

# Beckermet with Thornhill Parish Council

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## Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April, 19:00 at Thornhill Social Club

- 1) **Present**  
E Matthews (Chair), C Boothroyd, D Humphreys, S Meteer, K Cook, S Caddy, J Oliver, P Manning, S Tucker (Clerk), A Rishworth, D McGhee, PCSO Watson
- 2) **Apologies**  
C Winrow, J Powe
- 3) **Public Participation**  
There were 2 members of the public in attendance
- 4) **Chairman's report**
  - The Council met 11 times in the year, once per month except for the month of June. Meetings were held in Beckermet or Thornhill.
  - We met all of the statutory requirements for budget setting, provision and auditing of accounts, quorate meetings and proper conduct of Parish business. The Parish achieved all of its work within the precept of £14000, including an allocation of £2000 towards the play area improvements. Following an assessment of the parish's finances, it was decided that the precept for 2013/14 would be reduced by 9% down to £12750 so that Central Government cuts that Copeland BC would have passed on (and actually the amount paid by households for the parish portion of council tax has actually reduced slightly from last year).
  - Regular on-going responsibilities such as grass cutting in the parks and playing fields have been properly discharged and we have arranged for statutory safety inspections of play equipment in the

parks. Repairs have been done where needed (including following malicious damage). We are keen to support the work on the Play Area improvements for Beckermet.

- Our website for the parish council has proved to be a useful communication method and store for parish related information. We will look to further improve the website during the upcoming year under our new Webmaster.
- We donated benches to both schools in the parish this year to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and we hope these will be in place for the children to use for many years to come. We also gave money to the Beckermet Sports Committee and the Thornhill Village Association.
- The Parish Council have responded to numerous consultations this year, with a range of topics including the GDF, Pylons and CBC funding. These responses have been compiled with accuracy and in a succinct and timely fashion. The benefit of making these responses is that the parish's voice is being heard in these consultations and this has been reflected in the changes that have been made to documents that have been consistent with our responses.
- In July 2012, our clerk handed in her notice due to personal circumstances. We had 14 applicants for the position and in September 2012, Siân started in the role. I've been very pleased with how she has taken to this role and the professionalism and efficiency with which she has undertaken her duties. I feel this has put the Parish Council on a good footing for the upcoming year.
- For the upcoming year, we look forward to evaluating the possible options to reduce speeding within Beckermet in close collaboration with the residents and CCC Highways. We are also keen to progress the improvements to the Football Pitch at Thornhill. We will also continue to work closely with the BVA, TVA, CBC and CCC as appropriate on different issues affected the parish.

5) **Financial Statement**

## Financial Summary

### **BECKERMET PARISH COUNCIL 2012 - 2013**

first day	01/04/2012
last day	31/03/2013
today	11/04/2013
time through this year	<b>103%</b>
% spent	<b>90%</b>
Precept	<b>£14,000.00</b>
From Reserves	<b>£905.00</b>

	<b>Original</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Spend to date</b>	<b>Spend %</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£13,980.00</b>	<b>£14,905.00</b>	<b>£13,422.54</b>	<b>90%</b>
Admin	£200.00	£200.00	£139.74	70%
Audit Fee	£200.00	£400.00	£378.00	95%
Grants	£2,500.00	£300.00	£120.00	40%
Parish				
Maintenance	£4,600.00	£4,600.00	£4,046.27	88%
Insurance	£1,050.00	£1,020.00	£703.03	69%
Room rent	£225.00	£255.00	£246.50	97%
Salary	£3,300.00	£3,300.00	£3,179.55	96%
Subs	£325.00	£325.00	£235.00	72%
Travel	£180.00	£180.00	£178.75	99%
Internet	£125.00	£125.00	£96.00	77%
Projects	£1,275.00	£4,200.00	£4,099.70	98%

6) **Date and location for next meeting**

The next annual meeting will be held in April 2014

**Action: ST to bring forward to January 2014 meeting to discuss attendees.**