sites – Invitation to Town & Parish Council Event

The meeting received an email dated 5 April 2016 from Hambleton District Council advising of a meeting which was scheduled to take place at Rural Arts on Tuesday, 10 May 2016 as part of the site assessment process and preparation for the new Local Plan. Cllr Roberts indicated that the Town Council's Planning Committee would be represented at the meeting.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C541(e) Urban Grass Cutting Payments 2016/2017

The meeting received a letter dated 7 April 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council confirming the County Council's payment for urban highway grass cutting for 2016/2017.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C541(f) Planned Road Closure Notification 8420 A170 Sutton Bank

The meeting received an email dated 8 April 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council advising of the closure of Sutton Bank for one day on Tuesday, 19 April 2016 for essential maintenance works to be carried out prior to the Tour de Yorkshire.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C541(g) Proposed Changes to the Financial Regulations

Cllr Adamson advised that paragraphs 1.6, 6.4 and 11.1(c) of the Financial Regulations needed to be amended in accordance with the recommendation from the National Association of Local Councils.

Resolved: that paragraphs 1.6, 6.4 and 11.1(c) of the Town Council's Financial Regulations be amended as recommended by the National Association of Local Councils.

C541(h) Cllr S.Greenslade

The Clerk advised that Cllr Greenslade had indicated her intention to resign as a Town Councillor due to relocation and that he was awaiting a formal letter of resignation before going through the necessary procedures

Resolved: that the report be noted

C542 Councillor Vacancy

The meeting considered letters received from two individuals in respect of the Town Councillor vacancy and a paper vote took place.

Resolved: that Ms Wendy Gibson-Brown be co-opted as Town Councillor.

C543 Finance

Resolved:

(a) that the accounts for payment as at 18 April 2016 be approved and cheques signed;

(b) that the Balance Sheet for March 2016 be received and approved.

C544 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts noted that the income from the donation boxes at the Millgate public conveniences had increased over recent weeks. She commented on the flower displays in the ladies' toilets and suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to the stall holder who donated the flowers on a regular basis.

Cllr Duffey reported that he had attended a meeting at Tesco to which a number of charities and community groups had been invited. Tesco had announced that they were looking to assist with projects in the community and had offered to help the residents of Long Street with planting and maintaining the flower boxes. There was also a limited amount of funding to be made available. Cllr Duffey advised that Tesco had indicated that they would be happy to address the Town Council at a future meeting and it was agreed that they should be invited to do so.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that a meeting of the Long Street residents group had been held on 12 April 2016 and that they planned to clear the winter bedding plants on the weekend of 18/19 June and to plant the summer planting the following weekend. She advised that the plants were again being donated by Earley Ornamentals and that Thirsk Garden Centre had made a donation to assist with the purchase of compost and other essentials.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had attended the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting on 31 March 2016 which he had found to be interesting and worthwhile.

C545 On-Going Items

(a) Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust – Appointment of Trustee

The Clerk advised that a copy of the rules and regulations applicable to the Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust had been provided by Cllr Roberts and that he and Cllr Jackson were to examine these in the near future.

The meeting closed at 7.53 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 16 May 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), J Bell, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, F Roberts, J Watson

Apologies: Cllr: H Dalgleish-Brown (Holiday)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C546 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Jackson declared an interest in Item 13, Thirsk Rotary Club, Part II (Confidential Items), and took no part in the discussion.

C547 Police Report

Cllr Adamson advised that he had received a message from PCSO Laws indicating that she was unable to attend the Town Council meeting as she had been required to deal with an incident in Stokesley.

C548 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that the planning application in relation to fracking for shale gas in the Kirby Misperton area was due to be heard on Friday, 20 May 2016 and that a decision was expected to be announced the following Monday. He noted that there was likely to be significant public interest and that groups of protestors were expected to attend.

Cllr Dadd reported that NYCC had recently participated in a peer review along with other councils across the country and had been deemed "very good" with "areas of excellence".

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson reported that the process of evaluating sites which had been put forward as part of the preparations for the new Local Plan was about to commence and that a report would be presented to Cabinet later in the year.

Cllr Watson reported that Cllr John Noone had taken over as Chairman of HDC with Cllr David Hugill as Vice Chairman following the recent death of Cllr Tony Hall.

Cllr Watson reported that she had continued to chase up the issue of the former Aspire premises and the derelict properties on Long Street and that some progress was being made.

Cllr Fisher noted that HDC had re-positioned the bollards at the rear of Thirsk Tourist Information which had enabled the area to be used as a parking space. The Clerk advised that there had previously been discussion with HDC concerning the location of the bollards and that the re-positioning was where the bollards had originally been intended to be placed. Cllr Watson stated that she would examine the matter.

C549 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mrs M Penson attended the meeting accompanied by Ms Linda Henderson. Mrs Penson reported that Mr Kevin Hollinrake, MP, had visited the Riverside Mews/Mill Gardens area and had requested a meeting with representatives of the Environment Agency.

Ms Henderson was concerned about the temporary closure of the Lambert Hospital and questioned whether the building could continue to be used as some type of

medical or community facility. Cllr Watson advised that the Lambert Hospital Action Group had met with representatives of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and that a number of options were currently being considered.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C550 Minutes

C550(a) Town Council Meeting held on 18 April 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C550(b) Matters Arising

C541(h) Cllr S Greenslade

The Clerk read out a letter of resignation which he had received from Cllr Greenslade and advised that the formal procedures would be followed to enable a new Town Councillor to be appointed.

C545 On-Going Items

(a) Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust – Appointment of Trustee

In response to a query by Cllr Watson, the Clerk advised that he and Cllr Jackson would examine the rules and regulations applicable to the Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust in the near future.

C551 Committee Minutes and Reports

C551(a) Planning Committee held on 18 April 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 18 April 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C551(b) Central Areas Committee held on 21 April 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 21 April 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C551(c) Open Areas & Greens Committee Walkabout held on 3 May 2016

The meeting received the Notes of a walkabout carried out by the Open Areas & Greens Committee on 3 May 2016.

Resolved: that the Notes be received and noted.

C552 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Margaret Ann Robson, Dorothy Ryall and Lionel Twiss be approved.

C553 Correspondence/Items Raised

C553(a) Office Lease

The meeting received an email dated 18 April 2016 from Mrs S Gifford concerning the office lease agreement which was due to expire in September 2016. Discussion took place as to the suitability of the office premises and it was agreed that details of the proposed rental charges needed to be obtained before any decision could be made. It was also felt that any new lease agreement should be for a shorter duration than the existing five year agreement subject to the rental charges offered.

Resolved: that Mrs Gifford be requested to provide details of proposed rental charges applicable to a new lease agreement.

C553(b) The Clock

The meeting received a letter of thanks dated 26 April 2016 from The Clock thanking the Town Council for its donation.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C553(c) Tour de Yorkshire

The meeting received a letter dated 3 May 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning the Tour de Yorkshire and thanking Cllr Duffey for the work he had carried out with regard to planning and co-ordinating the event. Cllr Duffey advised that he had sent letters of thanks to Thirsk Yarnbombers and to the British Legion band. Cllr Roberts suggested that a letter should also be sent to Thirsk Rotary Club to thank them for the assistance they had provided.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C553(d) Proposed Introduction of Waiting Restrictions – Todds Court/St James Green

The meeting received a letter dated 9 May 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning the proposed introduction of waiting restrictions on Todds Court and St James Green, Thirsk. The Clerk noted that a previous alteration to parking restrictions on Todds Court had led to an increase in the number of vehicles parking on St James Green.

Resolved: that the Town Council has no comments/objections concerning the proposed introduction of waiting restrictions on Todds Court/St James Green.

C553(e) Volunteers – North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

The meeting received an email dated 10 May 2016 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning a volunteer opportunity for people from North Yorkshire or York to join the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C553(f) Premises Licence Application – The Pamper Lounge

The meeting received an email dated 11 May 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning a Premises Licence Application for The Pamper Lounge, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the Town Council has no comments/objections concerning the Premises Licence Application for The Pamper Lounge.

C553(g) Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2016

The meeting received a letter dated 14 March 2016 from PKF Littlejohn concerning the Town Council's Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2016. The Clerk advised of a change in the regulations which meant that a committee needed to be appointed to consider and review the effectiveness of the system of internal control within the Town Council prior to the Annual Return being approved at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Resolved:

(a) that a committee comprising Cllrs Adamson, Duffey, Hesmondhalgh and Jackson be appointed to consider and review the effectiveness of the system of internal control within the Town Council;

(b) that an extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council be held on Monday, 27 June 2016 to consider the Annual return for 2015/16.

C554 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 16 May 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C555 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that a grant had been received from The Health Lottery which would enable the parent and toddler group at East Thirsk Community Hall to continue operating for a further two years.

Cllr Duffey reported that Tesco had provided first aiders free of charge for the Tour de Yorkshire and were looking for further opportunities to engage with community projects. It was suggested that they may be able to assist with cutting back vegetation alongside one of the footpaths in East Thirsk and the Clerk agreed that this request could be passed to Tesco for consideration.

Cllr Bell reported that he and Cllr Roberts had attended a meeting on 10 May 2016 concerning Hambleton District Council's site assessment process with regard to preparation of the new Local Plan.

C556 On-Going Items

(a) 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 8.30 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 20 June 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, F Roberts, J Watson

Apologies: Cllr: J Bell (Work commitments)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C558 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C559 Police Report

PCSO Laws reported the crime figures for May and June 2016, which included offences of theft, antisocial behaviour/nuisance and two house burglaries.

Cllr Gibson-Brown expressed concern about “boy racers” causing a nuisance in the Market Place apparently doing circuits of the town. PCSO Laws advised of steps taken by the police to deal with the issue.

