

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday 16 April 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C.Hesmondhalgh (Chair), D.Adamson, H.Dalglish-Brown, D.Duffey, E.Fraser, A. Morton, M.Penson, F.Roberts, J.Watson.

Apologies: Cllrs: J.Jackson (abroad), A.Morton (ill), A.Robinson (holiday)

C1. Former Councillor David Murkett

Cllr Adamson advised the meeting that well known former Councillor David Murkett had passed away on 15 April. He noted that he had been a good friend and an excellent and long standing County, District and Town Councillor and former Mayor. Cllr Roberts added her memories and tribute.

C2. Police Report

No Police representative was present

C3. Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C3.a N.Y.C.C

Cllr Dadds apologies were submitted.

C3.b HDC

Cllr Adamson advised that the new Audit Governance Committee would have non-voting Parish Council representatives and the independent person who was to work with the Councils legal officer. The new code of conduct was still not written but the Local Government Association had issued a template.

C4. Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended.

Tony Jordan the Chairman of the Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust was in attendance.

He advised of the background and funding of the trust for the new Council members and gave an update on the programme of activities for Carrs field.

Mr Jordan advised that S. Dodds, one of the Town Council nominated Trustees and K.Reynard, one of the co-opted Trustees were to resign and therefore two new trustees would be required.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that the nomination of a trustee would be dealt with at the next Town Council meeting and thanked Tony Jordan for the update.

Resolved: that standing orders be re-instated

C5. Minutes

C5.a Town Council Meeting held on 19 March 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 March be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

C5.b Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising

C6. Committee Minutes and Reports

C6.a Planning Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the planning committee held on 26 March 2012

C6.b Personnel Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the personnel Committee held on 5 April 2012.

Cllr Watson questioned the current position in relation to the prison resettlement scheme. Cllr Duffey advised that a report was to be made to the Town Council when all the elements were in place.

Resolved: that the minutes be received and resolutions ratified.

C7. Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that a Burial Board meeting had been held at the cemetery to examine the situation concerning the installation of wooden and wire kerb sets. The owners were to be traced and contacted to discuss various issues arising in relation to the sets. The Cemetery rules were to be updated to clarify the position in relation to kerb sets.

Resolved:

a) that the report be noted.

b) that the memorial application for Trafford Lee Shaw be approved.

C8. Correspondence/Items Raised

C8.a Urban Grass Cutting

A letter dated 14 March 2012 was received from NYCC advising that the value calculated to cover six cuts in relation to highway verges cut by the Town Council's contractor was £2343.43 which was a reduction on the payment from the previous year. The County Council was to pay the same sum as the previous year to enable the Town Council to budget for the reduction for future years.

Resolved: that the letter be noted

C8.b Speeding Concern – Norby Front Street

The meeting received a letter dated 21 March 2012 from Hambleton and Richmondshire Community Safety Partnership advising that as a result of the ongoing concerns periodic speed enforcement activity would continue. Cllr Duffey advised that there were still speeding problems and proposed that the Partnership be requested to supply details of the days and times that the enforcement activity had been undertaken.

Resolved: that the Community Safety Partnership be requested to supply the dates and times of the speed enforcement activity.

C8.c Electoral Review of Hambleton

Cllr Adamson declared an interest.

A letter dated 27 March 2012 was received from the Local Government Boundary Commission advising of the electoral review of Hambleton District Council which was proceeding on a council size of 28 members.

Resolved: that the Town Council support a District Council size of 28 councillors.

C8.d Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

The Meeting received notification of 1.5% increase in room hire charges at the Town Hall with effect from 1 April 2012.

Resolved: that the information be noted.

C8.e Queens Diamond Jubilee Events.

Cllr Dagleish-Brown advised that on the 5 June the Jubilee Committee planned for a mini-parade from the swimming baths into the Market Place, the provision of a stage for bands in the square to the front of the Black Bull, a small continental food market and children's entertainment.

A shop window competition was to be organised and bunting was to be provided around the Market Place.

Public liability insurance would be in place and risk assessments were being carried out. Marshalls were to be provided by the Rotary Club and first aiders were to attend the event.

The majority of the financial requirements were being met by sponsorship but the final costings were not yet available.

Resolved : that an up-date report be made to the next Town Council Meeting.

C9. Finance

Resolved:

a) that the accounts for payment as at 16 April 2012 be approved and cheques signed.

(Schedule A)

c) that the Balance Sheet for March be approved.

C10. Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Adamson advised that the Millennium Green Trust had negotiated a 10 year management plan for the green.

Cllr Watson advised that Central areas Committee were considering options for re-furbishment of the Town Clock including the water fountain and the plaque.

Cllr Roberts reported that NALC was examining Local Councils being statutory consultees on all license applications with particular reference to alcohol licences. The AGM of YLCA was to be held on Saturday 21 July.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that she had attended the St. Georges day parade.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday 21 May 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C.Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D.Adamson, H.Dalglish-Brown, D.Duffey, E.Fraser, A. Morton, F.Roberts, J.Watson.

Apologies: Cllrs: J.Jackson (abroad), M.Penson (alternative appointment)

C11. Police Report

PCSO Warby and PCSO Ballentyne were in attendance.

PCSO Warby reported that PCSO Ballentyne had just started in Thirsk and advised on transfer and recruitment of officers and PCSO's.

He reported that the Police were paying attention to the traffic situation in Chapel Street and the reported issues at Millgate toilets. The meeting was advised that there had been several fights within the Town on the last race day and generally this had occurred where public houses had no doormen on duty. It was noted that the majority of the licensed premises were now using doormen on race days. PCSO Warby reported that a person had also fallen from the balcony in Wetherspoons. Cllr Duffey noted that public houses had an obligation not to serve people who were in an unfit state and PCSO Warby advised that the issue would be brought up at the next pubwatch meeting.

Cllr Watson noted the ongoing traffic problems with parking on yellow lines at Gillings Court.

The Meeting was advised of the appointment of Inspector Scott and it was hoped that he would be able to attend the next Town Council meeting.

C12. Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C12.a N.Y.C.C

Cllr Dadd advised that the public engagement exercise in relation to the health and social welfare development proposals had been well attended and positive feedback had been made. The MP was to assist in pursuing the additional land required for the preferred option for the scheme.

Cllr Watson advised of potholes in the roadway at the top end of Stockton Road.

C12.b HDC

Cllr Adamson noted that a traffic assessment was to take place in relation to Chapel Street.

The Council leader had been re-appointed and there had been minor changes to committee members. Cllr Adamson had been appointed to the planning committee.

The Market Place scheme for the cobbles was set to commence in September or October and be finished by November.

C13. Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C14. Minutes

C14.a Town Council Meeting held on 16 April 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 April be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

C14.b Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute no.C8.e Queens Diamond Jubilee Events.

Cllr Dalglish-Brown reported that following various fund-raising and donations there was no financial shortfall for the Market Place event. Public liability insurance was in place and Colin Musgrove was assisting at the event.

C15. Committee Minutes and Reports

C15.a Planning Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the planning committee held on 2 May 2012

C15.b Central Areas

The meeting received the minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 10 April and 8 May. Cllr Watson advised that Hugh Connelly had examined the water fountain on the clock and information regarding the water supply was being sought. She had talked to Environmental Health at HDC and it was apparent that there were likely to be various health issues with the proposal.

C16. Burial Board

Cllr Adamson advised that there was nothing of any significance to report.

Resolved: that the memorial applications for Naomi Townend and Colin Garner be approved.

C17. Correspondence/Items Raised

C17.a Localism Act 2011-Code of Member Conduct

The meeting received a letter dated 27 April from Hambleton District Council advising that the District Council would be providing a Code of Member conduct in due course which the Town Council could consider adopting. A new code needed to be adopted by the 1st July.

Resolved: that the Town Council obtain and consider the District Council and NALC template for the new code of member conduct.

C17.b The Queens Speech 2012

The Meeting received a policy briefing on the Queens speech from NALC including the relevant provisions to the local council sector.

Resolved: that the policy briefing be noted.

C17.c The future of children's and maternity services at the Friarage Hospital.

A letter dated 16 May was received from Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG advising of the feedback mid- way through the engagement exercise into the proposals.

Cllr Adamson advised that David Bentley who had been involved in previous public health issues concerning Thirsk and Sowerby had become a member of the South Tees Hospital NHS Trust

Resolved that the information be noted

C17.d Street Collections for June

The Clerk reported the street collections approved by HDC for June.

Resolved: that the report be noted

C17.e Training re: Localism Act and Neighbourhood Planning.

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from HDC in respect of a training session that had been arranged for 3 July. Attendance was restricted to two places.

YLCA was also to hold two training sessions, on the 21 June at Pontefract and the 25 June at Pickering. The cost for a place was £30.

