

**MINUTES OF  
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE  
2ND MARCH 2017**

**PRESENT**

**Councillors Mrs. J. Unsworth (Chair), Mrs. P. English, Mrs. P. Maddison, M. McCoy.**

**APOLOGIES**

*No apologies were recorded.*

**Meeting Commenced 10:00am**

**152. Draft Minutes of the previous Meeting – Copy attached**

*The minutes of the previous meeting held 5th January 2017 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.*

**153. Review of Welfare Park Hire Fees 2017**

To consider if hire charges should be increased in 2017.

**Resolved:** *That the Welfare hire fees remain unchanged at £350 per team for 2017.*

**154. Review of Allotment Rents 2017**

To consider if rents should be increased for 2017.

**Resolved:** *That allotment rents remain unchanged at £35 per plot for 2017.*

**155. Review of Cemetery Fees & Charges 2017**

**Resolved:** *That Cemetery Fees and Charges be increased from 1st April 2017 as follows:-*

	RESIDENT OF THORNLEY	NON RESIDENT OF THORNLEY
Exclusive Right Of Burial	£220.00	£440.00
Exclusive Right Of Burial – Cremated Remains	£100.00	£200.00
For the body an adult or child over the age of five years.	£220.00	£440.00
For the body of a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed five years.	£75.00	£150.00

For the interment of cremated remains	£100.00	£200.00
Erection of Headstone or Memorial Tablet (In addition to an Exclusive right of Burial)	£100.00	£100.00
Transfer of Exclusive Rights of Burial	£50.00	£50.00

**156. Village Centre Phase II**

The Parish Clerk reported that the provision of outdoor gym equipment would cost in the region of £12,500 excluding V.A.T. The Village Centre Management Group had pledged £5,000 toward the cost and that individual County Councillor's had pledged a further £1,016.

Members were asked if the Parish Council should fund the shortfall.

***Resolved: That the Parish Council fund any shortfall upto a maximum of £6,500.00***

**157. Phase II – Fitness Equipment**

The Parish Clerk reported that on the recommendation of the Village Centre Phase II Development Working Group, Proludic Ltd had submitted a quotation totaling £12,250 for the provision of fitness equipment to be installed adjacent to the Village Centre.

***Resolved: That the quotation be accepted.***

**158. Christmas Illumination**

The Parish Clerk reported that a quotation totaling £6,317.78 had been obtained from Blachere Illuminations for the provision of Christmas lighting on the Pit Wheel.

***Resolved: That the quotation be received but no further action be taken.***

**159. Request for a Donation**

***Councillor Pat English declared an interest in this item and took no further part in the discussion or voting procedure that followed.***

The Sho Shin Kia Shotokan Karate Club who's base is Thornley Village Centre requested a donation to help equip their group for the benefit all its members.

***Resolved: That in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, the Parish Council should incur the following expenditure, which in its opinion, was in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and would benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £1,000.00.***

**160. Letters of Thanks**

Letters of thanks for the Parish Council's recent donations have been received from the Great North Air Ambulance and the Haswell and District MENCAP Society.

**Resolved:** *That the letters be received.*

**161. Finance & Budgetary Control Reports**

The Finance & Budgetary Control report detailing all income and expenditure since the last meeting and the current budget position was considered.

**Resolved:** *That the report be accepted and that the Parish Clerk settles any outstanding accounts.*

**162. Any 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.

**163. Thornley Village Centre Perimeter Path**

Durham County Council advised that DCC Highways had provided a quotation totalling £4,941.09 to install a new tarmacadam footpath to the full perimeter of the Village Centre.

The Parish Council were asked if works were to proceed how it should be funded.

**Resolved:** *That in the opinion of members the problem stemmed from a change in specification from the original design for the Centre or deviation from it by the Contractor. It should therefore be corrected by D.C.C. from their own budget (or by seeking funding from outside agencies) or by the Contractor responsible.*

**164. Thornley Village Centre – Main Entrance and Fire Doors**

Durham County Council advised that Dorma (the Contractor responsible for the supply & installation of the doors during construction of the centre) had carried out an examination of the doors and a number of faults had been discovered.

To correct these faults arising from the original contact Dorma were to undertake the undermentioned work (as specified in their quotation):-

1. Main Entrance: To ensure correct fully auto upgrade card is inserted, adjust all parameters and settings as required to ensure door operates correctly, including wind load control function.
2. Hall Fire Exit Door: To remove, raise and adjust left hand leaf (in looking out), strip down, investigate and repair panic bar bottom locking rod on (also on left hand leaf), re-assemble, re-hang door and adjust as necessary, test for correct operation and clear site.

In addition the Parish Council were to be responsible for replacement of the plastic over for the sensor on the outside of the main entrance door for which Dorma would charge £562.00.

Members pointed out that the door sensor was working perfectly well and expressed concern at what appeared to be an extortionate sum for a replacement plastic cover for the sensor.

It was also pointed out that if the cover was replaced before it could be determined if all the faults had been rectified the same thing could happen again.

***Resolved: That the Parish Council would cover the cost of replacing the plastic cover for the sensor once all other works were completed by Dorma and the Parish Council were satisfied that the door(s) were working correctly.***

#### **165. Mini Police**

The Parish Clerk reported that Durham Constabulary had advised that the Mini Police project in Thornley was to commence in the near future and had requested release of the Parish Council's donation in order to equip the children with uniforms etc.

***Resolved: That the donation of £350 previously agreed be released to Durham Constabulary.***<sup>1</sup>

#### **NOTE**

***Due to the Council Elections taking place on Thursday 4th May 2017 it will be necessary to convene the next meeting of the Finance Committee meeting in Thornley Village Centre, High Street, Thornley on Monday 8th May 2017 2016 at 11:00am.***

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<sup>1</sup> ***Meeting held on 5th January 2017 Minute 127 refers***