

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held remotely on Monday, 19 April 2021**

Present: Cllrs D Duffey (Chairman), D Adamson, H Dalgleish-Brown, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, D Jackson, K Mountford, F Potter, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: Cllr L Hunter Bell (Illness)

In attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

C1193 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1194 Police Report

The Clerk advised that the police had not submitted a monthly crime report.

C1195 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that coronavirus infection rates in Hambleton had reduced significantly in the last few weeks and, although there had been some localised outbreaks, rates for North Yorkshire were on a par with the national average. Cllr Dadd indicated that some legal issues in respect of ownership of land needed to be clarified before repairs could be carried out to the Marage footpath. He advised that more secure barriers had been erected to prevent pedestrians from accessing the footpath.

(b) HDC

Cllr Elders reported that Hambleton District Council had recruited a firm of consultants whose remit was to examine town plans and to establish funding opportunities. He indicated that he had requested Mr Peter Cole (HDC) to provide further information at the meeting of the Thirsk Vibrant Market Towns group to be held on Thursday, 6 May 2021.

Cllr Elders reported that the refurbishment works were on track at Thirsk & Sowerby Leisure Centre and work was ongoing at the Maple Park Crematorium.

C1196 Open Forum

No members of the public joined the meeting.

C1197 Minutes

C1197(a) Town Council Meeting held on 15 March 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 March 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C1197(b) Matters Arising

C1188(k) Tidy Up of Thirsk Market Place

The Clerk advised that photographs had been taken of various aspects of the Market Place, including alleyways, and that a report was being prepared. Cllr Gibson-Brown indicated that she would repaint a sign in Batemans Yard if someone could remove it from the wall. The Clerk stated that he would request the amenity worker to do this. Cllr Duffey requested that the Town Council investigate and identify any areas which it was thought may be suitable for outdoor seating. The Clerk indicated that he had been approached by the owner of a local cafe who had raised the possibility of being allowed to place tables and chairs at Mill Gardens for the provision of refreshments. It had been suggested that a trial period of one month be allowed but the lady had

advised that she would need at least six months for it to be financially viable and the matter had not proceeded.

C1189 Jasmine Harrison – Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge

The Clerk advised that Ms Jasmine Harrison had been pleased to be awarded the honour of Freeperson of the Parish of Thirsk. Cllr Trueman indicated that he was happy to assist if it was decided to purchase a board to be placed in the Town Hall in recognition of people who received the honour.

C1198 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1198(a) Planning Committee – Summary dated 19 April 2021

The meeting received a Summary of planning applications which had been considered by the Planning Committee dated 19 April 2021.

Resolved: that the Summary be received and noted.

C1199 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that four memorial applications had been approved since the last meeting.

C1200 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1200(a) Grit/Salt Bins – Norby Estate

The meeting received an email dated 25 March 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council which confirmed that NYCC would provide two grit/salt bins before next winter, one on Percy Drive and one on the Norby Estate.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1200(b) Planned Road Closure Notification – Cycling Event

The meeting received an email dated 26 March 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council which advised of the closure of Newsham Road for two hours on 29 May 2021 and the closure of Boltby Bank for two hours on 30 May 2021.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1200(c) National Association of Local Councils – Chief Executive’s Bulletin

The meeting received an email dated 26 March 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils which contained information in respect of the legislation governing the holding of remote meetings.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1200(d) Commemorating Adam Bamlett

The meeting received an email dated 7 April 2021 from Mr D Tucker which contained further information concerning his proposal to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the death of Adam Bamlett. The Clerk advised that he had requested Mr Tucker to liaise directly with Cllr Adamson.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1200(e) Hambleton District Council – Local Plan Examination

The meeting received an email dated 8 April 2021 from Hambleton District Council which advised that online post hearing consultations in respect of the Local Plan were available to view and comment upon between 8 April 2021 and 20 May 2021.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1200(f) BT Telephone Box Removal Consultation

The meeting received an email dated 9 April 2021 from Hambleton District Council in respect of a consultation in preparation for the removal of public payphones. It was noted that the only payphone in Thirsk included in the consultation was the payphone in the Market Place adjacent to Thirsk Tourist Information which had been

used, on average, nine times per month in the last 12 months. Cllr Gibson-Brown observed that the town had been in lockdown for much of this time and that this would have affected the usage of the payphone. The Clerk read out the observations which the Town Council had submitted in response to a previous consultation, which included reference to the payphone being sited adjacent to a public access defibrillator.

Resolved: that the Clerk responds to the consultation in line with the observations submitted in November 2019.

C1201 Vibrant Market Towns Group

The meeting received the Minutes of a meeting of the Thirsk Vibrant Market Towns Group which was held on Friday, 12 March 2021. Cllr Jackson advised that he was waiting for approval from Hambleton District Council in respect of the proposal that the Town Council purchase a market stall to be used at its discretion. He indicated that the new market superintendent and the Deputy Clerk had liaised in respect of the Monday market and that details concerning the market stalls would be posted on the Town Council's Facebook page each Monday morning.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2021 be received and noted.

C1202 Covid-19

The Clerk reported that the weekly coronavirus update provided by Hambleton District Council had been emailed to Town Councillors.

C1203 Accounts for Payment

The Clerk indicated that the Town Council had received a letter from Thirsk Rotary in Bloom requesting a donation of £3,000 for the present financial year. He advised that the Town Council had budgeted for a donation of £2,500, leaving a £500 shortfall. Following discussion, Members agreed that further information needed to be obtained and the Clerk suggested that the matter be considered at the next Town Council meeting.

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 19 April 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1204 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that East Thirsk Community Hall had been awarded a grant of £16,000 from Hambleton District Council's Making a Difference programme and that the money would be put towards the costs of installing new windows and a new heating system.

Cllr Gibson-Brown enquired if any progress had been made in connection with storage facilities for the sandbags which had been left at Riverside Mews following the recent flooding. The Clerk indicated that he would contact North Yorkshire County Council to ask if they could provide grit/salt bins and that he would also need to contact Hambleton District Council as they owned the land on which it was proposed the bins should be sited.

Cllr Duffey reported that he had recently attended a wedding display at the Town Hall and that he had been impressed by the facilities.

The meeting closed at 7.51 pm.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 24 May 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, L Hunter Bell, K Mountford, F Potter, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: None

In attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

C1205 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1206 Police Report

A police report, which contained the crime figures for April 2021, was circulated to Members. It was noted that no fixed penalty notices for breaches of coronavirus regulations had been issued during the week ending 16 May 2021.

C1207 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd gave an update concerning the closure of the public footpath and bridge between The Holmes and St James Green. He advised that a site meeting had taken place and that NYCC needed to clarify issues in respect of ownership of land before carrying out repairs. He noted that the structure of the bridge was beginning to be affected and that the repair costs were likely to be very substantial.

Cllr Dadd reported that signs had been erected in the Market Place informing of roadworks which were scheduled to take place arising from the Sowerby Gateway development. He advised that attempts had been made to minimise disruption by condensing the works as much as possible and that he had requested that works at the Town End be deferred until October.

Cllr Dadd indicated that the public consultation in respect of local government reorganisation had now closed and that an announcement was expected to be made in July 2021 by the Secretary of State.

Cllr Dadd advised that coronavirus infection rates in North Yorkshire were currently below the national average and, despite some serious spikes in Selby, rates in Hambleton were very low.