Following a query concerning the recent visit to Millgate car park by members of the travelling community, PCSO Laws stated that the majority of concerns raised had been of an environmental nature and that contravention of parking/camping restrictions was a matter for the District Council.

Cllr Roberts highlighted the dangers caused by cyclists using Stockton Road, particularly during busy times, rather than using the cycle track which ran alongside the main road. She requested that her comments be passed on.

C560 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd noted the high level of public interest following the decision to allow the fracking application in the Kirby Misperton area and stressed that the decision was solely in respect of the Kirby Misperton site and not an indication of a pro-fracking policy by NYCC.

(b) HDC

Cllr Dadd highlighted the fact that the cost of providing refuse bins in new housing developments was the responsibility of the developer and not HDC.

Cllr Watson reported that HDC was considering charging householders for collections of green waste in order to help meet savings targets. She indicated that further details were expected to be announced in the autumn.

Cllr Watson reported that HDC would soon be relaunching its Making a Difference awards scheme for a second year and that local groups were invited to apply for funding for projects which would benefit the community.

C561 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mr David Tucker attended the meeting to raise two matters.

(i) Lambert Memorial Hospital

Mr Tucker advised that a written submission concerning the future of the Lambert Hospital had been prepared by the Lambert Hospital Action Group which it was intended to send to the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical

Commissioning Group. Cllr Watson noted that the CCG were due to release a report

in the near future when further details would become available. Town Councillors thanked Mr Tucker and the Action Group for the work undertaken to date.

Resolved: that the Town Council endorse the submission to the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group prepared by the Lambert Hospital Action Group

(ii) Magna Carta

Mr Tucker advised that he had received copies of a book from the Magna Carta Barons Association which it had been suggested could be either given as gifts or sold. Mr Tucker noted that Thirsk had no visible reference to the Magna Carta and suggested that the Town Council may wish to consider having some form of memorial. Discussion took place and it was suggested that if the book was sold the proceeds could be used to offset the cost of purchasing a commemorative plaque.

Resolved:

(i) that Thirsk Tourist Information be requested to sell copies of the Magna Carta book on behalf of the Town Council at a price of five pounds with proceeds split on a 50/50 basis;

(ii) that quotations be obtained for the supply of a commemorative plaque reflecting the role of Magna Carta.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C562 Minutes

C562(a) Town Council Meeting held on 16 May 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 May 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C562(b) Matters Arising

C549 Open Forum

The Clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged for Mr Kevin Hollinrake, MP, to meet with representatives of the Environment Agency and Mrs M Penson, Flood Warden, to consider issues of flooding and soil erosion in the Riverside Mews/Mill Gardens area. The Clerk advised that he would also attend the meeting and report back to the Town Council.

C550(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk advised that a notice from Hambleton District Council was currently on display in the Town Council notice board advertising the Councillor vacancy following the resignation of Cllr S Greenslade.

C553(a) Office Lease

The Clerk advised that details of proposed new rental charges in respect of the office lease had been received and that the matter would be considered at the next meeting of the Personnel/Office Committee.

C553(g) Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2016

The Clerk advised that an Extraordinary Meeting to consider the Annual Return for 2015/2016 had been arranged for Monday, 27 June 2016. Cllr Adamson confirmed that the Review Committee, which had met on Wednesday, 15 June 2016, had been satisfied that the system of internal control within the Town Council was effective and adequate.

C563 Committee Minutes and Reports

C563(a) Planning Committee held on 16 May 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 May 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C564 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for John and Yvonne Burnley and Choi Cheng be approved.

C565 Correspondence/Items Raised

C565(a) 2016 - 2018 National Salary Award

The meeting received an email dated 20 May 2016 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations advising that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had reached agreement on a 1% cost of living increase for local council/parish meeting employees with effect from 1 April 2016 with an additional cost of living increase to take effect from 1 April 2017.

Resolved: that the national salary award be accepted.

C565(b) Tesco Bags of Help Scheme

The meeting received an email dated 25 May 2016 from Tesco Thirsk concerning the Bags of Help grant scheme funded by the government's 5p bag charge. Councillors noted that the closing date for applications was 3 June 2016 but that the Town Council would be eligible to apply if further bids for funding were sought on a future occasion.

Resolved: that the email be noted

C565(c) Armed Forces Day – Fly the Flag

The meeting received an email dated 26 May 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council attaching a letter from the Ministry of Defence concerning the eighth National Armed Forces Day on Saturday, 25 June 2016.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C565(d) National Association of Local Councils – Strategic Plan Delivery 2016/2017

The meeting received an email dated 31 May 2016 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning the aims and objectives of NALC's strategic plan for 2016/2017.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C565(e) Street Naming and Numbering – New Properties, Ingramgate, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 9 June 2016 from Hambleton District Council confirming the formal postal address of the above properties as numbers 1 – 15 Williams Court, Ingramgate, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C565(f) Hambleton Community Action Launch Party - 15 July 2016

The meeting received an email dated 13 June 2016 concerning a celebratory lunch to be held on Friday, 15 July 2016 to launch Hambleton Community Action (formerly Northallerton & District Voluntary Service Association).

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C565(g) Street Collection Permits

The meeting received emails dated 13 June and 15 June 2016 from the Licensing Team at Hambleton District Council advising that street collection permits had been issued for the Rotary Club of Thirsk, the Youth Cancer Trust and Soldiers off the Street.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C565(h) Castle Garth - Regia Angolorum

The Clerk circulated an email dated 11 June 2016 from Mr Dean Thompson requesting that he and his son be permitted to use Castle Garth for the purposes of

training to take part in shows and displays organised by a historical re-enactment society called Regia Angolorum. Following discussion, Councillors considered that further information was needed before making a decision.

Resolved: that Mr Thompson be invited to attend a meeting of the Town Council to provide further details concerning his request to use Castle Garth for training purposes.

C566 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 20 June 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C567 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that the winter/spring bedding in the wooden boxes on Long Street had been cleared slightly earlier than expected due to a fungal infection. She advised that the summer planting was scheduled to commence on Thursday, 23 June with the work being completed the following weekend.

Cllr Fisher reported that a group of people from Thirsk were due to travel to Kings Cross Station, London on Wednesday, 22 June 2016 to participate in a ceremony where one of Grand Central's locomotives would be named after James Herriot and an exhibition promoting Thirsk and Herriot Country would be held on the station concourse.

Cllr Watson reported that she had received a poster giving advice about feeding ducks but she was unsure as to whether the wording was appropriate. Cllr Gibson-Brown agreed that any notice needed to be informative and user-friendly.

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that she had contacted Hambleton District Council and Scarborough Borough Council concerning abandoned vehicles in the Rymer Way and Riverside Mews areas and that she was continuing to pursue the matter.

Cllr Adamson reported that he had visited Hambleton Grange Care Home on Friday, 17 June as part of the National Care Home Open Day and that he had assisted in planting a rosebush to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday.

C568 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.26 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 18 July 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), J Bell, H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, J Watson

Apologies: Cllrs: J Fisher (Illness), F Roberts (personal)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C569 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C570 Police Report

PCSO Laws reported the latest crime figures which included offences of theft, antisocial behaviour/nuisance and one dwelling house burglary. Cllr Watson raised the issue of heavy goods vehicles travelling through the Market Place and it was confirmed that the registration numbers should be passed on to the police.

C571 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group had commenced its formal public consultation in respect of local community health services including the future of the Lambert Memorial Hospital. He indicated that he would be seeking greater clarity on the CCG's preferred option and an assurance that GPs would respond to the questionnaire on an individual basis.

Cllr Dadd reported that he had been part of a group of people from Thirsk who had travelled to Kings Cross Station, London on Wednesday, 22 June 2016 to participate in a ceremony where one of Grand Central's locomotives had been rededicated to James Herriot and an exhibition had been held on the station concourse promoting Thirsk and Herriot Country.

(b) HDC

Nothing noted.

C572 Open Forum - Regia Angolorum, Historical Re-Enactment Society

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mr and Mrs Dean Thompson attended the meeting to provide further details following a request to use Castle Garth for the purposes of training to take part in shows and displays organised by Regia Angolorum. Members noted that Castle Garth was a scheduled ancient monument and discussion took place about the suitability of alternative locations. Mr Thompson circulated his insurance documentation and advised that he would normally section off an area for training with either stakes or cones.

Resolved: that Mr Thompson be permitted to use Castle Garth for the purposes of training with the proviso that stakes are not used.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C573 Minutes

C573 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 June 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 June 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C573(b) Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 27 June 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 27 June 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C573(c) Matters Arising

C561 Open Forum

Following a query by Cllr Watson, the Assistant Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to Thirsk Tourist Information concerning the sale of Magna Carta books and that a response was awaited.

C562(b) Matters Arising

The Assistant Clerk reported that Mr Kevin Hollinrake, MP, had met with Mr Mark Lillie from the Environment Agency and Mrs M. Penson, Flood Warden, on Friday, 15 July 2016 to consider issues of flooding and soil erosion in the Mill Gardens/Riverside Mews area. A report was circulated which summarised the key aspects of the meeting. Cllr Gibson-Brown noted that there was a build-up of silt and debris in the river close to the Finkle Street Bridge and that the Environment Agency did not consider dredging to be cost effective.

C567 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that an abandoned car continued to be parked on Riverside Mews and that traffic wardens were ticketing the vehicle on a daily basis. She advised that Scarborough Borough Council had indicated that there needed to be a build-up of unpaid fines before further action could be taken.

Cllr Gibson-Brown circulated a copy of a draft notice which gave information about feeding ducks. She indicated that she would laminate some copies, if this was thought to be appropriate.

