

# THORNTON LE DALE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 2 October 2012 at the Hill Memorial Institute

**Councillors Present:** P Mills (Chairman), G Acomb, J Garbutt, D Porter.

**In Attendance:** F Snowden (Clerk), N Baxter (Press).

**Absent:** J Avison, I Biggins.

### **Code of Conduct:**

**Cllr Porter reported an interest as Trustee to the Almshouses.**

### **32. Apologies:**

J Avison.

### **33. Parking discussion:**

The Chairman introduced Richard Marr NYCC, Richard Gunton NYMNPA, David Smith NYMNPA, Cllr Garbutt (representing the Traders), District Councillor Janet Sanderson and PC Andy Marsden to the meeting.

The Chairman explained to Parishioners that due to issues raised regarding the saturation of cars using on street parking, the car park facilities and charges within the Village the PC had invited the above representatives to discuss ways forward.

David Smith gave a breakdown of the year's usage figures for the car park. Long stay usage was 15% and short stay 85%. The overall usage levels were as expected and have stayed steady with previous years. Coaches and Motorbikes were now also being charged to use the car park. Non-compliance figures were low with only 4.5% of users not correctly displaying a ticket. It was agreed that a possible problem for visitors was finding the car park and all present felt that the current directional signs to the car park were not adequate. Visitors feel they are leaving the Village when driving to the car park and missing the entrance.

Richard Marr explained that NYCC were currently conducting a piece of work to pass enforcement of parking to the District Councils. Part of the planning for the hand over will involve ensuring all road markings and signage is in a good condition. The timescale for works is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 and if goes well the civil parking enforcement responsibility will then be given to Officers from the District Council.

PC Marsden stated that these issues were all due to the fact that there are now more cars on the road and gave details of a campaign planned to tackle parking issues in Pickering. The issues in Pickering are similar to the issues here in the Village with visitors and locals exceeding the restricted time limits in parking areas and parking on double yellow lines. The number of blue badge holders has increased dramatically to 40,000 across York and North Yorkshire which also creates a problem throughout small Towns and Villages. PC Marsden also explained that thought had to be given to the effect it would have on house value if the on street parking was made into double yellow lines in certain areas of the Village. PC Marsden explained that it was illegal for anyone including blue badge holders to park near a junction, obstruct footpaths and drop kerbs or anywhere you are causing an obstruction and disturbing the free flow of traffic.

The Chairman asked Cllr Garbutt to give the view on parking from a Traders perspective. Cllr Garbutt explained most customers are parking and doing their shopping within the hour and that as the car park did not give the cheaper option of only paying for an hour most locals parked in the bays outside the shops. There used to be a traffic warden visit between once and twice a week which helped to ensure people did not abuse the time allowed to stay in the parking bays. The higher foot fall is great for the local businesses but this then requires the parking to be addressed. Locals are

appreciative of the available permits and traders feel it is a valued scheme run by NYMNPA. If locals could use the car park and only pay for an hour this would be an improvement. A high number of residents and visitors use the Community website, Cllr Garbutt offered for the car park charges and details to be displayed there.

A Parishioner and shop owner from the Village expressed views that the bays should be restricted to a time limit of 30/45 minutes to allow locals to do their shopping without having to pay for 3 or 4 hours in the car park or having to buy a permit.

Another Parishioner asked if it would be effective to have the centre as a disc zone. Representatives present explained that the area was not big enough and that there would be too many disc holders for bays.

District Cllr Janet Sanderson explained that as part of the new approach the intention is to have 2 Officers patrol the wider area and visit the Village on a regular basis to enforce the new regulations. If this is successful it is possible more Officers will be made available to carry out the enforcement across North Yorkshire.

The Chairman asked all those present how they would feel if the bays were time restricted to less than 1 hour. This was considered to be a good idea.

Cllr Garbutt expressed the opinion of Traders that charging coaches to park when they can park in Pickering RDC parks for free, was not encouraging them to visit Thornton le Dale. Could RDC be encouraged to charge also to ensure fairness? David Smith explained that the charge was transferable to any park within the National Park.

Other comments from Parishioners included blue badge holders parking on Maltongate which meant residents were unable to access their own property. The speed in which vehicles travel though the Village is still an issue. The Chairman explained that matrix signs were being looked into but RDC had not accepted the idea and this was an on-going issue. By show of hands the majority of those present agreed speed matrix signs were an effective tool against speeding. District Councillor Janet Sanderson explained that matrix signs can distract from black spot and that the opinion should be left with the professionals to ensure road safety.

**Resolved:** THAT signage had to be made a priority and that this was a joint responsibility of NYMNPA and NYCC. Bay parks should be restricted to a time limit under 1 hour.

**Actions:** NYMNPA will send a link to the car park charges and other information to Cllr Garbutt to be displayed on the Community website and look into the option of being able to park for 1 hour in the car park.

Richard Marr will enquire what options there are for more effective signage to the car park.

PC Marsden to include Thornton le Dale in the campaign to tackle illegal parking within Pickering. Notices to be given to shops for display within the Village.

The Clerk to send Nancy a copy of the letter being sent to the Gazette and Herald from the Police regarding the crackdown on illegal parking.

The effectiveness of the one way system was discussed. Richard Marr explained that signs can be made bigger but it was down to drivers to be observant of road signs. The one way system had to be anti-clockwise for better visibility and the public bus service.