(b) HDC

Cllr Elders reported that refurbishment works at Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre were progressing well and that, once the work was completed, users would benefit from 24 hour access to the gym facilities.

Cllr Elders referred to a licensing application which had been submitted by The French Press, 52a Market Place, Thirsk and an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness which had been submitted by Wetherspoons (The Three Tuns Hotel). He noted that the establishments were next door to each other and that both had outside areas at the rear of the properties. Cllr Jackson advised that the Town Council had been consulted on the licensing application by The French Press but had not been consulted on the application for a Certificate of Lawfulness by Wetherspoons as this was a legal issue.

C1208 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1209 Minutes

C1209(a) Town Council Meeting held on 19 April 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 April 2021 be approved as a correct record, subject to Minute No C1204 being amended to read that “Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that East Thirsk Community Hall had been awarded a grant of £16,000”, et cetera.

C1209(b) Matters Arising

C1189 Jasmine Harrison – Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge

Cllr Trueman noted that the Town Hall Management Committee had agreed that a board in recognition of people who had been awarded the honour of Freeperson of the Parish of Thirsk or Sowerby could be placed in the Town Hall reception area and that a suitable board would cost approximately £200.

C1204 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk advised that he had contacted both Hambleton District Council and North Yorkshire County Council in respect of a proposal to site grit/salt bins on land adjacent to the Millgate public toilets and he was waiting for Hambleton District Council to give approval.

C1210 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1210(a) Planning Committee – Summary dated 24 May 2021

The meeting received a Summary of planning applications which had been considered by the Planning Committee dated 24 May 2021.

Resolved: that the Summary be received and noted.

C1211 Burial Board

Nothing reported.

C1212 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1212(a) Thirsk Rotary in Bloom – Application for Grant 2021-2022

The meeting received a letter dated 10 April 2021 from the Rotary Club of Thirsk concerning an application for a grant of £3,000 towards the running costs of Thirsk Rotary in Bloom. The Clerk advised that he had discussed the matter with members of the Rotary Club and had received clarification in respect of the accounts. He indicated that previously a grant of £2,500 had not increased for many years and he considered that a grant of £3,000 was reasonable in view of increased costs.

Resolved: that the Town Council approves a donation of £3,000 to Thirsk Rotary in Bloom for 2021-2022.

C1212(b) Community Infrastructure Levy Contribution

The meeting received a letter dated 15 April 2021 from Hambleton District Council which confirmed that a Community Infrastructure Levy payment of £371.25 was to be paid to the Town Council in connection with a development on Long Street, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1212(c) Thirsk Yarnbombers – Forthcoming Events

The meeting received an email dated 19 April 2021 from Ms I Marwood which provided details of forthcoming displays.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1212(d) Mobile CCTV Camera

The meeting received emails dated 19 April 2021 from Ms G Allen, Hambleton District Council, and the Clerk concerning a mobile CCTV camera which the Town Council purchased in 2018. Cllr Duffey felt that HDC appeared to have taken ownership of the camera and that, although the Town Council continued to pay an annual service/maintenance fee, any request to move the camera from its position on Millgate Bridge to another location had been refused. He suggested that the Town Council should no longer retain the camera and that the money saved could be better utilised in other areas. He also noted that the Police and Safer Hambleton were the relevant bodies to deal with issues of antisocial behaviour and that the Town Council had no powers or authority in these matters. Discussion took place and Members agreed that the Town Council should not continue to pay the annual service/maintenance charges for the camera.

Resolved: that the Clerk contact Ms G Allen, Hambleton District Council, to discuss the possibility of HDC purchasing the Town Council's Mobile CCTV camera.

C1212(e) Making a Difference Grants 2021-2022

The meeting received two letters dated 21 April 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning applications for Making a Difference Grants. The letters confirmed that an application to fund the setting up and running of a new Thirsk website had been successful but that an application to install solar powered lighting in various locations had not been successful.

Resolved: that the letters be noted.

C1212(f) Thirsk Youth Club

The meeting received a letter dated 22 April 2021 from Revd J Gillanders concerning the setting up of a new Youth Club and a request that the Town Council consider making a donation towards the running costs. Cllr Jackson advised that the Town Council had set aside £5,000 for youth provision in the current financial year. He noted that the letter included costings for various items, and he requested that Cllr Mountford examine the figures and put together an overall amount.

Resolved: that Cllr Mountford liaise with Revd J Gillanders and North Yorkshire Youth to confirm the amount of donation to be awarded.

C1212(g) Closed Road Car Rally 2022 – Hambleton Stages

The meeting received an email and letter dated 26 April 2021 from Mr A Hill, Ripon Motor Sports Club Limited, concerning a proposal to run a closed road car rally in the Hambleton region of North Yorkshire in June 2022.

Resolved: that the email and letter be noted.

C1212(h) Premises Licence – The French Press, 52a Market Place, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 30 April 2021 from Hambleton District Council which attached an application for a premises licence in respect of The French Press, 52a Market Place, Thirsk. The Clerk advised Members in respect of some of the detail contained within the application and discussion took place.

Resolved: that the Town Council does not object to the grant of a premises licence for The French Press, 52a Market Place, Thirsk.

C1212(i) National Association of Local Councils – Chief Executive's Bulletins

The meeting received emails dated 30 April 2021 and 7 May 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils and noted the updates in respect of the legislation concerning the holding of remote meetings and an update in respect of the Non-Domestic Rating (Public Lavatories) Bill.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C1212(j) News from the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton

The meeting received an email and newsletter dated 10 May 2021 from NHS North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group which provided the latest news from the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Resolved: that the email and newsletter be noted.

C1212(k) Funeral Bier – Thirsk Museum

The meeting received an email dated 10 May 2021 from Ms S Stephenson concerning the transfer of ownership of the Town Council's old funeral bier to Thirsk Museum. Cllr Adamson believed that the bier was built in approximately 1879, around the time when the cemetery opened. He proposed that the Town Council donate the bier to Thirsk Museum so that it could form part of the Museum's displays.

Resolved: that the Town Council confirms the transfer of ownership of the funeral bier to Thirsk Museum.

C1212(l) Planned Road Closure Notification – Masonic Lane, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 11 May 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council which advised of the closure of Masonic Lane, Thirsk for a period of 11 hours between 16 and 17 June 2021.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1212(m) Resignation of Cllr Hazel Dalglish-Brown

The meeting received an email dated 11 May 2021 from Cllr H Dalglish-Brown concerning her decision to resign from her position as Town Councillor. Cllr Jackson stated that he was sad to see Cllr Dalglish-Brown leave and suggested that a card and gift be purchased as a token of thanks and appreciation for her hard work on behalf of the Town Council, particularly during her time as Mayor.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1212(n) East Thirsk Community Hall

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that East Thirsk Community Hall had recently been affected by incidents of antisocial behaviour and asked if the Town Council could help in any way. She explained that damage had been caused on several occasions and users of the Hall had complained about incidents which they had witnessed. Cllr Duffey advised that the police were able to apply for a dispersal order in such circumstances.

Resolved: that the Town Council would support an application for a dispersal order in respect of antisocial behaviour at East Thirsk Community Hall.

C1213 Vibrant Market Towns Group

The Clerk indicated that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 6 May 2021 would be available at the next Town Council meeting.

C1214 Covid-19

The Clerk advised that consideration needed to be given to the running of the Town Council office in view of the government's easing of lockdown restrictions. He suggested that a protective screen be purchased for the barrier in the reception area and that the matter be further reviewed once all staff have been fully vaccinated.

