

Beckermet with Thornhill Parish Council

Ms G R Threader (Clerk)

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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd May 2018, 7pm, at Beckermet Reading Rooms

1. Present

P Manning, D McGhee, S Meteer, S Caddy, K Woolley,
D Humphreys, W Johnson, G Threader (Clerk)

Apologies

J Edwards and K Cook

2. To declare any interest in items on the agenda

No interests were declared

3. To consider approvals of the following minutes of previous meetings:

The Parish Council meeting held on 18th April, 2018

The Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 18th April 2018

The Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th April, 2018

The minutes of the above meetings were approved.

4. Public participation

Julie Nugent a Beckermet resident for 29 years who has served on a number of local committees'. WJ introduced Julie to everyone present.

5. Finance

It was resolved that the following payments requested to be made by the Clerk, should be made:

To Pay	Comments	Amount
Gillian Threader Clerk	May Salary - £326.82 Internet - £15 Travel - £8 Paper for printer £2.93	£352.75
Beckermeth Reading Rooms	May Meeting	£20
NPower	Football Club Payment	£14.89

A grant application received on the 21st from Jo Haigh (info@alwaysanotherway.co.uk) for funding of £500 for Thornhill Fun Day on 30th June was discussed. The overall opinion was this was worth supporting but some Councillors felt that £500 was too much. As there were 14 attachments to Jo Haigh's email that Councillors' hadn't had the chance to read it was agreed that GT would email Jo Haigh to say the matter was under discussion. It was agreed that the Clerk would renew the Norton Security subscription (29.99) for the council computer and show that on next month's finance report.

6. Budget Update

The budget report provided by the Clerk was accepted.

7. Progress Reports

- **Police Report**

Helen Wheelan had supplied a report on the 22nd, there was no major queries on the contents of the report.

- **Traffic & Highways**

SM had a meeting re Thornhill to get incidents on to the "highways system" so that action will be taken. SM is reviewing the reports and it was agreed that he would provide a summary to the other members of the Parish Council of the points he thinks are no longer necessary for inclusion.

- **ETRO**

PM attended CCC local Copeland committee meeting.

The proposal had been to close two roads and prevent access in to Morass Rd and

Nursery Rd. This proposal was rejected. The official consultation had 96 responses, 16 in favour, 11 neutral and 69 against. (This confirmed the consultation that the PC had run in 2016, at the request of CCC). During the 4 weeks of United Utility roadworks on Nursery Rd there was a 70% increase to the traffic on Mill Lane past the nursery. Independent road safety concerns were the awkward junction for traffic in the village centre and the increased flow past the schools on Mill Lane. The Country Council were keen to re-open discussion on other options. JE had been the contact and could try to get a new meeting.

- **Website Update**

DM had done a lot of work to re-write the website and do site maintenance. The old site required a core HTML code for any changes and as DM won't be seeking re-election next May the website has been set up that anyone with a password will be able to manage it. DM stated that she would be prepared to help out on an ad hoc basis from next May. Actions, PM agreed to update the sections on the transmission project and on MRWS/GDF for DM.

Parish Council Freedom of Information, the document linked the PC charges for freedom of info, this to be re-issued and re-worded as charges discretionary. Statement to read charges for info at the discretion of the PC, contact via the Clerk. DM said she had not actioned the request from the post office to include a link on the website as the link had proved unsatisfactory and that had yet to be resolved.

- **Asset review**

SC to give DM values for the PC owned land. DM highlighted some listed assets that no longer exist or were in a poor state of repair. Several would be removed. The War Memorial to be added as an asset.

- **Lengthsman work tasks**

The History board was put up by the History group and KC to confirm ownership. PM to write a formal letter thanking KC and the History group for their work on the History board. Picnic bench bases opposite the White Mare concreted in. WJ has agreed to give Works 4 You a monthly "needs to be done list"; SC said seats need treating with Cuprinol, cemetery car park strimmed or treated with weed killer, playground equipment to be cleaned and painted. SC to liaise with Works 4 You via mobile and PC to provide materials as required for these jobs. Due to the apprentice scheme requiring two qualifications there was currently only Martin on the Lengthsman scheme but other members of Works 4 You had helped with some of the work.

- **Thornhill changing room extension update**

SM confirmed the expected start date as mid-June.

7a. New Issues

- **Grass at Thornhill School**

The grass at the top end is no longer being cut and will become unkempt, general feeling was PC shouldn't take over getting this area cut as it's not in our ownership. SC thought the PC cutting the grass may help a future community asset request. It was agreed a letter should be sent to the school and the new county councillor stating that the PC doesn't want the area left uncut. 'SM suggested a letter be sent to the school (copy to P Turner County Councillor for the area) asking them to cut the grass and also pointing out that a Community Asset transfer of the relevant land to the Parish Council had been refused by the County Council in 2017'.

