

**Draft Meeting Minutes of Thirlwall Parish Council held on
Wednesday 14th September 2022 at 7.30pm at Gilsland Village Hall**

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr S Seymour (SS), Cllr Mark Barwick (MB), Cllr Emma Guerrero, Cllr P Jameson (PJ) and Cllr A. Sharp

Clerk: Mrs Sue Hatt (SH)

Members of Public Present: NJ

28/22 Welcome and Apologies for Absence: There were no absences. Cllr SS welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended the Parish Council's deepest condolences to members of the Royal family after the death of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. A minute's silence was held.

29/22 Declarations of Interest: None

30/22 Public Questions

No questions were submitted.

**31/22 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 were approved:
UNANIMOUSLY AGREED**

32/22 Matters arising from previous minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the current agenda.

None that were not on the agenda

33/22 Gilsland Matters reports and resolutions arising.

33/22.01 Gilsland Play Area – Repairs and Renewals/updates

Cllr MB and JA have carried out a deep inspection to the cableway and do not feel that there should be a brake.. Cllr SS will ask Sean Glenton not to recording this as a defect on the quarterly report. The gates have also been checked and reported that the playground was looking well kept.

Cllr JA and Cllr MB have talked to the older children who requested that the basketball area be turned into a football goal. She has been in touch with a playground company to arrange a visit to see what improvements could be carried out. The company would provide a quote for the equipment but would not carry out the groundwork. It was suggested that Stephen Ferguson could be asked to quote for the groundwork.

Cllr JA would talk to Claire Hawking about the maintenance of the nature area as it is overgrown.

Cllr EG requested that a bench be purchased for the adults to sit on. It was also suggested that solar lights be put in to make the Play Area safer at night.

SH informed the councillors that the Play Area would be inspected by the City Council in October/ November.

Action: Cllr JA to talk to Claire Hawkins

33/22.02 Visit Gilsland website

Chris Cantrill sent his apologies and but will report back at the November meeting.

Action: Chris Cantrill to report at November meeting

33/22.03 Neighbourhood Plan and Village meeting

The benefits of a Neighbourhood Plan were discussed and it was felt that the Gilsland Village Plan and Action Plan might provide a blueprint for a new plan. It was suggested that Northern Powergrid might provide funding to carry this out. It was proposed that a Joint meeting be held with Upper Denton and Waterhead Parish Councils on 9th November 2022 at 7.30pm to discuss the way forward before organising a village meeting for public consultation. Thirlwall Parish

Council would meet at 7pm with a limited agenda before the councillors from the other Parishes joined the meeting. SH will put the item on the agenda for their meeting on Thursday 15th September.

Cllr SS will contact Gill Cowell (Business and Community Engagement Officer Northumberland Programme) about attending the meeting to talk about mobile signal and broadband.

Action: SH to organise joint meeting with Upper Denton and Waterhead Parish Councils
Cllr SS to contact Gill Cowell about attending the meeting

33/22.04 Removal of posts at the bus stop

Cllr MB put up posts to stop people parking at the bus stop. However, these were removed and 2 transit vans were then parked illegally. It was agreed that photographic evidence of ongoing infringements would be necessary to get the Highways to look at the situation. Cllr EG reported that she had historical evidence of illegal parking if necessary.

33/22. Skunk cabbage

Duncan Hoyle is now qualified to carry out the work but that the job would require 2 treatments, which he would not have time to carry out this year. He will undertake the work in the New Year.

Action: Duncan Hoyle to carry out the work and submit claim for costs to SH in the New Year

33/22.07 Highways

Cllr AS reported that the work on the approach to the Samson Bridge will go ahead following a Safety Audit. The budget has been approved so the work can be carried out. The signs for Rosehill are in hand and will be put up in the next few months. The road behind the Samson Inn needs maintenance and this is being pursued.

34/22 Longbyre Matters – reports and resolutions arising.

34/22.01 Land at Stoneybeck

SH reported that the Parish Council was now a member of the Open Spaces Society and that resources and help were now available for registering the Play Area and the Village Green. She has also purchased an online publication called "Getting Greens Registered" so that the process can be simplified. SH will send a copy of the online publication to Cllr JA. It was agreed that Cllrs SS and JA would meet with SH to complete the relevant forms and get them checked before submitting them.

Action: Cllrs SS and JA to meet with SH to complete the forms

34/22.02 Reinstatement of the bridge

There has been nothing but positive comments about the reinstatement of the bridge. It was suggested that the bridge be placed on concrete slabs and marked with a couple of posts. Cllr PJ volunteered to collect the bridge from the depot and transport it on a flat trailer. NJ agreed to measure the bridge and Cllr AS would let the National Parks know that the bridge would be collected. Cllr SS will talk to Stephen Ferguson about quoting to carry out the work of reinstating it.

Action: Cllr SS to contact Stephen Ferguson

34/22.03 Winter tree planting

Steve Rosario has reported that an ash tree is shedding its leaves and causing dangerous conditions for walkers. Although this is not in the Parish Council's remit, Cllr JA will talk to the owner of the property and try to resolve the problem. He also suggested that trees be planted around the village but as the land does not belong to the Parish, councillors could not agree to this. It was suggested that fruit trees be planted on the Village Green to replace the ashes that will need to be removed. Cllr SS will put up a notice to ask residents to comment on the plan.

Action: Cllr SS to put up notice for local residents

35/22 Planning Applications

35/22.01 22/0968/ENDEVT Planning Query for North View, Gilsland – the matter has been registered as a planning enforcement case and will be investigated. An update from Tom Speight (Planning Enforcement Officer) is expected within the next 28 days.

36/22 Financial and Administration Matters

36/22.01 Income and expenditure as of 5th September 2022 – Appendix 1

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

36/22.02 Bank Reconciliation and Accounts for Payments as of 5th September 2022 – Appendix 2

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

37/22 Correspondence**36/22.01 Gilsland Mosaic unveiling**

The councillors joined Cllr SS in thanking all the people involved in designing and producing the mosaic in the bus shelter. A letter of appreciation and thanks will be sent from the councillors.

Action: SH to write to the organisers

37/22.02 Home Composting Trial

Councillors noted that the Home Composting Trial would be starting in Gilsland.

37/22.03 Northern Powergrid Resilience Fund

Cllr SS will check to see if there is a need for an Action Plan.

38/22 Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Council

The Parish Council noted and approved that Cllr MB had replaced Cllr JA on the Council. Cllr AS reported the sad passing of Michael Glenright and informed the councillors that a replacement was being sought. The shortlisting for interviews will take place on the 31st October, with interviews to take place the following week.

Action: SH to write to Kate Heaney to confirm change

39/22 Matters for the next agenda and any other business: none**40/22 Dates and time of next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 9th November 2022 at Gilsland Village Hall at 7pm** followed by a joint meeting with Upper Denton and Waterhead Parish Councils at 7.30pm.

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

Future meetings:

- Wednesday 11th January 2023 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 8th March 2023 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 10th May 2023 following the AGM.
- Wednesday 12th July 2023 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 7.30pm

Meeting concluded at 9.10pm.