C1215 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 24 May 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1216 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that she had enrolled to take part in some Flood Warden training organised by the Environment Agency.

Cllr Mountford reported that the amenity worker had done a great job in improving the appearance of Long Street as a result of weeding and re-staining the wooden flower boxes.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had attended an event in the Market Place on Saturday, 24 April 2021 when Jasmine Harrison had been presented with the awards of Freedom of the Parishes of Thirsk and Sowerby and her boat in which she had sailed the Atlantic Ocean had been on display.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 21 June 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, K Mountford, F Potter, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: Cllr L Hunter-Bell (Holiday)

C1217 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1218 Police Report

Two Police Community Support Officers attended the meeting and a police report containing the crime figures for May 2021 was circulated. It was noted that there had been an increase in the number of antisocial behaviour offences but a decrease in other crimes. The police advised that they had spoken to the cleaner of the Millgate Public Conveniences following reports of antisocial behaviour and that they were carrying out regular patrols of the area.

C1219 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

(b) HDC

There were no reports from NYCC or HDC as County/District Cllr Dadd and District Cllr Elders were unable to attend the meeting.

C1220 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1221 Minutes

C1221(a) Town Council Meeting held on 24 May 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 24 May 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C1221(b) Matters Arising

C1207 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

Cllr Jackson advised that an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness by The Three Tuns Hotel (Wetherspoons) had been withdrawn.

C1189 Jasmine Harrison – Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge

Cllr Trueman indicated that a quotation of £215.68 plus VAT had been received for the supply of a board to recognise people who had been awarded the honour of Freeperson of Thirsk. Sowerby Parish Council were also going to buy a board.

C1212(f) Thirsk Youth Club

The Clerk advised that he had contacted Revd Jill Gillanders to discuss the financial aspects of the new youth club which she planned to run. He indicated that the youth club currently had been promised funding of £1,000 and had advised that the Town Council would consider funding the remaining initial set up costs but required charitable status to be in place before this could be done.

C1212(k) Funeral Bier - Thirsk Museum

Cllr Adamson reported that the old funeral bier had been successfully transported from the cemetery to Thirsk Museum with the assistance of the Assistant Clerk and the Amenity Worker.

C1212(n) East Thirsk Community Hall

Cllr Jackson indicated that the issues of antisocial behaviour at East Thirsk Community Hall had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Safer Hambleton Group and he had been advised that dispersal orders could no longer be obtained. Cllr Hesmondhalgh stated that she had informed all users of the Hall that they should contact the police if there were further issues. Members noted that the police were aware of the concerns and had stated that they would attend wherever possible.

C1222 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1222(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 17 May 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of a Meeting held on 17 May 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1223 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorial for Michael Carver and Stephen Twiss be approved.

C1224 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1224(a) Street Naming and Numbering Legislation – Certificate of Registration for the Change of Use & Name

The meeting received a Certificate of Registration dated 18 May 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning the change of use and name of the former AIMS House, Royal Oak Courtyard, Market Place, Thirsk to Hygge House, Royal Oak Courtyard, Market Place, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the Certificate of Registration be noted.

C1224(b) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – White Rose Update

The meeting received an email dated 28 May 2021 from Yorkshire Local Councils Association which included information concerning the holding of council meetings which could no longer be held remotely.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1224(c) National Association of Local Councils – Chief Executive’s Bulletin

The meeting received a newsletter dated 28 May 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils.

Resolved: that the newsletter be noted.

C1224(d) Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy

The meeting received an email dated 3 June 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning proposals to revise the Council’s Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy in light of new government guidance.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1224(e) Street Naming and Numbering Legislation – Certification of Registration for the Change of Name/Address

The meeting received a Certificate of Registration dated 4 June 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning the registration and formal postal address of a property known as Destgardo, Station Road, Thirsk to Rainbows End, Station Road, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the Certificate of Registration be noted.

C1224(f) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – Training Bulletin

The meeting received an email dated 4 June 2021 from Yorkshire Local Councils Association which attached their latest training bulletin.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

**C1224(g) Street Naming Consultation of New Development
– Former Dispol UK Ltd, Station Road, Thirsk**

The meeting received a letter dated 16 June 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning a consultation in respect of the registration and street naming of a development at the above location. Members noted that comments needed to be submitted no later than 7 July 2021.

Resolved: that Town Council supports a proposal that the development be named either Thomas Lord Way or Thomas Lord Drive (but not Thomas Lord Court).

C1225 Vibrant Market Towns Group

The meeting received the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2021. Cllr Adamson commented that it would be almost impossible to have cycle tracks in certain areas of Thirsk. Cllr Jackson advised that the digital platform, Discover Hambleton, had agreed to publicise Thirsk's market and that the Deputy Clerk was doing a great job in publicising the market on the Town Council's Facebook page. Cllr Jackson reported that Bianco's had applied for planning permission to place temporary decking with seating on the cobbled area outside their premises. It was noted that Mr G Baragwanath was in the process of obtaining costings for a new map/noticeboard and that the new promotional website being worked on by Cllr Hunter-Bell was nearing completion.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 May 2021 be received and noted.

C1226 Covid-19

The Clerk advised that a meeting of the Public Conveniences Committee needed to be arranged in the near future.

C1227 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 21 June 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1228 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Trueman commented that it was good to see the clock at St Mary's Church working once more.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had received a letter from the headteacher at Thirsk Community Primary School concerning a proposal to develop a multi-use games area on the school site. He felt that the Town Council should support the proposal and the Clerk indicated that he would prepare an appropriate letter to be sent to the headteacher.

The Clerk advised that the Town Councillor vacancy would be advertised on the Town Council's noticeboard and Facebook page and he expected that applications would be received in time to be considered at the next Town Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.47 pm.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 19 July 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, W Gibson-Brown,
C Hesmondhalgh, F Potter, A Trueman, S Ward

In Attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

Apologies: Cllrs D Duffey, L Hunter-Bell, K. Mountford

C1233 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1234 Police Report

A Police Community Support Officer attended the meeting and presented the police report and crime figures for June 2021.

Cllr Dadd noted an ongoing problem with vehicles parking on the pavement in Millgate, adjacent to Milano's, causing pedestrians to walk on the roadway.

C1235 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported on the problems that had occurred in Finkle Street on Saturday morning as a result of a water main bursting which had caused severe disruption and damage to the highway.

Cllr Dadd advised on the NYCC budget and the recurring budget deficit together with the government grant monies which had been put back down.

He noted that a decision on Local Government re-organisation was due this week.

(b) HDC

Cllr Elders reported that HDC had appointed Genecon and Gillespies as consultants for investment plans for market towns.

He advised that the leisure centre was due to open by October 2021 with 24 hour gymnasium access.

C1236 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1237 Minutes

C1237(a) Town Council Meeting held on 21 June 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 June 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C1237(b) Matters Arising

No matters arising

C1238 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1238(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 21 June 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of a Meeting held on 21 June 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1239 Burial Board

There were no applications for memorials to be approved.

C1240 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1240(a) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons

The meeting received an email dated 21 June 2021 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning celebrations to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend in June 2022. Members felt that a beacon should be purchased and sited in an appropriate location.

Resolved: that a Platinum Jubilee Beacon be purchased, and an appropriate location for siting be examined.

C1240(b) National Association of Local Councils - Chief Executive's Bulletin

The meeting received a newsletter dated 9 July 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils which contained useful information on a number of topics.

