

**Meeting Minutes of Thirlwall Parish Council held on
Wednesday 10th March 2021 using zoom online at 7.30pm**

Meeting commenced at 7.35pm

Present: Cllr S Seymour (SS), Cllr J Armstrong (JA), Cllr B Barwick (BB), Cllr Mark Barwick (MB) and Cllr A Sharp (AS)

Clerk: Mrs Sue Hatt

Members of Public Present: CK, JK, DH, SM, LW and JW

101/21 Apologies for Absence Cllr P Jameson (PJ)

102/21 Declarations of Interest

None.

103/21 Public Questions

Questions dealt with in other parts of the meeting.

104/21 Minutes of the meeting to be approved on: Wednesday 13th January 2021

PROPOSED: Cllr SS

SECONDED: Cllr JA

AGREED

105/21 Matters arising from previous minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the current agenda

None

106/21 Gilsland Matters reports and resolutions arising

106/21.01 Gilsland Play Area – Repairs and Renewals/updates

There are repairs to be carried out following the last annual report but it was agreed to wait for better weather (May) before undertaking the work. There are a number of mole hills in the play area and John Ridley has been approached about dealing with them, but it was decided to contact John Dixon about getting rid of them.

John Dixon to be contacted about dealing with the mole hills

ACTION : SH

Cemetery staff to be contacted in May about the repairs

ACTION: Cllrs BB, JA and MB

106/21.02 Gilsland Village – misc

The Jubilee Stone will be cleaned up and repositioned by Martin Armstrong. Dan Newrick and BB will meet to decide on the best place for it.

ACTION: Cllr BB

Parking has become an issue in the village again. The main area of concern lies between the old Post Office and Irthing Park, including Thirlwall Villas, where cars are parked inappropriately and often belong to residents who have parking places near their houses. One councillor reported that on one occasion, there were 7 cars parked on the pavement, causing danger for both residents and visitors to the village. Cllr AS suggested a site visit to gather evidence of the problem so that Northumberland County Council could be informed of the concerns.

Site visit organised for Sunday 14th March at 6pm

ACTION: All Cllrs

106/21.03 Gilsland Community Library

Emma Guerrero has asked the Parish Council to consider using the bus shelter as a community Library by installing a cupboard and bench in the shelter without detracting from the mosaic. It was agreed that this could be done and a donation could be made to the project once the cost of the work was known. The councillors also wanted to thank Emma for all her work on the Community Library.

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED

Letter to be sent approving the project and thanking Emma

ACTION: SH

107/21 Longbyre Matters reports and updates and resolutions arising

107/21.01 Road drainage issues

CLlr AS has received notification that a gully would be added to the existing one to alleviate the down comers. The work will be carried out in late April/ early May when it can be scheduled in. He has passed on the information to the residents.

He has also been in touch with the Environment Agency about the flooding risk from the stream, which overflows onto the road. It was agreed that the location would be visited during the site visit on the 14th March so that evidence can be gathered to present to the Environment Agency.

Visit to the location during site visit

ACTION: All Cllrs

107/21.02 Land at Stoneybeck/encroachment

There have no further communications with the owners but various residents and councillors have been contacted by the police about possible harassment. It was agreed to look at the fence line during the site visit to be carried out on the 14th March.

It was reported that there is also a growing parking problem – this is due to numerous vehicles belonging to carers who are working with young adults holidaying in Longbyre, being left on the roadside for extended periods. Cars from all over the country are being parked in front of houses and blocking residents. This was noted but it was felt that the Parish Council could not assist in this matter.

107/21.03 Dog Bin Location

SH has been in touch with Adam Keen from Northumberland County Council and has agreed a location and costing for the installation of the litter bin at Longbyre junction. It was agreed that the councillors meeting for the site visit would put a marker where they would like the bin located and SH would authorise the work to be done.

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED

Installation of litter bin to be organised

ACTION: SH

93/21.04 Wayleave agreement

CLlr SS has received a request to alter the Wayleave Agreement with Northern Powergrid, as the wire needs to go to the upper post rather than the lower post. This alteration will not affect the annual payment and was granted.

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED

107/21.05 Trees JK reported that she had enquired about the trees available from Northumberland County Council and that it was too late to get any. She suggested that the tree planting project be postponed until next year when it could be linked to the Queen's Jubilee. This would also allow for further consultation with Gilsland residents.

108/21 Grounds Matters reports and updates and resolutions arising

CLlr SS reported that the potholes at Moss Peteral had been filled in. CLlr AS also stated that the Longbyre potholes would be repaired over the next few months and that he will continue to alert Northumberland County Council to further problems.

108/21.01 The responsibility for the footpath leading to the station was discussed again and it was decided to write to Network Rail about the overhanging branches and brambles that obstruct the footpath. CLlrs BB and JA will send pictures of the overhanging brambles to include in the email. The path was believed to be the responsibility of Northumberland County Council and CLlr AS would ask for the area under the underpass to be cleaned as it is slippery and dangerous. In the meantime, it was agreed to ask David Keen to clean up the path to avoid any accidents.

Letter to be sent to Network rail

ACTION: CLlr JA and SH

110/21 Planning Applications

110/21.01 – 20/04415/FUL - Resubmission: Development of 4no. 2 storey, 3 bed, 5 person dwellings and associated housing, Land East Of Riversdale Riversdale Gilsland Northumberland

CLlr AS reported that there had been a number of letters of objections, as well as an objection from Highways about the development. The case officer was awaiting the comments from the Parish Council so CLlr SS summarised the main points to be included in the letter. It was suggested that attention should also be drawn to the poor access for emergency vehicles, as well as potential damage to the wildlife and ecology of the area.

CLlr SS to redraft the PC objections and SH to email to Rachel Campbell

ACTION: CLlr SS and SH

110/21.02 – 21/00166/FUL - New single storey side extension, installation of window in South elevation and new entrance porch, Wall View Greenhead Brampton Northumberland.

There were no objections to this planning application.

CK informed the Parish Council that he would soon be applying for permission to replace his porch.

111/21 Financial and Administration Matters

111/21.01 Bank Reconciliation and Accounts for Payments as at 1st March 2021 – Appendix 1

111/21.02 Income and expenditure as at 1st March 2021 – Appendix 2 – SH reported that there had been few transactions since the last meeting and that the accounts were very healthy

111/21.03 Election of Parish Councillors: The elections will take place on Thursday 6th May 2021. The paperwork has been sent out to all councillors and SH will update on the process for nomination. **ACTION: SH**

112/21 Correspondence

112/21.01 and 21.02 The letters received were noted. Further details would be send out in due course.

113/21 Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Council

CLlr AS reported that a meeting had been held a couple of weeks ago and that income was back to budget level due to the increase number of burials during the pandemic. The Council had purchased a new digger and was planning to replace other items of machinery. The cemetery was well maintained and looking good.

114/21 Matters for the next agenda and any other business:

100/21 Dates and time of next meeting

Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 12th May 2021. Venue to be confirmed nearer the date (whether virtual online or Gilsland Village Hall)

ALL WELCOME (please keep an eye on Thirlwall PC website: www.visitgilsland.org.uk)

This will not be the Annual Parish Meeting, which it was suggested might be held in July at the Village Hall.

Meeting concluded at 9.20pm.