

**THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
YOULL HOUSE, THORNLEY
ON
3RD MAY 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, Mrs. J. Middleton, Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

No apologies were recorded.

PUBLIC

County Councillor Maurice Nicholls and 3 members of the public were present.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st March 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

2. Minutes of the Personnel Sub Committee 31st March 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st March 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

3. Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting 5th April 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th April 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Mrs. Brunskill expressed concern on procedure by which the Parish Council had arrived at its decision in relation to this exempt item.

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st March 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That an Extraordinary meeting of the Council be arranged.

4. Police Report

As the police were not present a report was unavailable.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

5. Street Wardens Report

As the Street Wardens were not present a report was unavailable.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

6. **New Thornley**

Councillor T. Unsworth reported that an update report on the development of a new Resource Centre in Thornley was awaited from County Councillor Nicholls.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

7. **Unitary County Councillor**

Whilst budget cuts were resulting in a contraction of bus services throughout the county but additional services were being arranged for the Wheatley Hill and Thornley areas. It was anticipated that this would improve the situation for residents travelling to work.

Councillor Nicholls reported that he was to provide a degree of funding to allow children attending Thornley Primary School to visit London in the near future and requested the Parish Council to do likewise.

Resolved: That the information be noted and that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £300.

8. **Travellers**

Councillor Nicholls reported that a recent press article relating to a proposal to develop "stop over" sites for travellers in Thornley was incorrect. He stated categorically that there would be no such site in Thornley. The D.C.C. Cabinet was to meet on 10th May 2011 to determine were alternative sites were to be located.

The ownership of a triangular area of land immediately behind the Thornley Library was being established (thought to be either Durham County Council or Thornley Parish Council) in order to out to explore the possibility of placing a number of boulders around the boundary to prevent travellers gaining access. Members raised concerns that officers of Durham County Council had allegedly permitted a resident of Thornley to plough up an area of well maintained grassed open space immediately behind her property and adjacent to Coopers Close with the intention of preventing traveller gaining access. In the opinion of members this was a retrograde step as the area would be allowed to become overgrown and untidy.

Councillor Nicholls was requested to have the area re-instated and the cost be recovered from the resident if permission had not been granted by Durham County Council.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

9. **Easington Association of Town & Parish Council's**

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported on the meeting that had took place on 15th March 2011.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

10. Youll House

Councillor G. Wilson reported that £1,000 in funding was being sought to refurbish the toilet areas.

Attendance at the luncheon club was down because meals were now £4.00 each.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

11. Public Question and Answer Session

A period of up to 15 minutes was allowed for members of the public to ask questions or raise items of concern.

A resident requested an update relating to the placing of boulders on the triangular area of land at the rear of the library.¹

Resolved: That the information be noted.

12. Allotment Waiting List – Non Residents of Thornley

It was suggested that only residents of Thornley be permitted to place their names on the waiting list for a Parish Council allotment.

Resolved: That only residents of Thornley be permitted to place their names on the waiting list for a Parish Council allotment

13. Request for Refund of Burial Fees (REF: 6338)

A request for the refund of double burial fees was received from Mr. R. Kellett 12, Asquith Street, Thornley following the internment of his late mother in Thornley Cemetery.

Mrs. Kellett had lived in Thornley for a considerable number of years before being moved to a Care Home for the elderly in Peterlee prior to her death.

The Parish Clerk explained the Cemetery Regulations concerning the burial of non residents of Thornley and provided details relating to this particular burial.

Resolved: That half the burial fees be refunded to Mr. Kellett and that the Cemetery Regulations be amended with immediate effect to indicate that single burial fees will be charged for the internment of any individual living in a care home if it could be established that they were a resident of Thornley for a period of 50 years. It was also resolved that the Parish Council would only consider retrospective claims from the relatives of other deceased persons in Thornley Cemetery if their burial had taken place on or after 3rd May 2010 to date.

14. Section 106 Agreement - Proposed Play area – Thornlaw North

Consideration was given to a request from Durham County Council that the Parish Council adopt and maintain in the long term a children's playground that was being proposed be constructed in the Thornlaw North Development.

Resolved: That a decision be deferred until such time as a meeting can be held with planning officers so as to be fully informed as to how this (and other) section 106 agreements were determined and what a would happen to the playground or the sums involved if the Parish Council refused to undertake the long term maintenance.

¹ See minute 8 above.

15. Youll House Agreement & Usage

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill expressed concern over the income derived from the letting of the facility by Age Concern Youll House and the agreement that was in place concerning the overall operation.

The Parish Clerk provided a brief history on the situation and gave a summary of the proposals that had been discussed with Age Concern Youll House. He went on to say that that this issue had been raised on numerous occasions in the past but no firm decision had been reached to resolve the matter.

Resolved: That representatives of Age Concern Youll House be invited to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the situation.

16. Request for Donation (REF: 6379)

Victim Support requested a donation to aid the work of the charity in 2011.

The Parish Clerk reported that a donation of £50.00 had been made at the meeting held on 3rd February 2009²

Resolved: That the request be received.

17. Statement of Accounts 2010 - 2011

The Parish Clerk provided a Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Summary Account and other related information to 31st, March 2011 for consideration.

Resolved: That the statement be accepted and that the Parish Clerk make arrangements to submit the Annual Audit Return to BDO LLP within the prescribed timescales.

18. Planning Permission (RE: PL/5/2010/0588)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission had been granted to Mr. G. Miller to construct a house on land at the rear of "Glenside" the Villas Thornley.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

19. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0097)

Durham County Council advised that Mrs. S. Kenny was seeking planning permission to construct a side extension at 5, Cedar Court, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objection be submitted.

20. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0129)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. P. Duffy was seeking planning permission to construct a private garage at 115, Dunelm Road, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objection be submitted.

² Minute 259 refers.

21. Internal Audit Report of Accounts ending 31st March 2010

The Parish Clerk reported that internal audit of accounts from 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 has been completed by W.J. Smith³ and the accounts were in order.

It was noted that the auditor was to request a copy (or be given access to) the Parish Clerks Contract of Employment at the time of the next audit due at the end of October 2011.

Members considered that this may be a breach of the Data Protection Act as it disclosed personal information.