Resolved: that the newsletter be noted.

C1241 Town Councillor Vacancy

Members considered five applications which had been received in respect of the Town Councillor vacancy and a paper vote took place. Following counting of the votes, it was:

Resolved: that Ben Smith be co-opted on to Thirsk Town Council.

C1242 Thirsk Improvement/Vibrant Market Town Group

Cllr Jackson advised that a meeting had been held on the 15 July and the minutes would be circulated in due course.

HDC had agreed to purchase a market stall for use in market towns by people who wanted to try out market trading.

HDC were going to run cycle workshops in Market Towns.

C1243 Covid-19

The Clerk advised that there was nothing new to report.

C1244 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 19 July 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1245 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson Brown advised that she had offered to re-paint the blue plaques.

She also noted that a tree was again growing from the top of the Market Place clock.

Cllr Trueman questioned whether the metal arch in Bakers Alley could be cleaned and re-painted. It was noted that this would not be an easy task and that the footway would need to be formally closed.

It was noted that there had been some more antisocial behaviour issues in Johnson Close play area.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 20 September 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, L Hunter Bell, K Mountford, F Potter, B Smith, S Ward

Apologies: Cllr A Trueman (Holiday)

In Attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

C1247 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1248 Police Report

PCSO Graham circulated the police report and went through the crime figures for August 2021.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh referred to ongoing incidents of antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of East Thirsk Community Hall. PCSO Graham indicated that the police had attended on one occasion in response to a call but the suspects had run off and disappeared when the police attended. PCSO Graham advised that the police had also been contacted in connection with an incident at the Johnson Close play area and that the area was now being checked regularly by the police.

Cllr Jackson expressed concern in respect of an incident of violence in the Market Place which the police had attended but not made any arrests and the youths had been allowed to remain in the area following the incident. The PCSO advised that the police did not have the authority to move people on in that situation. Cllr Gibson-Brown noted that there had been an occasion when football supporters had stopped off in the town, chanting obscenities and waving bottles around.

C1249 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that the proposal for a single unitary authority submitted by North Yorkshire County Council had been approved but still had to be passed by Parliament. He anticipated that the new authority would have a maximum of 90 councillors.

Cllr Dadd advised that NYCC was doing everything it could to progress repairs to the closed footpath and bridge between the Marage and St James Green but was unable to provide a timescale for when the work would be carried out.

(b) HDC

Cllr Elders reported that the installation of additional electricity charging points in the Market Place had been delayed for various reasons and that he had raised the matter at HDC's cabinet.

Cllr Elders indicated that the refurbishment of Thirsk & Sowerby Leisure Centre was expected to be completed by the end of October and that car parking at the centre would be restricted to a maximum of three hours.

Cllr Elders reported that construction work at the new crematorium had been delayed by a shortage of some building materials and that the facility was now due to be completed in January 2022.

C1250 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1251 Minutes

C1251(a) Town Council Meeting held on 19 July 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 July 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C1251(b) Matters Arising

C1245 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk advised that several blue plaques had been removed and were in the process of being repainted by Cllr Gibson-Brown. The Clerk and Town Councillors thanked Cllr Gibson-Brown for undertaking the work free of charge.

The Clerk indicated that Mr C Amy, the amenity contractor, had stated that he would like to join members of the Open Areas & Greens Committee on a walkabout of open areas, if one were to take place. Cllr Hunter Bell advised that she would circulate some dates so that a walkabout could be arranged.

C1252 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1252(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meetings held on 19 July 2021 and 9 August 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of Meetings held on 19 July 2021 and 9 August 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1253 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that there had been some negative comments on social media concerning maintenance of the cemetery and headstones being covered in grass. He stated that the grass cutting contractor had indicated that he had been trying out a new machine and that he would ensure that this did not happen in the future. Cllr Adamson also advised that several amounts of excess soil had been dumped in various locations around the cemetery. The Clerk indicated that he had contacted local undertakers and stonemasons in respect of the matter.

Resolved: that the application for memorial for John Walter Childs be approved.

C1254 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1254(a) Street Naming and Numbering Legislation – Certificate of Registration for New Development

The meeting received a Certificate of Registration for New Development dated 15 July 2021 from Hambleton District Council which confirmed the registration and formal postal addresses of the former Dispol UK Ltd site, Station Road, Thirsk to be Nos. 1 to 15 Thomas Lord Drive, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the Certificate be noted.

C1254(b) Planned Road Closure Notification – Newsham Road, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 4 August 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning the closure of Newsham Road, Thirsk for two days between 27 and 28 September 2021 to allow for works to provide a new BT customer connection.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1254(c) Thirsk Yarnbombers - Future Displays/Projects

The meeting received an email dated 5 August 2021 from Ms I Marwood which outlined the Yarnbombers' plans for future displays and projects under consideration.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1254(d) Moorsbus – Application for Donation

The meeting received an email dated 16 August 2021 from Ms H Gundry, Moorsbus CIC, which included a request that the Town Council consider making a donation of £400 to support the Moorsbus services for 2021. Discussion took place and it was noted that the service travelled through various parishes. Members agreed that the Town Council should donate the sum of £200.

Resolved: that the Town Council donates £200 to Moorsbus CIC.

C1254(e) Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan Consultation

The meeting received a letter dated 17 August 2021 from Mr P Allott, North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner concerning a consultation on the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan for 2021 – 2025. Members noted that the letter stated that Councillors had been written to individually but that no individual letters had actually been received.

Resolved: that the Clerk and Town Councillors respond to the consultation on an individual basis.

C1254(f) Thirsk Tourist Information Centre – Asset of Community Value

The meeting received an email dated 27 August 2021 from Hambleton District Council which indicated that Thirsk Tourist Information Centre had been nominated as an asset of community value and would be added to the Register of Assets of Community Value.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1254(g) Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire – Update

The meeting received a letter dated 6 September 2021 from Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire which contained an update in respect of its services and a request that the Town Council consider making a donation to support its operations.

Resolved: that the Town Council donates £200 to Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire.

C1254(h) Queen’s Green Canopy Initiative – “Plant a Tree for the Jubilee”

The meeting received an email dated 9 September 2021 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning an initiative, backed by the North Yorkshire Lieutenancy, encouraging people to “Plant a Tree for the Jubilee”, thereby providing a legacy for future generations to enjoy whilst helping to tackle climate change. Cllr Mountford advised that Thirsk Community Primary School’s PTA was considering planting some trees and may be interested in becoming involved with the initiative.

Resolved: that Cllr Mountford liaise with the North Yorkshire Lieutenancy and Thirsk Community Primary School’s PTA in respect of the Queen’s Green Canopy Initiative.

C1254(i) White Rose Update – Yorkshire Local Councils Associations

The meeting received a newsletter dated 10 September 2021 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations.

Resolved: that the White Rose Update/Newsletter be noted.

C1254(j) Thirsk and Sowerby Remembrance Parades 2021

The meeting received an email dated 2 September 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning temporary road closure orders in connection with the Remembrance Parades in November 2021.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1255 Johnson Close Play Area

The meeting received email correspondence dated 28 August 2021 and 31 August 2021 concerning ongoing problems of antisocial behaviour at the Johnson Close

play area. The Clerk indicated that he and Cllrs Jackson and Trueman had visited the play area on Friday, 17 September 2021 and found the play area to be in a neat and tidy condition. Cllr Ward advised that residents who lived near the play area regularly removed litter which had been left by youngsters on an evening. The Clerk stated that he had requested Safer Hambleton to move the mobile CCTV camera to the play area but that this had not happened. Town Councillors considered a number of suggestions which had been put forward. These included the installation of fencing/locking the play area on an evening and, as a last resort, removal of the play equipment. Cllr Jackson suggested that the Clerk contact the manager of the Nisa shop on Long Street to see if he could help in any way.

