

**MINUTES OF  
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
PARISH OFFICE  
26TH JUNE 2014**

**PRESENT**

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

**APOLOGIES**

No apologies were recorded.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- a) *To recommend policy and to make recommendations to the Council on the annual financial estimates and the Council's precept as to how these should be determined consistently with the Council's general priorities and policies.*
- b) *To receive from other Committees and to collate prior to the submission to the Council all annual and other estimates of income and expenditure on capital and revenue.*
- c) *To formulate and present to the Council recommendations for annual expenditure.*
- d) *To supervise the Council's Accounts.*
- e) *To supervise and control borrowing by the Council and the investment of funds within the Council's control.*
- f) *To make recommendations to the Council on the capital programme, its content, phasing and monitoring.*
- g) *To execute and carry out, in the name and on behalf of the Council, all resolutions and instructions from time to time given with reference to finances and accounts.*
- h) *To examine from time to time the various bonds, securities and deeds relating to the offices and property of the Council.*
- i) *To have the direction and control of insurance in respect of the Council's property, members, and employees.*
- j) *To provide efficient financial services and advice for the benefit of the Council.*
- k) *To determine the making to individuals and organisations of all grants, allowances and loans.*
- l) *To regularly review the Council's treasury management activities.*

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**35. Review of Annual Rents, Fees & Charges 2015/16**

The Parish Clerk reported that if the Parish Council was to be in a position to comply with deadlines normally imposed by Durham County Council, initial calculations for setting the 2015/16 budget and precept would need to commence in the near future.

In preparation members would need to determine if annual rents, fees and charges would need to be increased.

**Resolved:** *That meetings be arranged with representatives of the Allotment Association and those of the two football teams hiring the Welfare Park for their "home" games to obtain their views before determining charges for 2015/16.*

### **36. New Thornley Partnership – Grant Application**

The Parish Clerk reported that in accordance with the earlier decision of the Parish Council<sup>1</sup> discussions with representatives of the New Thornley Partnership had taken place.

It had been calculated that a grant of £10,000 would enable the partnership to employ a Development worker for a period of 12 months.

**Resolved:** *That a grant of £10,000 be awarded to the New Thornley Partnership and that virement between budget headings be agreed should this be necessary.*

### **37. 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 makes arrangements to settle any outstanding accounts.*

### **38. 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.

### **39. Thornley Village Centre**

Separate funding applications have been made to both the National Lottery and the County Durham Foundation to purchase equipment required for the Thornley Village Centre totalling £12,717.02.

The applications were based on estimated costs available at the time of application and it is not now certain, because of delays in construction/handover that all items can now be obtained within budget.

Whilst every effort will be made to meet the budget target there may now be insufficient finance available to purchase some essential items.

It was recommended that should there be a shortfall it be funded from the Parish Council's Thornley Village Centre budget.

**Resolved:** *That in the event of a shortfall additional finance be provided from the Parish Council's Thornley Village Centre budget on the proviso that before placing orders alternative items be considered.*

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<sup>1</sup> Meeting held on 6th May 2014 minute 15 refers.