

**MINUTES OF
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE
9TH MAY 2017**

PRESENT

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

Guests

County Councillors Mrs. L. Hovells & M. Nichols

APOLOGIES

No. Apologies were recorded

PUBLIC

1 member of the public was present.

Meeting Commenced 7:00pm

1. Draft Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th March 2017 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

2. Police Report

As the police were unable to attend the meeting they had asked that the Parish Clerk present their report.

Since the previous meeting the following incidents relating to Thornley had been reported.

Anti-social Behavior	-	2
Criminal Damage	-	2
Theft From motor vehicle	-	1

Resolved: That the report be received

3. Unitary County Councillor

Councillor Nichols and Councillor Hovells reported that business of the County Council had been limited due to the Local Election process.

The outstanding issues in Thornley that had been brought to their attention had been related to officers for rectification.

Members raised additional areas of concern. These were noted.

Congestion outside Thornley Primary School at peak times was still giving concern. As a result additional Yellow No Parking lines were to be installed.

Resolved: That the report be received.

4. Public Question and Answer Session

A member of the public will raised the issue of flytipping and littering on the public footpath adjacent to the Thornley Library leading to the Millennium Wood land in the ownership of D.C.C. between Thornley & Wheatley Hill.
County Councillor Nicholls noted the information and would have it rectified.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

5. Draft Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting 4th May 2017

The minutes of the meeting were tabled for information.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

6. Draft Minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting 4th May 2017

The minutes of the meeting were tabled for information.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

7. Draft Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting 4th May 2017

The minutes of the meeting & the Income and Expenditure report were tabled for information.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

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

The Parish Clerk reported that he had attempted to offer vacant allotments to those remaining on the waiting list but for various reasons none had been accepted.

Reinstatement of the allotment path was scheduled to take place summer.

The autumn/winter floral displays would be replaced shortly with summer bedding.

9. Risk Assessments

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

Resolved: That the information be noted.

10. 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.

11. Delegates Report on Thornley Village Centre Management Group

As the Management Group had now been dissolved and the Centre operation transferred to the Parish Council no reports were available.

Resolved: That the item be removed from future agendas.

12. Land Sale Enquiry

Mr. Gary Jones enquired if the Parish Council was prepared to sell a portion of land on the site of the former Thornley Colliery on which to a four-bedroom family home with detached garage and generous garden.

Resolved: *That the sale be declined.*

13. Planning Application (DM/17/00690/FPA)

Durham County Council advised that Mrs Aertzoo Robati had applied for a change of use of the former Peters Cathedral Bakers, The Villas, Thornley, Co. Durham DH6 3EU to a Pizza Takeaway.

Resolved: *That the Parish Council object to the application on the grounds of noise and litter and parking difficulties.*

Action: *Parish Clerk to arrange*

14. Planning Application (DM/17/01399/FPA)

Durham County Council advised that Mrs. Thomasina Jackson had applied for retrospective planning permission to erect a single story extension to the rear of 3, Hillside Crescent, Thornley, Co. Durham DH6 3DW.

Resolved: *That no objection be raised*

15. Planning Application (DM/17/01230/FPA)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. Mick Emery, Emery Steel Contracts, Elliot Street, Thornley, Co. Durham had applied for planning application to construct a 6 bedroom 2 storey house with rooms in the roof within the existing boundary wall of the premises at near Elliot Street, Thornley, Co. Durham DH6 3AP.

Resolved: *That the Parish Council object to the application on the grounds that the boundary wall may have been built without planning approval and without a stopping up order being issued by the Highways Agency.*

16. S.L.C.C. Training Seminar.

The Parish Clerk referred to information provided by the Society of Clerks on this seminar to be held at Hardwick Hall Sedgefield on Wednesday 19th July 2017 from 8:30am until 4:00pm and sought the names of Councillors wishing to attend at a cost of £69.00 each plus V.A.T.

Resolved: *That the Parish Clerk circulates details to all members and those wishing to attend contact the clerk.*

Action: *The Parish Clerk and Members*

17. 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.

18. Annual Audit of Accounts Ending 31st March 2017

The Parish Clerk reported that the external auditor (BDO LLP) had advised that the annual audit of the 2016/2017 accounts would take place on 5th June 2017.

The accounts had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234).

Members were asked to approve Section 1 and then Section 2 of the Annual Audit Return and to authorise the Chairman to sign it on behalf of the Parish Council.

Members were also advised that arrangements had been made to inform residents of their rights to inspect the accounts etc., in accordance with the statutory regulations, from 10th May 2017 to 8th June 2017.

Resolved: That Section 1 the Annual Governance Statement and Section 2 the Accounting Statement be approved and that Annual Return be it signed by the Chairman on behalf of Thornley Parish Council.

Meeting Terminated 8:55pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Thornley Village Centre, High Street, Thornley on 4th July 2017 at 7:00 p.m.