C574 Committee Minutes and Reports

C574(a) Planning Committee held on 20 June 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 20 June 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C574(b) Central Areas Committee held on 23 June 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 23 June 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C574(c) Open Areas and Greens Committee held on 4 July 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Open Areas and Greens Committee held on 4 July 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C575 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Hazel Bardon, Douglas Bowes, Mary Brown and Peter Reginald Scott be approved.

C576 Correspondence/Items Raised

C576(a) Area 2 Footway Slurry Sealing

The meeting received an email dated 24 June 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council attaching a programme for various footway slurry sealing sites.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C576(b) Moorsbus Services 2016

The meeting received an email dated 27 June 2016 from Friends of Moorsbus giving details of the Sunday summer service for 2016.

Resolved: that the email be noted

C576(c) Planned Road Closure – Finkle Street, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 6 July 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council advising of a planned road closure in Finkle Street, Thirsk between 19.00 hours and 23.59 hours on 30 August 2016.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C576(d) Royal Mail Delivery Office, Thirsk Industrial Estate

The meeting considered a complaint which had been made by a member of the public concerning the change in car parking arrangements at the Royal Mail Delivery Office on Thirsk Industrial Estate.

Resolved: that the complaint be noted.

C577 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 18 July 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C578 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Duffey advised that he had chaired a meeting with representatives from the Rotary Club, Thirsk Town Council and Sowerby Parish Council following a proposal to resurrect the Thirsk Festival event for summer 2017. He indicated that the group was currently seeking sponsorship/funding and requested that anyone who wished to assist should contact him.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that the Parents, Babies and Toddler Group at East Thirsk Community Hall had received funding of £44,000 from the People's Health Trust enabling the group to continue running for a further two years.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh noted that the summer planting in the flower boxes and beds on Long Street was looking good.

Cllr Dalgleish-Brown reported that funding was in place to put up a radio mast which would allow businesses (particularly retail and pubs) to communicate via walkie-talkies in order to monitor the whereabouts of suspicious people and help prevent crime.

Cllr Dalgleish-Brown reported that planning was well underway for the Christmas Fayre and Christmas lights switch-on.

Cllr Adamson reported that he had recently met one of the Long Street community gardeners who had been busy weeding the flower boxes and he had taken the opportunity to thank him for his hard work on behalf of the Town Council.

Cllr Watson reported that the Personnel and Office Committee had met on 8 July 2016 and had agreed that a procurement card be obtained to enable the Clerk and Assistant Clerk to make purchases on behalf of the Town Council to an agreed limit.. She advised that she had received the relevant forms from Barclays Bank and these needed to be signed by two bank signatories. All receipts for purchases made with the card would be approved at Town Council meetings and the account settled by direct debit.

C579 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 15 August 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, F Roberts, J Watson

Apologies: Cllrs: J Bell (Work commitments), D Jackson (Holiday)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C580 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C581 Police Report

No police representative was in attendance.

C582 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that repairs had been carried out to a large pothole in the Market Place which had been caused by a burst water main. However, the dip had re-occurred and it was believed a further substantial repair may be necessary.

Cllr Dadd reported that he had received a response to a letter which the Lambert Hospital Action Group had sent to the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group concerning the future of the Lambert Memorial Hospital, though he had not had opportunity to fully analyse its contents.

Cllr Dadd noted that although NYCC budgets were becoming increasingly tight and requiring careful monitoring there had been an underspend in the first quarter of the current financial year.

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson reported that the Lambert Hospital Action Group had organised a public meeting to be held at Thirsk School on Thursday, 25 August 2016 and she urged people to promote and attend the meeting.

Cllr Watson advised that work had begun in connection with the assessment of sites put forward as part of HDC's Call for Sites consultation and that an initial sift through suggested that a number of proposed sites were unsuitable.

C583 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C584 Minutes

C584 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 18 July 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 July 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C584(b) Matters Arising

C573(c) Matters Arising

The Clerk advised that a response had been received from Thirsk Tourist Information indicating that they were unable to sell the Magna Carta books on behalf of the Town Council as they already had their own supply. A suggestion was made that visitors to St Mary's Church may be interested in purchasing the book and Cllr Roberts indicated that she would make enquiries with the church.

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that an abandoned vehicle on Riverside Mews had been removed.

C585 Committee Minutes and Reports

C585(a) Planning Committee held on 18 July 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 18 July 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C585(b) Personnel & Office Committee held on 8 July 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Personnel & Office Committee held on 8 July 2016. The Clerk confirmed that the office lease had been renewed for a further two years.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C585(c) Public Conveniences Committee held on 8 July 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 8 July 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C586 Burial Board

The Clerk reported that he had contacted a local letting agent with regard to the management of Cemetery Lodge. He advised that an inspection of the property and a rent review would be carried out in the near future.

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Florence Ann Dickinson, Alexander Ferguson McLauchlan and Hannah Wallace be approved.

C587 Correspondence/Items Raised

C587(a) 2017/2018 Area 2 Capital Highway Schemes

The meeting received an email dated 27 July 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council attaching a list of approved Capital Highway Schemes for 2017/2018.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C587(b) CCG Statement on the Recent Media Coverage for the Transforming Our Communities Consultation

The meeting received an email dated 15 July 2016 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group giving details of the proposed options in respect of the Lambert Memorial Hospital, Thirsk and the Rutson Ward at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C587(c) Transforming Our Communities Consultation

The meeting received an email dated 28 July 2016 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group attaching the consultation summary document and questionnaire in respect of the above consultation. Cllr Adamson noted that costs had been incurred by the Lambert Hospital Action Group in connection with the public meeting at Thirsk School and suggested that the costs be covered by Thirsk Town Council and Sowerby Parish Council on a 50/50 basis. Town Councillors urged everyone to make their views known by attending the meeting and/or completing the questionnaire.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C587(d) Magna Carta Heritage Trail

The meeting received a copy email dated 2 August 2016 from Mr D Tucker following a suggestion to create a Yorkshire Magna Carta Heritage Trail. Town Councillors agreed that the matter ought to be investigated. The Clerk suggested deferring the installation of a Magna Carta plaque in the Market Place pending the outcome of investigations into the Heritage Trail suggestion.

Resolved: that the Town Council covers the costs of travel to Pontefract for Mr Tucker to explore the possibility of setting up a Yorkshire Magna Carta Heritage Trail.

C587(e) Temporary Road Closure at Thirsk and Sowerby

The meeting received an email dated 3 August 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning a temporary road closure for the Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday events on Friday, 11 November 2016 and Sunday, 13 November 2016.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C587(f) Footpath/Land between Fairfield and Darrowby Close

The Clerk circulated copies of email correspondence between Cllr G Dadd and a resident concerning a piece of land adjacent to a footpath between Fairfield and Darrowby Close which Cllr Dadd had requested be added to the Town Council's grass cutting schedule. The Clerk advised that the issue had only just been raised and he had not examined the matter. Councillors considered that if they acceded to this request, a precedent would be set for similar requests in future.

Resolved: that the Town Council takes no action in respect of the footpath/land between Fairfield and Darrowby Close.

C588 Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk circulated two letters which had been received in respect of the Town Councillor vacancy and a paper vote took place.

Resolved: that Mr Andrew Trueman be co-opted onto the Town Council

C589 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 15 August 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C590 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that a disturbance had taken place outside the Blacksmiths Arms public house following Thirsk Races on Saturday, 30 July 2016.

The Clerk advised that he had received a report from Cllr Bell of a similar incident on Saturday, 13 August 2016 when a large number of football supporters had been signed into the British Legion. Both instances had involved rowdy behaviour with large numbers of people drinking on the pavements and the disruption on 13 August had been such that the World of James Herriot had been obliged to close for a time. Cllr Duffey advised that such incidents needed to be reported to the authorities in order for premises licences to be monitored and reviewed. Cllr Watson suggested that a letter be written to the police requesting that consideration be given to increasing the number of officers on duty on race days.

Cllr Gibson-Brown circulated copies of a poster giving information about feeding ducks and indicated that she would laminate a number of copies and put these up in Mill Gardens.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that she had attended a number of meetings concerning Thirsk Library. She advised that a chairman and secretary had been appointed, though more volunteers still needed to be recruited. She noted that there was an issue concerning business rates which it was hoped would be resolved in the near future.

Cllr Duffey reported that he had received an email from Kim Ayling, service manager and community champion at Tesco, concerning a meeting due to be held at Tesco

on Thursday, 18 August 2016 in connection with a charity event which was being planned for October. As he was unable to attend the meeting, he enquired if any other Town Councillors wished to take his place.

Cllr Watson noted that the public right of way adjacent to the new development on Ingramgate remained closed and requested that enquiries be made as to when it was expected to re-open.

C591 On-Going Items

(a) Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust – Appointment of Trustee

The Clerk advised that he and Cllr Jackson would seek clarification as to the rules applicable to the Trust in the near future.

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 8.25 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 19 September 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), J Bell, H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, F Roberts, J Watson

Apologies: Cllrs: D Jackson (Holiday), A Trueman (Holiday)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C593 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C594 Police Report

PCSO Laws reported the crime figures for Thirsk for the previous two months. These included a number of offences of nuisance, criminal damage, theft, violence, auto crime and burglary.

Cllr Gibson-Brown noted that boy racers continued to cause a nuisance in the Market Place during the evenings. PCSO Laws advised that the police were aware of the matter and that CCTV monitoring was taking place.

C595 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that a recent review of the North Yorkshire Pension Fund had shown the fund to be adversely affected by a predicted slowdown in investment growth.

Cllr Dadd advised that he was aware of a rumour that Sowerby Household Waste and Recycling Centre was going to close. He stated that this was untrue and the only change he was aware of was that Yorwaste had been awarded the contract to operate the site.