Resolved:

- a) that Cllrs Hesmondhalgh and Cllr Frazer attend the HDC training session on 3 July.
- b) that Cllr F. Roberts attend the YLCA training at Pickering on 25 June 2012.

C18. Finance

Resolved:

- a) that the accounts for payment as at 21 May 2012 be approved and cheques signed.
(Schedule A)
- c) that the Balance Sheet and Budget Report for April be approved.

C19. Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that the CCA were interviewing for a new Chief Executive.

Cllr Roberts advised that Kevin Brooks was interested in becoming a trustee of Carrs Field.

Cllr Roberts questioned if the White Mare roundabout could be cut in time for the Diamond Jubilee.

Cllr Morton noted that the fire service had held a recruitment event and he questioned whether the station had a full complement of personnel.

C20 On-Going Items

Resolved: that Land registry/registration of land and Greens Byelaws be removed from the list.

Part II

Resolved: that in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the discussion of confidential items.

C21. Public Toilets-Security

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

**Minutes of the Town Council meeting
held on Monday 18th June 2012 at 7:15pm
in the Annexe Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present:

Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalglish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, M. Penson, F. Roberts, A. Robinson, J. Watson.

Apologies:

Cllr: A. Morton (injury)

C20. Police Report

No Police representatives were present.

Cllr Adamson advised that it had been reported at a meeting he had attended that generally crime was down and North Yorkshire was one of the safest places in the country to live. He noted that there had been a slight increase in car crime but these figures included a trend to steal dust caps from BMW's to hang on bikes.

C21. Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C21.a N.Y.C.C

Cllr Dadd advised that due to one off savings the County Council had a pot-hole fund of two million pounds which equated to approximately £23000 to £25000 per member area. The local highway manager would seek input from local members with regard to the spend. Members noted the condition of St Marys and Station Road. Cllr Adamson advised that a hole in the road at the top end of St Marys was considerably deteriorating. Cllr Dadd noted that the Police Authority would cease to exist in November and that there would be an elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

C21.b HDC

Councillors advised that there was nothing of any significance to report.

C22. Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C23. Minutes

C23.a Town Council Meeting held on 21 May 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 May be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the amendment of Stockton road to read Station Road in Minute no.C12.a

C23.b Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute no.C14.b Queens Diamond Jubilee Events

Cllr Roberts noted that all the organisers of the Market Place event had done a fantastic job in the timescale involved and it was unfortunate that they had been let down with the non-attendance of the food market.

Minute no.C19 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that the new CCA Chief Executive had commenced work today.

C24. Committee Minutes and Reports

C24.a Planning Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 21 May and 7 June 2012

C24.b Public Conveniences Committee

Cllr Duffey advised that the Public Convenience Committee had approved a draft action plan for the toilets and set high, medium and low priorities. Costings were now being obtained and the question of charging would eventually be referred to the Town Council for a policy decision.

C25. Burial Board

Cllr Adamson advised that there was nothing to report.

C26. Correspondence/Items Raised

C26.a The Hambleton District Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Amendment) Order 2012

A letter and enclosures dated 23 May was received from Hambleton District Council consulting on the amendment order for off street parking places. The major effect of the order was that parking for up to 10 hours would be allowed in both the Marage and Millgate car parks.

Cllr Penson expressed disappointment that a better system for disabled parking had not been incorporated.

Cllr Watson noted that several bays in the small area off the Marage had not been available for use for a year. She also requested that District Members ensured that the Parking Enforcement Officer monitored Disc Parking in the town.

Resolved: that the Town Council support the amendment order.

C26.b Proposed Street Trading Scheme

The meeting received a letter dated 21 May from Hambleton District Council consulting on the possible establishment of a Street Trading Scheme.

Cllr Adamson noted that Thirsk had vibrant markets twice a week, a Market Policy in respect of competition and did not require other on-street trading.

Cllr Roberts noted that selling on streets could cause obstruction problems and that it would be detrimental to local shops.

Following further discussion it was:-

Resolved: that Councillors submit their individual comments to Hambleton District Council.

C26.c Environmental Permit Application – Allerton Waste Recovery Park

A letter dated 17 May was received from the Environment Agency advising of an application submitted by Amey Cepsa for an environmental permit for a proposed waste incinerator at Allerton Park.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C26.d Consultation on appointment of external auditor for 2012/13 and future years.

A letter dated 10 May was received from the Audit Commission consulting on the appointment of Littlejohn LLP to audit the annual return for five years from 2012/13 and advising of the scale of fees.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C26.e Town Twinning

The meeting received an email from Mr Derek Smith a Yorkshire man who had lived in Murska Sobota, Slovenia for the last twenty years. Several Yorkshire families were in the area and discussion had taken place with the British Ambassador and Mayor of Murska Sobota about twinning with a UK town. Members considered that the

Town Council had more than enough matters to deal with at the present time and that finances should be directly concentrated on issues in Thirsk.

Resolved: that the Town Council advise Mr Smith that it would not be interested in Twinning at this time.

C27. Extraordinary Town Council Meeting

The Clerk advised that an extraordinary meeting needed to be arranged to consider a new Code of Member Conduct, amendment to standing orders and the Annual return for the financial year ended 31 March 2012.

Resolved: that an extraordinary meeting be held on Thursday 28 June 2012 at 7.15pm at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall.

C28. Finance

Resolved:

- a) that the accounts for payment as at 18 June 2012 be approved and cheques signed. (Schedule A)
- c) that the Balance Sheet and Budget Report for May be approved.

C29. Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Fraser noted that the fencing erected at the Holmes appeared to have resolved any issues with travellers.

Cllr Roberts noted that several of the trees in the tubs in Long Street were dead.

Cllr Roberts advised the meeting that Harry Woodhead had received an MBE. He had undertaken a lot of work over the years for and on behalf of Thirsk and had been Chairman of the Flatts Trust, Chairman of Abbeyfield, Junior School and long standing Rotarian. She requested that a congratulation card be sent.

Cllr Watson requested that tabled correspondence be presented to future meetings.

Cllr Brown- Dalglish reported on the Market Place Diamond Jubilee event which had included a parade, music and pictures. Unfortunately the food market had not turned up on the day.

Cllr Adamson reported on the community services and active engagement across North Yorkshire undertaken by Thirsk Clock.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that she had opened Felixkirk Gala.

Cllr Robinson noted that D.Goodwin of Hambleton District Council had advised that people should park in Thirsk on the day of the Olympic Torch route. He considered parking outside of the Town Centre should be provided to prevent a gridlock. The Clerk noted that HDC were now examining additional parking at the racecourse.

C30 On-Going Items

Committee Clerk

Cllr Fraser reported that seven applications had been received for the Committee Clerk position and three candidates had been interviewed.

The meeting closed at 8.36

Present:

Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalglish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, A. Morton, M. Penson, F. Roberts, J. Watson.

Apologies:

Cllr A. Robinson

C.31 New Standards Regime

The Meeting received a letter and attachments dated 12 June 2012 from Hambleton District Council advising of the new standards regime and the actions Parish Councils needed to take.

Resolved: that the letter be received and noted

C.32 Code of Member Conduct

C32.a Adoption of new Code of Conduct.

Members considered the new code of conduct adopted by Hambleton District Council from the 1 July and which was recommended for adoption to all Parish Councils in the District. Cllr Adamson gave a brief summary of the document.

Resolved: that the Code of Conduct as submitted from Hambleton District Council be adopted.

C32.b Policy for Investigating Complaints.

The meeting considered a policy for investigating complaints in line with Hambleton District Councils policy. Cllr Duffey expressed concern with regard to the examination of anonymous allegations and questioned what procedure would operate. He proposed an amendment to the wording of investigations of anonymous allegations.

Cllr Adamson suggested that the initial complaint would go to the Clerk and the Mayor and if deemed necessary the Appeals Committee would be an obvious choice to deal with the matter. With regard to any complaint of an obviously serious nature there would be a legal obligation to involve the police. It was proposed that a register for complaints be set up.

Discussion took place with regard to informing any person being the subject of a complaint and referral of complaints to the District Council Monitoring Officer.

Following further discussion it was:-

Resolved:

a) that the Policy for Investigating Complaints be adopted subject to the amendment of point 7. to read: Anonymous allegations will only be acted upon where there is other evidence such as photographic, documentary or computer discs readily available to support the complaint, unless the allegation is of such an exceptionally serious matter that it warrants immediate action.

b) that the Clerk/Mayor be the contact point to deal with complaints/allegations.

c) that the Appeals Committee be authorised to deal with any relevant complaint/allegation.

d) that Councillors D.Adamson, H.Dalgleish-Brown, D.Duffey, J.Watson be appointed members of the Appeals Committee.

e) that a register for recording relevant complaints/allegations be kept.

C32.c Amendment to Standing Order no.50 to comply with the Localism Act 2011

The meeting received two suggested standing orders from HDC in respect of the disclosure of a pecuniary interest and whether a member remained in the room during consideration of business or withdrew.

