

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 20 April 2022 commencing at 19.00hrs
Venue: The Reading Rooms, Beckermest**

Present: (TB) Tim Barlow (Vice Chairman), (EJ) Eric Jewitt, (MS) Michael Slater,
(KC) Kath Cook, (TC) Tina Church (Clerk)

1 Apologies

J Nugent and S Caddy. TB to chair this meeting.

2 To declare any interest in items on the agenda

None declared.

3 Public Participation

Three members of the public in attendance. Each person representing one of the football teams in relation to agenda item 5. Item 5 was brought forward on the agenda. The Chairman introduced members of the Parish Council.

4 Agree the minutes of 16 March 2022 meeting and review actions from previous meetings

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Chairperson content to sign and authorise the minutes for publication.

The actions were reviewed, updated, closed out or marked as ongoing as appropriate.

5 Thornhill Changerooms/Pitch (discussed ahead of agenda item 4)

Consider the request from a third football team (Thornhill Social Football Club) to use the facilities

A discussion around the logistics of three teams using the facility took place eg managing fixtures, storage etc.

The Parish Council granted permission for the third team to use the facility.

Agree revised rental agreement for each team

The amended rental agreements (one for each of the three teams) had been circulated to Parish Councillors ahead of this meeting. The rental agreements were accepted and would be signed by each representative from the football clubs. The Clerk would sign on behalf of the Parish Council in line with previous agreements.

ACTION 1: Clerk to arrange for agreements to be signed and circulated

Chairman's approval.....

Minor vandalism at Thornhill changerooms

There is a problem with youths congregating at the changerooms. Downpipes had been damaged with small areas of graffiti on one of the doors. The damage had been reported to the police and a crime number obtained.

Access to the field is unrestricted and often has people walking their dogs on the field, which is a health hazard, especially for the football players. There is a sign banning dogs from the football field, but this is clearly not working.

There are also unauthorised vehicles accessing the field, causing a nuisance, and leaving litter, which has also been reported to the police.

Gated access to changeroom and grounds/anti-social behaviour

Locking the gate was discussed with a view to stopping the vehicular access, thereby stopping the anti-social element eg headlights shining into the houses of residents and noise.

ACTION 2: The Parish Council would pay a visit the changerooms/pitch to look at the signage options for keeping dogs off the pitch and stopping the vehicular access

It was raised, during this agenda item discussion, that a watch had been damaged while the grass was being first cut. The Parish Council would be investigating. The Parish Council to seek advice from legal advisers.

The three representatives left the meeting.

6 Planning Applications

4/22/2124/OF1 – standby emergency generation project – retaining wall and fence, Sellafeld site

The Parish Council had no objections/observations to make.

4/22/2152/OL1 - Hennery/Piggery at Barwickstead, Beckermat

The Parish Council had no objections/observations to make.

ACTION 3: TC to reply to planning application letters

7 Finance

March/April Finance Report

The Finance report was noted.

Approve Clerk's salary/back payment/payment for untaken holidays

APPROVED for payment.

NALC/CALC subscription

APPROVED for payment.

Chairman's approval.....

Precept

Our precept was expected by the end of April.

VAT reclaim 2021/22

The VAT re-claim for 2021/22 had been submitted to HMRC.

AGAR submission

Parish Council agreed to re-appoint our usual Internal Auditor to conduct the annual review of our finances ahead of the AGAR submission.

8 Second hand timber from swings at Thornhill

The Parish Council had received a request from the previous Chairman to return the timber. The Parish Council doesn't need the timber and agreed that the previous chairman could keep the timber and donate the value to a local charity of his choice.

ACTION 4: Clerk to advise previous Chairman of decision

9 Small Parish's Letter

The Parish Council has received this letter (from NALC Smaller Council's Committee) asking for issues, which affect smaller Parishes, be put forward with a view to offer support and assistance where appropriate.

ACTION 5: Clerk to ask (as part of this process) if there is a common solution to dealing with the issue of dog fouling

ACTION 6: Any comments (on the letter content) from Parish Councillors to be sent to Clerk before the end of April ahead of the 6 May deadline

10 Traffic Management in Beckermat

Update to be given at May meeting.