(b) HDC

Cllr Hesmondhalgh requested Cllr Dadd to explain the reasoning behind HDC's decision not to exempt the new community managed library from paying business rates. Cllr Dadd explained that HDC's policy was to discount business rates by 80% for charitable organisations such as the library but not to offer a 100% exemption for reasons of encouraging other businesses as well as cost implications for the Council. He noted what the total cost would be for the additional business rates relief in respect of the libraries in the Hambleton area and considered that the matter should be examined in this particular instance.

Cllr Watson reported that a decision had been made to charge householders £35 per year for collections of green waste commencing in April 2017.

C596 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Cllr Hesmondhalgh introduced Mr Gavin Bannister, one of the Long Street Community Gardeners, who attended the meeting to give an update on the condition of the trees in the wooden boxes on Long Street. Mr Bannister reported that so far seven diseased trees from the 19 boxes had been removed and that a further six trees were diseased, dead or stunted and therefore needed to be removed. He advised that the trees were affecting the quality of the planting in the boxes and requested permission to remove all remaining trees. Town Councillors acceded to the request. The Clerk suggested that residents of Long Street be advised of the

reasons for removing the trees and it was agreed that an explanation could be included in a leaflet which would be distributed to residents prior to the summer planting being removed. Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that a meeting of the Long Street Community Gardeners would be held in the near future. Councillors congratulated Mr Bannister on the success of the summer planting and thanked him for all his hard work.

Resolved: that the Town Council agrees to the remaining trees in the wooden boxes on Long Street being removed.

C597 Minutes

C597(a) Town Council Meeting held on 15 August 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 August 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C597(b) Matters Arising

C587(c) Transforming Our Communities Consultation

The Clerk advised that he had not received an invoice for costs incurred in connection with the public meeting on 25 August 2016 which had been organised by the Lambert Hospital Action Group. Cllr Watson indicated that she would make enquiries.

C587(f) Footpath/Land between Fairfield and Darrowby Close

The Clerk reported that he had examined the footpath and land between Fairfield and Darrowby Close and noted that the Town Council currently cut the grass on one side of the footpath but not the other side, despite both areas being County Council land. He advised that he had arranged for the grass to be cut on a one-off basis and that he considered it was appropriate for the Town Council to cut both sides of the footpath in future. The additional cost would be £15 per cut. Cllr Watson suggested that the Town Council review its grass cutting schedule for the next financial year at the precept meeting.

C590 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Mr S Fisher, HDC Licensing, following two incidents of rowdy behaviour on pavements adjacent to licensed premises. He stated that the licensing department was aware of issues concerning the Blacksmiths Arms but unaware of the incident outside the Royal British Legion/World of James Herriot. The Clerk advised that he had updated Mr Fisher with details of the concerns raised and that he would contact the police to request an increase in the number of officers on duty on race days in future.

The Clerk advised that he had contacted NYCC's Public Rights of Way section concerning the reopening of the public footpath adjacent to the new development in Ingramgate and that a response was awaited.

C598 Committee Minutes and Reports

C598(a) Planning Committee held on 15 August 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15 August 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C599 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that it had been necessary to carry out a number of works at Cemetery Lodge before handing the property over to a tenancy management agent. The work included replacing a number of windows which it was hoped would be

completed quickly. In addition, the stone pillars at the entrance to the cemetery had had to be removed for safety reasons and work to build new pillars was ongoing.
Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Barbel James, Robert Ralph Metcalfe, Rita Penty and Sheila Ward be approved.

C600 Correspondence/Items Raised

C600(a) York Disabled Workers Co-operative

The meeting received a letter dated 15 August 2016 from the York Disabled Workers Co-operative seeking a donation towards its running costs and requesting that the Town Council consider the organisation as a supplier of garden furniture and timber products.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C600(b) Sutton Bank A170 Annual Maintenance

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 19 August 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council advising of the closure of the A170 Sutton Bank for its annual inspection and maintenance works.

Resolved: that the email and attachment be noted.

C600(c) RAF Linton-on-Ouse Notification of Night Flying

The meeting received an email dated 24 August 2016 from RAF Linton-on-Ouse advising of a period of night flying from 5 to 22 September 2016.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C600(d) Magna Carta Plaque

The meeting received an email dated 25 August 2016 from Mr David Tucker attaching a suggested format for a Magna Carta plaque.

Resolved: that a quotation be obtained for the supply of a Magna Carta plaque as per the format suggested by Mr Tucker.

C600(e) Invitation to St Mary's Church

The Clerk reported that an invitation had been received from Mr Michael Armstrong for Town Councillors to view the clock mechanism at St Mary's Church.

Resolved: that Cllrs Adamson, Bell, Gibson-Brown, Roberts and Watson accept the invitation to view the clock mechanism at St Mary's Church.

C600(f) Thirsk Library Business Rates

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that following HDC's decision to charge the community managed library 20% business rates as from April 2017 Sowerby Parish Council had indicated they would cover half the cost on the basis that the Town Council also paid half. Cllr Adamson suggested that a decision be deferred until the Town Council's Finance meeting and that a letter be sent to HDC's Chief Executive requesting that consideration be given to allowing 100% relief on business rates for the library.

Resolved: that the Town Council write to Hambleton District Council's Chief Executive requesting that consideration be given to allowing 100% relief on business rates for the community managed library.

C600(g) Tesco Bags of Help

The Clerk reported that he had received an email dated 9 September 2016 from Mr Paul Varney, Programme Manager, Tesco advising that the Tesco Bags of Help grant scheme was now permanently open to receive applications from community groups and that grants would be awarded to successful applicants each month.

C600(h) Explorer Scout Unit

The Clerk advised that he had received an email dated 16 September 2016 from Mr Alex Hockin of the Explorer Scout Unit based in Thirsk requesting to use Castle Garth for the purpose of setting up a fundraising stall and to teach the Explorers

about community involvement. Town Councillors discussed the request but considered that there were other locations which may be more suitable.

Resolved: that Mr Hockin be advised to contact Hambleton District Council to request permission to set up a charity stall in Thirsk Market Place.

C601 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 19 September 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C602 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts reported that new windows had been fitted at the front of the Town Hall though work on some side windows still needed to be completed.

Cllr Watson reported that the Royal British Legion Band would be taking part in the Last Post Ceremony at The Menin Gate in October and Town Councillors noted the requirement to cover the cost of a wreath for the event.

Cllr Watson reported that she had received a complaint that a tree belonging to a property in Fairfield was leaning over and possibly obstructing a footpath. She indicated that she would investigate the matter.

Cllr Watson reported that Barclays Bank had indicated that a credit card for use by the Clerk would be delivered within the next few days. She suggested that the matter be left in abeyance as far as the Assistant Clerk was concerned.

Cllr Adamson reported that the Co-op was relaunching a membership scheme which would help boost the Clock's funds and that the Clock had been shortlisted to receive a sum of money from Tesco's Bags of Help initiative.

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that she had put up a number of notices in Mill Gardens giving advice on feeding the ducks.

C603 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 8.30 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 17 October 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

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

Apologies: None received

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C605 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C606 Police Report

PCSO Laws reported the monthly crime figures which included offences of theft, violence and antisocial behaviour/nuisance. Town Councillors advised that boy racers continued to cause a nuisance during the evenings and PCSO Laws confirmed that this was being monitored by CCTV operators. Cllr Watson requested that the police look out for cyclists riding without lights as the darker evenings approached.

C607 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Following a query by Cllr Watson, Cllr Dadd advised that NYCC was looking to carry out repairs to the footpath leading from The Marage to St Mary's Church, though there had been some issue as to ownership of an adjacent piece of land.

Cllr Adamson reported that vegetation was encroaching onto the footpath along Cemetery Road. Cllr Bell declared an interest in the matter. The Clerk advised that this issue had been reported to NYCC.

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson advised that a report was due to go to HDC's Cabinet on 18 October 2016 following the public consultation on the Issues and Options Document in connection with the preparation of a new Local Plan. She indicated that if the report was accepted a further public consultation would be held and she urged everyone to put forward their views.

Cllr Adamson noted that a van had been parked continuously outside number 91 Long Street and was advertising insurance. Cllr Watson stated that she would pass on the information to HDC's Planning Department.

C608 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mr David Tucker circulated a report following a recent meeting of the Pontefract Magna Carta Committee which had been arranged following a proposal to set up a Yorkshire Magna Carta Heritage Trail. Mr Tucker noted that there had been a proposal that the next meeting should be in Thirsk, which would be the hub for the four North Yorkshire towns, in January 2017. Town Councillors discussed the likely form which a trail could take along with the cost implications and benefits which could follow and agreed that the matter should be pursued. Cllr Bell suggested that it may be appropriate to invite Edward Stourton, Baron Mowbray, to the meeting in January.

Resolved:

- (a) that the Town Council pursues the proposal to consider setting up a Yorkshire Magna Carta Heritage Trail;**
- (b) that the Town Council hosts the next meeting of the Magna Carta Committee in January 2017.**
- (c) that Edward Stourton, Baron Mowbray, be invited to the meeting.**

Mr David Tonge addressed the meeting on the subject of litter and enquired whether the Town Council had any involvement with organised litter picks in the area or could give advice as to setting up a group of volunteers to carry out litter picks. Town Councillors suggested a number of local organisations which they felt may be interested in pursuing Mr Tonge's proposals.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C609 Minutes

C609(a) Town Council Meeting held on 19 September 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 September 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C609(b) Matters Arising

C597(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk advised that NYCC Public Rights of Way section had indicated that the public footpath adjacent to the new development in Ingramgate would be reopened in the very near future, following completion of the building works.