Following discussion it was :-

Resolved: that the following proposed standing order be referred to the Town Council Meeting in July for consideration:

Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest in any business of the Council the Member must withdraw from that part of the room or chamber where the meeting is considering the business during consideration and voting on the business but may remain in that part of the room or chamber which the public are allowed to occupy.

C33 Annual Return

The Clerk circulated copies of the accounting statements and internal audit report for the financial year ended 31 March 2012. He reported on the accounting statement figures and the meeting went through the annual governance statement.

Resolved:

a) that the Internal Audit Report for the financial year ended 31 March be received.

b) that the accounting statements of the annual return for the financial year ended 31 March 2012 be approved.

b) that the annual governance statement for the year ended 31 March 2012 be approved.

The Meeting ended at 7.55pm

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday 16 July 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs: C.Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D.Adamson, H.Dalglish-Brown, D.Duffey, E.Fraser, J.Jackson, A.Morton, M.Penson, F.Roberts, J.Watson.

Apologies: None received

C34. Police Report

Inspector Dave Sutcliffe introduced himself to the Meeting.

He advised that PCSO Warby had been due to attend the meeting with the crime figures but that crime was generally down in the area.

Cllr Duffey noted the on-going problems with the toilets and Inspector Sutcliffe advised that they would look at the matter again to resolve how best to tackle the issues.

Cllr Watson questioned whether the Police were monitoring parking at areas such as Riverside Mews and the Town Hall.

Cllr Fraser noted that on the last race days there had been a disruption in the Town after the meeting. Inspector Sutcliffe advised that there had been flaws in the way incidents had been dealt with and this would be rectified.

Cllr Penson noted the need for public house doormen for race days.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh thanked Inspector Sutcliffe for attending the meeting.

C35. Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C35.a N.Y.C.C

Cllr Dadd advised that there were no significant items to report.

Cllr Roberts questioned the economics of the County Council putting up various temporary road signs for highway works and subsequently leaving them on the roadside for up to 12 months. Cllr Dadd asked for details of any left signs to be fed back to him.

Cllr Jackson noted that the County Council were selling off farms, some of which had apparently been donated in the first place, and he considered that this would make it even harder for a continuing farming community to exist.

C35.b HDC

Cllr Adamson advised that there were no particular items to report. He noted that it was the Thirsk Area Forum the following night.

C36. Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C37. Minutes

C37.a Town Council Meeting held on 18 June 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 June 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman subject to the deletion of Cllr Jackson from members present and inclusion of 'and Sowerby Junior School' in Minute no.C.29.

C37.b Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 28 June 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the town Council held on 28 June 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C37.c Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute no. C30 On-Going Items

Cllr Fraser reported that Margaret Broadley had been appointed as Committee Clerk/Administrative Assistant and was to commence duties in the week starting 24 July.

C38. Committee Minutes and Reports

C38.a Planning Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 18 June 2012.

C38.b Public Conveniences Committee

The Meeting received the minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 15 June 2012.

Cllr Duffey advised that it was intended to do a letter drop to local businesses regarding the facilities when all the proposals and costings had been finalised.

C38.c Central Areas Committee

The Meeting received the minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 10 July 2012.

Cllr Watson advised that it was likely that the proposed refurbishment of the clock would be in September subject to further examination of the costings and licence from HDC.

C39. Burial Board

Cllr Adamson advised that there was nothing to report.

Resolved: that the memorial application for Michael Morrissey be approved.

C40. Correspondence/Items Raised

C40.a Electoral Review of Hambleton

A letter dated 20 June 2012 was received from the Local Government Boundary Commission updating the current position on the review of Hambleton District Council.

Cllr Adamson advised on the proposed ward adjustments and noted that Thirsk would have two District Councillors under the proposals.

Resolved: that the letter be received and noted.

C40.b Hambleton District Council Gambling Policies

The Meeting received a letter dated 10 July 2012 from Hambleton District Council in respect of a survey and review of gambling policies.

Resolved: that Members submit individual comments to Hambleton District Council.

C41. Variation of Standing Order no.50 to comply with the Localism Act 2011.

The meeting received the proposed resolution for variation of standing order no.50 to comply with the Localism Act 2011.

Resolved: that standing order no 50 be set as follows:-

Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest in any business of the Council the Member must withdraw from that part of the room or chamber where the meeting is considering the business during consideration and voting on the business but may remain in that part of the room or chamber which the public are allowed to occupy.

C42. Finance

Resolved:

- a) that the accounts for payment as at 16 July 2012 be approved and cheques signed.**
- (b) that the Balance Sheet and Budget Report for June be approved.**

C43. Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Adamson advised that he had escorted Cllr Hesmondhalgh to RAF Topcliffe for the inauguration of the Air Ambulance Service at the site and which had been attended by the Duke of York.

It was noted that there was debris deposited at Ingramgate Bridge and several dead trees adjacent to Millgate Bridge.

Cllr Morton advised that the ditch between St Marys Walk and the Millennium Green was in a bad condition.

Cllr Jackson advised that he understood from a medical practise that there were issues to be addressed in respect of the medical and care home proposals for Thirsk and the matter was not concluded.

Cllr Dagleish-Brown advised that the Business Association were opposed to charges being introduced in the public toilets and that they would help with sponsorship of the facilities. It was suggested that Guy Brandeth attend a meeting of the Committee.

The Business Association also considered that the notice board adjacent to the bus shelter was in a bad condition and the notices did not portray a positive view of Thirsk. Cllr Watson advised that it was necessary to have the notices regarding litter, pigeons and cigarettes to help keep the matters concerned in check.

Cllr Penson noted that there were nine empty shops in Thirsk with another to close in October and she requested that the Business association be asked to encourage the shop owners to make the properties look attractive during whilst empty.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that she had attended Strensall Camp for presentation of awards and Thirsk Cadets had won a national trophy. It was agreed to send a congratulatory letter.

Cllr Fraser questioned what the latest census figures had revealed in respect of Thirsk.

The meeting closed at 8.34pm

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday 20 August 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, A. Morton, F. Roberts, A. Robinson, J. Watson.

Apologies: Cllrs: H. Dalglish-Brown (Holiday), M. Penson (Holiday).

C44 Police Report

No police representative was in attendance.

C45 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C45 (a) NYCC

The meeting was advised that Cllr Dadd was unable to attend.

Cllr Robinson raised the issue of travellers' caravans parking on the highway verge between Thirsk and South Kilvington resulting in the footpath being obstructed. The meeting was advised that the matter was being dealt with by HDC and NYCC and that the caravans should be gone no later than the end September.

It was suggested that the police be contacted to ask them to examine the obstruction of the footpath.

C45 (b) HDC

District Councillors advised that there were no particular items to report.

C46 Open Forum

C46 (a) Entrances to Thirsk

Mr L Twiss, a local resident, attended to express his concern at the state of the entrances to Thirsk, particularly the entrance from the A19 south next to Thirsk Industrial Estate and Barbeck. He provided photographic evidence of the area. He advised that sandbags had still not been removed, that the footpath was in a very bad state of repair and that road signs were in a bad condition. He was also concerned about the number of advertising boards outside the industrial park. He noted that he had reported these matters to NYCC on several occasions but nothing had been done.

Cllr Watson suggested that Nigel Smith of NYCC be invited to attend the next Town Council meeting.

C46 (b) the Lambert Hospital

The meeting received an email received from Cllr Dadd regarding the Lambert Hospital in which he advised that he hoped to set up a meeting for Thirsk Town Council and Sowerby Parish Council to meet with Vicky Pleydell.

Mr David Tucker referred to a statement issued by the Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group which suggested that 90% of patients in the Lambert Hospital could be cared for at home or in a community setting if appropriate community services were in place. There was general uncertainty as to the future of the Lambert Hospital and it was felt that further information was needed.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh thanked Mr Tucker for attending the meeting and for the information he had provided.

C47 Minutes

C47 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 16 July 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 July 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman subject to an amendment in Minute No C43 to read "Guy Baragwanath".

C47 (b) Matters Arising

Minute No C43 Reports from Members/Representatives

The meeting was advised that a firm who had volunteers available for a work day in September had examined the clearance of part of the Barrett's ditch but unfortunately, due to health and safety concerns, were unable to pursue the matter.

Cllr Morton expressed his concern at the state of the ditch. Cllr Watson stated that she was pursuing the matter with Barrett's.

The Clerk advised that Cllr Dalglish-Brown had reported that the Business Association would like to have a map of Thirsk and posters of Thirsk attractions on the notice board adjacent to the bus shelter. It was noted that these matters would be given further consideration by the Central Areas Committee.

C48 (a) Planning Committees held on 16 July 2012 and 2 August 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 July 2012 and 2 August 2012.

C48 (c) Public Conveniences Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 12 July 2012.