The Parish Clerk explained that the Auditor had been made aware that the Parish Council had, at an Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 5th April 2011, resolved to continue with the administrative arrangements that were now in place and not to appoint a replacement Parish Clerk.

The Auditor recommended that the Parish Clerks Contract of Employment be amended to formalise the administrative arrangements and formalise matters.

Resolved: That (a) the report be received (b) the Parish Clerk's Contract be amended to reflect the current administrative arrangements (c) the request for a copy of or access to the Parish Clerks Contract of Employment (Revised) at the time of the next internal audit be refused because doing so would be breach the Data Protection Act.

22. Annual Audit of Accounts Ending 31st March 2011 (REF: 6362)

The external auditor (BDO LLP) has advised that the annual audit of the 2010/2011 accounts would take place on 10th June 2011.

The Parish Clerk reported that accounts had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2006 (SI2006/564).

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

Members were also advised that arrangements were in hand to inform residents of their rights to inspect the accounts etc., in accordance with the statutory regulations, from 9th May 2010 to 6th June 2010.

Resolved: That the statement of accounts and statement of assurance be accepted along with answers required in section 2, and that the statement be signed by the Chairman on behalf of Thornley Parish Council.

23. Letter of Apology (REF: 6334)

A letter of apology was received from Mr. Keith Turner for his non attendance at a site meeting held on Monday 7th March 2010 concerning his application to purchase additional land from the Parish Council.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

³ A copy of the Internal Auditors report was provided to members.

24. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6355)

A letter of thanks was received from the Butterwick Hospice for the Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received

25. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6372)

A letter of thanks was received from Haswell & District MENCAP Society for the parish council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

26. Planning Permission (RE: PL/5/2011/0141)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission had been granted to Mr. I. Smith to replace a garage at 91, Dunelm Road, Thornley.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

27. 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.

28. Sale of 5-A-Side land

The Parish Clerk reported that a sale price had been agreed with the prospective purchaser and documents had been passed to the council's solicitors to complete the sale.

It was pointed out that spoil from the site may be available to construct a barrier to prevent unauthorised access to the pit wheel area by travellers. Further information would be related to members for a decision at a later date.

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
ON
28TH JUNE 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, Mrs. J. Middleton, Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

29. Non Appointment of Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

The Parish Clerk provided a verbal synopsis of the issue and members reviewed the processes and procedures employed by the Parish Council when it had considered the potential replacement of the Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer.

It was generally accepted that had Full Council been better informed, by the Personnel Sub Committee at every stage of the options under consideration, decision making could have been streamlined and this would have resulted in a more efficient process.

Resolved: That all members of the council be appointed to serve on the Personnel Sub Committee and that Standing Orders for Council as amended as appropriate.

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PURPOSES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
YOULL HOUSE, THORNLEY
ON
5TH JULY 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, Mrs. J. Middleton, Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

No apologies were recorded.

PUBLIC

County Councillor Maurice Nicholls and several members of the public were present.

30. Co-option of Parish Councillor

To consider an application made by Mr. M. Quinn 3, Ashford Grove, Thornley DH6 3AD

The Parish Clerk reported that unfortunately Mr. Quinn was unable to be present because of work commitments. He was still interested in becoming a Councillor and would welcome the opportunity to attend a future meeting.

Resolved: That Mr. Quinn be invited to the next Parish Council Meeting.

31. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd May 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

32. Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting 28th June 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

33. Police Report

The Chairman welcomed P.C. Ramshaw to the meeting who reported that the following incidents had been reported in Thornley.

Burglary	1
Criminal Damage	1
Anti Social Behaviour	4

Resolved: That the information be noted.

34. Street Wardens Report

The Chairman welcomed Faye Dagleish and Kirsty Topping to the meeting who advised that in the previous 2 months the follow issues had been dealt with by the Street Wardens in Thornley.

Stolen Vehicles	1
Quad Bike Seizure	1
Off Road Vehicles	1

Resolved: That the information be noted.

35. Members Code of Conduct. (REF: 6401)

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Mrs. T. Naples (Chair of the Town & Parish Council's Sub Committee of the Standards Committee and D. Taylor Deputy Monitoring Officer, Durham County Council who provided a comprehensive update on the code and arrangements that will come into effect when the existing Standard Board for England is disbanded.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

36. Section 106 Agreements

The Chairman welcomed Alan Dobie and Laura Eden (Planning Officers from Durham County Council) who provided background information of the 106 Agreement arrangements operated by the former District of Easington and the arrangements now in force under the Durham County Council.

Mr. Dobie explained that all money generated via the 106 Agreements could only be accessed for the purposes of providing leisure & recreational facilities in the town or village in which the development took place.

In addition, the distribution of funds generated by 106 Agreements (past and future) would now be administered by the Durham County Council "Section 106 Committee".

Groups (including Parish Council's) wishing to access funds to construct leisure and recreational facilities must now submit detailed proposals to the 106 Committee for consideration and approval before any sums could be granted.

Details of 106 Agreements currently in force for housing developments in Thornley were provided.

Referring specifically to a development by Persimmon Homes on Thornlaw North, Mr Dobie stated that because the developer had incorporated a children's playground within the planning proposal, a 106 Agreement had not been required.

Members expressed concern that questions on the financial implications for the long-term maintenance of such a proposal had not been raised before planning approval had been granted.

Only now, when the development was almost complete and councils were under pressure to reduce the financial burden on residents was the Parish Council being asked to take on responsibility for this facility.

This left the Council in an invidious position. If it agreed to maintain the playground the Council's Annual Precept may need to be raised and if it did not, then it would deprive residents of a much needed facility.

It was understood that Persimmon Homes was currently consulting residents of Thornlaw North to obtain a consensus on whether the playground was desirable.

Mr Dobie pointed out that should residents determine that the construction of the playground was not required or that funding for the long-term maintenance of the facility could not be found, other options could be investigated/negotiated with Persimmon Homes to ensure that Thornley received the amounts in lieu.

The outcome of the consultation process would be forwarded to the Parish Council.

Resolved: That the information be noted and that details of the consultation exercise be awaited.