C600(e) Invitation to St Mary's Church

The Clerk advised that Mr Michael Armstrong had indicated that it would be possible for up to six Town Councillors to view the clock mechanism at St Mary's Church on one occasion and had suggested that the Town Council put forward one or two suitable dates for the visit.

C602 Reports from Members/Representatives

Following a query by Cllr Watson, the Clerk advised that he had contacted North Yorkshire County Council concerning a tree in Fairfield which was said to be leaning over and possibly obstructing a footpath.

C610 Committee Minutes and Reports

C610(a) Planning Committee held on 19 September 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 19 September 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C610(b) Long Street Community Gardening Group Meeting held on 27 September 2016

The meeting received the Notes of the Long Street Community Gardening Group Meeting held on 27 September 2016.

Resolved: that the Notes be received and noted

C611 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that when the improvement works at Cemetery Lodge were completed the property would be passed to a tenancy management agent.

Resolved: that the application for a memorial for Anthony Pattison be approved. That further details regarding the memorial for Hilary Botwright be obtained.

C612 Correspondence/Items Raised

C612(a) Thirsk Town Centre

The meeting received a letter dated 18 September 2016 from a visitor who had been impressed with the cleanliness of the Market Place and with the creations put up by Thirsk Yarnbombers. The Clerk advised that the letter had been acknowledged and also passed to the Yarnbombers.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C612(b) Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting

The meeting received a letter dated 19 September 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning the next Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting to be held on Thursday, 17 November 2016. Cllr Duffey suggested that the Town Council would need to consider matters in respect of Item 4 (Community Resilience and Emergency Planning) of the minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2016.

Resolved:

(a) that Cllrs Dagleish-Brown and Jackson attend the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting on 17 November 2016;

(b) that Community Resilience and Emergency Planning be an agenda item for the next Town Council meeting.

C612(c) Hambleton and Richmondshire Carers Centre

The meeting received an email dated 4 October 2016 from Hambleton & Richmondshire Carers Centre advising of the services which they provided.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C612(d) Statement of Licensing Policy

The meeting received an email dated 7 October 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning a Draft Statement of Licensing Policy. The Clerk advised that he would pass on any comments received from Town Councillors to the Licensing Team.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C612(e) Cemetery Road, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 10 October 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning the increased use of Cemetery Road by heavy goods vehicles, horseboxes and large agricultural vehicles. NYCC wanted to ascertain the views of the Town Council to enable consideration to be given to imposing a separate weight restriction on Cemetery Road. Members noted that enforcement of the weight restrictions would be difficult and also considered that if the restrictions were imposed the vehicle drivers may seek alternative routes which could cause greater problems.

Resolved: that the Town Council advise the County Council that if the weight restrictions are imposed the traffic may find alternative routes which could cause more problems and also note that the enforcement would not be a priority.

C612(f) Road Closure – Finkle Street, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 11 October 2016 from North Yorkshire County Council advising of the planned closure of Finkle Street between 24 and 26 October 2016.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C612(g) Police and Crime Plan

The meeting received an email dated 11 October 2016 from Julia Mulligan, Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire, concerning the launch of a

consultation exercise, the feedback of which would assist in the preparation of a new Police and Crime Plan for North Yorkshire.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C613 Finance

Resolved:

(a) that the accounts for payment as at 17 October 2016 be approved and cheques signed;

(b) that the Budget Report ending September 2016 be received and approved.

C614 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts referred to a proposal contained in a Local Government Financial Settlement Technical Consultation Paper in relation to extending council tax referendum principles to parish and town councils. She noted the increased costs faced by local councils as a result of cutbacks in district and county councils as well as the costs which would be incurred if a referendum had to be held.

Resolved: that the Clerk responds to the consultation by confirming the Town Council's opposition to referendum principles being extended to parish and town councils (to be copied to Mr Kevin Hollinrake, MP).

Cllr Duffey updated Town Councillors on proposals to hold Thirsk Festival in 2017. He advised that the event would take place on Sunday, 6 August 2017 on The Flatts. Entry to the event would be free, although there would be charges for some items. He indicated that the Town Council would be asked to make a small donation in due course.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that all the summer planting had been removed from the boxes and planters on Long Street and the winter planting would take place during the weekend of 22/23 October 2016.

Cllr Adamson reported that The Clock had received an award and an amount of money from the Garfield Weston Foundation for its work over the past year and for transforming the way its services are delivered to residents across North Yorkshire.

C615 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 8.36 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 21 November 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), J Bell, H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, F Roberts, A Trueman
Apologies: Cllr J Watson (Holiday)

C617 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C618 Police Report

PCSO Laws reported the monthly crime figures. These included offences of criminal damage, violence, antisocial behaviour/nuisance and a number of purse thefts in the Market Place.

C619 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Nothing reported.

(b) HDC

Nothing reported.

C620 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mr Len Wiles, Chairman of Thirsk Community Library Steering Group, attended the meeting to advise of the running costs of the library and expected financial shortfall. He requested that the Town Council raise the precept for the next financial year in order to contribute to the running costs of the community library. He advised that he would be writing to Hambleton District Council requesting that they waive the 20% business rates, which he expected to be in the region of £2,000 and that Sowerby Parish Council was also to be approached with regard to a contribution. Discussion took place and Town Councillors suggested that the request be put into writing so that the matter could be considered at the Finance Meeting to be held in January 2017.

Resolved:

- (i) that Mr Wiles put forward financial details in respect of the running costs of the Community Library;**
- (ii) that the request be considered at the Finance Meeting to be held in January 2017;**
- (iii) that standing orders be reinstated.**

C621 Minutes

C621(a) Town Council Meeting held on 17 October 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 October 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C621(b) Matters Arising

C611 Burial Board

The Clerk reported that damp had been discovered in the dining room at Cemetery Lodge and that the extent of the problem was currently being assessed.

C622 Committee Minutes and Reports

C622(a) Planning Committee held on 17 October 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 17 October 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C622(b) Central Areas Committee held on 6 October 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 6 October 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C622(c) Personnel and Office Committee held on 25 October 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Personnel and Office Committee held on 25 October 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C622(d) Long Street Community Gardening Group Meeting held on 3 November 2016

The meeting received the Notes of the Long Street Community Gardening Group Meeting held on 3 November 2016.

Resolved: that the Notes be received and noted.

C623 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorial for Geoffrey Brough & Glen Brough, Roberta Lynch and Donald Norfolk be approved.

C624 Correspondence/Items Raised

C624(a) Community Resilience and Emergency Planning

The meeting received the minute from the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting held on 31 March 2016 concerning Community Resilience and Emergency Planning. Town Councillors noted that a Community Resilience Plan would apply to any sort of emergency and would put plans/contacts in place to assist in the immediate aftermath of an event.

Resolved:

that further details be obtained from Hambleton District Council in respect of a Community Resilience Plan.

C624(b) Great North Air Ambulance

The meeting received a letter dated 18 October 2016 from the Great North Air Ambulance Service requesting that the Town Council consider donating towards its running costs. It was noted that the service did not cover this area.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C624(c) Local Plan Preferred Options Public Consultation 31 October to 12 December 2016

The meeting received an email dated 21 October 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning the Local Plan Preferred Options Public Consultation following the public consultation on the Issues and Options Document which took place in January/February 2016. Cllr Adamson advised that further details were available on HDC's website and he urged everyone to respond.

Resolved: that Town Councillors respond to the Local Plan Preferred Options Public Consultation on an individual basis.

C624(d) Decision Reached for the Community Health Services Consultation

The meeting received a media release from the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group dated 28 October 2016 which confirmed that a

decision had been made to approve Option Three of the “Transforming Our Communities” consultation which it was noted would result in the permanent closure of the Lambert Memorial Hospital.

Resolved: that the media release be noted.

C624(e) Minerals and Waste Joint Plan – Publication

The meeting received an email dated 9 November 2016 from the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan Team concerning the publication of a new Joint Plan covering the three planning authority areas of North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C624(f) St Mary’s Church Christmas Carol Service – Sunday, 18 December 2016

The meeting received a letter dated 12 November 2016 from Mrs S Armstrong inviting Town Councillors to take part in the Christmas Carol Service on Sunday, 18 December 2016.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C624(g) Council Tax Referendum Principles

The meeting received an email dated 7 November 2016 from Mr K Hollinrake MP and an email dated 14 November 2016 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning the council tax referendum consultation and noted that the matter was being pursued by Mr Hollinrake and YLCA.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C624(h) Thirsk Yarnbombers

The meeting received an email dated 14 November 2016 from Mr D Tucker suggesting that a certificate from Thirsk Town Council, Sowerby Parish Council, St Mary’s Church, St Oswald’s Church, All Saints Church and Thirsk Royal British Legion be awarded to Thirsk Yarnbombers in recognition of their outstanding work in connection with the poppy displays for Remembrance Day. Town Councillors agreed with the proposal and suggested that Mr Tucker be requested to assist in preparing an appropriate certificate.

Resolved: that the Clerk contact Mr Tucker to discuss the proposal that a certificate be awarded to Thirsk Yarnbombers.

C625 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 21 November 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C626 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts reported that the Christmas Tree had been installed in the Market Place and that the lights would be put on within the next few days.

Cllr Dalglish-Brown reported that she and Cllr Jackson had attended the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting on 17 November 2016.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that East Thirsk Community Hall was planning to host a Christmas meal for senior citizens on Saturday, 3 December 2016.

Cllr Trueman raised a concern in respect of the behaviour of a parking enforcement officer whilst dealing with an incident in the Market Place. The Clerk advised that Hambleton District Council contracted out parking enforcement responsibilities to Scarborough Borough Council and that any issues should be put in writing and sent to the HDC’s Chief Executive. He advised that he would discuss the situation with Hambleton’s Corporate Facilities Manager.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had attended the Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting and noted that the "Shopwatch" scheme, which worked alongside HDC's CCTV cameras, was being progressed.

