

Thornton in Craven Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 5th February 2014.

Present:

Councillor P Bowdler, Chair, Councillor S Briggs, Councillor M Graham-Roe,
Councillor D Joyce, Councillor M Lockyer, Councillor R Mason,
County Councillor P Mulligan.
Jane Killeen, Clerk.
Mrs M Thompson.

1. Apologies for absence, and to consent to the absence

There were no apologies.

2. Declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Approve Minutes of the meeting on 8th January 2014

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as a fair and accurate record.

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

Problem with drain on Cam Lane and Booth Bridge Lane – the drains have been inspected and work has been completed by Yorkshire Water.

Mrs Thompson expressed her concern regarding a large conifer on Booth Bridge Lane, which has been blowing hard in the recent winds. Councillor Briggs has inspected the tree and he feels that it does not pose any problems.

The new bench has been put in place and is being well used by people waiting for a bus. Councillor Bowdler thanked Mrs Thompson for her generous donation.

5. Report from Craven District Council.

Winter Warmth packs are available for people over the age of 65 years. These can be ordered on the Craven District Council webpage at www.cravendc.gov.uk or ring 01756 700600.

CDC is taking steps to minimise any breach of data protection. Councillor Bowdler made it clear that rate payers should not have to pay for any litigation caused by data protection breaches made by officers or elected members of the Council.

6. Report from North Yorkshire County Council.

County Councillor Mulligan reported that proposals are expected on how to deal with cuts to the budget in the next financial year and beyond. £94m cuts have been made over the last four years and further cuts of £77m need to be made.

There will be a big transformation in the way that NYCC provides services, for example enabling volunteers to take over running libraries. It is possible that support to Childrens Centres will be withdrawn and Town and District Councils will become responsible for financing them.

Bus subsidies have been cut on buses servicing Grassington.

Council Tax will increase by 1.9%, which equates to £22 a year on band D properties.

Mandatory services will be maintained by NYCC. But there will be an emphasis on enabling communities to deliver local services.

7. Reports from invited guests

None

8. Finance Report

Budget for 2014/15 – this has been agreed and the paper work for the request of the precept has been completed and submitted.

Bank mandate – the update of personal details yet to be completed.

Deposit account – the deposit account at Barclays has been closed and the balance transferred into the current account at the Yorkshire Bank. The council will consider ways to invest the balance, which would allow for instant access and, possibly, some interest.

Payment of invoices: the following payments were authorised:

J. Killeen salary month 10	31.1.14	176.59
JLM Ltd fencing in the grave yard	5.2.14	749.14
Thornton in Craven village hall rent	5.2.14	195.00
S Briggs re Kedel (bench)	5.2.14	354.00

9. Planning.

Case Number: 13/14/0003P

Proposal: Full: Erection of detached single storey building to accommodate biomass boiler and farm store.

Address: Thornton Hall Farm Thornton In Craven Skipton BD23 3TJ

No comment.

10. Thornton Hall Farm

Re-shaping the soil mounds in the field next to the Wysick – an email has been received from Mr Neil Watson from the Planning Dept at Pendle Borough Council. This states that the enforcement notice was withdrawn by West Craven Committee and an agreement was reached that the outstanding work to reinstate the land as it was should be completed by the end of January 2014. This has not been accomplished so a further email is to be sent to bring Mr Watson's attention to this.

11. Provision of Footpath

The petition was completed and sent to Ken Martin from Highways. A response has been received, which says that this footpath will be considered for funding in the new financial year. It was agreed that an email will be sent to Mr Martin to remind him of this at the beginning of April 2014.

12. Village Website

Councillor Joyce had produced a policy on usage of email and the website. Copies were distributed and Councillor Joyce went through the document. The Council resolved to accept the policy. All those people who have access to the website will need to sign the agreement.

13. Children's Play Area

Progress on the development of the play area – information regarding any possible restrictions on the use of Morrisons Meadow is to be sought from CDC.

14. Contribution to Graveyard Maintenance.

Update on progress of the work at the grave yard.

Fencing, flail mowing and some sundry works have been completed. The total cost of the work was £804.00, which has been paid in full by the Parish Council. The Parish Council made an annual commitment to contribute £160.00 towards the upkeep of the graveyard and the sum of £480.00 was owed for years 2011 to 2013. A letter is to be sent to Revd Turner to ask him if the Church would like to pay the remaining £324.00 or if it would prefer the Parish Council to count this cost as their contribution for 2014 and 2015?

15. Common Land, Little Moor.

Progress report on securing the boundaries at Little Moor – no further correspondence has been received. It is noted that the gate has been left open. Councillor Bowdler is to follow this up with Mr and Mrs Preston.

16. Minor Matters.

Councillor Joyce informed the Council that super- fast broadband is now available and for any business in Thornton in Craven that brings in international business there is a grant of up to £300 available to help with access. Further information available from Councillor Joyce.

The proposed Colne by-pass has been put on hold temporarily by Lancashire County Council due to the result of the consultation, which returned very little support of the scheme. A look at the existing road infrastructure on the North Valley and a review of whether this could be improved is to go ahead before any further decisions are made.

17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

5th March 2014

2nd April 2014

7th May 2014, AGM followed by business meeting

21st May Annual Parish Meeting.