37. New Thornley

Councillor T. Unsworth reported that an update report on the development of a new Resource Centre in Thornley was awaited from County Councillor Nicholls.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

38. Travellers

It was reported that the travellers may return to Thornley in the summer months following a number of gatherings in the area and that a potential transit site had been earmarked by Durham County Council in the vicinity of Thornley Crossings.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

39. Unitary County Councillor

As Councillor Nichols had had to leave the meeting to attend another meeting a comprehensive report was unavailable.

Councillor T. Unsworth had been asked to report that the Cabinet had deferred any discussion/decision on the development of a new Resource Centre in Thornley until August or September 2011.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

40. Easington Association of Town & Parish Council's

Councillor Mrs Brunskill reported that there had been a presentation on the Standards Code and that the issue of Double Taxation had been discussed.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

41. Youll House

The Parish Clerk reported that no response had been received from Age Concern You House requesting a meeting to discuss the usage of the facility.

Resolved: That a further attempt be made to determine when a meeting could be arranged.

42. Public Question and Answer Session

A period of up to 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or raise items of concern.

A resident of Thornlaw North provided additional information on the issue of a playground development on the estate by Persimmon Homes.⁴

43. Electoral Review County Durham (REF: 6409)

The Local Government Boundary Commission provided details of further draft recommendations.

Members were informed that they could make representations if they wished to do so.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

44. A.A.P. Overview and Scrutiny Review (REF: 6411)

The Board of the A.A.P. provided a copy of the document and requested the views and comments of the Parish Council.

Resolved: That a suitable letter be drafted by the clerk indicating that, in general terms, the Parish Council was dissatisfied with the performance of the A.A.P. the lack of meaningful consultation with or action on issues relevant to the Parish Council.

45. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0155)

Durham County Council has advised that Mrs. K. Jones is seeking planning permission to replace a garage at 68, Dunelm Road, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

46. Request to Scatter Ashes/Garden of Remembrance Thornley Cemetery

A request was received from a resident of Ludworth for permission to scatter the ashes of his late mother within the grounds of Thornley Cemetery.

This is the first such request that had been received.

The Parish Clerk reminded that there was no Garden of Remembrance within the Cemetery and as a result complications may arise if permission was granted at this stage.

Members were asked to consider creating a Garden of Remembrance in order that permission could be granted in this particular case and in order that others may avail themselves of this service in the future.

Resolved: That a site meeting be arranged to inspect possible locations for the creation of a Garden of Remembrance.

47. NALC Conference

The Parish Clerk advised that the National Association of Local Councils was to hold a conference entitled "Communities in Action" to be held at venues in Bristol on 15th June, Sheffield on 19th July and London on 22nd September 2011.

Cost per delegate is £97.50.

He also pointed out that In line with current policy attendance at conference was considered on merit.

In view of current Government Policies and the impact service delivery to communities at a local level the Parish Council was asked to decide if a delegate(s) should attend.

⁴ See Minute 36 above

It was pointed out that N.A.L.C. conferences had been attended on previous occasions.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillor Mrs. J. Unsworth expressed a desire to attend if accompanied by the Parish Clerk and subject to their being no conflict with other commitments.

Resolved: That subject to confirmation by members sufficient places be reserved at conference.

48. Revision of Financial Risk Management

The Parish Clerk reported that It was appropriate at this time for the Parish Council to review its Financial Risk Management procedures.

Resolved: That the procedures be reviewed as required and if any changes were necessary they be brought before the Parish Council for ratification.

49. Leiston Town Council – Request for Support

Leiston Town Council requested the parish council support their draft proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act to amend planning policy and guidance in a way that would help locally elected decision makers.

Resolved: That the Leiston Town Council proposal be supported.

50. End of Lease/Purchase of Equipment

The Parish Clerk reminded members that 3 years ago a trailer, a Honda grass cutting machine and 2 strimmers were obtained on a lease via JCB Finance Ltd. adding that this lease had recently expired.

Members were advised that a full maintenance program could not be undertaken without the equipment being replaced.

Because of the current budget arrangements, insufficient funds were available to enter into a new lease agreement for this type of equipment.

The Parish Clerk had discussed the situation with JCB Finance Ltd and they had offered the items for sale to the Parish Council at their current value of approximately £1640.00. (Negotiable)

It was considered that this figure represented good value for money as the items, particularly the trailer, will remain operational for at least another 2 to 3 years.

Members were asked to consider the purchase of the said items from the revenue budget and/or if necessary authorise virement from existing “reserves”.

Resolved: That the items be purchased and that is necessary virement from reserves be approved.

51. Virement of Budgets

It was reported that in order to renovate the Welfare Park playing surface ready for next seasons football matches, the Parish Clerk, had consulted the Chairman and requested the virement of sufficient funds from various “Reserves” to cover the cost of the required materials.

Resolved: That the action of the Parish Clerk be endorsed.

52. Policing Priorities 2011-12 (REF:6410)

Durham Police Authority provided details of their priorities for 2011-12 which included;

Tackling Anti Social Behaviour
Reducing the impact caused by drug abuse
Protecting vulnerable people from harm

Resolved: That the information be noted.

53. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6420)

A letter was received from Mr. Ralph Kellett thanking for the parish council for refunding half of the burial fees in respect of his late mother.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

54. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0097)

Durham County Council advised that Planning Permission had been granted to Mrs. S. Kenny to construct a single storey side extension, at 5, Cedar Court, Thornley, DH6 3EH.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

55. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/1041)

Durham County Council advised that Planning Permission had been granted to Mr. P. Smith to replace a garage at 91, Dunelm Road, Thornley, DH6 3 HY

Resolved: That the information be noted.

56. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0097)

Durham County Council advised that Planning Permission had been granted to Mrs. S. Kenny for a single storey side extension at 5, Cedar Court, Thornley, DH6 3 EH.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

57. D.C.C. Plan - Towards a Waste Delivery Strategy for County Durham

Durham County Council provided produced a Consultation on Waste Management.

The consultation paper set out the approach to managing all types of waste after it had been collected from homes and businesses. It looked at how much waste we needed to manage and where new waste sites should go in the County to 2030. It provided an estimate of how much waste needed to be managed, when new capacity would be required; indicates how this should be done in terms of meeting identified targets; and indicated in broad terms where new waste facilities should be located.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

58. 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 make arrangements to settle any outstanding accounts.

59. 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.

