

**Meeting Minutes of Thirlwall Parish Council held on
Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 7.30pm at Gilsland Village Hall**

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr S Seymour (SS), Cllr J Armstrong (JA), Cllr Mark Barwick (MB), Cllr P Jameson (PJ) and Cllr A Sharp (AS)

Clerk: Mrs Sue Hatt (SH)

Members of Public Present: GD, LW & JW.

145/21 Apologies for Absence: none

146/21 Declarations of Interest: None

147/21 Public Questions

Questions dealt with in other parts of the meeting.

148/21 Minutes of the meeting to be approved on: Wednesday 8th September 2021.

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED

149/21 Matters arising from previous minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the current agenda.

All covered in the agenda

150/21 Gilsland Matters reports and resolutions arising.

136/21.01 Gilsland Play Area – Repairs and Renewals/updates

Sue Maughan has decided that she can no longer carry out weekly inspections of the Play Area. The Parish Council noted their thanks for her hard work and dedication over the years. It was agreed that Cllr JA and Cllr MB would carry out regular inspections and report back to the Parish Council. The Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Committee would still carry out quarterly inspections and carry out small repairs when necessary. For larger repairs, they will inform the Parish Council and provide a quote for the work to be approved. Carlisle City Council will continue to carry out annual inspections as well. All reports will be sent to SH who will circulate them to Cllr JA and Cllr MB. The City Council annual inspection has highlighted that the ramp to the zip wire as being rotten. Work is also needed to the steps at the top of the slide, to the handrail and the bottom of the slide. Cllr MB has contacted a company who will quote to carry out the work in the New Year. There are overgrowing bushes at the side of the slide that need to be chopped back. Some signs are needed and JA will liaise with Cllr PJ about getting them made by a firm in Longtown (Sign-it.com.)

ACTION: Cllr JA and MB

150/21.02 Visit Gilsland – website

Cllr SS has approached Chris Cantrill about updating and managing the Visit Gilsland website and it was agreed that suggestions for development should be brought to the January meeting to be discussed. Upper Denton and Waterhead Parish Councils were interested in moving their pages to the website which would provide a cohesive setting for information about Gilsland.

136/21.02 Gilsland Village – misc

Highways: Cllr AS reported that the “low bridge” sign near the Sansom Inn is in hand but that it requires a feasibility study to be carried out before any action can be taken. It has been recognised that the signage on the A69 needs to be improved to warn large vehicles heading towards Spadeadam about the low bridge before they leave the A69 towards Longbyre. Highways England are investigating. Cllr AS is also asking for other signage in the village to be improved (such as “children playing” and “slow down”).

ACTION: Cllr AS

150/21.04 Bus Stop Mosaic project

Clare Hawkins has asked for permission to extend the mosaic at the bus stop to cover the rear and sides of the bus stop, since the library cupboards have reduced the original space intended for the design. It was agreed that this will be put on the agenda for January and that Clare would be asked for more information about the proposals. There was also an outstanding request to put Perspex in the windows. It was agreed that Cllr SS would ask Keith Waugh tel: 01697747477) to quote for the job so that it can be discussed at the January meeting.

ACTION: SH to add to agenda

Cllr SS to get quote - Keith Waugh

150/21.05 Village meeting – matters arising

Cllr AS felt that the meeting had been very successful and that the matters that had arisen were very relevant to Gilsland. The Parish Councils involved were dealing with the issues that had been identified and AS is following up on highway matters with the Northumberland County Council.

It was agreed that Cllr SS would draft a letter about the mobile coverage in Gilsland and send it to Local MPs. Upper Denton and Waterhead Parish Councils would also be asked to reinforce the problem.

Andi Keen was holding a meeting about the HM Queen's Jubilee and 1900th anniversary celebrations. He has been encouraged to approach the Parish Council for involvement and any necessary funding.

ACTION: Cllr SS to draft letter to MPs

151/21 Longbyre Matters reports and updates and resolutions arising.