Resolved:

- (i) that clarification be obtained in respect of planning conditions applicable to the play area;**
- (ii) that quotations be sought:**
 - (a) to install fencing and a lockable gate;**
 - (b) to remove the play equipment.**

C1256 East Thirsk Community Hall - Antisocial Behaviour

Cllr Hesmondhalgh updated Members in respect of ongoing antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of East Thirsk Community Hall. Cllr Smith suggested that Thirsk School be contacted to alert them of the difficulties and Cllr Jackson suggested that a representative from the school be invited to the next meeting of the youth group which was due to take place in October 2021.

C1257 Covid-19

The Clerk advised that there was nothing new to report.

C1258 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 20 September 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1259 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown asked whether Mr C Amy could be requested to remove some very low hanging branches near the river at Mill Gardens. The Clerk stated that he would visit the area to examine the nature of the work which needed to be carried out.

Cllr Gibson-Brown enquired if progress had been made with regard to storage facilities for sandbags which were provided by Hambleton District Council in the event of a flood risk. The Clerk advised that permission had been obtained from HDC to site two salt/grit bins on land adjacent to Millgate car park and that he would order the bins in the next few days.

Cllr Mountford noted that the fencing along the Holmes was being painted by the amenity worker and that it was looking much tidier.

Cllr Jackson advised that the churchwardens of St Mary's Church had agreed to show a small group of Town Councillors around the workings of the church clock and suggested that some Members might be interested in taking part in a visit.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 18 October 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, C Hesmondhalgh, K Mountford, F Potter, B Smith, S Ward

Apologies: Cllrs W Gibson-Brown (Illness), L Hunter Bell (Illness), A Trueman (Holiday)

In Attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

The Clerk advised that a letter of resignation had been received from Cllr L Hunter Bell advising that, unfortunately, due to her involvement in Thirsk Lodge Barns, she was unable to commit time to the Town Council.

C1260 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1261 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance. Members noted that PCSO Graham had submitted a police report by email which included the crime figures for September. Discussion took place concerning ongoing problems of antisocial behaviour at East Thirsk Community Hall.

C1262 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that contractors would soon be commencing work to repair the riverside footpath on the Marage.

Cllr Dadd advised that at the present time there was only informal feedback in respect of the new unitary authority.

(b) HDC

Cllr Elders reported that the refurbishment of Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre was almost complete and that it was hoped that the handover by the builders would take place by the end of October. He noted that the car park would then be open for use by leisure centre users and the surrounding apartments.

Cllr Elders advised that the new crematorium was now expected to be completed early in the New Year and that invitations would be sent to parish councils to visit the facility.

Cllr Elders reported that the Making a Difference funding scheme had been re-launched and was again open for applications.

Cllr Elders noted that some visitors to Thirsk had been unhappy at receiving parking tickets as they felt that the signage was unclear. Cllr Potter commented that she was frequently asked whether a ticket was required.

C1263 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Three residents from Johnson Close attended the meeting and told of their personal experiences regarding the daily behaviour of youths attending this area, ranging from doors and windows being knocked on, youths urinating on the play equipment, drug taking, drinking alcohol and threatening behaviour. One resident stated that he had been informed that the park had a reputation locally as being the place to meet. The police are called regularly by 999 calls.

Suggestions were put forward regarding fencing and locking the park each evening but there were issues in respect of locking the area. There was discussion regarding the removal of the play equipment which would result in smaller children being deprived of a place to visit and play. The majority of the trouble in the area occurred between 4.00 pm and 10.00 pm on weekday evenings and throughout the day on weekends and school holidays.

Cllr Duffey stated to the residents that the Town Council has requested Safer Hambleton to site a mobile CCTV camera on Johnson Close but this had not been approved. Cllr Mountford stated that a group of youths had recently been on the roof of East Thirsk Community School, throwing toys from the nursery around. Cllr Elders encouraged the residents present to continue to report each matter to the local police. Cllr Jackson stated that the headmistress of the local secondary school had been contacted. The Clerk advised that the Safer Hambleton Group and the police had advised that the level of the problems reported did not justify a camera being sited. Cllr Jackson suggested that another approach be made to the Safer Hambleton Group with the support of Cllr Elders and Cllr Dadd. Cllr Hesmondhalgh asked if the same residents might attend the next meeting of the Town Council on Monday, 15th November 2021 when the local police should be in attendance.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C1263 Minutes

C1263(a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 September 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 September 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C1264 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1264(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 20 September 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1265 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that there had been an issue regarding grass cuttings on headstones and this had been taken up with the contractors.

Resolved: that the applications for memorial for Mary Lee, Marjorie Thompson and Adrianna Carver be approved.

C1266 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1266(a) Great North Air Ambulance Service

The meeting received a letter dated 17 September 2021 from the Great North Air Ambulance Service which contained a request that the Town Council consider making a donation towards its operating costs. Members noted that the service was not local to Thirsk.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1266(b) Planned Road Closure Notification – Thirsk Industrial Park, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 27 September 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning the closure of the road on Thirsk Industrial Park to enable the installation of a new water main.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1266(c) North Yorkshire County Council – Respect & Protect Covid Campaign Signage

The meeting received a letter dated 27 September 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning awareness and understanding of the Covid campaign to take place in the area until the end of the winter.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1266(d) Hambleton Local Plan: Schedule of Main Modifications

The meeting received an email dated 28 September 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning a schedule of main modifications of the local plan and the dates when viewing and comments could take place.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1266(e) White Rose Update – Yorkshire Local Councils Associations

The meeting received a newsletter dated 1 October 2021 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations which contained matters of interest, local NALC news, funding and vacancies.

Resolved:

i) that the newsletter be noted;

ii) that future newsletters be emailed to Councillors.

C1266(f) Climate Change

The meeting received a letter dated 9 October 2021 from Mr N Folkard concerning climate, energy and how low carbon transport has a role in society.

Resolved: that the letter be noted and that support from the Town Council be expressed.

C1266(g) Thirsk Angling Club

The meeting received an email dated 12 October 2021 from Thirsk Angling Club concerning the removal of young trees from various walls near to the Cod Beck in Thirsk.

Resolved: that confirmation be obtained that all appropriate licences/consents are in place for the work to be undertaken.

C1266(h) Yorkshire Water Work between Felixkirk and Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 12 October 2021 from Yorkshire Water concerning the installation of 4.5 km of water pipe from Felixkirk to a location near to Thirsk Industrial Park and outlining the various phases of the work.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1266(i) Street Collections

The meeting received an email dated 12 October 2021 from Hambleton District Council advising that street collections will take place in Thirsk on 2 December 2021 and 18 December 2021.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1267 Johnson Close Play Area

Following on from the discussion in Open Forum the Clerk advised of the present position. Quotations were being sought to establish the costs of providing a suitable fence and for removing the play equipment. NYCC were going to be approached to pursue the provision of another street light and Nisa were going to be contacted to enquire whether they would consider placing a light and CCTV camera on the side of their premises. The removal of hedging and vegetation was also to be examined. Following the Open Forum discussion, the Clerk confirmed that another approach would be made to Safer Hambleton in respect of the siting of a portable CCTV camera at Johnson Close.