60. Proposed Wind Farm Wingate Grange

Arcus (Renewable Energy Consultants) provided a copy of the Scope Report and DVD⁵ on a proposal by Infinis to construct a Wind Farm at Wingate Grange and welcomed a response from the Parish Council.

Resolved: That the information be received.

61. County Durham Training Partnership

Details of 2 training events for councillors covering a range of topics was provided.

Cost per delegate being £30.00

Resolved: That the attendance of Councillors Mrs. Attey, Brunskill, English, Hind and Ingram be approved.

62. Youth Worker Activities

The Chairman welcomed Brenda Hodgson to the meeting who provided members with an overview of the detached youth workers program operating in villages west of the A19 corridor and welcomed the opportunity to enter into a partnership with the parish council to deliver activities for youths of all ages in the Thornley.

63. Bees on Allotments

A letter was received from a home owner in the vicinity of the Library Site Allotments expressing concern at the proximity of a bee hive to the properties on Ashford Grove.

Resolved: That the allotment tenant be requested to re-locate the hive further away from the houses.

64. Placement of Litter Bin

Councillor Mrs Brunskill reported that she had received a number of requests for a litter bin to be placed adjacent to the football field on the former pit wheel site.

Resolved: That a litter bin be purchased and erected as soon as practicable.

⁵ Made available to members.

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PURPOSES

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
YOULL HOUSE, THORNLEY
ON
6TH SEPTEMBER 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, Mrs. J. Middleton, M. Quinn, Mrs. J. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Reason for Absence</i>	<i>Resolved</i>
<i>Mr. T. Unsworth</i>	<i>Other Commitments</i>	<i>Approved</i>
<i>County Councillor M. Nichols</i>	<i>Other Commitments</i>	

65. Co-option of Parish Councillor

To consider the applications of the under mentioned residents of Thornley who have expressed an interest to be co-opted to the Parish Council and fill the vacancy that exists:-

Mr. M. Quinn 3, Ashford Grove, Thornley DH6 3AD

Mrs. A. McManus 10, Ellerby Mews, Thornley DH6 3FB

Resolved: That Mr. Quinn be co-opted to serve as a member of the Parish Council.

66. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councillor Mrs. English referred to minutes 54 & 56 and suggested that this may be duplication.

The Parish Clerk pointed out that the first instance could refer to an application for permission and the second a granting of permission but agreed to investigate.

Having noted this matter the minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th July 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

67. Police Report

The Chairman welcomed P.C. Mellenthin to the meeting who reported that 52 incidents had been reported in Thornley in the previous month.

Burglary	1
Theft	1
Attempted Theft	1
Criminal Damage	5
Anti Social Behaviour	11

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill pointed out that motorists speeding down Dunelm Road and Hartlepool Street were still causing concern and asked if more could be done by the police to catch offenders.

P. Mellenthin agreed to raise the issue with his superiors' to ascertain if the "Speedwatch" initiative could be instigated in Thornley.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

68. Street Wardens Report

As the Wardens were not present a report was unavailable.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

69. New Thornley/Thornley Moving Forward

Councillor Mrs. Attey reported that in partnership with other groups operating in Thornley arrangements had been made for a number of schoolchildren to visit Beamish Museum in the near future.

This was in place of a summer event normally organised by the groups.

Resolved: That the information be noted.⁶

70. Travellers

The Parish Clerk reported that no new information had been received relating to travellers in Thornley.

The Chairman pointed out that following the last visit by travellers numerous residents had complained to Durham County Council.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

71. Unitary County Councillor

On behalf of Councillor Nichols the chairman reported that the sculpture of a Pony & Coal Wagon on the A181 roundabout between Wheatley Hill & Thornley was to be replaced. Whilst sufficient funding had already been obtained for the replacement, parish council's in the area were being asked if they would make a donation.

Resolved: That the request for a donation be received.

72. Easington Association of Town & Parish Council's

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported that no meeting had been held.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

73. Thornley Residents Group

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported that in partnership with other groups operating in Thornley arrangements had been made for a number of schoolchildren to visit Beamish Museum in the near future.

This was in place of a summer event normally organised by the groups.

Resolved: That the information be noted.⁷

⁶ See also Minute 73

⁷ See also Minute 69

74. Youll House - Letter from Durham County Council (REF:6459)

The Parish Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Durham County Council advising the Parish Council that a number of complaints had been received pertaining to the external (cosmetic) appearance of the property.

Members were reminded that quotations for the necessary repairs had been obtained some months ago but the work had not been undertaken because of outstanding issues between the Parish Council and Age Concern (Youll House) regarding the hire/use of the facility by other groups.

Members were in general agreement that the external appearance of the building left a lot to be desired.

It was suggested that in an attempt to remedy matters (in advance of any meeting with Age Concern (Youll House)) the two Durham County Councillors representing Thornley be approached to see if they could fund the works.

Resolved: That the Two County Councillor representing Thornley be approached regarding funding.

75. Public Question and Answer Session

No questions were asked by those members of the public who were in attendance.

76. Garden of Remembrance

The Parish Clerk provided details of the site meeting attended by members to determine an appropriate location for a garden of remembrance.⁸

Members considered that more information was required before a decision could be made.

It was suggested that a Cemetery Sub-Committee be created to deal with all aspects of the Cemetery operation. All members of the Parish Council would be appointed to the Sub-Committee.

It was further suggested that a meeting of the sub-committee be arranged (when convenient) to determine an appropriate course of action in this matter.

Resolved: That a Cemetery Sub-Committee comprising all members of the Parish Council be created the terms of reference for which would be to consider all matters pertaining to the operation of Thornley Cemetery including Regulation, Fees, Maintenance and general operations.

77. Request for Donation (REF: 6433)

East Durham Citizens Advice Bureau requested a donation of £300.00 to aid the work of the bureau during the current year.

Resolved: That the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £300.00

⁸ Meeting held 5th July 2011 minute 46 refers

78. Request for Donation (REF: 6440)

New Thornley Banner Group requested a donation toward transportation costs associated with a ceremony to bless a new Thornley Banner by the Bishop of Durham.

Resolved: That the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £50.00.

79. Request for Donation (REF: 6469)

The Butterwick Hospice requested a donation of £100 toward the provision of their services.