C48 (d) Open Areas/Greens Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the Open Areas/Greens Committee held on 26 July 2012. The Clerk advised that the Public Open Spaces and Recreation Action Plan submitted to HDC had also incorporated a pedestrian crossing on Norby Front Street, the stone footpath in the Market Place and recreation proposals for half Seven Acres.

C48 (e) Central Areas Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 7 August 2012.

Cllr Watson reported on the site meeting which was held to discuss the build-up of silt and debris under the bridge and the condition of the stonework. She advised that the silt was the responsibility of Thirsk Town Council and HDC and that NYCC would carry out repointing to the bridge stonework.

It was noted that the steps to Mill Gardens needed to be examined to rectify defects.

C49 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson stated that there was nothing to report.

The clerk advised that a request had been received with regard to undertaking planting on a grave.

Resolved: (a) that written details of the proposed planting be obtained from the applicant

(b) That the applications for memorials for Eileen Betty Collins, David Hillory Stephenson and Hilda O'Brien be approved.

C50 Correspondence/Items Raised

C50 (a) Proposed Thirsk Civil Parish Boundary Change

Cllr Adamson advised on proposed changes to the parish boundary with a new boundary being established east of the A19 opposite the industrial estate. The York Road Bagby/Sowerby boundary would remain to become the new Sowerby /Thirsk Boundary. The meeting received plans of the proposals.

Resolved: that HDC be requested to formally approve the proposed changes to Thirsk Civil Parish boundary.

C50 (b) Lambert Hospital

Following on from the discussion under Open Forum, members considered the most appropriate times for a meeting with Vicky Pleydell and Sowerby Parish Council.

Resolved: that 2, 3 and 5 September be put forward as the most appropriate dates for an informal meeting.

C50 (c) County Council Highways and Transportation Service

A letter was received from NYCC dated 16 July 2012 regarding highways and transportation proposals for the current financial year.

Resolved: that the letter be received and noted.

C51 Finance

(a) Resolved that the accounts for payment as at 20 August 2012 be approved and cheques signed.

(b) Resolved that the Balance Sheet for July 2012 be approved.

(c) Resolved that the Budget Report for July 2012 be approved.

C52 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts reported on the bad state of the footpath in the Ings, running from The Holmes to Stockton Road and that the path between the waterfall and Carrs Field needed tidying and plants spraying. Cllr Hesmondalgh agreed that the Open Spaces/Greens Committee would examine the issues.

Cllr Adamson again noted problems with the boundary hedge beside the footpath between Hambleton Avenue and Gormire Court and requested that the ownership be examined again.

Cllr Adamson paid tribute to the work performed by the Yorkshire Air Ambulance crew who had landed their helicopter on a very small, enclosed piece of land following a road accident.

Cllr Morton reported that elderly residents in the St Marys Walk area had been distressed by a 16 year old youth who had broken several house windows and questioned if compensation would be available for householders

Cllr Adamson was concerned about the foliage at the side of the bridge in Blakey Lane, Sowerby and requested that NYCC be advised.

The meeting was advised that a resident at Rymers Way had complained about antisocial behaviour by neighbours and was advised to report the incident to the police.

Cllr Hesmondalgh reported that trees needed trimming in the Herriot Way/Dowber Way North area. It was noted that these matters came under the remit of NYCC.

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Cllr Dalglish-Brown regarding issues raised at the Business Association meeting. The Business Association had expressed concern with regard to dog fouling and wanted to know who undertook prosecutions. Members noted that HDC had a dog warden and were responsible. They had also questioned how to obtain yellow stencilling in this respect. The Association also mentioned the number of empty buildings in Thirsk and questioned whether owners could be contacted regarding the tidying up of the frontages of buildings. With regard to the public conveniences, Guy Baragwanath was to attend a future meeting of the committee and would await an appropriate invitation.

C53 Ongoing Items

C53 (a) Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust

Cllr Roberts reported that Kevin Brooks and Tony Jordan had met recently to discuss becoming a trustee.

PART 2

Resolved: that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the discussion of confidential items.

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 17 September 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: J. Watson (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalgleish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, A. Morton, M. Penson, F. Roberts.

Apologies: Cllr: C. Hesmondhalgh (Holiday).

C55 Police Report

PCSO Warby reported that the overall crime rate had reduced by 13% in the first quarter of the 2012-2103 financial year compared with the same time last year, which equated to 1,311 fewer victims of crime.

He stated that there had been improvements in relation to telephone call taking and an overall improvement in service delivery satisfaction.

The meeting was advised that the charity known as MESMAC were monitoring the public conveniences.

PCSO Warby reported that an extra police officer had been allocated to Thirsk.

Cllr Watson thanked the officer for attending and for his report.

C56 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C56(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that the additional pot hole funding allocated to each area had been applied to road maintenance at St Mary's Walk and Station Road.

Cllr Jackson enquired about car parking enforcement being taken over by Scarborough Borough Council. The meeting was advised that in future one enforcement officer would be responsible for both HDC and NYCC areas, resulting in more efficient enforcement.

C56(b) HDC

Cllr Adamson reported that leisure facilities were being examined to monitor performance and in an attempt to improve their take-up.

The meeting was informed that the working party set up to review the District Council had met to discuss names for new wards.

Cllr Adamson advised that the Rural Services Commission had predicted that 3,000 new houses would be needed within the next 15 years, confirming the necessity of the Sowerby Gateway project.

Cllr Dadd reported that there had been an underspend of £600,000 last year which was mainly due to recruitment and unfilled posts.

C57 Community Fire Safety Initiatives

Three Watch Managers, Steven Harris, Darren Henderson from Northallerton and Paul Brown from Thirsk addressed the meeting on community fire safety initiatives. Their aim was to identify vulnerable groups and individuals within the community and to be more proactive, providing fire risk checks and smoke alarms free of charge to vulnerable people. Various methods of making contact with such individuals were put forward by Councillors. The officers answered a query with regard to the future provision of the fire service in Thirsk and advised that currently Thirsk was considered to be a fairly high risk area, partly due to the number of industrial estates in the area.

Cllr Watson thanked the Watch Managers for attending the meeting.

C58 Open Forum

No members of the public were present

C59 Minutes

C59 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 August 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 August 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

C59 (b) Matters Arising

Minute no.C45 (a) NYCC

The Clerk informed the meeting that there were only two or three travellers caravans remaining in the area between South Kilvington and Thirsk. Cllr Adamson stated that a report had been submitted which suggested that there was no demand for transit accommodation for travellers. He advised that he would challenge the issue and report back to the next meeting.

Minute no.C46 Open Forum

The Clerk reported that he had met with Mr L Twiss and Mr Nigel Smith of NYCC and that the majority of the matters raised by Mr Twiss in respect of the York Road entrance to Thirsk would be dealt with by NYCC within the next few weeks.

Minute no.C48 (d) Open Areas/Greens Committee

Cllr Adamson reported that the Public Open Spaces and Recreation Action plan submitted by the Town Council had been approved.

Minute no.C52 reports from Member/Representatives

The Clerk advised that he had contacted the police regarding the damage caused to properties in the St Mary's Walk area and had been advised that householders should contact the police directly if they wished to apply for compensation.

Cllr Adamson noted that the Town Council had been informed by NYCC that the foliage at Blakey Bridge, Sowerby was not dangerous to vehicles and so no action would be taken.

Cllr Adamson indicated that a street light on the footpath at Hambleton Avenue/Gormire Court was now being blocked out by the overgrown hedge. The Clerk advised that Broadacres had previously been approached to deal with the matter.

C60 (a) Planning Committee held on 20 August and 6 September 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 20 August and 6 September 2012.

C60 (b) Open Areas and Greens Committee Walkabout held on 28 August 2012

The meeting received a report of the walkabout held on 28 August 2012.

With regard to the trees that had been planted on St James Green by the Residents Association, there was a query as to whether the Lord of the Manor had been consulted.

A resident had again expressed concern about the overgrowth beside the footpath from St James Green to the Holmes. NYCC had stated that the area had been cut recently but that it was a low priority matter. Cllr Watson suggested that Cllr Dadd be copied into all emails to NYCC.

C60(c) Public Conveniences Committee held on 30 August 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 30 August 2012.

Cllr Watson enquired about the lighting in the ladies toilets and Cllr Duffey advised that the matter was to be examined further

There was discussion about the contract in respect of the Saniware units and it was noted that HDC had not advised the suppliers that Thirsk Town Council had taken over the running of the toilets.

C61 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson advised that there was nothing to report.

C62 Correspondence/Items Raised

C62 (a) Thirsk Clock Tower

Cllr Watson explained that the cost of the proposed refurbishment work had escalated, largely as a result of need to protect the clock's mechanisms whilst the work was undertaken. Three quotes had been received from Smiths of Derby with regard to varying levels of protection. Cllr Watson stated that the committee was looking into possible sources of funding. Cllr Roberts suggested that

Sowerby Parish Council be asked to contribute towards the cost of the works. Cllr Adamson advised that any shortfall could be taken from the Cemetery extension fund until full funding was available.

