

**Approved Meeting Minutes of Thirlwall Parish Council held on  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm at Gilsland Village Hall**

**Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr S Seymour (SS), Cllr Mark Barwick (MB) Cllr Emma Guerrero (EG) and Cllr A. Sharp (AS)

**Clerk:** Mrs Sue Hatt (SH)

**Members of Public Present:** CW, JD and L&JW

**54/23 Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from and Cllr Judith Armstrong (JA) and Cllr Paul Jameson (PJ).

**55/23 Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

**56/23 Public Questions**

No questions were submitted.

**57/23 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were approved:  
UNANIMOUSLY AGREED**

**58/23 Matters arising from previous minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the current agenda.**

None that were not on the agenda.

**59/23 Gilsland Matters** reports and resolutions arising.

**59/23.01 Gilsland Play Area – Repairs and Renewals/updates.**

The work on the path to the slide will be completed by the beginning of October at the price that was originally quoted. SS would contact PJ about the benches that were going to be installed in the Play Area. MB said he would organise for the solar lights to be put up before the winter. SH has chased up the instructions but has had no response, although it was felt that they would not be difficult to install.

Cllr EG reported that one of the toddler swings was damaged and would need attention. It was agreed to ask Sean Glenton to carry out any necessary repairs.

**Action: SH to contact SG about repairs.**

**59/23.02 Play Area Inspections**

SS has been in touch with Sean Glenton who did not inspect the Play Area in the summer as the Local Authority inspection was carried out. The report was given to Cllr JA who would liaise with Cllr MB about possible actions. An inspection by Sean will still be taking place every 3 months.

**59/23.03 Safety concerns at the Railway Bridge**

Cllr MB reported Steve Warren was concerned about pedestrians and cyclists using the low bridge and passing his driveway. The mirror at the bottom of his drive has been damaged and he no longer has a clear view when leaving his property. Cllr AS offered to pay for a new mirror to be put up at the end of the drive.

**59/23.04 Village Hall computer**

The Village Hall committee have sent a letter of thanks for the donation towards the new computer for the Village Hall which was read out.

**60/23 Longbyre Matters** – reports and resolutions arising.

**60/23.01 Village Green Status**

Nothing to report over the summer due to family commitments. Collection of statements has been difficult as House of Meg has been busy with visitors. A meeting will be convened as soon as possible.

It was reported that the owners of Stoneybeck were once again using Parish Council land inappropriately and it was confirmed that the estate agents had been informed of the ongoing land dispute both by Cllr SS and SH.

#### **60/23.02 Benches at Longbyre**

Cllr SS will contact Cllr PJ about the status of the benches for the Play Area and the Village Green. LW was thanked for her donation towards the benches, and she offered to contact residents about where to position the benches.

**Action: Cllr SS to contact Cllr PJ about benches**

**Cllr PJ to send invoice to SH**

#### **61/23.08 Highways**

Cllr AS reported that he has received comprehensive information about the signage for the low bridge on the B6318 and the A69. Some signs have already been erected and it was agreed to carry out a survey of what signs were still missing. Thanks were expressed to Cllr AS for his hard work on this issue.

The contractors for the timber extraction would carry out repairs to the potholes that have appeared on the access roads.

The road in Longbyre has been resurfaced and Cllr AS was thanked for his contribution to the work. There were concerns about the cattle grids leading to Warcar and Cllr AS offered to pay for the installation of new cattle grids. There was also discussion about a possible 30mph speed limit in the village and Cllr AS said he would chase this up. Warning signs on the road about pedestrians were also suggested due to the number of walkers and the poor visibility on the road.

#### **62/23 Planning Applications**

**62/23.01** 23/03153/FUL Rebuilding of garage and alterations to house, Holyrood House Longbyre Greenhead Brampton Northumberland CA8 7HN Applicant Mr and Mrs Lawrence Newsham

The planning application was discussed after John Whittle explained that the development included a roof terrace which would overlook all the neighbouring properties. This only became obvious when the elevation plans were examined, as no reference was made in the application of the roof terrace. It was agreed that the Parish Council would express concerns about the impact of the development on neighbouring properties in terms of privacy and the adverse effect on the style and character of Longbyre.

#### **63/23 Financial and Administration Matters**

**63/23.01** Income and expenditure as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – Appendix 1

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**63/23.02** Bank Reconciliation and Accounts for Payments as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – Appendix 2

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

**63/23.03 Change of bank:** A new bank account has been opened and the process of switching from the HSBC to Lloyds has been started.

#### **64/23 Correspondence**

**64/23.01 Crowdfund North Tyneside:**

This was noted.

**64/23.02 Northumberland in Bloom Awards**

Cllr SS informed the councillors that Gilsland had been invited to the Northumbria in Bloom and It's your Neighbourhood Award Presentation on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 as the bus shelter was up for an award.

**64/23.03 Skateboarding**

This was noted.

**65/23 Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Council**

Cllr AS reported that the Burial Council was operating well and is financially sound. Sean Glenton now has a full-time contract and is settling into the job. All allotments have been let and the cemeteries are well maintained. Issues with asbestos have been dealt with and the safety of headstones was being investigated.

**66/23 Matters for the next agenda and any other business:**

Emma Evans has reported that the defibrillator sign has been damaged and Charles Whittle offered to put the sign back up on the wall near the defibrillator.

**Action: CW to put the defibrillator sign back up**

**67/23 Dates and time of next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm at Gilsland Village Hall**

**ALL WELCOME** (please keep an eye on Thirlwall PC website: [www.visitgilsland.org.uk](http://www.visitgilsland.org.uk))

**Future meetings:**

- Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 8th May 2024 - Annual Meeting at 7pm followed by normal Parish Council Meeting at 8pm
- Wednesday 10th July 2024 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm

**Meeting concluded at 8.40pm**