

**MINUTES OF
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE
5TH JULY 2016**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. J. Unsworth (Chair), Mrs. P. English, Ms. J. Grant, Mrs. A. Kelly, Mrs. P. Maddison, M. McCoy, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Reason for Absence</i>	<i>Resolved</i>
<i>Mrs. .K. Huntington</i>	<i>Personal</i>	<i>Approved</i>

GUESTS

County Councillors Mrs. L. Hovells, M. Nicholls

PUBLIC

No members of the public were present.

Meeting Commenced: 7:00pm

39. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd May 2016 were accepted as a true record.

40. Minutes of the Extra-ordinary

The minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held on 13th June 2016 were accepted as a true record.

41. Police Report

As the police were not present no report was available.

42. Unitary County Councillor

County Councillor Morris Nichols and Mrs. Lucy Hovells gave a detailed verbal report on the continuing difficulties faced by Durham County Council to achieve the budget cuts necessary to meet Government targets including staff restructuring. Issues relating to bus services, environmental impact and roadworks were also commented on.

Resolved: That the report be received

43. Public Question and Answer Session

No members of the public were present.

Resolved: That the information be noted

44. Resignation of Councillor¹

The Parish Clerk reported that Councillor John Williams had resigned and as a result the Monitoring Officer would need to be informed in order that arrangements could be made to call an election or fill the position by means of co-option.

Resolved: *That the information be noted*

Action: *By the Parish Clerk*

45. Draft Minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting 30th June 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2016 were accepted as a true record.

46. Draft Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting 30th June 2016 & Income and Expenditure report

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2016 were accepted as a true record.

47. Matters Arising - Progress Report of the Parish Clerk & Councillors

The Parish Clerk reported that although a letter had been received from former Councillor J. Williams² expressing his views on the situation he had made no attempt to settle the outstanding invoice.

Members expressed frustration at the apparent lack of moral obligation being displayed by Councillor Williams and his apparent indifference for the Members Code of Conduct or public finances.

To prevent a similar occurrence in the future it was suggested that an appropriate clause be included in the Members Code of Conduct.

Resolved: *That Mr. Williams be advised of the Council's concerns and payment of the outstanding invoice be pursued.*

Action: *Parish Clerk*

48. Lease for occupation of D.C.C. land

The Parish Clerk reported that the terms and conditions relating to the lease of the land had been received.

Resolved: *That the Chair and Vice Chair be authorised to sign the lease on behalf of the Parish Council.*

Action: *Parish Clerk to arrange*

49. Village Centre Development – Phase II

The outline proposals submitted by a number of firms specialising in outdoor sport and recreational facilities were considered.

¹ See also Minute 47

² See also Minute 44

Resolved: That a meeting of representatives from local community groups be convened to determine which design was preferable.

Action: Parish Clerk to arrange.

50. Risk Assessments

The Parish Clerk reported that no alterations or amendments were required.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

51. Delegates Report on CDALC Medium & Small Councils Forum

The Parish Clerk reported that it had not been possible for representatives to attend the previous meeting of the association.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

52. Delegates Report on Thornley Village Centre Management Group

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth reported verbally on success of recent activities and outlined events being planned to take place in the coming months.

Resolved: That the report be received.

53. Planning Permission DM/16/01833/FPA

Durham County Council advised that planning permission has been granted to Mr Huntington for a proposed single storey extension to rear of existing dwelling at 1 Ellerby Mews Thornley Durham DH6 3FB.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

54. Invitation

The Parish Clerk reported that the Sho Shin Kai Karate Club had invited the Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council to present awards at their annual competition to take place on Sunday 19th June 2016.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

55. SLCC 42nd National Conference

The sending of delegates to the S.L.C.C. 'Your Conference, Your Say, Your Future' event at the Hinckley Island Hotel, Leicestershire from Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th October 2016 was considered.

Resolved: That one Councillor and the Parish Clerk be authorised to attend subject to workload commitments.³

Action: Parish Clerk to arrange as required

56. Letter of Thanks

A letter of thanks has been received from the Sho Shin Kai Karate Club for the help and assistance given by the Parish Council with their recent funds raising activities.

³ **Councillor's willing & able to attend were asked to notify the Clerk.**

Resolved: *That the letter be received.*

57. 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), to consider any item the Chair considers urgent, following consultation with the Proper Officer.

58. RoSPA Annual Playground Inspection.

The annual inspection report produced by RoSPA on play equipment in the village was considered.

In all cases the faults identified are very low, low or medium risk items.⁴

The Parish Clerk stated that items requiring attention would be addressed as indicated in the report.

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

Action: By the Parish Clerk

Meeting Terminated: 7:50pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Thornley Village Centre, High Street, Thornley on 6th September 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

⁴ *The report is available for members.*