Resolved: that option 3 for the removal of the dial motion works and clock by Smiths of Derby in the sum of £2498 plus VAT be accepted.

C63 Finance

Resolved:

- (a) that the accounts for payment as at 17 September 2012 be approved and cheques signed
- (b) that the Balance Sheet for August 2012 be approved.
- (c) that the Budget Report for August 2012 be approved.

C64 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Dalgleish-Brown reported that Guy Baragwanath hoped to attend the next Public Convenience Committee meeting on 25 October. Cllr Duffey stated that it was intended that a full twelve months' costings would be available by that time.

Cllr Adamson advised that it had been noted that the Article 4 Direction did not apply to solar panels and an amendment to provide appropriate inclusion was to be put before Cabinet.

Cllr Adamson commented on the excellent air display that he had witnessed at the Battle of Britain display at RAF Leeming.

C65 On-Going Items

C65(a) Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust

Cllr Roberts proposed that the Clerk write to Kevin Brooks regarding becoming a trustee.

C65(b) HDC Replacement of Cobbles, Market Place

Cllr Watson reported the time scale involved in the proposed works and noted that the matter was still no further forward. Cllr Adamson advised that he understood there had been problems as a result of staff illness but that the work was due to be undertaken between September and November.

PART 2

Resolved: that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the discussion of confidential items.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 15 October 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalgleish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, M. Penson, A. Robinson, *J. Watson*.

Apologies: Cllrs: F. Roberts (Holiday), A. Morton (Illness).

C67 Police Report

No Police representatives were present.

C68 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C68(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported on the additional savings that would have to be made over the next four years which could be up to a third as much again on the original savings made.

Cllr Dadd was pleased to note that funds had been secured for the pedestrian crossing at Norby Front Street.

C68(b) HDC

Cllr Adamson reported that the review of leisure services had been completed three months earlier than anticipated.

With respect to the work to be undertaken to the cobbles in the Market Place, Cllr Watson asked if the timescale could be examined to try to avoid the Christmas period. Cllr Adamson replied that work would be undertaken on 25% of the total area and that he would speak to Clive Thornton of HDC with regard to the timing of the work. He anticipated that the entire work would be completed before the end of March 2013.

C69 Open Forum

Mrs Konieczny, a resident of Finkle Street, Thirsk attended to highlight the difficulties caused by the recent flooding in Thirsk. She stated that her house had been flooded on 24 September but that no flood warning had been given. Mrs Konieczny advised that she had spoken to the Environment Agency who had been unaware that the cod beck had risen and they had told her that there was no way of accurately measuring the river in Thirsk. The Chairman thanked Mrs Konieczny for attending the meeting and assured her that the Town Council would take whatever steps it could to resolve the issues raised.

C70 Minutes

C70(a) Town Council Meeting held on 17 September 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 September 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to an amendment in Minute No C46 to read "Mr L Twiss".

C70(b) Matters Arising

Minute No C45(a) NYCC

With reference to accommodation for traveller caravans, Cllr Adamson advised that efforts were being made to obtain more permanent pitches in Thirsk and Stokesley.

C71(a) Planning Committee held on 4 October 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 4 October 2012.

Cllr Robinson questioned whether the numbers present constituted a quorum. The Clerk stated that he would talk to the Chairman of the Planning Committee regarding standing orders. Cllr Watson suggested that all Planning Committees meetings should commence at 6.30 pm instead of 6.45 pm which would allow adequate time for consideration of all applications received.

C71(b) Central Areas Committee held on 11 September 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 11 September. A discussion took place regarding the ownership of the former Aspire public house and the condition of the building. Cllr Watson advised that she would investigate the matter.

C72 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson stated that there was nothing to report.

Resolved: that the application for a memorial for Brian Stephenson be approved.

C73 Correspondence/Items Raised

C73(a) Healthcare Finance for North Yorkshire

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported on a meeting held with Vickie Pleydell regarding the Lambert Hospital, Thirsk. It had been reported that the health authority allocate £1,474 for the healthcare of every person resident in North Yorkshire whereas in Bradford the figure was £1,900. She suggested that a letter be sent to Anne McIntosh MP to take the up the issue on behalf of the residents of Thirsk.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh noted that Councillors had received an email from Mr A.Newton regarding the downgrading of services at the Friarage hospital and the Town Councils stance in this respect.

Resolved:

a) that Anne McIntosh MP be requested to take up the issue of the amount of healthcare finance for residents in Thirsk.

b) that Mr Newton be advised of the Town Council full support for the campaign to retain services at the Friarage.

C73(b) Environment Agency Flood Warnings

Cllr Penson reported that her shed had been flooded on 24 September when the Cod Beck had broken its banks and that no warnings had been issued by the Environment Agency. She also noted a situation on 7 August when Sgt Hannan had received a call saying that the Environment Agency thought Thirsk was going to be flooded when it had been obvious that there was no danger.

Discussion took place regarding the preparation of an emergency plan which would provide relevant information for residents in any emergency. It was noted that NYCC and HDC as principal authorities should have an emergency plan in place.

Resolved: that NYCC and HDC be requested to supply information on the emergency plans in operation for the area.

C73(c) The Principle Trust

A letter was received from the Principle Trust regarding donations.

It was noted that the Trust worked with Social services in the Craven and Harrogate areas.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C74 Finance Meeting

Resolved: that the Town Council Finance Meeting be held on Wednesday, 5 December 2012 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall Annexe.

C75 Finance**Resolved:**

- (a) that the accounts for payment as at 15 October 2012 be approved and cheques signed;**
- (b) that the Balance Sheet for September 2012 be approved;**
- (c) that the Budget Report for September 2012 be approved.**

C76 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Robinson advised that the welcome to Thirsk plinths at Stockton Road and, in particular, at York Road were in need of repair.

C77 On-Going Items**C77(a) Ethel Johnson Bequest Trust**

The Clerk advised that no further progress had been made regarding the appointment of a trustee as he did not have the necessary contact details. Cllr Adamson suggested these could be obtained from Thirsk Clock.

PART II

Resolved: that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the discussion of confidential items.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirst Town Council held on Monday, 19 November 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, A. Morton, M. Penson, F. Roberts, A. Robinson, J. Watson.

Apologies: Cllrs:H.Dalgleish-Brown (illness) D. Duffey (Family commitments).

C81 Police Report

No Police representatives were present.

C82 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C82 (a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd advised that there were no particular items to report.

C82 (b) HDC

Cllr Adamson reported that work on the cobbles in the Market Place would now commence in February 2013.

Cllr Watson advised about the long outstanding problem with the blocked gulley near the bus stop and requested that the District Councillors pursued the matter.

The Licensing Hearings Panel had considered the application by Piccolo for three am closing and had decided to vary the opening times to two am on Fridays and Saturdays.

Cllr Dadd noted that car parking charges had not yet been considered by the District Council.

C83 Thirsk Children's Centre

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Maureen Hall, the new manager of the Children's Centre, advised the meeting of the services which the Children's Centre provides for families in Thirsk and surrounding areas. She hoped to have a Town Council representative on the steering group, the next meeting being on 6th December at 10 am. Cllr Watson suggested that Cllr Duffey may be interested. Cllr Hesmondhalgh thanked Ms Hall for attending the meeting and advised that the Town Council would advise in respect of the representative appointed.

Resolved: that standing orders be re-instated

C84 Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C85 Minutes

C85 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 15 October 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 October 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to Cllr Watson being included as present.

C85 (b) Matters Arising

Minute No 69 Open Forum

The Clerk reported that a constructive meeting had taken place between Cllr Penson, Mrs Konieczny, a representative from the Environment Agency and himself and that several issues had been resolved. The Environment agency was to review the trigger levels for warnings although it was noted that due to various geographical and geological issues it was extremely difficult to predict flooding matters in Thirsk. The meeting was advised that Cllr Penson and Mrs Konieczny had agreed to become local flood wardens for Thirsk and that a further meeting was to be held with the Environment Agency to discuss the details.

Minute No C73 (a) Healthcare Finance for North Yorkshire

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that she had discussed this matter with Anne McIntosh MP and that the MP had suggested that it would be a good idea for people to write letters to her on this topic.

Minute No C76 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Robinson noted that the plinths that required attention were on Sutton Road and York Road. The Clerk advised that both plinths had now been repaired.

C86 (a) Planning Committee held on 1 November 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 1 November 2012.

C86 (b) Greens and Open Spaces Committee held on 19 October 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Greens and Open Spaces Committee held on 19 October 2012. Cllr Watson noted that various metal seats needed painting. Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that quotes were being obtained for painting of all metal seats.

C86 (c) Central Areas Committee held on 8 November 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 8 November 2012.