A tree has fallen onto Parish Council land during Storm Arwen but the insurance does not cover the work to be carried out. A quote has been received from Gavin Reichert and it was agreed unanimously to accept the quote and get the work done.

151/21.01 Land at Stoneybeck/encroachment

Cllr SS outlined the options for resolving this ongoing issue.

- Obtaining Village Green status to protect the land in the future
- Having the boundaries officially surveyed by the Ordnance Survey.

It was agreed that employing a land agent would not be successful due to the existing relationship with the Gowans. Cllr PJ would find out about the cost of a survey of the boundaries and SH would find out about how to obtain Village Green Status.

ACTION: SH, Cllr SS and Cllr PJ

JW asked if the bridge over the stream could be reinstated. It was suggested that the National Parks be approached as it was believed that they might be able to help. It was also pointed out that a community fund was available for such projects. Cllr AS would contact the National Parks about the bridge.

Action: Cllr AS to investigate

152/21 Grounds Matters reports and updates and resolutions arising.

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda in future.

153/21 Planning Applications

153/21.01 21/03549/FUL Retrospective planning application relating to planning permission 15/02594/FUL - property was built 1.5m further back than original planning permission specified Location 11 The Forge Gilsland Brampton Northumberland CA8 7TF – **a letter of objection has been sent**

153/21.02 21/04389/FUL Construction of a single storey extension to the south and west elevations - (Revision of approval 21/01743/FUL) Location Ina House Gilsland Brampton Northumberland CA8 7EB – **no objections**

154/21 Financial and Administration Matters

154/21.01 Bank Reconciliation and Accounts for Payments as of 1st December 2021 – Appendix 1

154/21.02 Income and expenditure as of 1st December 2021 – Appendix 2

Clerk: Mrs Sue Hatt Email: clerk@thirlwallparishcouncil.org.uk www.visitgilsland.org.uk

154/21.03 Parish Precept 2022-2023. It was **unanimously agreed** that the Precept would remain unchanged for 2022-2023

154/21.04 The Clerk's salary and expenses were approved.

154/21.05 The purchase of the 2 cupboards for the community library was approved.

154/21.06 The invoice for Top Signs was discussed but was not recognised as relating to Thirlwall Parish Council.

154/21.07 The request for a grant from Tynedale Hospice at Home was discussed and it was felt that any future donations would be best made to Eden Valley Hospice which covered Gilsland.

154/21.08 Resignation of Cllr Bev Barwick – it was agreed to thank Cllr Bev Barwick for her contributions and hard work over the years. The Notice of Vacancy has been put up on the noticeboards and a new member for the Parish Council could be co-opted at the January meeting. Cllr SS has suggested that Emma Guerrero be approached about joining the Parish Council.

ACTION: Cllr SS to ask Emma

155/21 Correspondence

155/21.01 Lottery Application by Gilsland School – Cllr SS reported that she had written to support the school's application for Lottery money.

155/21.02 Street lighting in Irthing Park – Cllr AS would get in touch with Anne Cooke about the matter

ACTION: Cllr AS

155/21.03 Plant a tree for the Jubilee – Steve Rozario has been approached about getting involved in this project. It was agreed that a questionnaire would be put in the parish magazine to ask for ideas as to where to plant trees in the village and to ask for volunteers.

ACTION: Cllr SS to draft letter

156/21 Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Council

Cllr AS reported that there was nothing to report from the meeting. The precept for 2022-2023 has been raised by 5%. He reminded SH that the second payment to the HDJB Council was due. SH to organise payment immediately.

ACTION: SH to make payment

157/21 Matters for the next agenda and any other business:

157/21.01 JW asked for an update about the reopening of Gilsland Station. He was advised that there had been no progress and that a new costing for the project was being requested.

157/21.02 It was requested that the issue of parking in the village be included in the agenda for the January meeting.

158/21 Dates and time of next meeting

Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 12th January 2022 at Gilsland Village Hall.

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

Future meetings:

- Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 7.30pm

Meeting concluded at 9.00 pm.