

Chairperson's signature

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday, 15 March 2023 commencing at 19.00hrs  
Venue: Thornhill Social Club**

Present: (JN) Julie Nugent, Chairperson, (TB) Tim Barlow (Vice Chairman), (KC) Kath Cook, (MS) Michael Slater, (EJ) Eric Jewitt (TC) T Church (Clerk)

**1 Apologies**

Steve Caddy.

**2 To declare any interest in items on the agenda**

A member of the public in attendance declared an interest in the play park agenda item.

**3 Public Participation**

Two members of the public from Thornhill in attendance.

**4 Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 February 2023.  
Review actions from previous meetings**

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record. Chairperson to sign.

The actions were reviewed, updated, closed out or marked as ongoing, as appropriate.

**ACTION 1: JN to speak to current website manager and inform Clerk when this is complete so that they can contact Netwise to discuss a new website**

*TB joined the meeting at this point.*

**5 Finance**

February Finance Report

Report noted.

Approve Clerk's March salary

**APPROVED** for payment.

Approve payment for new play park inspection at Beckermat

**APPROVED** for payment.



Approve payment to TSC for room hire

**APPROVED** for payment. Cheque to be signed after this meeting.

An invoice had been received for the joinery work on the new notice board at Thornhill.

SC had organised the work to 'make good the area' where the previous noticeboard had been situated. The owners of the village shop had confirmed they were satisfied with the work carried out.

**6 Electricity Supply to Thornhill Football Club**

Cumbria County Council have confirmed that the electricity supply to the Football Club had been included in their buying framework with npower.

**7 Beckermets Car Park**

It was reported that the car park is full on a regular basis and the question raised whether the cars parking there were Sellafield workers. The contractors working at the Reading Rooms had been given permission to use the car park for the duration of the work being carried out.

The play park is proving to be very popular therefore it is important that local residents always have access to the car park.

The Parish Council owns the car park which would enable signage to be erected specifying 'for village residents and play park users only'.

It was reported that some adults had been observed using the play park equipment which is not acceptable as the equipment is for children under 12 years of age.

**ACTION 2: TB to investigate appropriate signage for parking and age restriction use of the play park equipment**

**ACTION 3: JN to raise village 'parking' with other Parish Council Chairs**

**8 Cumbria Nuclear Sites Engagement meeting May 2023**

The e-mail received requested representation from the Parish Council.

**ACTION 4: JN to check if this is the meeting she normally attends.**

**9 Community Hub Power Loss**

It was unclear what the purpose of the e-mail was and what was being requested of both villages within the Parish if there was a loss of power.

**ACTION 5: Clerk to request information and report back**

**10 Progress Reports**

Beckermets Play Park



The play park is now open and is being well used. An official opening would be arranged possibly around Easter time with the possibility of a treasure hunt taking place.

A provisional date of 31 March was agreed after school finishes for the Easter holidays.

**ACTION 6: JN to liaise with representative from village school and NWS**

It was raised that there is a light which needs repaired/replaced on one of the new pieces of equipment and a broken bat fixed.

**ACTION 7: JN to carry out inspection**

The guarantees had been received for the new pieces of equipment and held in Parish Council records.

Thornhill Play Park

A member of the TVA passed details to the Clerk of a Thornhill Resident who had kindly volunteered to carry out regular inspections of the play park. The Parish Council was incredibly grateful to this local resident.

**ACTION 8: Clerk to make contact with the local resident and arrange for him to meet the Parish Councillor who currently carries out the inspections**

**ACTION 9: Bring play park checklist to April meeting for review with a view to having one checklist specifically for each play park**

A discussion took place on the cost of the annual insurance for both play parks and how the costs may affect the precept in future financial years.

**ACTION 10: Clerk to include insurance/precept discussion on the forward agenda for November**

The funding application had been submitted for the new play park at Thornhill. A decision is expected in early April. If funding is secured the play park design will be placed in the village notice board for the local community to see. The design has been chosen by the village's children.

The design is inclusive to accommodate all children in the village.

Once the new play park is up and running a discussion could be held with the teenagers in the village to ascertain what they would want in the future.

**11 Discarded Scaffold in the river from repairs to Swing Bridge**

It was reported that a large piece of scaffolding had been left in the river from the work carried out on the Swing Bridge.



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JN had taken photos of the scaffolding in the river and District Councillor David Moore is forwarding this information onto the highways so that they can make arrangements for the contractor to collect.

## **12 Policy Review**

The Complaints Policy had been circulated to full Council for review. Comments had been made.

The timescale, to submit a complaint after an event/incident, was discussed. It was **AGREED** a timescale of 28 days was appropriate and would be included in the policy.

It was decided to wait until the new 'Cumberland Authority' had taken over to enable the correct Local Authority name to be reflected in the policy before publication.

## **13 Councillors' reports on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council/Report Minor Matters**

### **Feedback from meetings**

MS gave feedback from the Sellafeld Safety Group.  
EJ gave feedback from the Emergency Planning Working Group.  
KC gave feedback from the West Copeland Area Partnership meeting.

A police exercise had taken place on the outskirts of Beckermest. The Parish Council hadn't received notification of this which would have been helpful as this could have been publicised on the village Facebook page to inform residents.

### **ACTION 11: JN to request advance notification**

#### **Parking at Top End of Beckermest Village**

E-mails had been received from local residents expressing concerns about parking near their houses if a proposed development in the village goes ahead.

### **ACTION 12: JN to draft a considered response and circulate to full council for comment**

## **14 Recruitment of additional councillors**

A poster would be placed in the Thornhill noticeboard to encourage residents to help their Parish Council benefit the community eg new play park etc.

## **15 Date and time of next Parish Council meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 19 April 2023 in Thornhill Social Club at 19.00hrs.

Apologies from TB for the April meeting.

All business concluded; the meeting closed at 20.35hrs.