C86 (d) Public Conveniences Committee held on 8 November 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 8 November 2012.

C87 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson advised that there was to be a Burial Board meeting on Thursday, 22 November 2012.

Resolved: that the application for a memorial for Blanche Smith be approved subject to confirmation that the kerb edgings were already in place.

C88 Correspondence/Items Raised

C88 (a) Market Place Clock Tower

The meeting received the report of the Central Areas Committee in respect of the proposed refurbishment and cleaning of the clock tower.

Cllr Watson reported that she had received an offer of funding from Sowerby Parish Council and that it was intended to submit the project to Thirsk Rotary Club for funding.

The meeting noted that there was a general shortfall of £3000 for undertaking the refurbishment work together with the costs involved in protection of the clock dials and mechanism by Smiths of Derby.

Following further discussion it was:-

Resolved: that the Town Council underwrite any shortfall in respect of the Thirsk Clock Diamond Jubilee Project from the contingency fund.

C88 (b) Winter Weather

The meeting received a letter dated October 2012 from Hambleton District Council advising of a multi-agency group that had been set up that would help vulnerable people during the winter weather.

The Clerk advised that HDC was encouraging Parish Councils to develop their own Emergency Plan and possibly recruit winter volunteers.

Resolved: that the document be noted.

C88(c) Great North Air Ambulance

A letter dated October 2012 was received from the Great North Air Ambulance regarding donations. It was noted that this was not the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C88 (d) The Localism Act 2011: Section 33 Dispensations

The meeting received an advice note from the Society of Local Council Clerks regarding the need for dispensations to take part in precept decisions.

Questions were raised as to the interpretation of the provisions and Cllr Adamson stated that he would make further enquiries to establish that the Act was being interpreted correctly.

Resolved:

a) that further examination of the provision of dispensations be undertaken

b) that a draft letter for requests for dispensations be prepared.

88(e) Pre-Determination

A legal topic note by NALC on pre-determination was received.

Resolved: that the document be noted.

C88 (f) White Rose Update November 2012

The meeting received the November 2012 issue of the White Rose Update.

The Clerk noted the item on the possibility of Precept Capping and the recommendation that Councils should not formally approve the precept until after the publication of the draft Local Government Finance report and the issue of the Tax Base figures to Billing Authorities.

Resolved: that the Town Council Finance Meeting be re-arranged for Monday 7 January 2013 at 6.30pm.

C89 Finance

Resolved:

(a) that the accounts for payment as at 19 November 2012 be approved and cheques signed;

(b) that the Balance Sheet for October 2012 be approved;

(c) that the Budget Report for October 2012 be approved.

C90 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Robinson questioned the outcome of the examination of the Cadets' Hut on Castlegarth for storage facilities. It was noted that the accommodation was too large for such purpose and that the facilities were restricted by the lack of vehicular access.

Cllr Morton stated that the rear of the garage on Long Street was in a bad state and overgrown with weeds. It was noted that the matter had been reported on several

occasions to HDC but that it was not considered to be of such condition to enable any action to be taken.

Cllr Watson advised there was a problem with a downfall pipe of a property near to Abbeyfield which could cause flooding problems.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh suggested that the new Police Crime Commissioner should be invited to attend a forthcoming Council meeting.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that she had attended the Remembrance Sunday parade and that this had been very well organised and attended.

C91 On-Going Items

(f) Tree survey/work

Cllr Hesmondalgh noted that Chris Amy had produced an excellent follow-up report.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 17 December 2012 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalglish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, A. Morton, M. Penson, F. Roberts, J. Watson.

C92 Police Report

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

PCSO Lucy Walker reported that between November and December there had been twelve incidents of antisocial behaviour, two house burglaries, two criminal damage offences and three thefts. She stated that 1,000 motorists had been breathalysed as part of the Christmas drink/drugs driving campaign.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh thanked PCSO Walker for the report.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C93 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C93 (a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that an additional £24m of savings would have to be made over the next two years. He advised the meeting of proposals to turn off street lights between midnight and five am, which it was estimated would save approximately £500,000 annually, stating that consultations would commence in late spring/early summer in this respect.

In response to a query about on-going roadworks in Long Street, Cllr Dadd advised that NYCC would be monitoring the condition of the road. He also noted that the potholes in St Mary's Walk would be repaired.

C93 (b) HDC

Cllr Dadd reported that car parking charges were to be increased as had been anticipated but that they were still the lowest throughout North Yorkshire.

Cllr Adamson advised that he had attended a meeting of the Swimming Baths Trust to sign off the accounts.

C94 Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C95 Minutes

C95 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 19 November 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 November 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C95 (b) Matters Arising

Minute No C83 Thirsk Children's Centre

Cllr Duffey reported that he had recently attended a meeting of the Children's Centre and that he had agreed to represent the Town Council on their steering group.

Minute No C90 Reports from Members/Representatives

The Clerk stated that he would contact the new Police Crime Commissioner in the New Year to invite her to a Town Council meeting.

C96 (a) Planning Committee held on 6 December 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6 December 2012.

C96 (b) Central Areas Committee held on 6 December 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 6 December 2012. Cllr Watson reported that the application for funding of the Clock Tower project had been submitted to the Rotary Club and that a decision was expected early in the new year.

C96 (c) Greens and Open Spaces Committee held on 12 November 2012

The meeting received the minutes of the Greens and Open Spaces Committee held on 12 November 2012. Following discussion concerning the interpretation boards in Castlegarth the Clerk advised that Mr D Connelly had been contracted to clean those and that a quote for painting the metal benches from Mr A Worsnop had been accepted.

C97 Burial Board

The meeting received the minutes of the Burial Board held on 22 November 2012. Cllr Adamson noted that any work necessary to the boundary wall along Cemetery Lane would be very expensive.

Resolved:

- a) that the Burial Board minutes be received and noted.**
- b) that applications for memorials for George Brown and Brian Stephenson be approved.**

C98 Correspondence/Items Raised

C98 (a) Advertisement of Market Days on Entrance Signs

The meeting received an email dated 30 November from Hambleton District Council concerning advertising market days on the entrance signs to the town. It was considered that this may be an opportunity to obtain new and better signage.

Resolved: that the Clerk discuss the provision of new entrance signs with HDC.

C98 (b) Electoral Review of Hambleton: Draft Recommendations

The meeting received a letter dated 13 November from the Local Government Boundary Commission advising of the proposals for Hambleton District Council.

Resolved: that the letter be received and noted.

C98 (c) Localising Council Tax Support: Implications for Local Councils

The meeting received a briefing note from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association advising on the changes to the calculation of the tax base following the introduction of localising support for council tax schemes. It was noted that further information needed to be obtained from HDC as to how it was going to deal with the grant funding from the Government.

Resolved:

- (a) that the briefing note be received and noted.**
- (b) that information be obtained from Hambleton District Council regarding the new council tax support regime.**

C98 (d) 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Mr P.Sinclair who was writing to the 25 villages and towns which were formed from manors under barons to establish whether they would be interested in participating in the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta in 2015.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C99 Finance

Resolved:

- (a) that the accounts for payment as at 17 December 2012 be approved and cheques signed;**
- (b) that the Balance Sheet for November 2012 be received and approved;**
- (c) that the Budget Report for November 2012 be received and approved.**

C100 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Dagleish-Brown reported that she had attended a meeting of the St James Residents' Association. She also noted that damage had been caused to the low bird-mouth fencing around the green.

Cllr Penson advised that she and Mrs Konieczny had met with representatives from the Environment Agency regarding flood warnings and that it was hoped that an additional depth gauge could be placed along the river near to Riverside Mews and also one near to Mrs Konieczny's property, being the two most appropriate points in respect of high river levels.

Cllr Watson stated that she had contacted Barratts regarding the Tranmire ditch and explained that she intended to send documentation, which went back many years, to Barratts.

Members agreed that the Town Council office should close in-line with Hambleton District Council offices over the Christmas period.

Cllr Morton stated that there was a problem with cars parking half on the pavement and half on the road in the area of Mitchell House and Gillings Court which was causing an obstruction for pedestrians and particularly wheelchairs.

C101 On-Going Items

Members agreed that the Tranmire ditch should be added to the list of on-going items.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 21 January 2013 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalglish-Brown, D. Duffey, J. Jackson, A. Morton, M. Penson, F. Roberts, J. Watson

Apologies: Cllr: E. Fraser (Holiday)

C102 Police Report

No Police representative was present.

C103 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C103(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd's apologies were submitted.

Discussion took place regarding potholes in the road approaching the Council amenity site in Sowerby and the ownership and responsibility for maintenance. Cllr Adamson advised that he was meeting with the local highways Area Manager and would establish the classification of the road.

C103(b) HDC

Cllr Adamson advised that a scheme was being developed in partnership with Yorwaste to replace the current blue plastic recycling bags with new bags twice the size and of a better design.