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that one of the alleyways close to the central part of the Market Place looked unsightly on occasions due to the high number of rubbish bins which were spilling over and possibly creating a health hazard. The Clerk advised that he would investigate the matter.

Cllr Adamson reported that he had attended the Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday events. He had also attended an event to celebrate the refurbishment of the Picnic Area and he thanked the Rotary Club for their hard work.

The Clerk advised that a Finance Meeting needed to be arranged and it was provisionally agreed that this be held on Monday, 9 January 2017 at 7 pm.

C627 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 19 December 2016 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, J Fisher, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, F Roberts, A Trueman, J Watson.

Apologies: Cllr: J Bell (Prior Commitment)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C628 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C629 Police Report

No police representative was present.

C630 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that NYCC were facing further pressures on their ability to provide adult social care following the Chancellor's autumn statement, though he stressed that the priority would be to protect services for the elderly and vulnerable.

Cllr Adamson queried whether Housing and Care 21 were in breach of their contract with NYCC when residents at the Meadowfields development were left without a food service at very short notice. Irrespective of the problems caused Cllr Dadd did not believe that there had actually been a breach of contract.

Cllr Duffy sought clarification from Cllr Dadd regarding relief on business rates which was granted to registered charities and would apply to the newly formed community libraries as from 1 April 2017. Cllr Dadd advised that Hambleton District Council had to apply 80% relief on business rates to registered charities but that there was a discretion as to whether or not 100% relief was applied. Cllr Dadd understood that community libraries in other districts in North Yorkshire would be granted 100% relief and that the cost to HDC, if it granted 100% relief to all newly formed community libraries, would actually be much less than had been reported.

(b) HDC

Nothing reported.

C631 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C632 Minutes

C632(a) Town Council Meeting held on 21 November 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 November 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C632(b) Matters Arising

C611 Burial Board

Following a query by Cllr Watson, the Clerk advised that the damp problem at Cemetery Lodge had been assessed and that a quotation to carry out repair works had been accepted.

C624(a) Community Resilience and Emergency Planning

The Clerk advised that he would request further details from Hambleton District Council regarding the preparation of a Community Resilience Plan.

C624(c) Local Plan Preferred Options Public Consultation - 31 October to 12 December 2016

The Clerk reported that the Planning Committee had submitted a response in respect of the Local Plan Preferred Options Public Consultation.

C624(g) Council Tax Referendum Principles

The Clerk advised that the council tax referendum principles would not be extended to town and parish councils at this time.

C626 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk advised that he had inspected one of the alleyways close to the central part of the Market Place following a report of a high number of rubbish bins which had been spilling over. He stated that on the occasions when he had visited the area the bins had not been overflowing and that the number of bins was a matter for the individual businesses as these were provided by private operators, not Hambleton District Council.

Cllr Roberts reported that a recycling bin in Royal Oak Courtyard was overflowing and had not been emptied for several weeks. The Clerk advised that Hambleton District Council had inspected the bin and had advised that the waste was contaminated and therefore the bin would not be emptied.

C633 Committee Minutes and Reports

C633(a) Planning Committee held on 21 November 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 21 November 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C633(b) Open Areas & Greens Committee held on 28 November 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Open Areas & Greens Committee held on 28 November 2016. Cllr Watson noted that English Heritage would need to be approached if any refurbishment/work was proposed in relation to the interpretation boards on Castle Garth.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C634 Burial Board

There were no applications for memorials to be considered.

C635 Correspondence/Items Raised

C635(a) Remembrance Sunday Parade & Wreaths 2016

The meeting received a letter dated 23 November 2016 from the Royal British Legion thanking the Town Council for the contributions in connection with the Remembrance Sunday event.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C635(b) Draft Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) for Durham Dales Easington and Sedgfield, Darlington, Tees, Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby

The meeting received a letter dated 24 November 2016 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group advising that a Draft Sustainability and Transformation Plan for the above areas would be published on its website on 25 November 2016.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C635(c) BT Public Payphone Consultation

The meeting received emails dated 30 November 2016 and 2 December 2016 from Hambleton District Council advising of a consultation which was being carried out by BT in preparation for the removal of public payphones in the HDC area. Cllr Roberts suggested that it would be useful to be provided with information regarding the usage of any payphone which had been identified as unnecessary and that a request be made to retain any payphone which was shown to be well-used.

Resolved: that BT be requested to provide details concerning the usage of the public payphone in Thirsk which had been identified as unnecessary or no longer viable.

C635(d) Integrated Community Equipment and Community Wheelchair Service Contracts

The meeting received a letter dated 5 December 2016 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group concerning new contracts which had been awarded to provide community equipment and wheelchair services.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C635(e) Thirsk Christmas Lights

The meeting received a letter dated 7 December 2016 from Thirsk & District Business Association (Ladies Section) concerning the Christmas lights display and the switch-on event which took place on Friday, 25 November 2016.

Resolved: that a letter be sent to Thirsk & District Business Association (Ladies Section) to congratulate everyone involved in providing the Christmas lights display and switch-on event.

C635(f) Settlement Character Assessments – Hambleton Local Plan

The meeting received emails dated 8 December 2016 and 13 December 2016 from Hambleton District Council concerning Settlement Character Assessments which formed part of the emerging Local Plan.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C636 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 19 December 2016 be approved and cheques signed.

C637 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Adamson reported that he had represented the Town Council at the Christmas Carol Service at St Mary's Church on Sunday, 18 December 2016 and that the service had been very good and well attended.

Cllr Roberts reported that a vehicle had been parked regularly half on the cycle track and half on Stockton Road with no lights on which she felt could cause a hazard and she suggested that the police be requested to deal with the matter.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that volunteers at East Thirsk Community Hall had prepared a Christmas meal for senior citizens on Saturday, 3 December 2016.

Cllr Watson requested that the Town Council reiterate to the police that they warn cyclists of the dangers of riding without lights and that the police be requested to monitor cars driving with defective headlamps.

Cllr Gibson-Brown handed over a donation of £50 which had been raised by the Artists' Palette to contribute towards the running costs of Millgate Public Conveniences.

Cllr Watson reported that a large number of notices had been fly-posted in a variety of locations advertising an event to be held at Thirsk Farmers Auction Mart over the

Christmas and New Year period. The Clerk advised that he would contact North Yorkshire County Council so that they could take appropriate action in respect of notices which had been attached to lampposts.

Cllr Dalglish-Brown reported that Lianne Bell Cake Design had won the best dressed shop window competition organised by Thirsk & District Business Association. She also advised that she had assisted the Rotary Club of Thirsk on some of their Father Christmas sleigh runs.

C638 On-Going Items

- a) Nothing noted.
- b) The Clerk reported that work had not yet commenced on the tree survey.
- c) Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.09 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 16 January 2017 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Adamson (Chairman), J Bell, H Dalglish-Brown, D Duffey, C Hesmondhalgh, A Trueman, J Watson

Apologies: Cllrs: J Fisher (Prior commitment), W Gibson-Brown (Holiday), D Jackson (Holiday), F Roberts (Illness)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C639 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

C640 Police Report

No police representative was present.

C641 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that NYCC was in the final stages of setting the 2017/2018 budget and that the priority was to protect frontline services. He indicated that an extra £5 million had been received from the government to help fund highway repairs.

In answer to a query by Cllr Hesmondhalgh, Cllr Dadd agreed that there was a national crisis in social care funding and that council tax bills could increase by an additional 2% to help fund adult social care services.

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson reported that a meeting had been held with Mr C Thornton, Corporate Facilities Manager, Mr D McKnight, Vibrant Market Town Project Officer, District Cllr N Knapton and herself to discuss Thirsk market. She advised that HDC would be considering a number of proposals which had been put forward.

Cllr Watson indicated that she had discussed the issue of A boards with Mr Thornton who had stated that he would liaise with Mr M Harbottle, Head of Planning, with a view to preparing a joint guidance policy.

Cllr Watson advised that HDC would be examining an area in the Market Place adjacent to Heron Foods and Thirsk Tourist Information as part of its car parking review. She also indicated that HDC was to examine providing a hatched area, combined with bollards, outside the rear access service door of Millgate Public Conveniences as problems had been caused by drivers parking too close to the door.

Cllr Watson reported that discretionary business rates relief was due to be considered at a meeting of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee to be held on Tuesday, 24th January 2017.

C642 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C643 Minutes

C643(a) Town Council Meeting held on 19 December 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 December 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C643(b) Matters Arising

C632(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that the contaminated waste had been removed from the overflowing recycling bin in Royal Oak Courtyard by Cllr D Jackson and that the issue therefore appeared to be resolved.

C635(c) BT Public Payphone Consultation

The Clerk indicated that he had been unable to obtain details in respect of the usage of a public payphone in Thirsk which BT had identified as being unnecessary or no longer viable. He advised that the public consultation had now ended and that BT guidance stated that public payphones would not be removed in locations where there was felt to be a social or reasonable need for retention. Cllr Duffey noted that the payphone in question was close to elderly persons' accommodation in Norby. The Clerk stated that he would pursue the matter.

C637 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk advised that he had contacted NYCC following the flyposting of a large number of notices advertising an event at the Auction Mart over the Christmas period. Cllr Watson noted that all notices appeared to have been removed immediately following the event.

C644 Committee Minutes and Reports

C644(a) Planning Committee held on 19 December 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 19 December 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C644(b) Central Areas Committee held on 15 December 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 15 December 2016. Cllr Watson requested that she be copied into correspondence concerning A boards.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C644(c) Public Conveniences Committee – 21 December 2016

The meeting received the Minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 21 December 2016.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C645 Burial Board

Resolved: that the application for memorial for Carole Janet Riley be approved.