Resolved: that Safer Hambleton be approached regarding siting a mobile CCTV camera on Johnson Close.

C1268 Vibrant Market Towns – Thirsk Town Improvement Group

The meeting received the Minutes of a meeting held on 15 July 2021.

C1269 Covid-19

The Clerk advised that there was nothing to report.

C1270 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 18 October 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1271 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllrs Duffey and Jackson both attended a cycle workshop organised by Hambleton District Council which examined how businesses could become cycle-friendly. It was reported that there were plans to open a cycle track from Sutton Bank to Thirsk, a 170-mile cycle route going through the National Parks. Cllr Jackson reported that Sutton Bank cycling events were well-attended.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had attended his first event since taking office, a squirrel event held by the local scout group.

The meeting closed at 8.21 pm.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 15 November 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, K Mountford, F Potter, B Smith, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: None.

C1272 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1273 Police Report

PCSO Warby attended the meeting and circulated a police report which included the crime figures for October 2021. PCSO Warby noted that there had been two serious assaults and a lot of antisocial behaviour. He advised that four men had been arrested and released on bail in connection with an assault which had taken place in the Market Place and that the victim of an assault near Thirsk Industrial Park had been released from hospital and was making a good recovery.

C1274 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

In the absence of Cllr Dadd, the Clerk advised that a temporary repair to the public footpath between St James Green and The Marage was expected to be carried out before the end of the year with a permanent repair being completed in 2022.

(b) HDC

Cllr Jackson reported that he had been in contact with Cllr Elders who had advised him that Hambleton District Council had agreed to plant a tree in each of the district's wards as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Initiative and that Cllrs Dadd and Elders had each been asked to nominate a suitable location to plant a tree. Cllr Jackson requested that Members pass on any suggestions to the Clerk.

C1275 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1276 Minutes

C1276(a) Town Council Meeting held on 18 October 2021

The Clerk advised that an amendment needed to be made to Minute No C1263 (Open Forum) as three residents from Johnson Close had attended the meeting and not four residents as stated in the Minute.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 October 2021 be approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment in Minute No C1263 as indicated above.

C1276(b) Matters Arising

C1263 Open Forum

The Clerk advised that Cllrs Jackson, Duffey and himself had attended a meeting with representatives of the Safer Hambleton Group and North Yorkshire Police and discussion had taken place concerning antisocial behaviour in various locations. He indicated that the police had requested that a meeting be held with some residents of Johnson Close to discuss possible solutions to the issues at the Johnson Close Play Area. The Clerk advised that antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of East Thirsk

Community Hall had also been discussed and the police had suggested that a meeting could be held with representatives from East Thirsk Community Hall.

C1277 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1277(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 18 October 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 October 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1278 Burial Board

Resolved: that the application for memorial for Alan Jeffrey Morton be approved.

C1279 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1279(a) Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005

The meeting received an email dated 21 October 2021 from the Licensing Team, Hambleton District Council concerning a review of its Statement of Principles and the requirement to consult with businesses and individuals who may have an interest in licensed premises within the area.

Resolved: that any Member who wanted to submit observations would do so on an individual basis.

C1279(b) Community Infrastructure Levy Contributions

The meeting received two letters dated 21 October 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning Community Infrastructure Levy payments in connection with a development at Chapel Street and the development of the former Dispol UK site in Station Road, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the letters be noted.

C1279(c) National Association of Local Councils Newsletter

The meeting received a newsletter dated 22 October 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils (which had been emailed to Members prior to the meeting). Cllr Adamson indicated that he had received some of the information some time ago, in particular new guidance on website accessibility and publishing guidelines. He noted that it was now mandatory that accounts exceeding £500 be able to be viewed online and he requested that the accounts for payments schedule be emailed to him each month to ensure compliance with the regulations.

Resolved: that the newsletter be noted.

C1279(d) The New Council for North Yorkshire – Online Briefings

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 26 October 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning two online briefing sessions in respect of the progress being made on the transition to a new unitary council for North Yorkshire. Members noted that both sessions were to be identical and were now available for anyone to join.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(e) National Association of Local Councils Newsletter

The meeting received a newsletter dated 29 October 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils (which had been emailed to Members prior to the meeting).

Resolved: that the newsletter be noted.

C1279(f) Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire - Donation

The meeting received an email dated 2 November 2021 from Ms C Newman, Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire, thanking the Town Council for its recent donation.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(g) Government Green Homes Funding

The meeting received an email dated 4 November 2021 from Hambleton District Council which advised that HDC had been awarded Government Green Homes funding so that it could offer help to home owners to pay for energy saving improvements.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(h) Thirsk Citizen of the Year 2022

The Clerk reported that a suggestion had been put forward that Mrs Freda Roberts should be retrospectively awarded the honour of "Thirsk Citizen of the Year" in recognition of her long history of working as a volunteer for a variety of charities and local organisations. It was suggested that Mrs Roberts be invited to attend the next Town Council meeting at which time she could be presented with the award. Cllr Trueman advised that an honours board had now been purchased and was ready to be installed at the Town Hall.

Resolved: that Mrs Freda Roberts be awarded "Thirsk Citizen of the Year" for 2022 in recognition of all the voluntary work for various organisations and bodies carried out over many years.

C1280 Vibrant Market Towns – Thirsk Town Improvement Group

Cllr Jackson advised that the Vibrant Market Towns Group had not met recently as it was awaiting the publication of a report from the consultants engaged by Hambleton District Council. Cllr Duffey understood that the consultants wanted to consult further with the Town Council before finalising their report which was now expected to be completed by the end of the year. Cllr Duffey added that work on the new Thirsk website was almost complete, and the website would hopefully be launched in the very near future.

C1281 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 15 November 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1282 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that she had finishing repainting several blue plaques which had been in a poor condition. She noted that the plaque on Humphreys & Tilly's building would benefit from repainting and Cllr Duffey noted that the plaque on the large boulder at Castle Garth was also in a poor condition. Cllr Gibson-Brown stated that she was happy to also repaint these plaques.

Cllr Duffey advised that a decision had been made to go ahead with Thirsk & Sowerby Festival in August 2022 and that the organising committee was seeking a new main sponsor for the event. He indicated that costs had increased significantly since the last Festival was held in 2019 and that he would therefore be asking both Thirsk Town Council and Sowerby Parish Council to increase its donations from £500 to £1,000. He noted that the Town Council had previously agreed to underwrite the Festival in the event of a financial deficit and the Clerk stated that he

would check what had been agreed previously and suggested that the Festival be included on the agenda for December's meeting.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had attended his first meeting of the Thirsk & Sowerby Swimming Baths Charity on 11 November 2021.

Cllr Jackson advised that he had participated in the commemorative events on Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday and that both events appeared to have been well-organised and had been well-attended. He thanked everyone who had helped in the planning, in particular Mr C Northridge, Mrs A Robson and Mr T Hodgson.

Cllr Jackson indicated that arrangements were in hand to put up the Christmas Tree in the Market Place on the morning of Thursday, 18 November 2021 and that he and Cllr Smith would be present to assist.