Members were reminded recall that a donation of £50 was made at the March meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved: That the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £100.00

80. Thornley Residents Group - Maintenance of Seats (REF: 6445)

Councillors Mrs. Attey, Brunskill, English, Hind and Ingram declared a personal interest in this item and took no further part in the discussion or voting procedure that followed.

Thornley Residents Group advised that it had obtained sufficient funding to install two bench seats on the village green in Thornley and requested the Parish Council to adopt the seats and maintain them in the long term.

It was understood that Durham County Council were to install the seats on the Village Green and Gore Hall Bank in the near future.

Members expressed concern that the issue of long-term maintenance had not been resolved at an earlier stage of the project.

It was not clear if Durham County Council had by implication accepted responsibility for the seats as they had provided the funding and were undertaking their installation.

It was suggested that by taking on the responsibility for the seats the Parish Council could conceivably be faced with a large amount of added expenditure if the seats were the target of constant vandalism or abuse.

It was further suggested that the Parish Council may be disposed take on the responsibility 12 months after installation during which time the general level of vandalism could be monitored.

Resolved: That a decision be deferred to allow Thornley Residents Group to clarify the situation.

81. Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The Parish Clerk advised that to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee the Woodland Trust were making a number of "Tree Packs" available free of charge to community groups to help create a lasting legacy.

The packs were available in two sizes ([Including a free Royal Sapling, grown from tree seeds collected on royal estates such as Sandringham](#)) of either 105 trees or 420 trees and were themed to help you choose the best mix for the local area.

Wildlife: Blackthorn, hawthorn, hazel, birch, rowan, oak

Year-round colour: Hawthorn, hazel, birch, rowan, cherry, dogwood

Wood fuel: Ash, birch, cherry, oak, hornbeam

Wild harvest: Hazel, blackthorn, crab apple, elder, dog rose.

Members were asked to determine if an application should be submitted and if successful on which area the trees should be planted.

Resolved: That an application be made for a “Year Round Colour Pack” to be planted on the Pit Wheel site or other suitable area.

82. Members Code of Conduct

Members were asked to recall that the Parish Council had been advised that in the near future the Standards Board for England was to be abolished and at the same time the mandatory Members Code of Conduct would no longer apply.

Councils were however being asked if they would be disposed to operate a Revised Code of Conduct which would ensure that high standards were maintained by Councillors.

The revised code was being proposed and drawn up by N.A.L.C and other representative bodies.

Members were asked to determine if they would be prepared to abide by this revised code if it was recommended.

Resolved: That the Parish Council would operate a revised code if one was made available via an appropriate professional body.

83. Provision of Christmas Tree

Members considered whether a Christmas tree should be erected later in the year on the village green and if the decorative lights purchased some year ago needed replacement.

Resolved: That a suitable Christmas tree be erected on the village green and that the Chairman and Vice Chairman be authorised to choose replacement festoon lighting up to a value of £400.00.

84. Invitation (REF: 6466)

The Chairman of Durham County Council invited the Chairman of the Parish Council & Partner to a Civic Evening & Opening of the “Hot Coals and Ashes Exhibition” in County Hall on Monday 12th September 2011 commencing 6:00pm.

Resolved: That the invitation be received.

85. Planning Application (REF: PL/2011/0242)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. A. Rear had applied for planning permission to erect a 1.7 m high fence and garden shed at 69, Cottingham Grove, Thornley, DH6 3EJ

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

86. Planning Application (REF: PL/2011/0348)

Durham County Council advised that Mrs. J. Morton-Carr had applied for planning permission to crown lift a Sycamore tree at 22, Ashwood Grange, Thornley, DH6 3ET

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

87. Temporary (Seasonal) Gardener

The Parish Clerk reminded members that earlier in the year a temporary gardener had been appointed to assist the full time staff over the summer period.

Members were asked to confirm that this employees Contract of Employment should be terminated after close of work on Friday 30th September 2011.

Resolved: That the Contract of Employment of the Temporary (Seasonal) Gardener be terminated on 30th September 2011 and he be presented with a voucher for £25.00 in recognition of his work whilst employed by the authority.

88. Boundary Commission

A copy of the further draft recommendations (Final Report) on the new electoral arrangements for Durham County Council was provided for the attention of members.⁹

The relevant paragraphs of the recommendations relating to Thornley were attached for members.

Resolved: That the information be noted

89. Annual Audit of Accounts Ending 31st March 2011 (Ref: 6460)

The Parish Clerk reported that BDO Stoy Hayward LLP had completed the audit of the parish council's accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2011.

Other than a minor comment relating to Fidelity Insurance cover, no issues had been brought to the Parish Council's attention by the auditor and the accounts were in order.

Arrangements must now be made for the residents to view the Notice of Conclusion of Audit.

Resolved: That the information be noted and arrangements be made for residents to view the Audit Report.

90. Annual Playground Inspection

R.o.S.P.A. provided a copy of their Annual Inspection of play equipment in the village.

In all cases the faults identified were either very low, low or medium risk items.¹⁰

The Parish Clerk pointed out that where attention was required this would be addressed as soon as possible.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

⁹ Full copy made available to Members.

¹⁰ The report is available for members.

91. Letter of Thanks

A letter of thanks was received from Thornley Primary School for the Parish Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

92. 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 make arrangements to settle any outstanding accounts.

93. 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.

94. Council Elections 2013

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth highlighted the fact that all existing Thornley Parish Councillors would be up for re-election at the Local Elections due to take place in 2013.

In order that the Parish Council (not individual Councillors) was prepared to meet the expectations of its residents and the challenges that lie ahead e.g. production of a Parish Plan and Quality Status, she requested that the item be placed on the agenda of the next Parish Council Meeting for discussion.

Resolved: That the item be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

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PURPOSES

**MINUTES OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
CEMETERY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
ON
28TH OCTOBER 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), , Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. J. Middleton, Mrs. J. Unsworth.

APOLOGIES

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Reason for Absence</i>	<i>Resolved</i>
<i>Mrs. M. Brunskill</i>	<i>Other Commitments</i>	<i>Approved</i>
<i>Mrs. M. Ingram</i>	<i>Other Commitments</i>	<i>Approved</i>

95. Garden of Remembrance

The Parish Clerk reminded members that the purpose of the meeting was to reconsider which of 4 proposed locations within the cemetery would be best suited to develop as a Garden of Remembrance.¹¹

The Parish Clerk provided members with a sketch design for of each of locations to give some indication of a layout.