C104 Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C105 Dispensations

The meeting was advised that Councillors who owned land in the parish had applied for dispensation under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 relieving them of either of the restrictions in Section 31(4) of the Act in respect of the setting of the precept.

Resolved:

a) that the Town Council considers that without the dispensations the number of persons prohibited by Section 31(4) from participating would be so great a proportion of the Council as to impede the transaction of the business and considers that granting the dispensations is in the interests of persons living in the parish.

b) that dispensations be granted to Cllrs Adamson, Dalglish-Brown, Duffey, Fraser, Hesmondhalgh, Morton, Penson and Roberts

C106 Minutes

C106(a) Town Council Meeting held on 17 December 2012

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 December 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to an amendment in Minute No C97 to exclude the word "would" before the word "necessary".

C106(b) Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 7 January 2013

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 7 January 2013 be received and ratified.

C106(c) Matters Arising

Minute No C98(a) Advertisement of Market Days on Entrance Signs

The Clerk advised that he had discussed the matter with M. Haynes of HDC who was proposing a partnership with the Town Council. Members noted that the existing signage was relatively new and considered that the signs would not readily accommodate additional wording.

C107 Committee Minutes and Reports

C107(a) Planning Committee held on 10 January 2013

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 January 2013.

C107(b) Greens and Open Spaces Committee held on 10 & 11 December 2012

The meeting received the Minutes of the Greens and Open Spaces Committee held on 10th and 11th December 2012.

Resolved: that the minutes be received and noted.

C108 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson advised that there was nothing to report.

Resolved: that applications for memorials for Richard John Alderson, Stanley Brough, Donald George Collinson, Cyril Villers Stockdale and additional inscriptions for Freda Newcombe, Bobby Simpson, Erika Lovell and Patricia Mary Abbott be approved.

C109 Correspondence/Items Raised

C109(a) Meetings of the Area Forums

The meeting received a letter dated 13 December 2012 from Hambleton District Council concerning the cancellation of meetings of the Area Forums which were due to take place in 2013.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C109(b) Keeping Warm, Healthy and Safe Over Winter

The meeting received a letter dated 18 December 2012 from Rural Action Yorkshire advising of various schemes aimed at helping local residents over the winter months.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C109(c) Provision of Grit Bin

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from a resident who wanted to grit the hill on the Norby estate but was concerned about the liability aspect. Members noted that statements had been made advising that liability in such situations would not fall on an individual. Following discussion it was:

Resolved: that written clarification regarding public liability be sought.

C109(d) Application to Vary Premises Licence

The Clerk reported that HDC had received an application to vary the premises licence at the Co-op in the Market Place with the hours for licensable activities being altered.

Resolved: that the application be noted.

C110 Finance

Resolved:

(a) that the accounts for payment as at 21 January 2013 be approved and cheques signed;

(b) that the Balance Sheet for December 2012 be received and approved;

(c) that the Budget Report for December 2012 be received and approved.

C111 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Penson reported that the Tourist Information Centre was producing an excellent Thirsk information booklet which would be delivered to all YO7 addresses.

Cllr Dagleish-Brown reported that the Business Association considered that it would be good to have a map of Thirsk in the notice board in the Market Place.

Cllr Watson advised that a quotation for painting the notice board and bus shelter in the Market Place had been accepted by the Central Areas Committee.

Cllr Watson reported that the recently appointed Police Crime Commissioner was to hold a surgery on Friday, 25 January 2013 at Rural Arts.

Cllr Jackson reported that the restoration work at the changing rooms on Thirsk and Sowerby Flatts was almost completed and that there would be a ceremony to mark its completion.

Cllr Adamson advised that a small number of parking spaces at the leisure centre would need to be reserved for doctors whilst the Cherry Garth re-development was taking place.

Cllr Morton reported that the potholes in St Mary Walk were now becoming dangerous.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh stated that she had attended a meeting of the Business Association along with Cllr Dagleish-Brown and that there had been concern expressed about the size of some estate agents' signs in the Market Place. The Clerk stated that he would clarify the position with the planning enforcement officer.

Cllr Morton noted the good news that a purchaser had been found for the hardware store, Woollons and Harwood.

Cllr Penson suggested that members of the Business Association be invited to attend a Town Council meeting. It was noted that new photographs of Town Councillors needed to be put into the Town Council notice board

Cllr Watson advised that the window frame at the Rosie and Jim's premises on Castlegate was in a bad condition.

C112 On-Going Items

No matters were discussed.

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 18 February 2013 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalglish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, M. Penson, F. Roberts, A. Robinson, J. Watson

Apologies: Cllrs: J. Jackson (Illness), A. Morton (Alternative Engagement).

C113 Police Report

No Police representative was present.

C114 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

C114 (a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd reported that Tuesday, 19 February was budget day for NYCC and anticipated that there would be no increase in council tax for both NYCC and HDC.

He advised that significant sums had been allocated to highway improvements with particular reference to flood prevention. This was necessary because of serious damage caused by flooding and severe winter weather over recent years. He added that repair works would be carried out to Station Road and St Mary's Walk by March 2013. Members noted that the re-surfacing of Long Street following utility works was not of a very good standard.

Cllr Dadd advised that planning approval for the new Cherry Garth extra care development had been granted by Hambleton District Council and that an official ceremony was due to take place on Tuesday, 5 March 2013.

Cllr Adamson stated that the road approaching the North Yorkshire County Council amenity site in Sowerby was not an adopted highway. Waste Management were examining the situation and it was hoped the road may be repaired by March/April 2013.

(b) HDC

Cllr Adamson advised that the re-cobbling work in the Market Place was scheduled to commence on 18 February 2013 and would be carried out in three phases for completion in April. He advised that work on car park directional signs would be undertaken in March 2013.

Cllr Adamson stated that a new traffic warden scheme had been approved which also included a reduction in parking penalties.

The meeting was advised that following the changes in the calculation of the Council tax base a grant of £13392 had been allocated by HDC for 2013/14 which would apply a small reduction in the precept collectable from taxpayers for the financial year.

C115 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

Ms Jo Caramello and Ms Alison Mackerell from the Tourist information Centre advised the meeting of their endeavours to have Thirsk affiliated to the Walkers Are Welcome website. They already had support from HDC and needed the endorsement of the Town Council. The joining fee of £50 would be paid by the TIC in the first instance.

David Tucker outlined the proposals for the town centre vacant property enhancement whereby windows of empty shop units would be used for non-commercial displays. It was proposed that a joint task force of Thirsk Town Council and the Business Association be established and David Tucker would co-ordinate the scheme. Cllr Watson stated that the Central Areas Committee was fully supportive of Mr Tucker's proposals and would put

forward members for the proposed working group. Cllr Hesmondhalgh thanked Mr Tucker for attending and for his hard work.

Resolved:

a) that standing orders be reinstated.

b) that Thirsk Town council endorse the affiliation of Thirsk to the Walkers are Welcome website.

c) that the Town Council endorse the town centre property enhancement and joint task force proposal.

C117 Minutes

C117 (a) Town Council Meeting held on 21 January 2013

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 January 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C117 (b) Matters Arising

Minute No C105 Dispensations

Cllr Adamson advised that the Department for Communities and Local Government had issued a letter advising that in their opinion dispensations for council tax setting were unnecessary.

Minute No C106(c) Advertisement of Market Days on Entrance Signs

The Clerk advised that the matter had been put on hold and HDC were going to review the issue at some stage in the future.

C118 Committee Minutes and Reports

C118 (a) Planning Committee held on 7 February 2013

The meeting received the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 February 2013.

C118 (b) Public Conveniences Committee held on 1 February 2013

The meeting received the Minutes of the Public Conveniences Committee held on 1 February 2013.

C118(c) Central Areas Committee held on 5 February 2013

The meeting received the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 5 February 2013.

Resolved: that the minutes be received and noted.

C119 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson reported that necessary repair works had been carried out at the Cemetery Lodge.

Cllr Adamson advised that it may be possible to obtain a biodiversity grant from HDC which could help finance future tree provision in the cemetery.

Following discussion, Cllr Adamson stated that the subject of charging a fee for administrative work arising from enquiries in connection with the cemetery would be discussed at the next Burial Board meeting.

Resolved: that applications for memorials for Olive and Roderic Hall, William David Granger, Michael Frederic Herrington and Stanley Hutchinson be approved.

C116 Correspondence/Items Raised

C116 (b) 800th Anniversary of the Magna Carta

The meeting received a letter dated 26 November 2012 and email dated 24 January 2013 from Peter Sinclair in connection with the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, to be

celebrated on 19 June 2015. Peter Sinclair noted the connection of Baron William de Mowbray and the manor of Thirsk and advised that he had contacted the other villages and towns formed from barons manors with a view to taking part in the anniversary event.