ACTION 7: TC to include on May 2022 agenda

11 Play Parks Update

Funding application to be submitted in June 2022. Once the funding is approved a decision would be taken on what equipment would be purchased in consultation with the end user.

12 Data Protection

The Parish Council has been registered with the Information Commissioner's Office with a view to paying by direct debit. Clerk has received a unique reference number allocated to the Parish Council.

The updated General Data Protection Regulations Policy has been updated, checked by a GDPR expert, and circulated to Parish Councillors for review.

Chairman's approval.....

The Clerk has circulated a Data Protection form (taken off the CALC website) which Parish Councillors may have to sign to demonstrate their understanding of the obligations placed on them, when storing/processing information.

ACTION 8: TC to organise publication of updated GDPR policy on our website

ACTION 9: TC to check where the Data Protection form is stored/published once signed

ACTION 10: Councillors to advise TC what personal information they want published on noticeboards and websites etc by the end of April

13 Prep for Annual Parish Council Meeting

TC to produce the agenda.

14 Progress Reports

Fly Tipping

This request has now been passed to Cumbria County Council as it requires a specialist vehicle to remove the rubbish.

The Parish Council expressed frustration at the lack of progress and decided to set a deadline of end of May for removal of the rubbish before the issue was escalated to the local MP for assistance.

ACTION 11: TC to write to CBC representative to give the deadline and our course of action

Salt Bin Braystones Rd, Beckermat

Clerk has requested to see the criteria used to understand why our request for an additional salt bin had been declined.

Tidy up of BT Exchange at Beckermat

There has been a general tidy up, but the standard of workmanship is not good.

ACTION 12: EJ kindly agreed to finish off

ACTION 13: TC to organise an annual tidy up of the area (forward agenda)

Tidy up of Gas substation at Thornhill

Issue reported. Waiting for area to be tidied up.

Street lighting, Dent Road, Thornhill

Issue reported. Waiting for replacement bulbs to be installed.

Sewer Protection Works

Our land agent has advised that work hasn't commenced yet.

Chairman's approval.....

Broken Drainage

Even though confirmation has been received that the work has been carried out to repair the broken drain, it was still a problem with the volume of water constantly running down the road.

Clerk has requested for this job to be re-opened and fixed properly not just carry out cosmetic repairs.

Handyman recruitment

A list of tasks to be carried out by the handyman is being compiled.

ACTION 14: EJ to send to TC for distribution with the agenda for May's meeting

Swing Bridge Update

No progress had been made on this. Cumbria County Council still need to carry out repairs.

Cemetery car park tidy up

Complete.

Bin emptying at Thornhill

The cost of a weekly collection is £6. The Parish Council **AGREED** the expenditure.

ACTION 15: Clerk to confirm to CBC that the cost is acceptable and establish a date for reinstating the service

Projects

Land opposite Croft House

Ownership is still to be established. The Parish Council has cut the grass for many years so would continue with current arrangements.

Another planning meeting to be organised at KC's request to discuss design options.

ACTION 16: KC to organise with other attendees

ACTION 17: EJ to liaise with owner of wall adjacent to this piece of land

Benches near the bus stop on School Green

The two benches need to be cleaned, rubbed down and varnished. This is a job for the handyman when appointed. The plaques may need to be replaced.

Planting of tree opposite school for Jubilee

Tree planted.

Chairman's approval.....

15 Reports from meetings attended by Councillors

No meetings attended.

MS is unable to attend the SSG on 4 May. EJ to attend.

16 Recruitment of additional councillors

Not discussed.

17 Forward Agenda

Road Recovery vehicle in car park.
Police reporting process for local issues.
Blocked footpath on Potters Lonning.
Code of Conduct training.

18 Date and time of next Parish Council meeting

Wednesday, 18 May 2022 commencing at 19.15hrs in Thornhill Social Club. The Annual Parish Council meeting would commence at 19.00hrs.

Please note a visit to Thornhill football pitch and changerooms will start at 18.15 hours.

Future Parish Council meetings, planned at The Reading Rooms on a Wednesday evening, will be held on the Tuesday evening of the same week. However, an alternative venue will need to be found during refurbishment of The Reading Rooms.

Those meetings to be held at Thornhill Social Club will remain on the Wednesday evening.

All business concluded; the meeting closed at 21.57 hrs.