

Thornton in Craven Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 4th March 2015.

Present:

Councillor P Bowdler
Councillor M Lockyer
Councillor S Briggs
Councillor D Joyce
County councillor P Mulligan
District Councillor R Mason
Jane Killeen, Clerk
Ms Michele Graham Roe
Mr Robert Hall

1. To receive apologies for absence, and to consent to the absence.

There were no apologies.

2. To receive any declaration of interest.

No declarations of interest.

3. To approve Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th February 2015.

The Minutes held of the meeting held on the 4th February 2015 were approved as a fair and correct record.

4. Open Forum – For residents to raise issues to the Parish Council.

None.

5. To receive a report from Craven District Council.

The Craven District Council Local Plan is making progress and it is to be published in September/October 2015.

Council Tax has been frozen at the 2014 level.

There is some slight and cautious optimism regarding the finances for 2015/16

Councillor Mason hopes to have a small fund of £500.00 to award in small grants within his ward in 2015/16.

The road sweeper has been to Thornton and Councillor Mason will chase up the foot path sweeper. Litter picking also needed especially on the main road. Fly tipping is becoming an increasing problem in the area.

Councillor Mason is to stand for District Council election in May as a Conservative.

6. To receive a report from North Yorkshire County Council.

Councillor Mulligan emphasised that services must improve the collection of litter and that fly tipping is largely a matter of education.

It is now the election period in many districts of North Yorkshire.

Council Tax bills in other areas of the County have been increased by 1.9%

NYCC is developing a 'cycling culture' and is planning a tour de Yorkshire.

In partnership with the Canal and Rivers Trust CDC is planning to improve the tow path on the canal between Skipton to Bradley.

Councillor Mulligan is now the Deputy Leader of the Council.

7. To receive reports from invited guests

None.

8. Finance Report

The balance of accounts is £2021.80. This takes into account the invoice of £5100,00 paid to Anderson and Heeley for the new lighting columns. It is likely that the invoice for the transfer of electricity from the old lights to the new lights will arrive from NYCC in the new financial year.

The following payments were authorised:

Thornton in Craven PC schedule of payments 4th March 2015	Date	Amount
The Rural Law Practice	4.3.15	574.20
JLM gritting	4.3.15	54.00
J. Killeen salary mth 11 plus 12 stamps £6.36	28.2.15	193.71
Anderson and Heeley LTD	4.3.15	5100.00

9. To consider planning applications.

None.

10. To consider the Co-option of a new Member to the Parish Council and the forthcoming Parish council election.

There were two nominations for co-option to the parish council: Ms Michele Graham-Roe and Mr Robert Hall. Councillor Bowdler asked both Mr Hall and Ms Graham-Roe to explain what they felt they could contribute to the council. Mr Hall expressed a general concern with the way the Parish Council functions. Ms Graham-Roe had resigned from the Parish Council two months ago for personal reasons but now felt that this situation had changed and that she was keen to take up a position on the council again.

At this point Mr Hall withdrew his nomination. Ms Graham-Roe left the meeting for a vote to be taken. Councillor Bowdler proposed that Ms Graham-Roe should be co-opted to the Parish Council and this was seconded by Councillor Joyce, all in favour. Ms Graham-Roe was welcomed back to the Council.

The May elections will be publicised on 30th March for local elections and 2nd April for Parliamentary elections.

11. To consider trimming the trees surrounding the area where the new lighting columns are placed.

The street light on Old Rd is being obscured by tree branches. It was resolved that Councillor Briggs would organise the removal of the branches.

12. To review progress on the installation of new lighting columns.

This work is now complete.

There is some change needed on Old Rd regarding the spacing of the street lights. Mr Peter Ball from NYCC will let the parish council have the details after he has visited the site.

13. To consider measures to record speeding on the A56 through centre of the village.

There has been no feed-back from the Fire Service, which completed a speed check in January 2015. Jane will contact them again and ask for a second speed logging exercise to be completed and for feed-back from the first.

14. To review progress regarding boundaries on the common land at Little Moor.

A briefing note giving an overview of the situation to date and options for the Parish Council to consider had been received from The Rural Law Practice. There was some confusion regarding the invoice from the Rural Law Practice and what work the invoice covered. It was agreed that Councillor's Briggs and Joyce would enquire about the terms of engagement with the Rural Law Practice and that the cheque for payment of the invoice would not be issued until this matter has been settled.

Councillor Graham-Roe would use the briefing note to enquire whether the planning Dept. and/or the Environmental Health Dept. at CDC could provide some support with the problems at Little Moor.

15. Minor Matters.

Councillor Graham-Roe informed the meeting that a dance at Thornton Hall Farm was due to go ahead on Saturday 7th March. This would not finish until 2.00am and it was expected transport would be provided by coach. It was agreed that an enquiry would be made to Pendle District Licencing and Environmental Health dept. to confirm whether all the regulations for such an event had been complied with.

Date and Time of Next Meetings.

1st April 2015.

13th May 2015 the AGM plus the ordinary business meeting,

3rd June 2015

10th June 2015 the Annual Parish Meeting.