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 17 January 2022 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, C Hesmondhalgh, S Ward
Apologies: Cllrs D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, K Mountford, F Potter, B Smith, A Trueman

C1283 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1284 Minutes

C1284(a) Town Council Meeting held on 15 November 2021

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C1284(b) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

C1285 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1285(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 15 November 2021 and Summary dated 20 December 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 November 2021 and a Summary dated 20 December 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes and the Summary be received and noted.

C1286 Town Councillor Vacancy

The meeting noted that all Town Councillors had submitted a vote in respect of the Town Councillor vacancy and, as two candidates had received the same number of votes, it had been suggested that Members submit a further vote by email for their preferred choice from these two candidates.

Resolved: that Town Councillors submit a further vote in respect of the Town Councillor vacancy.

C1287 Budgets/Precept 2022/2023

The meeting considered the proposed budgets and precept for the financial year 2022/2023.

Resolved:

a) that the budgets for the financial year 2022/2023 be accepted and confirmed, subject to the figure for capital being increased from £10,000 to £12,000;

b) that the precept for the financial year 2022/2023 be set at £178,400.

C1288 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 17 January 2022 be approved and cheques signed.

C1289 Reports from Members/Representatives

There were no reports from Members/Representatives.

The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 21 February 2022 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, K Mountford, F Potter, B Smith, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: Cllr C Patterson (Illness)

In attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

C1290 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ward declared an interest in Agenda Item 9(a) concerning Thirsk Community Library and took no part in the discussion.

C1291 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance.

C1292 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that North Yorkshire County Council had approved a council tax increase of 3.99 per cent for 2022/23. He recognised that many people were struggling financially but stated that the increase was necessary in order to maintain services particularly for the county's most vulnerable residents.

(b) HDC

Cllr Elders advised that Hambleton District Council was expected to increase its council tax by an average of £5 per household for 2022/23. He indicated that HDC had frozen its council tax for the last financial year but that an increase was necessary to continue delivering its services.

Cllr Elders reported that an open day was to be held at the new crematorium on Thursday, 24 February 2022 with a formal opening ceremony taking place at 10.00 am. He advised that the facility was expected to be ready for cremations to take place at the end of March.

Cllr Elders reported that Thirsk was to receive funding of £50,000 as part of a market towns investment programme. He advised that a firm of consultants engaged by HDC had submitted a report which was expected to be approved in May 2022. Cllr Jackson noted that the Thirsk Vibrant Market Towns group had put on hold any further meetings until the report was made available.

C1293 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1294 Minutes

C1294(a) Town Council Meeting held on 17 January 2022

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 January 2022 be approved as a correct record.

C1294(b) Notes of Informal Discussion held on 17 January 2022

Resolved: that the notes of the Informal Discussion be received and noted.

C1294(c) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

C1295 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1295(a) Planning Committee – Summary dated 17 January 2022

The meeting received a Planning Summary dated 17 January 2022. The Clerk raised the issue of Committee meetings, noting that the only Committee to hold meetings since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic had been the Planning Committee. Several Members requested that Committee meetings should now be reinstated.

Resolved: that the Planning Summary be received and noted.

C1296 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that there had been some issues arising from grave diggers disposing of soil in areas of the cemetery instead of using the skip which had been provided. He advised that a designated area for soil disposal would shortly be made available which it was hoped would resolve the issues.

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Kathleen Banthorpe and Eric & Stella Windross be approved.

C1297 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1297(a) Thirsk Community Library - Application for Funding

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 2 January 2022 from S Burton which contained a request that the Town Council consider making a donation to Thirsk Community Library. The Clerk noted that Members had already approved a donation of £1,000 within the budget. Cllr Duffey queried how the money would be utilised and was advised that it would be used to cover running costs as well as some redecorating. Cllr Jackson requested that the Town Council be provided with a set of accounts if further funding is sought.

Resolved: that the Town Council makes a donation of £1,000 to Thirsk Community Library.

C1297(b) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

The Clerk advised that the Town Council had received several emails in connection with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. He suggested that Members might want to provide something tangible such as a commemorative seat which would benefit both residents and visitors to the town. A photograph of a seat which incorporated the official Platinum Jubilee logo was circulated to Members.

Resolved: that the Town Council provide a commemorative bench in Thirsk Market Place to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

C1297(c) Thirsk Yarnbombers – Summary of Events for 2022

The meeting received an email dated 15 January 2022 from I Marwood which provided a summary of planned yarnbombing events for 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1297(d) Street Collection – Thirsk Market Place

The meeting received an email dated 17 January 2022 from Hambleton District Council, advising of a street collection by Christian Aid to take place in December 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1297(e) Thirsk Youth Club – Application for Funding

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 23 January 2022 from K Leonard, the treasurer for Thirsk Youth Club, which included an application for funding to support the activities of the newly formed youth club.

Resolved: that the Town Council makes a donation of £2,990 to Thirsk Youth Club.

C1297(f) Outbreak of Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

The meeting received a letter dated January 2022 from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs concerning an outbreak of avian influenza (also known as bird flu) in the Thirsk area.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1297(g) Thirsk 10 Mile Road and Wheelchair Race/Road Closure - 13 March 2022

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 30 January 2022 from K Wood and an email dated 9 February 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning the Thirsk 10 mile road and wheelchair race and associated road closure.

Resolved: that the emails be noted.

C1297(h) Town Centre Response Plans

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 2 February 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning resilience planning in North Yorkshire and the development of town centre response plans.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1297(i) 20s Plenty for North Yorkshire

The meeting received emails dated 2 and 4 February 2022 from ActionNetwork.org concerning a campaign supporting 20 mile per hour speed limits.

Resolved: that Members support the 20s Plenty Campaign in principle.

C1297(j) Street Collection – Thirsk Market Place

The meeting received an email dated 3 February 2022 from the Licensing Team, Hambleton District Council, concerning a street collection by Thirsk Royal British Legion Band to take place on 7 May 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1297(k) Gas Mains Replacement Works – Planned Road Closure Notification

The meeting received an email dated 3 February 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council and emails and attachment dated 7 February 2022 from Northern Gas Networks concerning road closures between 14 March 2022 and 8 April 2022 to allow for a major gas main replacement scheme. Members noted that the works would impact traffic flow through the town and that Northern Gas Networks had indicated they would like to give something back to the community by making a donation to a charity or community group.

Resolved: that the Town Council suggests that Northern Gas Networks consider making a donation to Thirsk & Sowerby Festival and/or Thirsk Community Library.

C1297(l) The Anne Robson Trust – Pre-Bereavement Charity

The meeting received an email and attachments dated 8 February 2022 from S Brown of The Anne Robson Trust which provided information about the Trust's services including a free national helpline which was available to anyone who was struggling to cope with a terminal diagnosis or the imminent death of someone they care about.

Resolved: that the Town Council offers to support the Anne Robson Trust by displaying promotional material on its noticeboard.

C1279(m) Local Government Reorganisation – Microsoft Teams Meeting with Town and Parish Councils

The meeting received an email dated 9 February 2022 from N Irving, North Yorkshire County Council, advising of a remote meeting to be held on Monday, 28 February 2022 to discuss the development of a parish charter and arrangements for double devolution.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(n) Thirsk Infant School Charity Trust

The meeting received an email dated 14 February 2022 from J Marshall concerning the appointment of Cllr A Trueman and Mr P Miller as Town Council nominated trustees of the Thirsk Infant School Charity Trust, subject to the Town Council's agreement.