Cllr Fraser expressed an interest in the project and Cllr Hesmondhalgh suggested that he be appointed as the Council's representative. Cllr Roberts referred to the Thirsk Historical Play which was performed in 1908 and repeated in 1938, suggesting that perhaps it could be done again in 2015 as part of the celebration.

Resolved:

a) that Thirsk Town Council confirms an interest in attending a discussion with regard to the 2015 Magna Carta celebrations.

b) that Cllr E.Fraser be appointed the Town Council's representative.

c) that examination of undertaking the Thirsk historical play as part of the Magna Carta Anniversary celebrations be examined.

(c) Christmas Lights Contribution

The meeting received a letter dated 29 January 2013 from the Ladies Section of Thirsk and District Business Association thanking the Town Council for its donation towards the Christmas lights and requesting permission to add the Town Councils logo to their webpage for the Christmas fayre and lights.

Resolved: that the Town Council agree to its logo being added to the Christmas Fayre and lights webpage.

(d) Community Infrastructure Levy/Consultation on Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

The meeting received a letter dated 18 January 2013 from Hambleton District Council consulting on the preliminary draft charging schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy. It was noted that full details and supporting documents were on Hambleton District Councils website.

Resolved: that further examination of the documentation be undertaken.

Resolved: that

(e) London-Edinburgh-London Cycling Event

The Clerk distributed an email from P. Rush of the TIC giving details of the London/Edinburgh Long Distance cycling event.

Resolved: that the information be noted.

C120 Finance

The Clerk advised that the balance sheet for January was not available for the meeting.

Resolved:

(a) that the accounts for payment as at 18 February 2013 be approved and cheques signed;

(b) that the Budget Report for January 2013 be received and approved.

C121 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts reported that the footpath through the Whitelass was overgrown with foliage and that mud needed clearing on the approaches to the bridges. She also noted that the access way to Carrs Field needed attention.

Cllr Watson noted that the paintwork of a metal seat near the racecourse was in a very bad condition. The Clerk advised that a quotation for painting all metal seats had been accepted and the work would be undertaken as soon as the weather improved.

Cllr Watson reported that she had attended the opening ceremony of the new army cadet headquarters at Thirsk School and Sixth Form College.

Cllr Penson reported that she had attended a meeting of Thirsk and District Business Association. She had available for circulation a booklet entitled "Thirsk Local Information" which had been produced by the Tourist Information Centre.

It was noted that photographs of Town Councillors needed to be shown on the Town Council notice board and that some Councillors photographs needed updating.

Discussion took place regarding horses tethered on the verges of Stockton Road and Northallerton Road in relation to whether they were being properly looked after.

Cllr Adamson noted that only one side of Long Street had been cleaned using the gully sweeper and considered that in future both sides of the road and the pedestrian crossing should be cleaned.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh reported that the opening ceremony of the new play equipment on the Holmes was due to take place at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 19 February 2013 and that all Councillors were invited.

PART 11

Resolved: that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the discussion of confidential items

The meeting closed at 8.57 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council held on Monday, 18 March 2013 at Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall

Present: Cllrs: C. Hesmondhalgh (Chairman), D. Adamson, H. Dalglish-Brown, D. Duffey, E. Fraser, J. Jackson, A. Morton, M. Penson, F. Roberts, J. Watson

Apologies: None received

C123 Police Report

No Police representative was present. There had been a request that the police be asked to monitor the Holmes play area as there had been a report of teenagers congregating around the new play equipment and broken glass had been discovered on Saturday morning.

Cllr Penson advised that two trees had been damaged on the grassed area near the public toilets in Millgate and that she had reported the matter to the PCSO.

Cllr Penson stated that parking problems at Riverside Mews were on-going and she had also reported this matter to the PCSO. The Clerk added that he had been made aware of broken glass in Mill Gardens.

Resolved: that the police be requested to patrol the above areas.

C124 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd stated that he had received complaints about litter in the picnic area and the idea of a task force/action day had been suggested. He said he could assist in providing equipment if there were sufficient volunteers. It was noted that there were small amounts of litter scattered over quite a few widespread areas.

Cllr Dadd advised that the new civil parking enforcement was on track for implementation at the end of May/early summer.

Cllr Dadd stated that the resurfacing works on Station Road had been postponed. He referred to press reports about the state of the region's roads and stressed that the backlog was as a result of poor weather over recent years and that a further £10 million would be spent on repairs and drain works over the next two years.

(b) HDC

Cllr Adamson advised that there were no particular items to report.

C125 Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

C126 Minutes

C126(a) Town Council Meeting held on 18 February 2013

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 February 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C126(b) Matters Arising

Minute No C121 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Adamson advised that Long Street had still not been cleaned along one side together with the pedestrian crossing.

C127 Committee Minutes and Reports

C127(a) Personnel Committee held on 12 February 2013

The meeting received the Minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 12 February 2013

Resolved: that the minutes be received and noted.

C127(b) Central Areas Committee held on 6 March 2013

The meeting received the Minutes of the Central Areas Committee held on 6 March 2013

Resolved: that the minutes be received and noted.

C128 Burial Board

Cllr Adamson stated there was nothing in particular to report.

Resolved: that the application for a memorial for Thomas Edgar Stanforth be approved.

C129 Correspondence/Items Raised

129(a) Community Infrastructure Levy/Consultation on Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

The Meeting considered a consultation from Hambleton District Council on the preliminary draft charging schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The Clerk advised that comments had to be submitted by Tuesday, 19th March.

Cllrs Roberts noted that certain elements of the CIL were vague and required clarification.

It was considered that agricultural buildings should be exempt particularly taking into account the high level of agriculture in the area and the rate for supermarkets needed to be at a higher level.

Resolved: That Hambleton District Council be advised:-

a) it is considered that agricultural development should be exempt, particularly taking into account the level of agriculture in the area

b) it is considered that the rate for supermarkets needed to be at a higher level particularly taking into account the difference with the levy for new residential development

c) there is concern regarding the vagueness of certain elements of the CIL Document which require clarification.

129(b) Police and Crime Plan Consultation.

The meeting received a letter and enclosures dated 15 February 2013 from the Police and Crime Commissioner Julia Mulligan. It was noted that the police had not been represented at recent Town Council meetings and that reports had not been submitted on these occasions. Cllr Duffey suggested that North Yorkshire Police be contacted to establish its policy for attendance at local council meetings.

Cllr Jackson noted that the Police were examining locations for a new headquarters in the Thirsk and Northallerton area. Cllr Roberts considered that Thirsk would be the ideal place in view of its central location, accessibility to the major road networks and the existing police facility on the industrial estate.

Resolved:

a) that the letter be noted.

b) that North Yorkshire Police be requested to advise on the policy for attendance at Local Council Meetings.

129(c) Urban Grass Cutting

The meeting received a letter dated 12th March 2013 from NYCC advising of the urban grass cutting contribution for the 2013 season.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

129(d) Resurfacing Works, Station Road, Thirsk

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter received 18th March, 2013 regarding resurfacing work scheduled to take place on Sunday, 24th March, 2013 but which had been postponed.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

C130 Finance

Resolved:

(a) that the accounts for payment as at 18th March 2013 be approved and cheques signed;

(b) that the Balance Sheet for February 2013 be received and approved;

(c) that the Budget Report for February 2013 be received and approved.

C131 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Roberts reported that she had attended a YLCA meeting at Northallerton.

Cllr Watson advised that a meeting was scheduled to take place on 19th March 2013 with Mr David Tucker with regard to the vacant property enhancement scheme and that there had been a good deal of interest in the scheme.

Cllr Watson advised that celebrations would take place on Saturday, 29th July 2013 to mark the centenary of Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall and that it would coincide with the arrival of the London-Edinburgh-London cycle event in Thirsk.

Cllr Penson advised that she had attended a meeting of Thirsk & District Business Association on Tuesday, 5th March 2013. The meeting had been well attended and addressed by David Shields from Welcome to Yorkshire regarding the Tour de France 2014.

Cllr Penson reported that a photography studio was due to open in Millgate very soon.

Cllr Dagleish-Brown had attended a meeting of the St James Residents Association and advised that a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme had been set up again.

Cllr Duffey had attended a meeting of the Thirsk and Sowerby Children's Centre Steering Group. He stated that their budget had been reduced by £2,500 and that they were looking at ways of raising money.

Cllr Duffey reported that a deep clean had taken place at Millgate toilets and that the exterior had been painted. He noted that nearly all the advertising space inside the toilets had been sold at a local rate of £10 a month for a minimum of three months, largely due to work done by Cllr Penson.

Cllr Hesmondhalgh advised that she had received an invitation from the Mayor of Richmond to a charity dinner on Friday, 19th April 2013 at the Town Hall but she was unable to attend.

C132 On-Going Items

(g) Tranmire Ditch

Cllr Watson advised that no further progress had been made to date.

The meeting closed at 8.34 pm.