

**MINUTES OF
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
FACILITIES COMMITTEE
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE
29TH JUNE 2017**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. J. Unsworth (Chair), Mrs. P. English, Ms. J. Grant, M. McCoy.

APOLOGIES

No Apologies recorded

Meeting Commenced: 6:30pm

25. Apologies for Absence

No apologies recorded

26. Draft Minutes of the previous Meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 4th May 2017 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

27. Allotments

The Parish Clerk reported that a Councillor had requested that letters be sent to an allotment tenant regarding the uncultivated nature of his allotments and to another tenant regarding the use of the garden for possible business activities and the storage of materials on the access path.

Resolved: That the matter be referred to the Parish Council for determination.

28. Allotment Waiting list

The Parish Clerk reported that the names of 5 residents were now on the waiting list one of whom wished to enter into a tenancy agreement.

Resolved: That in accordance with existing policy on the letting of allotments, the prospective tenant be invited to meet Councillors and sign his Agreement.

29. Summer Bedding

The Parish Clerk reported that the summer bedding and hanging baskets were now in place.

Because of limited staff resources a contractor has been appointed to undertake watering.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

30. Village Centre - Official opening of the Outdoor Fitness area

The Parish Clerk reported that the fitness equipment had been installed and that landscaping and fencing works would be completed in the near future.

Resolved: *That an “official opening” be arranged.*

Action: *The Facilities & Community Officer*

31. Review of Lettings Policy/Procedures

In view of the recent transfer of the management of the Village Centre to the Parish Council members considered it appropriate to review the various policies relating to the centre including fees and charges.

Resolved: *That until the Facilities & Community Officer could prepare a report on proposed changes, the existing policies remain in place.*

Action: *The Facilities & Community Officer*

32. Additional Urgent Items of Business

In accordance with the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) Act, 1985, section 100B (4)(b), the Chair following consultation with the Proper Officer, agreed that the following items of business not shown on the agenda, be considered as a matter of urgency.

33. Access to Library Allotments (REF: 8390)

It was reported that Traveller's may be preparing to hold a “Fayre” on land to the rear of the Library and that this may also encroach onto the former Colliery site in contravention of a Court Injunction.

Members considered the wider implications if such an event took place and also the escalating problem of flytipping in this same general area.

It was pointed out that the Parish Council was to install a C.C.T.V. camera at this location in the very near future to monitor access to the land and flytipping activity.

Whilst it was proposed that the permanent barrier be re-installed across the bridleway to prevent access, it was pointed out that this would have long term implications for Library allotment tenants.

Resolved: *That the allotment tenants be contacted to obtain their views.*

34. Use of Village Centre Car Park

A request was received from a resident seeking permission to park a limousine, approximately the length of 4 cars, in the car park for a period of 2 hours later in July 2017 for the purposes of hosting a child’s birthday party.

It was pointed out that the centre car park was for patrons only and that they parked vehicles at their own risk. Notices were erected on the lamp posts to this effect.

Members considered the health and safety aspects and the insurance implications and pointed out that there was no specific policy in place for this type of request.

Resolved: That the applicant be advised that the Parish Council could not condone use of the car park for the intended purpose as it was for the center's patrons only. If he chose to do so it would be at his own risk and that he absolve the Parish Council against any claims demands or expense that may result in the event of an accident or claim.

Meeting Terminated 6:55pm