

**Thirlwall Parish Council Meeting
Meeting held in Gilsland Village Hall
on 14th March 2018 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr S. Seymour (Acting Chair), Cllr A.Stewart, Cllr, J. Armstrong, County Cllr A. Sharp
Clerk – C. Jarvis.

Apologies – S.Gibbon

1/18.1 At the very outset of the evening Steve Warren spoke out about the state of the roads and potholes. It was agreed that it would be taken in hand as soon as possible. Mr. S. Warren then left.

1/18.2. A minute's silence took place to mark the sad passing of Cllr. C. Dixon very recently. Christine had served on the Parish Council for almost thirty years. She served as the representative on the Haltwhistle Burial Committee. Christine had organised the building of the playground in Gilsland. Christine did many good works in other ways: setting up of village hall, the youth club and much more. It was decided that an article about her would be placed in the village magazine.

2/18 Minutes of previous meeting agreed from 10/01/18.

3/18.1 Matters arising:

B6318

Potholes. Re. S. Warren complaining about potholes.
Traffic calming sign – A. Walker (soon to happen). NCC.
Traffic movement scheme cost has increased to £28k.

3/18.2 Crammel Rigg:

John Lees: next Wednesday (Cllr A.Sharp conversation). Photo of road and NCC to do same.
Bit between Wardrew Farm – bad Council road.
Excavation late: Early April: timber to be extracted.
Cllr A. Sharp letter to Rose Hill residents (CJ) to keep copy of letter on file. Letter dated 14th March 2018.
NCC on board with Tilhill and Crammel Rigg.

3/18.3 Defibrillator Scheme

£250 Upper Denton PC Contribution.
Howard House mast not going ahead.
Training – Village Hall to pay.
Clare Hawkins – booking.

3/18.4 Play area/S106 monies

Sue Maughan - £16.50 cash to be paid into playground account. (This was actioned 17/3/18 by CJarvis.)
Sue Maughan will continue to take observation notes. CJarvis to be contact for playground.
David Keen is to be approached to clean playground. (Cllr. J. Armstrong to action.)
S106 monies: discussion. CJarvis is assembling three quotes for councillors to consider. Approx. £4K to spend from S106 fund. (Three companies approached and two companies have quoted. Cjarvis to chase third.)
Site playground meeting for the councillors to take place at some point.
Cllr Judith Armstrong's niece and Mrs. Winter from Gilsland School to come and look at playground. (Cllr. J. Armstrong to action.)

Signed and accepted as a true record and accurate account of the TPC Meeting held on 14th March 2018:

Chairperson:

Date

3/18.5 Haltwhistle Burial Committee Report

Meeting representative: Christine Dixon in the last so another representative needs to be elected at next Annual Parish Council Meeting in May. Budget is OK. Funeral levels down. Precept up by 20% this year.

3/18.6 Longbyre

Mrs. Gowans, Stoneybeck, plans to cut trees down beside property which she is renting out as a holiday cottage. The family's intention is to live there in two years' time. This follows correspondence (email) between Mrs. Gowans and the clerk (CJarvis). CJarvis had confirmed that the Parish Council owns the land beside Stoneybeck. The trees are blocking light into property. Mrs. Gowans is to be asked to write to me formally to request this. The Parish Council will observe what can take place or not.

3/18.7 Parish Council Policy Checklist

Standing Orders have been circulated prior to the meeting. These were agreed and adopted by the Councillors.

Code of Conduct was circulated prior to the meeting. This was agreed and adopted by the Councillors.

3/18.8 Public Transport

Kirsten Francis from NCC had agreed to come and attend the meeting but she did not appear. CJarvis to chase.

Train is potentially stopping half hourly in May in both directions. Some are slow and some are faster.

3/18.9 COGS/PC Website

(Retrospective Agreement: NALC website funding and IT funding)

Meeting with Steve Gibbon has taken place (19/2/18 with Cllr Sue Seymour and CJarvis in attendance). Steve Gibbon is almost ready to go with the website. S. Gibbon was booked to attend this meeting but offered his apologies due to presence of bad cold. Thirlwall Parish Council is included in the COGS website. This will cost £500 and Steve Gibbon is to be paid £200 maintenance fee after website has run for a year. This is to be paid on an annual basis. Invoices are to be sent to S. Gibbon for this work when website is up and running. This was agreed by the Council. £1.8k grant funding for computer equipment and website training fees (claimed from NALC by CJarvis) was agreed retrospectively. This had to be done in this way to meet the NALC deadline of 7th February 2018. (Spreadsheet attached.)

3/18.10 Replacement of Councillor on Committee

Council can co-opt.

CJarvis to inform NCC of C. Dixon's passing and advertise vacancy.

P. Jameson has been approached to replace A. Metcalfe. He is considering it.

CJarvis to send letter to Paul Jameson.

Councillor required to be representative for playground and take an interest in it.

3/18.11 Pumphouse

Both Cllr. Alan Sharp and Cllr A. Stewart went to see the Pumphouse. It is a liability and being filled up with builders' rubble. The bill for building up wall. £2k to pay for the Pumphouse. PC insurance policy is due April/May/June.

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4/18.Accounts

Banking arrangements for clerk still to be resolved. HSBC – hard to deal with.

Main bank account balance approx: £5.5k

Playground account balance approx: £1.8k

4/18.2 Banking mandate and online banking

HSBC online banking – CJarvis to have sole access in order to operate the account – agreed by Councillors. This is with the caveat that all spending (apart from any which falls into discretionary spending limit) is to be agreed by the requisite number of Councillors as per the banking mandate.

Computer prices sourced by CJarvis and in line with NALC funding guidelines were also agreed by councillors. CJarvis to spend the monies by May meeting. All to be evidenced and receipted.

There was discussion of CJarvis to have a discretionary spending limit. Financial Regulations will be agreed in next meeting.

Cheque paid to Haltwhistle Burial Committee - £238.22 (100025)

Cheque paid £16.33 – annual inspection of Gilsland Playground – our share. Cheque paid to Upper Denton PC which organises said inspection. All agreed.

5/18. Planning

TPO – Steve Warren – granted permission (2m agreed not 5m).

Green Croft – Planning application (see diagrams/drawings).

No objections by Parish Council. CJarvis to agree this on Planning website NCC.

“The Hollies” – land belongs to John Cowan. Entrance to Irthing Park. An anonymous email was received by the council. Outline Planning permission exists for the two plots developed. Parish Council advised that planning department be approached to see whether he is within his rights (by the respondent).

6/18. Correspondence

Gilsland School sent a letter thanking the parish council for the small grant sent to the School. Gilsland School has requested whether the councillors want to visit the School.

7/18. Matters to be placed on next agenda/Any other business:

7/18.1 Gilsland Village hall

Community chest – grant to do the roof. This has come out of A. Sharp’s membership allowance helped to make up the balance.

7/18.2 Streetlights

Some have been replaced by new bulbs which are better for the night skies. Some are not working near Cllr. Judith Armstrong’s house.

Next meeting: Annual Parish Council Meeting and Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 17th May 2018 at 7.30pm.

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