The Alsmhouses – A representative from the Alsmhouses was present and explained the issues discussed at the September PC meeting. A discussion took place regarding the use of the slip road and that drivers were using the road to turn and creating a safety hazard for the residents. Richard Marr explained that options were limited as to what can

be done. A traffic order to apply access only restrictions can cost into four figure sums to achieve due to the legal implications, advertising and Officer time involved.

**Resolved:** THAT Richard Marr will make enquiries as to what can be done to improve the safety of the road.

Road surface – The PC thanked Richard Marr for the work done to the A170. Richard Marr explained that lessons have been learnt in terms of communication. In future notices will go out sooner and also a 24 hour mobile number will be given to residents so the contractor on site is contactable if there are any problems. Also contractors have been warned that they must adhere to the regulations given by NYCC.

It was reported to Richard Marr that the shops, kerbs and properties adjoining the A170 were experiencing excess water since the tarmac had been re-laid. District Cllr Janet Sanderson had sent pictures of the problem areas to Richard Marr to look into.

With no further questions the Chairman thanked all the representatives for attending and expressed that they are all welcome to attend PC meetings and stated that work will proceed with joint working across the Authority's with enforcement and signage being a main priority for all involved.

#### **34. Public Questions:**

PC Marsden gave a breakdown of the crime stats. Crime in Thornton le Dale was down 32.6% from the previous year. There were no house burglaries and theft had dropped to just 6 cases. Violent offences had dropped from 7 to 4. Overall the figures were looking really good. Cllr Porter asked if there were any planned changes to the amount of PC Officers. PC Marsden answered that there were no plans, that he was aware of, to change man power numbers in the future.

The Chairman thanked PC Marsden for attending and for his contribution to the meeting.

A Parishioner asked if the PC were required to explain what a closed meeting was regarding.

The Clerk replied that to her knowledge that was not the case and that Cllrs always publicly agree to a closed meeting in the normal PC meeting prior to any closed meeting.

#### **35. Minutes of the Meeting of the Council:**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 September 2012 were received.

**Resolved:** THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 September 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record with the following amendment.

Cllr Garbutt reported the proposed closure of Snainton Fire Station.

#### **Matters Arising**

Information for the new finger boards – on-going.

Stonegarth – The copy of the deeds were examined by Cllr Acomb and Cllr Porter. The deeds state that there is a right of way for all purposes.

Allotments – The Clerk informed the PC that one of the problem allotments had been re let and the other had been notified that if no action were taken the PC would terminate the tenancy on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

#### **36. Accounts for Payment:**

The Clerk submitted a list of accounts for payment.

**Resolved:** THAT the list of accounts circulated be passed for payment and cheques signed in accordance with the accounts submitted.

### 37. Planning Applications:

#### North York Moors National Park

Case Officer: **Miss Helen Webster**  
Application No: **NYM/2012/0595/FL**  
Site: **1 Low Mill Court, Westgate, Thornton le Dale.**  
Development Description: **Application for insertion of 1 no. rooflight to front facing roof slope.**

Applicant: **Mr & Mrs D Alvey**

Resolved: THAT the majority of Members of this Council **Support** this application on the condition that it is a conservation type window.

Case Officer: **Miss Helen Webster**  
Application No: **NYM/2012/0625/FL**  
Site: **Beverley House, Maltongate, Thornton le Dale.**  
Development Description: **Application for replacement door and 3 no. windows to front elevation.**

Applicant: **Mr Andrew Kitchen**

Resolved: THAT the majority of Members of this Council have **No Objection** to this application.

Case Officer: **Mrs J Bastow**  
Application No: **NYM/2012/0624/FL**  
Site: **Communal Building Wardens Flat & Flats 1 to 12 and 19 to 21 Roxby Gardens, Thornton le Dale.**  
Development Description: **Application for installation of replacement upvc double glazed windows.**

Applicant: **Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust**

Resolved: THAT the majority of Members of this Council have **No Objection** to this application.

### 38. Planning Determinations:

**There were no planning determinations.**

### 39. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman informed all present that following interviews for the post of Clerk, the successful candidate had been appointed subject to satisfactory references and had accepted the post.

The Chairman informed the Clerk that an invoice was due for the advertising work done for the Parish Plan Steering Group.

**40. Clerks Report:**

The Clerk informed Cllrs of the following updates:

NYMNPA are unable to determine who owns the path/beck wall on Maltongate and advises we contact the owners of the adjoining properties. Also they do not have a bee hive been for us to purchase and advise we contact a local joiner. The path from the car park to Dog Kennel Lane was cut prior to Thornton show and is likely to be done again this autumn. A job sheet has been raised to replace the kissing gate near Old House.

NYCC are looking into the services that run on Peaslands Lane near the Cemetery and Allotments. The Footbridge near the Mill has been closed to pedestrians due to a number of wooden planks rotting and causing a hazard, the boards will be replaced. The damaged Ellerburn road sign will be reset. Cllr Garbutt informed that the sign was now fixed. The deteriorating beck wall outside the Café has been photographed and a site meeting has taken place.

**41. Any Other Business:**

Cllr Porter reported that a tree root was coming through the pavement outside no 26 Aunums Close and causing a hazard. The Clerk has reported this issue to NYCC.

Street lamps were reported as not working outside 2 Hurrell Lane and one at the end of Chestnut Avenue on the junction to Brook Lane. The Clerk to report the faulty lights.

Any comments regarding the parish survey should be sent to David Alga.

**With no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.**

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 November 2012, in the Hill Memorial Institute at 7.30pm.**

**Chairman.....**