Resolved: that Members approve the appointment of Cllr A Trueman and Mr P Miller as Town Council nominated trustees of the Thirsk Infant School Charity Trust.

C1279(o) Parish/Town Council Elections – Thursday, 5 May 2022

The meeting received an email dated 14 February 2022 from Hambleton District Council concerning both parish elections and North Yorkshire County Council elections scheduled to take place on Thursday, 5 May 2022. The Clerk advised that all Members who wished to stand again would be required to complete and submit nomination forms.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1280 Johnson Close Play Area

The Clerk indicated that letters had been sent to residents who lived close to the Johnson Close Play Area advising that consideration was being given to removing the play equipment as a result of ongoing issues of antisocial behaviour. He reported that four responses had been received and that a variety of suggestions had been made regarding possible alternative usage of the area. It was noted that previous attempts to resolve the issues had not been successful and that some proposals which had been put forward were outside the Town Council's control.

Following discussion, it was: -

Resolved: that the Town Council arranges for the removal of the play equipment and introduction of appropriate shrubbery and wildflowers at the Johnson Close Play Area.

C1281 Delegated Powers and Responsibilities – Scheme of Delegation

Cllr Adamson referred Members to page 37 of the agenda attachments which included an extract from the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 22 March 2020 when discussion had taken place in respect of the Town Council's functioning during the coronavirus pandemic. He proposed that the resolution contained in Minute No C1093 be rescinded and that the Town Council adopt a scheme of delegation which would become part of the Financial Regulations and reviewed annually.

Resolved: that Resolution No C1093 from the Town Council meeting held on 22 March 2020 be rescinded and the Town Council adopts the Scheme of Delegation proposed by Cllr Adamson.

C1282 Accounts for Payment

The Clerk reported that the Town Council's grass cutting contractor had advised of an increase in his charges which was mainly due to recent increases in the cost of fuel. It was considered that the new charges were justified in light of increases in costs and had been anticipated when setting the budget.

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 21 February 2022 be approved, and cheques signed.

C1283 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown expressed concern at the road closures which were scheduled to take place around the Market Place in March and April and noted the difficulties that would be caused to both residents and businesses.

Cllr Mountford reported that Thirsk Community Primary School had received a "Good" status in its recent Ofsted inspection and that the school intended to undertake some promotional work.

The meeting closed at 8.23 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 21 March 2022 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, C Hesmondhalgh, K Mountford, C Patterson, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: Cllrs W Gibson-Brown (Holiday), F Potter (Prior commitment), B Smith (Prior commitment)

In attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd

C1302 Declarations of Interest

None.

C1303 Police Report

PCSO Warby attended the meeting and circulated the crime report for February 2022. PCSO Warby reported that the North Yorkshire Police Operation Expedite Team was operating in the Thirsk area. Cllr Dadd enquired about county lines drug dealing stating that he had observed some suspicious activity at four a.m. one morning on his way to work. The PCSO advised that such incidents should be reported.

C1304 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that the gas main replacement works in the centre of Thirsk were causing disruption to the flow of traffic.

Cllr Dadd stated that the structural changeover had been signed by the Secretary of State. He advised that there would be no spending of large sums by any Authority unless this was done by agreement.

(b) HDC

Nothing reported.

C1305 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1306 Minutes

C1306(a) Town Council Meeting held on 21 February 2022

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 February 2022 be approved as a correct record.

C1306(b) Matters Arising

No matters arising.

C1307 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1307(a) Planning Committee – 21 February 2022

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 21 February 2022.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted

C1308 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Derek Hoggart, Peter Hunt, Joseph Knowlson, Gary Lynch, Brenda Stephenson and Jacqueline Walker be approved.

C1309 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1309(a) Street Collection – Thirsk Market Place

The meeting received an email dated 18 February 2022 from Hambleton District Council concerning a street collection due to take place on 10 December 2022 by the Northallerton Silver Band.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(b) North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Meeting – 26 May 2022

The meeting received an email dated 18 February 2022 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning a meeting to be held with Zoe Metcalfe, the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner on 26 May 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(c) Hambleton Local Plan

The meeting received an email dated 24 February 2022 from Hambleton District Council concerning the decision to adopt the Hambleton Local Plan.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(d) Donation to Thirsk Christmas Lights

The meeting received an email dated 25 February 2022 from Ms J Miller thanking the Town Council for its donation towards the running costs of Thirsk Christmas Lights.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(e) Donation to Thirsk Community Library

The meeting received an email dated 28 February 2022 from Ms S Burton thanking the Town Council for its donation to Thirsk Community Library.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(f) Planned Road Closure Notification

The meeting received an email dated 28 February 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning the closure of Blakey Lane, Sowerby for two nights between 23 and 25 March 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(g) National Joint Council for Local Government Services – Cost of Living Increase from 1 April 2021

The meeting received an email dated 1 March 2022 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning a cost of living increase of 1.75% from 1 April 2021.

Resolved: that the cost of living increase of 1.75% be applied and backdated to 1 April 2021.

C1309(h) Housing Supplementary Planning Document

The meeting received an email dated 3 March 2022 from Hambleton District Council concerning a Housing Supplementary Planning Document which was available online to be viewed and commented upon between 3 March 2022 and 19 April 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(i) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – Training Programme

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 3 March 2022 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations concerning a training programme for April and May 2022. (previously emailed to members).

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(j) Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Surveys

The meeting received an email dated 4 March 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning a review and digital surveys in respect of local community pharmaceutical services.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(k) Street Collection – Thirsk Market Place

The meeting received an email dated 4 March 2022 from Hambleton District Council concerning street collections due to take place each Saturday in March 2022 by Thirsk Rotary Club.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(l) National Association of Local Councils – Chief Executive’s Bulletin

The meeting received a newsletter dated 4 March 2022 from the National Association of Local Councils which included several items of interest (previously emailed to Members).

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1309(m) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – NALC Briefing - Ukraine

The meeting received emails dated 9 and 15 March 2022 from Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (previously emailed to Members) in connection with recent events in Ukraine and which provided useful information in respect of local council general powers. Cllr Trueman gave an update in respect of the help and support given by the people of Thirsk in the form of donations and use of vehicles to transport supplies to Poland. He reported that over £64,000 had been raised to date but that further volunteers were still needed. Discussion took place as to how the Town Council could help and it was suggested that the Council would be guided by Cllr Trueman. Cllr Hesmondhalgh noted the tremendous achievements by the citizens of Thirsk in this matter and that all involved should be proud of themselves.

Resolved:

(i) that the emails be noted;

(ii) that the Town Council acknowledges the achievements of the citizens of Thirsk in respect of their efforts to support Ukraine.

C1310 Johnson Close Play Area

The Clerk reported that a plan had been drawn up by Mr C Amy, amenity contractor, who had suggested that a mature tree be planted in commemoration of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in the Johnson Close play area once the play equipment had been removed, and that the land become a wildflower area. Mr Amy had also suggested that a new section of fencing be erected along with a gate and that the existing hedging and shrubbery remain. Cllr Hesmondhalgh proposed that an English oak tree be planted.

Resolved: that the plan prepared by Mr C Amy be approved.

C1311 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as 21 March 2022 be approved and cheques signed.

C1312 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Adamson reported that he had recently visited the new Maple Park Crematorium and that he had been impressed with the facilities.

The Clerk reported that Hambleton District Council had requested that the Town Council provide a quotation to paint the seats in the central part of the Market Place by the amenity worker, Mr L Morley.

The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.