C646 Correspondence/Items Raised

C646(a) Road Safety Issues

The meeting received an email dated 21 December 2016 from Acting Sergeant Mayes of North Yorkshire Police indicating that she had requested PCSO Warby to pursue a "no lights cycling initiative".

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C646(b) Dangerous Driving in and around Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 23 December 2016 from North Yorkshire Police confirming that the CCTV would be checked and appropriate action taken in respect of an allegation of dangerous driving in Thirsk Market Place.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C646(c) Thirsk Christmas Lights

The meeting received a letter dated 23 December 2016 from Thirsk & District Business Association Ladies Section thanking the Town Council for its donation towards the running costs of the Christmas lights.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C646(d) "Battle's Over" – A Nation's Tribute and WWI Beacons of Light

The meeting received an email dated 3 January 2017 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning the lighting of beacons to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C646(e) Market Place – Proposed Bus Stop and Taxi Rank Areas

The meeting received emails dated 10 January 2017 and 13 January 2017 from Hambleton District Council concerning proposals to improve the layout of the bus stop/taxi rank area in the Market Place. Town Councillors noted that the revised proposal would retain the taxi rank as at present and that the work was expected to be completed prior to Easter 2017.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C646(f) Notice of Joint Commissioning of Primary Care Committee Meeting

The meeting received an email dated 5 January 2017 from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group advising that a Joint Commissioning of Primary Care Committee meeting would be held on Tuesday, 17 January 2017.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C646(g) "Floodsax"

The meeting received an email dated 13 January 2017 from Hambleton District Council advising that a quantity of Floodsax was available to be distributed to Town and Parish Councils which had experienced flooding in recent years. Discussion took place concerning suitable locations for storage of the Floodsax and it was suggested that Mrs M Penson (Flood Warden) be consulted.

Resolved: that the Town Council request a supply of ten boxes (200 Floodsax).

C647 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 16th January 2017 be approved and cheques signed.

C648 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Duffey gave an update on plans to hold Thirsk Festival in August 2017 and requested that the Town Council consider making a donation of £500 towards the costs of putting on the event.

Resolved: that the Town Council makes a donation of £500 to Thirsk Festival.

Cllr Watson reported that HDC was preparing a Section 215 notice to be served on the owners of the Aspire building which would require the exterior of the building to be tidied up.

Cllr Watson advised that she had recently passed details to the police of a heavy goods vehicle which she had witnessed driving through the Market Place in excess of the weight restriction and that the police had shown little interest in pursuing the matter. She stated that the police had previously indicated that they would take action if they were provided with the necessary information and she suggested that a letter be written to North Yorkshire Police requesting that they take appropriate action when weight restrictions are ignored.

Resolved: that the Town Council writes to North Yorkshire Police requesting that appropriate action be taken when evidence of vehicles exceeding the seven and a half tonne weight restriction was provided.

C649 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 20 February 2017 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

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

Apologies: Cllr: D Duffey (Alternative Commitment)

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C650 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Adamson and Hesmondhalgh declared an interest in Item 9(f), Review of Hambleton Local Plan – Proposed Housing Allocations, Thirsk, and took no part in the discussion.

C651 Resignation of Cllr F Roberts

Cllr Adamson read out a letter received from Cllr Roberts in which she offered her resignation to the Town Council. Cllr Adamson paid tribute to the hard work carried out by Cllr Roberts, noting that she had been a Town Councillor for 38 years, including five terms as mayor.

C652 Police Report

No police representative was present.

C653 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd paid his own tribute to Cllr Roberts, describing her as a fountain of knowledge and a firm stalwart, adding that she deserved recognition for many years of hard work as a District Councillor as well as a Town Councillor.

Cllr Dadd reported that council tax for 2017/2018 had been set with an increase of just under 4% (including a 2% increase to fund social care services).

Cllr Dadd reported that NYCC had been shortlisted for a National Council of the Year award and that the awards ceremony was due to take place in London on 11 March 2017.

Cllr Watson reported that an announcement regarding the new caterers at Meadowfields was expected to be made very soon.

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson reported that the exterior of the former Aspire building had been cleaned and redecorated prior to a Section 215 notice being served by HDC.

Cllr Watson advised that a number of further sites had been put forward in connection with Hambleton's new Local Plan and these were currently being assessed.

Cllr Watson advised that the Vibrant Market Towns Initiative was being progressed with a further meeting due to be held on 21 February 2017.

Cllr Watson reported that discretionary business rates relief had been debated at a meeting of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee on 24 January 2017 and that a decision was expected to be made at a full council meeting on 21 February 2017.

C654 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

C655 Minutes

C655(a) Town Council Meeting held on 16 January 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 January 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C655(b) Matters Arising

C643(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk advised that an email had been sent to BT requesting that they reconsider their decision to remove the public payphone at Norby, Thirsk.

C641(b) Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

Cllr Watson reported that District Cllr N Knaption was pursuing the issue of A boards with HDC's Head of Planning.

C643(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk stated that advisory notices had been placed on the overflowing recycling bin in Royal Oak Courtyard. Cllr Adamson thanked Cllr Jackson for his attempts to resolve the matter.

C646(b) Dangerous Driving in and around Thirsk

The Clerk advised that an email had been received from Acting Sergeant Mayes of North Yorkshire Police confirming that the police had identified the driver of a vehicle which had been spotted driving dangerously in the Market Place and that the young person involved had had his car removed from him by his parents.

C646(d) "Battle's Over" – A Nation's Tribute and WWI Beacons of Light

Cllr Jackson reported that he had passed an email from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations to the Rotary Club of Thirsk and that the Rotary Club had expressed an interest in pursuing the proposal to light beacons in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1.

C646(g) "Floodsax"

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that a quantity of Floodsax had been delivered to the Riverside Mews courtyard and that she had advised all residents that the Floodsax were available to be used in the event of a flood risk situation.

C646(e) Market Place – Proposed Bus Stop and Taxi Rank Areas

The Clerk advised that he had received a comment from a member of the public who had suggested that buses turning right into the bus stop area may have difficulty lining up with the new kerb. He stated that he would pass the comment on to Hambleton District Council.

C648 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk indicated that a letter had been prepared and was ready to send to North Yorkshire Police concerning HGVs, as raised by Cllr Watson.

C656 Committee Minutes and Reports

C656(a) Planning Committee held on 16 January 2017

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 January 2017. The Clerk advised that Cllr Jackson had been appointed Chairman of the Planning Committee following the resignation of Cllr Roberts and that Cllr Trueman had expressed interest in becoming a member of the Planning Committee.

Resolved:

(i) that the Minutes be received and noted;

(ii) that Cllr Trueman be appointed as a member of the Planning Committee.

C657 Burial Board

The Clerk advised that he had obtained further information concerning a memorial application for the late Hilary Botwright. Members considered issues of health and safety, insurance/liability and the duty of care which lay with the Burial Board and agreed that the design of the proposed headstone and kerb edging could constitute a risk to health and safety.

Resolved:

- (i) that the Clerk contacts the Botwright family to discuss the design of the memorial;**
- (ii) that applications for memorials for Michael Geoffrey Barnard and Dorothy Louisa Hogg be approved.**

C658 Correspondence/Items Raised

C658(a) Planned Road Closure Notification – 11484 - Newsham Road 10 mile Road Race

The meeting received an email dated 17 January 2017 from North Yorkshire County Council advising of the closure of Newsham Road, Thirsk on 19 March 2017 to enable the Thirsk 10 mile road race to take place.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C658(b) Thirsk Yarnbombers

The meeting received an email dated 19 January 2017 from Thirsk Yarnbombers requesting that the Town Council consider covering the Yarnbombers' insurance premium for 2017.

Resolved: that the Town Council covers the cost of Thirsk Yarnbombers' insurance for 2017 to a maximum of £200.

C658(c) Pennyroyal Garland Dancers

The meeting received an email dated 19 January 2017 from the Pennyroyal Garland Dancers concerning a proposed folk dance display in Thirsk Market Place.

Resolved: that the email be forwarded to Hambleton District Council.

C658(d) Street Collection Permit

The meeting received an email dated 20 January 2017 from Hambleton District Council advising that a street collection permit had been issued for Christian Aid on 23 December 2017.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C658(e) Traffic Regulation Order (District of Hambleton – Amendment Order No 17) – Introduction of Waiting Restrictions – St James Green/Todds Court

The meeting received an email dated 25 January 2017 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning an amendment to a Traffic Regulation Order in respect of St James Green/Todds Court.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C658(f) Review of Hambleton Local Plan – Proposed Housing Allocations, Thirsk

The meeting received a letter dated 27 January 2017 from Prism Planning concerning the Hambleton Local Plan, proposed housing allocations and associated highway issues. The Clerk advised that a further letter dated 3 February 2017 had been received from Prism Planning enclosing a number of plans showing current and projected traffic flows. Town Councillors noted that highway infrastructure was a matter for North Yorkshire County Council and felt it was too early to comment on the proposals.

Resolved: that the Town Council advise Prism Planning that it considers it to be premature to consider the proposals at this stage.

C658(g) NYCC – Countryside Access Service – Public Consultation

The meeting received an email dated 31 January 2017 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning a public consultation in respect of its management and maintenance of the county's public rights of way network.

Resolved: that Town Councillors respond to the consultation questionnaire on an individual basis.

C658(h) St Mary's Walk, Thirsk – Carriageway Resurfacing Works

The meeting received a letter dated 8 February 2017 from North Yorkshire County Council advising that resurfacing works would take place on St Mary's Walk on Thursday, 23 February 2017.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C658(i) Tree Survey

The meeting received an email dated 8 February 2017 from Mr A Whitehead, Tree Consultant, advising that he had completed the cemetery tree survey and drawing attention to his proposal for new tree planting.