Members considered the merits and demerits of each location whilst bearing in mind cost implications and the scope for enhancing the garden in the long term situation.

Resolved: That the Garden of Remembrance be developed at the far end of the main path leading from the Cemetery entrance in the area between Sections B3 & C3.

96. Request for Refund of Burial Fees (REF: 6502)

A request for the refund of double burial fees was received from Mrs. Dawn Brown 2, The Green, Thornley following the internment of her late father in Thornley Cemetery.

Mr. Thomas Turner had lived in Thornley for 40 years before moving into a Care Home for the elderly in Wheatley Hill prior to her death.

The Parish Clerk explained the Cemetery Regulations stated that unless the deceased had resided in Thornley for a period of 50 years then double fees would be payable.

Resolved: That the request be refused.

¹¹ Meeting held on 6th September 2011 minute 76 refers

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PURPOSES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
YOULL HOUSE, THORNLEY
ON
1ST NOVEMBER 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, Mrs. J. Middleton, M. Quinn, Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

No apologies were recorded

97. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th September 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

98. Minutes of the Cemetery Sub-Committee

The minutes of the Cemetery Sub-Committee held on 28th October 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the recommendations of the Cemetery Sub-Committee be implemented as soon as possible.

99. Police Report

The Chairman welcomed P.C. Kelly Taylor to the meeting who reported that the following incidents had been reported in Thornley in the previous month.

Burglary	1
Theft from Motor vehicles	2
Criminal Damage	3
Anti Social Behaviour	10

CCTV had been installed in Thornley Community Centre in an attempt to curtail anti social behaviour in the area.

The priority for the following month would be to focus on the area around Youll House.

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill pointed out that speeding motorists were still causing concern and asked if more could be done by the police to catch offenders.

P.C. Kelly agreed to raise the issue again with her superiors.

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth thanked the police for action taken to prevent nuisance caused by youths setting off fireworks in the village.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

100. Unitary County Councillor

Councillor Nicholls reported on the following issues:-

Crossways Junction – the hatching was to be extended to increase awareness and the rumble strip and all white lines were to be repainted. The grass verge was also being reduced and signage altered to increase visibility.

Gore Hill Farm – The Enforcement Officer was now involved to see what action could be taken to ensure the visual appearance of this void property was improved.

Bus Shelters – All the shelters in Thornley were to be refurbished early in 2012. In the meantime levels of maintenance would be improved.

55 Bus Service – This service is being removed by Arriva although the County Council opposes their action. The Parish Council was requested to support the County Council.

Resolved: That the information be noted and that a letter be sent to Arriva opposing the cancellation of the 55 bus service.

101. Street Wardens Report

As the Wardens were not present a report was unavailable.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

102. Travellers

Councillor Nicholls advised that Durham County Council were still in the process of identifying potential site in the area and accepted that progress was slow.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

103. A.A.P. - Funding for Community Buildings

The Chairman welcomed Shealagh Pearce (AAP Principal Co-coordinator) who was asked if any funding was available to the Parish Council to improve the external appearance of Youll House.

Mrs. Pearce gave details of the Neighbourhood Budget and outlined the process required in order to access funds.

A copy of the Annual Report was also made available to members.

Mention was also made of the newly created Credit Union and Mrs. Pearce asked if she could address a future meeting of the Parish Council to update members on the initiative.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

104. Easington Association of Town & Parish Council's

Councillor Mrs. Hind gave a comprehensive report of the topics discussed at the previous meeting.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

105. New Thornley/Thornley Moving Forward

Councillor T. Unsworth reported that very little progress could be made in relation to the development of the new Resource Centre until Durham County Council had finalised its report into the funding of all Community Centre in the area.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

106. Thornley Residents Group

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported that a coach trip had been organised to take resident to the "Luminary Event" in Durham.

It was further reported that seats placed on the village green had been attacked by vandals. Durham County Council who had now taken responsibility for their maintenance had been asked to repair the damage.

The Parish Clerk reported that a verbal request had been made for permission to erect a public notice board on land belonging to the Parish Council. This notice board was being donated by the mobile communications company Talk-Talk.

Resolved: That the information be noted and that permission be granted to erect the notice board on the former Pit Site adjacent to the fence on Hartlepool Street.

107. Youll House

Councillor G. Wilson reported that the operation was running smoothly and that the Christmas Party for members was to take place on 9th January 2012.

The Parish Clerk reported that arrangements had been made for a meeting between representatives of the Parish Council and the officers of Age Concern Youll House to take place on 8th November 2011 at 3:30pm to discuss the possible transfer of the operation to the Parish Council.¹²

Resolved: That the information be noted.

108. Public Question and Answer Session Item 1

An allotment tenant asked if the Parish Council could investigate the flooding problem at the Coopers Close allotment site and initiate the installation of a land drain if necessary to cure the problem. In recent weeks, the standing water had become stagnant and was starting to smell.

Members expressed concerns that installation of a land drain could result in an increase in allotment rents.

The Parish Clerk reported that the problem had occurred on a number of occasions in the past in times of inclement weather. It was understood to be caused by surface water draining toward the lowest point in the village.

Resolved: That the Environment Agency be asked to investigate the source of the problem and if it became necessary to install a land drain the Allotment Association be asked for their views before works were authorised.

¹² This meeting was subsequently cancelled as Parish Council representatives were unable to attend.

109. Public Question and Answer Session Item 2

A resident enquired if the Parish Council was to provide floral displays at the War Memorial over the winter period.

The Parish Clerk reported that but bulbs were being planted this year instead of bedding plants.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

110. Council Elections/Quality Status – 2013

Councillor Mrs Unsworth suggested that in order that the Parish Council (not individual Councillors) were prepared to meet the challenges that lie ahead, i.e. obtaining Quality Status and the production of a Parish Plan, members should formulate an action plan and seek to engage other community groups in the process as necessary.

To achieve this it was suggested that Durham Rural Community Council be approached for help and advice and examples of Parish Plans from other villages be obtained.

