

**MINUTES OF
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
FACILITIES COMMITTEE
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE
31ST AUGUST 2017**

PRESENT

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

Apologies for Absence

No apologies recorded

Meeting Commenced: 6:30pm

71. Draft Minutes of the previous Meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2017 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

72. Allotments Committee

Consideration was given to convening an Allotment Sub-Committee to oversee all aspects of the Parish Council's allotment facilities.

It was pointed out that this may be problematic because there was a limited number of Councillors who did not have a pecuniary interest.

Resolved: That control of the allotment function be retained by the Facilities Committee.

73. Cemetery Regulations

In order for the Parish Clerk to prepare the annual budget for 2018/19 it was suggested that the Cemetery Regulations, Fees & Charges be reviewed.

Members pointed out that some burial authorities, including those nearby, were no longer charging for the burial of children.

In addition, "Burial Plans" being marketed by Funeral Directors were becoming more popular so families could offset the cost of burials over a long period.

To keep pace with these changes it was suggested that the Parish Council implements a package fee for future burials.

Resolved: That the existing Cemetery Regulations be remain in place with the exception that:-

- ***If at the time of death a resident of Thornley had not reached their 18th birthday the internment fees would be waived.***
- ***If at the time of death a non-resident of Thornley had not reached their 18th birthday the internment fees would 50% of the normal non-resident fee.***
- ***That an Exclusive Right of Burial Grant, Interment Fee and the Permission to Erect a Memorial Fee be combined and the total cost be charged as a package for all burials taking place after 1st April 2018.***

74. RoSPA Annual Playground Inspection

The Parish Clerk tabled the annual inspection report of RoSPA on play equipment¹.

In all cases the faults identified were very low, low or medium risk items. Items requiring attention would be addressed as indicated in the report.

Resolved: *That the report be accepted and actioned as required.*

75. Use of Welfare Park

The Parish Clerk reported that a number of issues relating to the operation of the Welfare Park and the condition of the changing facility had been brought to light.

Resolved: *That representatives of the football teams hiring the facility be invited to a meeting to discuss the various issues and attempt to find a sustainable long term solution for the refurbishment and use of the facility.*

Action: *The Parish Clerk to Arrange*

76. 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.

77. Allotment Inspection

The Parish Clerk reported that an allotment on the Coopers Close site needed to be inspected in accordance with an earlier decision of the Council.²

Resolved: *That the allotment be inspected at the first available opportunity.*

Action: *The Parish Clerk/Members of the Facilities Committee*

78. Depot Storage Containers

The Parish Clerk reported that the existing containers used for the storage of equipment and materials were deteriorating with age and exposure to the elements. He had therefore obtained an estimate for the purchase of a number of similar units, including a staff welfare room and chemical/fuel store to meet Health & Safety Regulations, to be sited at the rear of the new Depot adjacent to the Village Centre.

Resolved: *That the proposal be approved in principal and firm quotations be obtained for consideration of the Finance Committee.*

Meeting terminated 7:00pm

¹ Copy of the report is available for members.

² Extra-ordinary meeting of the Council held 18th July 2017 minute 70 refers.