

## THORNTON RUST PARISH MEETING

Draft MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2020

### AT THORNTON RUST INSTITUTE

Present: Cllr John Dinsdale, Cllr Tim Freer, Pip Pointon (clerk) and 6 members of the public

#### 1 - ELECTION

John Dinsdale was unanimously elected as chairman. Proposed by Janet Thomson and seconded by Deborah Millward.

#### 2 - MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

These were read and approved unanimously as a true record.

#### 3 - MATTERS ARISING

John reported that new batteries and pads had been purchased by the parish council for each of the defibrillators in its area. These will be stored in a locked cupboard at Aysgarth Institute. The parish council had received a district council Area Partnership grant towards the cost.

Deborah proposed and it was unanimously agreed to minute a vote of thanks to David Pointon who died in May last year.

Tim was thanked for coming forward to fill David's place as a parish councillor for Thornton Rust.

John reported that a mechanical digger had been hired and used to install new pipes from the top of the lane down to the cement gully above the Outgang. A new spring had appeared, however, and so water was again running down that lane. "We don't seem to win," he commented.

#### 4 - COUNCILLORS' REPORT

John had counted 27 potholes along the road through Thornton Rust to Worton.

The parish council had asked if Highways would repair a broken culvert slab outside Purchase Farm but was told that it was not part of the highway. This meant it would be up to the parish council to get it repaired.

He said that it would probably not be possible to renew the Stewardship Scheme for Thornton Mire as it covered such a small area. The parish council was hoping to get it included in the scheme for Thoraby Moss.

#### 5 - LETTINGS

- |   |               |     |      |
|---|---------------|-----|------|
| • West Lane                               | Sheena Pratt  | £20 | paid |
| • Thornton Mire including shooting rights | Ray Cloughton | £80 | paid |

Ray commented that he had not offered to increase the amount as he did not know how much shooting there would be this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **6 - KENNEL FIELD TRUST REPORT**

Deborah said it was unusual for there to be a Kennel Field Trust Report but there was an issue that should be discussed with residents. She reported that at a recent KFT meeting it was reported that the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust would no longer pay for insurance cover on the field. The YWT had done this for 20 years but its new treasurer had asked why it was paying for insurance cover on a field it did not own. The KFT would renew the insurance at the end of March but was not in a position to meet such a recurring cost.

The trustees had, therefore, agreed to ask the parish council to accept ownership of the field as a gift in a similar way to how it plans to accept ownership of the Edwardian Rock Garden in Aysgarth. The KFT would continue and would accept responsibility for the maintenance of the field. The field and the buildings within it would then be insured under the parish council's policy which would cost far less than the KFT having its own policy. It would also mean that the community would retain control of the field. This would probably not be so if the field was gifted to the YWT.

Martyn commented that public liability insurance was needed as the field was open to the public. The meeting agreed with him that offering it as a gift to the parish council was a sensible thing to do.

John reported that the interpretation board had now been installed at the Kennel Field. Deborah said that the bench had been put in the Mash House to protect it from bad weather. It needed further treatment to protect it when it was outside.

## **7 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Pip said that at the Kennel Field Trust meeting the possibility of encouraging inner schools to come and explore the Outgang and the Kennel Field had been discussed. The KFT felt it would be good if such groups could use the Institute for day trips but bring their own food. KFT trustee David Preston knew of a group of six formers who might be interested as they were studying ecology.

It was agreed this was a good idea for the way the Institute, the Outgang and the Kennel Field could be used.

Martyn thanked Tim for being willing to serve as a councillor. John said that, as a councillor, Tim would be invited to attend KFT meetings as an ex-officio member.

Martyn was thanked for cleaning the Institute, including door handles, ready for the meeting in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. (Everyone sat well apart)

He reported that all events at the Institute sadly had been postponed or cancelled for the next few months due to the pandemic.

Village Tidy Day - May 9

**8 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - in March 2021

**9 – MEETING CLOSED** at 8pm