Resolved: that the cemetery tree survey be considered at the next meeting of the Burial Board.

C658(j) Town Council Meetings Schedule

The Clerk suggested that Town Councillors might want to rearrange the date of April's Town Council meeting as the third Monday in April was Easter Monday. He advised that he would circulate copies of the updated meetings schedule and updated list of Town Councillors at the next meeting.

Resolved: that April's Town Council meeting be held on Monday, 24 April 2017.

C659 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 20 February 2017 be approved and cheques signed.

C660 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Watson advised that she had contacted Cllr Dadd concerning a new street light adjacent to Greggs in the Market Place and he had indicated that the Town Council should have received correspondence in respect of the new light.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that a meeting of the Long Street Community Gardeners had been held recently to consider refurbishment/replacement of the wooden flower boxes. She advised that all the boxes were in a poor condition and that the intention was to replace these on a phased basis as and when funding became available.

Cllr Dalgleish-Brown reported that she and Cllr Bell had met with a representative from the company which had supplied the interpretation boards on Castle Garth as it had been suggested that the boards were in a poor condition. The representative had advised that the boards were structurally sound but needed cleaning thoroughly. Cllr Gibson-Brown expressed concern at the lack of any police presence when two large groups of football supporters had stopped off in the Market Place recently. Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that there had been a number of incidents of cars being damaged on Riverside Mews.

C661 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.37 pm.

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Thirsk held on Monday, 20 March 2017
at 7.00 pm in the Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe**

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

Apologies: None received

1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21 March 2016

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21 March 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report

Cllr Adamson noted that one of the major highlights of the year had been the Tour de Yorkshire cycle race which had passed through Thirsk and had been watched by many people despite atrocious weather. What had not been envisaged was the emergence of a new group called Thirsk Yarnbombers who had decorated the town with colourful knitted and crocheted items and who had continued to display their creations throughout the summer and autumn, bringing in tourists and TV crews from around the world.

Another highlight of the year had been the refurbishment of the Millgate Picnic Area by the Rotary Club of Thirsk who had provided new, high quality seats and picnic benches.

Cllr Adamson noted that the Rotary Club were in the headlines again in January 2017 as they had signed a memorandum of agreement to take over the day-to-day running of Thirsk in Bloom's operations.

Finally, Cllr Adamson thanked all Councillors past and present for allowing him to lead the Council so many times, stating that this was his eighth and last Chairman's Report.

4. Representations from Electors of the Parish

None received.

5. Items of Interest and Information

None received.

The meeting closed at 7.05 pm.

Chairman

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 20 March 2017 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

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

Apologies: None received

In attendance: District/County Cllr: G Dadd

C662 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Bell declared an interest in Item 10, Finance, and took no part in the discussion.

C663 Police Report

No police representative was present. However, the Clerk advised that the police had been contacted in connection with a number of complaints concerning groups of football supporters drinking in the town and antisocial behaviour by groups of young people congregating in and around a pizza shop in Millgate and the Mill Gardens area. The Clerk read out an email written by Mrs M Penson in which she gave her account of recent events. Cllr Gibson-Brown confirmed that she had called the police on the evening referred to by Mrs Penson and that the police had attended and dealt with the incident. Cllr Watson advised that she would discuss the concerns regarding the licensing requirements of the pizza shop and Cllr Duffey suggested a meeting be arranged with North Yorkshire Police and Town Council representatives.

Resolved: that a meeting be arranged with representatives of the Town Council and North Yorkshire Police.

C664 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd was pleased to report that NYCC had won three awards at the Local Government Chronicle Awards ceremony including winning the Working With Partners category and runner-up in the Council of the Year and Children's Services categories.

Cllr Dadd reported that the public right of way at the Golden Fleece Hotel had been closed as refurbishment works got underway. He advised that a licence should have been obtained in advance of the public right of way being closed and that the matter was being dealt with by NYCC's public rights of way department.

Cllr Trueman reported an incident of fly tipping adjacent to the B1448 Northallerton Road near the A168 junction. Cllr Watson stated that she had already been made aware of the fly tipping and that she would pursue the matter.

Cllr Watson advised that she had contacted NYCC to report a number of unlit, dirty bollards which she felt may pose a danger for motorists. She had been requested to provide further details of the numbers and precise locations of the bollards in order for the matter to be rectified.

(b) HDC

Cllr Watson advised that HDC had made changes to their Waste and Recycling Collection Policy and was planning to introduce tougher measures to deal with incidents of contaminated waste in household recycling bins.

Cllr Watson reported that HDC's Community Awards ceremony was due to take place on Friday, 24 March 2017 and that Thirsk Yarnbombers had been nominated in the Community Group of the Year and Community Event of the Year categories.

In response to a query by Cllr Fisher concerning a parking issue adjacent to Thirsk Tourist Information, Cllr Watson advised that a traffic order needed to be obtained and that she would pursue the matter.

C665 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Mr David Tucker attended the meeting in connection with a number of proposals which had been put forward following the recent anniversary of the Magna Carta. The Clerk advised that he had received a quotation to supply and erect a plaque which it had been suggested could be installed in the Market Place. It had been hoped that the cost of the plaque could, at least in part, be covered by the sale of some Magna Carta books which had been donated to the Town Council but, unfortunately, it had not been possible to sell these books. Discussion took place and Members considered alternative ways to mark the town's links with the Magna Carta including adding the wording "Magna Carta Town" to the existing town entrance signs. Mr Tucker also sought clarification following a proposal that a Yorkshire Magna Carta Heritage Trail be formed. The matter was discussed and it was agreed, for a variety of reasons, not to pursue this at the present time. Town Councillors noted that the Magna Carta facsimile was currently on display in the library at Meadowfields and Cllr Watson suggested that it be moved to St Mary's Church for the summer and then returned to the library for the winter period. The Clerk advised that he and Mr Tucker had also discussed a proposal that Thirsk Yarnbombers be presented with a certificate following their display of poppies for Remembrance Day and they had agreed that an appropriate certificate to mark the generality of the Yarnbombers' work should be prepared and presented.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C666 Minutes

C666(a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 February 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 February 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C666(b) Matters Arising

C653(b) Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

Cllr Fisher advised that a new leaflet advertising local markets was available at Thirsk Tourist Information.

C655(b) Matters Arising

The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to North Yorkshire Police concerning HGVs and that a response was awaited.

C657 Burial Board

The Clerk advised that he had met with the Botwright family to discuss their memorial application and that they had requested a meeting with the Chairman of the Burial Board. He hoped to arrange a meeting for the following week.

C658(b) Thirsk Yarnbombers

The Clerk indicated that there had been an increase in the insurance premium for Thirsk Yarnbombers and that the Town Council had, in fact, contributed £210.63 towards the total amount.

C658(j) Town Council Meetings Schedule

The Clerk circulated updated copies of the Town Council meetings schedule and Town Councillors' contact details.

C667 Committee Minutes and Reports

C667(a) Planning Committee held on 20 February 2017

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 20 February 2017.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C667(b) Long Street Community Gardeners Meeting held on 16 February 2017

The meeting received the Notes of the Long Street Community Gardeners Meeting held on 16 February 2017.

Resolved: that the Notes be received and noted.

C668 Burial Board

Resolved: that the application for memorial for Carol Ann Moulds be approved.

C669 Correspondence/Items Raised

C669(a) Property Name Change – Hollin Barn Nurseries, Sutton Road, Thirsk

The meeting received a letter dated 22 February 2017 from Hambleton District Council confirming the new name and postal address for the above property as Hollin Barn Lodge Park, Sutton Road, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C669(b) Hambleton District Council Business Awards 2017

The meeting received a letter dated 28 February 2017 from Hambleton District Council advising of the launch of the Business Awards for 2017.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C669(c) Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting

The meeting received a letter dated 2 March 2017 from Hambleton District Council advising that the next Hambleton Parish Liaison Meeting was due to be held on Thursday, 18 May 2017. Cllr Jackson indicated that he and Cllr Trueman would like to attend and that they would confirm their availability nearer the time.

Resolved: that any Town Councillors interested in attending contact the Clerk.

C669(d) Public Payphone Consultation

The meeting received an email dated 7 March 2017 from BTP Authorisation Team advising that the public payphone at Norby which had been identified for removal had had very low usage in the twelve months prior to the start of BT's consultation.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C669(e) Media Release, New North Yorkshire School Mental Health and Wellbeing Service

The meeting received an email dated 7 March 2017 from NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group advising of the launch of a new mental health and wellbeing service for schools in North Yorkshire.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C669(f) Notice of Next Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body Meeting

The meeting received an email dated 8 March 2017 from NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group indicating that the next Governing Body meeting would take place on Thursday, 23 March 2017.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C669(g) Millgate Public Conveniences – Surface Markings

The meeting received an email dated 10 March 2017 from Hambleton District Council concerning a proposal to install bollards and yellow hatching around the rear service door of Millgate Public Conveniences.

Resolved: that the Town Council approve the installation of bollards and yellow hatching at the rear of Millgate Public Conveniences.

C669(h) Parish Precepts

The meeting received a letter dated 10 March 2017 from the National Association of Local Councils concerning parish precepts and the government's decision not to extend council tax referendum principles to parish and town councils for the 2017/18 financial year.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C670 Finance

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 20 March 2017 be approved and cheques signed.

C671 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that the opening ceremony for the new community library would take place on Saturday, 1 April 2017.

The Clerk reported that a presentation was to take place on Thursday, 23 March 2017 to mark the long and invaluable service provided to both the Town Council and Thirsk by Freda Roberts.

C672 On-Going Items

Nothing noted.

The meeting closed at 8.14 pm.