Resolved: That the Parish Council seeks advice from D.R.C.C. and facilitates a meeting with residents other organisation operating in Thornley to explore the potential of developing a Parish Plan

111. Litterbin – Pit Wheel Site

The Parish Clerk referred to an earlier decision of the Parish Council¹³ when it was resolved to install a litterbin in this area for use by teams using the football pitch.

Further investigation had shown that there was already a bin only a few yards from the proposed location.

Resolved: That no further action be taken to install another litterbin.

112. Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Beacons

The Parish Clerk reported that all local authorities had been requested to consider organising a beacon to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

It was pointed out that the Parish Council did not have the manpower or the necessary funding to organise such an event and that Durham County Council and other Town Council's in the area may well take up the initiative.

Resolved: That no action be taken.

113. Green Flag Awards

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth suggested that the Parish Council should investigate the possibility of obtaining a Green Flag Award for the Cemetery and other green spaces in the village.

Resolved: That the criteria for obtaining a Green Flag Award be investigated and an application be made as and when appropriate.

¹³ Meeting held on 5th July 2011 minute 64 refers.

114. Planning Application (REF PL/5/2011/0283)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. G. Miller had applied for planning permission for two dwelling houses (part retrospective) at land rear of Glenside, The Villas, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

115. Review of Allotment Rents

The Parish Clerk reported that it was appropriate at this time to consider arrangements for reviewing allotment rents 2012/2013.

Resolved: That a meeting with the Allotment Association be arranged to obtain their views.

116. Review of Welfare Park Hire Charges

The Parish Clerk reported that it was appropriate at this time to consider arrangements for reviewing the Welfare Park hire charges 2012/2013.

Resolved: That consideration of this item be deferred until May 2012 by which time it would be known which teams had expressed an interest in using the facility. A meeting would then be called with them to obtain their views.

117. Capital Projects 2012/2013

The Parish Clerk reported that it was appropriate at this time to review the Capital Works Program in order that the amounts required could be incorporated into the 2012/2013 budget.

Members suggested that in order to develop the Garden of Remembrance in Thornley Cemetery a new project should be added to the program. In order that the overall budget for the capital program was not increased it was further suggested that the amount being reserved for Security Fencing in 2012/13 be reduced by £1,500.00 to facilitate this.

Resolved: That the Garden of Remembrance be added to the capital program with an initial allocation of £1,500.00

118. Request for Support

The Parish Clerk reported that the Executive Committee of County Durham Association of Town & Parish Councils had agreed to support a proposal by Councillor Tony Cooke (Teesdale area) on amendments proposed by Government concerning Carers Allowances.

Councillor Cooke requested that other Parish Councils support his proposal.

Resolved: That the Parish Council support Councillor Cooke (Teesdale area) in his endeavours.

119. D.A.T. & P.C. – Smaller Councils Forum

Members considered a proposal from the County Association of N.A.L.C. to arrange a smaller council's Forum.¹⁴

Resolved: That the Parish Council supports the idea of a smaller council's forum being arranged by the Durham Association of N.A.L.C.

¹⁴ *Written details were provided to members.*

120. 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 make arrangements to settle any outstanding accounts.

121. 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.

122. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6483)

A letter of thanks was received from East Durham Citizen's Advice Bureau for the Parish Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

123. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6484)

A letter of thanks was received from New Thornley Banner Group for the Parish Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

124. Queen's Diamond Jubilee - Tree Pack

The Parish Clerk reported that the Parish Council's application to the Woodland Trust had been successful.¹⁵

Resolved: That the information be noted.

125. Cemetery Appearance

The Parish Clerk reported that a resident had written to congratulate the Parish Council for the care and attention given to maintaining a high standard of maintenance in Thornley Cemetery.

The overall appearance of the cemetery shows that there is great respect for those buried there and also for the family and friends who visit the graves.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

126. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6498)

The Parish Clerk reported that a letter of thanks had been received from the Hartlepool & District Hospice for the Parish Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

127. Remembrance Day Service

The Parish Clerk reported that Remembrance Day Service was to be held at the War Memorial in Thornley on Sunday 13th November 2011.

¹⁵ Meeting held on 6th September 2011 Minute 81 refers.

It was suggested that in accordance with previous practice the Chairman of the Parish Council be authorised to attend to lay a commemorative wreath and that a donation be made to the Butterwick Hospice in lieu of payment to the Bugler who had been engaged to play the last post.

Resolved: That the Chairman be authorised to attend and that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £50.00

128. Eviction of Allotment Tenant

The Parish Clerk reported that over a period of months several separate complaints had been received from local residents concerning the activities of an allotment tenant.

The tenant had been warned about his behaviour, in writing, on each occasion and advised that if he did not conform to his allotment agreement then the Parish Council would have to consider serving Notice to Quit.

The latest incident concerned the lighting of a fire which burned for a number of hours and which was left (allegedly) unattended. Apart from the potential danger to other allotment properties, clouds of smoke caused nuisance and annoyance to nearby residents.

Resolved: That the Notice to Quit be served on the Tenant of the allotment.

129. Planning Permission PL/5/2011/0348

Durham County Council advised that Planning Permission had been granted to Mrs. J. Morton Carr to Crown Lift a sycamore tree at 18, Ashwood Grange, Thornley.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

130. Planning Application PL/5/2011/0410

Durham County Council advised that Ms. M. Taylor had applied for planning permission to construct a rear conservatory at 52, East Lea, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

131. Planning Application PL/5/2011/0417

Durham County Council advised that Mr. L. Mitchell had applied for planning permission to construct a side extension to an existing garage at 44, East Lea, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

132. Planning Application PL/5/2011/0403

Durham County Council advised that PF Trading North East had applied for an extension of the time limit for the implementation of planning permission REF No. Plan/2008/0532 for 5 dwellings at land adjacent to Gore Hall Farm, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

133. Planning Approval (REF: PL/05/2011/0213)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission had been granted to Mr. A. Rear to erect a 1.7m high fence (retrospective) and garden shed at 69, Cottingham Grove, Thornley.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

134. Sale of Land

The Parish Clerk reported that Durham County Council had advised that in order for the Parish Council to complete the sale of the 5-a-side pitch to Mr. Turner they would require confirmation that fees of approximately £1,200 be paid over to them. This was to cover the formal transfer of 3 additional small pieces of land, in the ownership of Durham County Council, between the 5-a-side pitch and Mr. Turners own land.

