

**Draft Meeting Minutes of Thirlwall Parish Council held on
Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7.30pm at Gilsland Village Hall**

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr S Seymour (SS), Cllr Judith Armstrong (JA), Cllr Owen Wilkins (OW), Cllr Emma Guerrero (EG) and Cllr A. Sharp (AS). Coopted at the meeting: Cllr David Keen (Cllr DK).

Clerk: Mrs Sue Hatt (SH)

Members of Public Present: GD, J&LW, MC

29/25 Apologies for Absence: none

30/25 Declarations of Interest: none

31/25 Public Questions

No questions were submitted.

32/25 Welcome to new Councillor

Cllr Paul Jameson has offered formally his resignation and the councillors expressed their thanks to him for his hard work and dedication. SH will send a card. David Keen was coopted and welcomed onto the Parish Council, having completed the necessary paperwork.

Action: SH to send card to Cllr PJ

**33/25 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2024 were approved:
UNANIMOUSLY AGREED**

34/25 Matters arising from previous minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the current agenda.

None that were not on the agenda.

35/25 Gilsland Matters reports and resolutions arising.

35/25.01 Gilsland Play Area – Repairs and Renewals/updates.

The inspections using the checklist are being carried out and there are no issues arising. The lights are working correctly. The cleaning of the equipment which was supposed to be carried out by Sean Betton has not taken place yet. It was suggested that SH contact him about organising the cleaning. Cllr JA will send her the contact details.

Action: SH to contact Sean Betton about cleaning

The seats were supposed to be cemented in place by Sean Gleeson, but this has not been done, neither have the Longbyre ones. It was agreed to ask Gary Barker to carry out the work and send the invoice to SH. Cllr JA will show him where to position them and J&LW will do the same at Longbyre.

Action: Cllr JA to ensure the work is carried out

SH has received a quote for carrying out the repairs on the steps leading to the slide but the cost was deemed too high. It was felt that the job had never been completed satisfactorily and that any repairs should be covered by the guarantee. Cllr SS will contact the company to organise a meeting at the Play Area to discuss the possible options.

Action: Cllr SS to contact Batson about repairs

Cllr JA has collected quotes for the goals posts and these will be shared at the next meeting.

35/25.02 PROW in Forestry

Cllr SS contacted Duncan Wise at the National Parks about the bridleways in the Parish that have been obliterated due to felling and lack of attention. It appears that foresters are treated more leniently than farmers. She has received a

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

Page 1 of 3

response from Lorna Lazzari who has raised the issue with the new Forest Trail officers. The area is programmed for clear felling and the PROW work will be left until this has taken place.

Action: Cllr SS to contact Forest Trail Officers

35/24.03 Bus Shelter – illuminated sheep

The councillors agreed to the illuminated sheep to return to the roof of the bus shelter.

35/24.04 Hadrian's Wall signage

Cllr SS has contacted Lorna Lazzari and been informed that Leah Vigars has recently been appointed as Hadrian's Wall Path national trail officer and she is planning to survey the whole route and look at signage. Cllr SS suggested that she contact her to meet up when she is carrying out the survey.

Action: Cllr SS to contact Leah Vigars

35/25.05 Website

SH has paid the invoice and will liaise with Ben Johnson from Upper Denton about the website going live. The contributions from Upper Denton and Waterhead Parishes will be discussed and agreed at the November meeting.

Action: SH to liaise with Ben Johnson

35/25.06 Samson Inn update

Cllr AS updated the councillors on the Samson Inn. The Gilsland Community Benefit Society Ltd consists of 9 members who oversee the reopening of the Samson Inn. A new tenant has been appointed – his name is George Campbell from Annan, and he has experience of running other community pubs. He will live in the flat and there will be 4 rooms for letting. It is planned that the pub will be open 7 days a week and offer food 5 days a week. The cleaning day was a great success, with people coming from all over the country, and the building work is in progress. The tenant will organise the decorating and there are several events planned with the opening date tentatively scheduled for the middle of October.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on the 10th October 2024 at the Village Hall.

36/25 Longbyre Matters – reports and resolutions arising.

36/25.01 Village Green Status

The meeting between Cllr JA and SH has not yet taken place so it was agreed that the application for Village Green be send separately to Open Spaces for checking before submission.

Action: SH to send the Village Green forms to Open Spaces

Concerns were raised that some residents were emptying their hot tub onto the Village Green. It was suggested that the water may eventually affect the Pow Charney burn and it was agreed that advice be sought from the Environment Agency.

Action: Cllr SS to contact the Environment Agency

37/25 Highways

37/25.01 Cllr AS reported that there was water pooling outside Chapel House due to overflowing drains. Also the drains near Irthing House are still blocked with gravel and he would chase both matters up.

Cllr EG informed the councillors that the bench at Rosehill had now been replace and secured.

Although the timber extraction has now ended, there is still heavy traffic through the village as the ongoing work is completed. Cllr AS will find out how long the work will take and if there is any more to carry out.

38/25 Planning Applications

38/25.01 24/02645/FUL Proposed single storey porch to front of house. 8 The Forge Gilsland Brampton Northumberland CA8 7TF Mr Pete Lowe – no comments.

38/25.02 24/02114/FUL Ground mounted (screw pile) PV solar system including EV charging (14 x 440kW panels, each panel 1762mm x 1134mm). Woodhouse Farm Greenhead Brampton Northumberland CA8 7HY Mr Charles Mearns – no comments.

39/25 Financial and Administration Matters

39/25.01 Income and expenditure as of 1st September 2024 – Appendix 1

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

39/25.02 Bank Reconciliation and Accounts for Payments as of 1st September 2024 – Appendix 2

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

39/25.03 Funding Protocol with other PCs

Following a discussion about the proposed funding formula, it was agreed to discuss the item at the November meeting.

39/25.04 Request for contribution towards disabled bay markings at school car park

A contribution of 6/8th of the cost £200 was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

40/25 Correspondence

40/25.01 Bus Service Improvement Plan – this was noted.

40/25.02 Cumberland Planning Policy Update – this was noted.

40/25.03 Draft Right of Way Improvement Plan- this was noted.

41/25 Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Council

41/25.01 Representative on the Haltwhistle and District Joint Burial Committee

David Keen agreed to become the representative for Thirlwall Parish Council on the Burial Committee and would attend the next meeting.

Cllr AS reported that all was going well and that the number of burials had increased. All the allotments have been let.

42/25 Matters for the next agenda and any other business:

42/25.01 Cllr JA reported that Mark Barwick has had a near miss with a car speeding through the village whilst in his wheelchair. Cllr EG also informed the councillors that she found it dangerous when out with a buggy. The footpath is too narrow and forces people into the road, which is steep and bendy. It was suggested that Neil Snowden be invited to attend a PC meeting possible traffic calming measures to deal with speeding through the village.

Action: Cllr AS to invite Neil Snowden to PC meeting

43/25 Dates and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm at Gilsland Village Hall.**

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

Future meetings:

- Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 14th May 2025 AGM at 7.00pm followed by a Parish Council meeting
- Wednesday 9th July 2025 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 10th September 2025 at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 7.30pm

Meeting concluded at 9.25pm.