- **Playground equipment**

A company had offered to come down and demo new equipment but it was agreed everyone present was happy with the existing equipment.

- **Local council review magazine**

It was agreed that the PC didn't want to pursue this.

- **Reading room upgrade**

Four issues were raised, the lack of WiFi, possible booster for mobile signal, brightening the décor and improved acoustics in the small room.

- **Sport England**

It was agreed that the football grounds would be registered with Sport England as registration costs nothing and it might help with funding in the future. Clerk to register and follow up.

8. Data Protection Procedure and Risk register

PM noted that only 11 people on the parish e-circulation had not responded to the email re data protection and had been deleted.

Clerk to counter sign the councillors forms and chase any that are missing.

9. NuGen

On May 4th there were 2 meetings attended by PM and JE. Katherine Jackson has resigned and 2 people from the Manchester base have picked up her work. The morning meeting consisted of a walk round the village showing them what people would see and where the fences would be, etc. In the afternoon their boss Gary Shuttleworth joined the meeting to discuss the 4 issues consistently raised by the PC. The layout of the actual Moorside site, where to tip the excavated soil, plan to close Nursery Rd and the property support/blight. There had been further consideration of all the issues but no details would be available until the deal with the

Koreans was finalised. Chat in technical press suggests deal to be signed in September, this may be optimistic. There are no public meetings planned until there is something to say.

10. Update on provision of community led plan

WJ reported that Geoff Nugent had invited her to a meeting with Gary and Alex from NuGen. Possible village meeting September, NuGen offered to facilitate, e.g. at community centre (no money without NuGen). There will not be a meeting if there is no funding. Geoff has spoken to Bootle, Trudy Harrison wants giant roadshow for all villages, Geoff thought this was not the way forward for the Parish and WJ agreed. The Bootle info is available on their website.

11. Planning applications received

New fencing at Sellafield (Sellafield Parishes Meeting) as building plant to re-treat stocks of certain materials. The full proposal has gone to Copeland but the map sent to the PC doesn't show the actual location.

Also at Sellafield, the proposal was to increase the capacity of the new store for self-shielded boxes.

PM asked if anyone had heard about the Kirkbeck Drive planning application, previous application had been thrown out. Clerk to get in touch and get an update, plot known as adjacent to 6 or no 7.

12. Meetings at which the council is represented

It was noted that the "3 people in a car" scheme was due to come in to force on 25th June, any parking issues to be monitored.

PM noted 18 projects ongoing. Only 1 item is a contentious issue; the stores at Sellafield original planning consent required them to be emptied in 30 years, now formally applying to keep for 100 years.

WCSSG; Thorp to close in November, Magnox to close in 2 ½ years (tbc), Sellafield could now cope if both these closed sooner. The Environment agency felt that discharge limits would not be a constraint.

Government has offered £one million a year to areas prepared to talk about having a repository. Cumbria already does store the stuff and is looking to benefit.

13. Discussion/Options for possible commemorative plaques Beckermat & Thornhill

SM proposed two stone plinths on cut and face sandstone with inscribed polished granite inserts. He provided an approximate cost. He suggested sittings of near the bus shelter in Beckermat and Thornhill Park where the children would see it (SC & SM agreed railing would be needed round the Thornhill site and no quote had been

sought for these). SM said ten weeks was a minimum time needed for the plinths to be made and they would be needed before Armistice Day so latest order time would be mid-August.

The issue of whether planning permission would be required was also raised.

The Council was divided on the issue and did not know what could be obtained for a smaller sum.

Given the significant cost and the various views of the Councillors PM asked all the councillors to email the Clerk a yes or no answer to the question

“Do you support spending about £4,000 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of WW1 armistice?”

If the majority agreed the design and other details would be discussed at the next meeting. If not, other options could be considered.

It should be noted that ‘following a secret ballot by email, the proposal for the provision of plaques as outlined by SM was defeated by 5 votes against to 4 votes for’.

14. Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda

KW raised the issue of the road to St. Bridget’s church gets overgrown, KW has previously tried ringing but no action was forthcoming.

DH raised the following;

The Npower engineer, no electric meter in the changing rooms.

Lady complained about the condition of the cemetery (Iron Bridge), overgrown and when the grass is cut the cuttings are not removed, additionally the tap has come away and is leaking. - Job for Lengthsman?

DH also asked if there was a chance of 2 benches for OAP’s on the grass by the 13 bungalows, 2 grass areas so 2 benches. It was noted permission might be needed for this and it was agreed to add it to next month’s agenda.

15. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 13th June 2018 at Thornhill Social Club starting at 7pm.