Members considered that if these fees were not paid then the sale may collapse and that as a result there would be insufficient funding to proceed with the development of a new multi-sport facility as planned.

Resolved: That the Parish Council pay the amount due

135. Sponsorship – Christmas Festivities

The Parish Clerk reported that Bugle Communications, and their client Talk Talk had launched a nationwide campaign to support local towns and villages across the country (420 in total), by investing in initiatives that would make a difference to the community by offering funding/sponsorship opportunities.

Talk Talk had offered the Parish Council a donation of £500¹⁶ toward the village Christmas tree/switch on ceremony in return for the opportunity to erect 2 x A3 posters by the tree and a press release in the local newspapers.

Resolved: That the donation be accepted and that the two schools in the vicinity be given £125 each toward Christmas based activities and prizes for a Christmas Card Competition. The remaining sum being used by the Parish Council to purchase a new set of Christmas tree light. Prize-winners names would be entered into a draw to determine who would switch on the Christmas light on 1st December 2011.

136. Invitation (REF: 6504)

Haswell & District MENCAP Society invited representatives of the Parish Council to attend a Carol Service in Durham Cathedral on Saturday 17th December 2011 commencing 2:30pm.

Resolved: Councillor Attey and partner and Councillor Brunskill attend.

¹⁶ Subsequently increased to £600.

137. Request for Donation (REF: 6505)

Harbour, (formally Peterlee Women's Refuge) requested a donation toward their Christmas Appeal to assist their organisation provide presents etc for those affected by domestic violence.

Resolved: That the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £50.00

138. Court Fines & Fees

The Parish Clerk informed members that a former allotment tenant, who the Council had taken to court some years ago to recover costs relating to the demolition of a pigeon cove, was now 3 month in arrears.

The person had been advised that unless he brought the account into balance the Parish Council would consider taking the case back to the court for further judgement.

Whilst being sympathetic to the plight of the tenant the Parish Council was aware that it must safeguard the interests of all residents of Thornley by pursuing whatever action was available to it to ensure it recovered fees as determined by the Courts.

Resolved: The Parish Council suspend taking further action until 18th January 2012. That the former tenant be advised that in consideration of this course of action the Parish Council insist that he make a single payment that date of £60 (being the total arrears accrued up to that date) and from then on make a payment of £10.00 on 18th of each subsequent month until the total balance is paid. He be further advised that if payment was not forthcoming on 18th January 2012 the matter be referred back to Durham Magistrates Court and that if this became necessary an award for costs against him would also be requested from the court.

139. Renovation of A181 Roundabout

The Chairman referred to a previous decision of the Parish Council¹⁷ and reported additional information had now been provided.

The estimated cost of the works was £6,000 and was being undertaken by a group of vulnerable youths from the 6th Form Collage. It was suggested therefore that some financial contribution be toward aid the group.

Resolved: That a decision be deferred in order that further details of the project could be obtained.

¹⁷ Meeting held on 6th September minute 71 refers.

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PURPOSES

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
ON
8TH NOVEMBER 2011**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, , Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Reason for Absence</i>	<i>Resolved</i>
<i>Mrs. J. Middleton</i>	<i>Other Commitments</i>	<i>Approved</i>

140. Management and Operation of Youll House

The Chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the Parish Council's position in relation to the current management and future operation of Youll House.

The Parish Clerk reported that there was in existence a form of agreement between Thornley Parish Council and Age Concern, Thornley, dated 14th February 1984¹⁸ which stated that:-

Age Concern would be responsible for the payment of account for heating, lighting and water.

At least four members of the Parish Council with full voting powers would sit on the Management Committee of Age Concern, Thornley.

Close liaison and co-operation would be maintained with the Parish Council on constitution, policy, running of the premises and notification of meetings including the Annual General Meeting.

The Parish Council would be issued with the Annual Statement of Accounts.

It was pointed out that contrary to a general belief, the agreement did not specifically state that the Parish Council was responsible for the fabric of the building and furthermore that items 2 & 3 of the agreement were not being complied with.

Members expressed concern that even if Age Concern, Thornley, consented to the transfer of the management & operation back to the Parish Council it would result in increased expenditure on the part of the council to operate and maintain the facility although this would enable funding to be sought for refurbishment works .

If Age Concern, Thornley, maintained their current stance i.e. that they were not prepared to relinquish control of the facility under any circumstances, then the Parish Council would have to finance taking legal advice to resolve the situation.

¹⁸ *Copy provided to all members.*

Members considered the merits and demerits of two possible courses of action (1) to pursue methods necessary to take back control of the facility or (2) Continue with the present arrangement.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk seeks to clarify ownership of the building, that legal advice is sought on the validity of the agreement that exists between the Parish Council and Age Concern, Thornley and that Age Concern, Thornley be requested to provide a copy of their Constitution, Insurance Policies, the last audited accounts, minutes of all meetings that have taken place in the last twelve months (including the Annual General Meeting) and that they be reminded that the Parish Council requires notification and agendas for all future meeting of their Management Committee meeting in future.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
YOULL HOUSE, THORNLEY
ON
10TH JANUARY 2012**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. P. English, Mrs. M. Ingram, M. Quinn, Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

No apologies were recorded

141. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st November 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

142. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th November 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

143. Police Report

The Chairman welcomed P.C. Steve Rowe to the meeting who reported that the following incidents had been reported in Thornley in the previous month.

Burglary	2
Theft from Motor vehicles	1
Anti Social Behaviour	5

Members expressed concern over the number of Quad Bikes and Motorcycles being ridden at night in the village with no lights; the continuing danger of speeding motorists, particularly in the Villas area and Hartlepool Street and the potential for accidents at the mini roundabout on Dunelm Road because of its low profile.

Councillor Nicholls agreed to call a site meeting with officers of the County Council to investigate these points and the need for speed bumps etc.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

144. Unitary County Councillor

Councillor Nicholls reported on the following issues:-

Arriva had now discontinued the 55 bus service much to the dismay of the County Council.

The Enforcement Officer of Durham County Council had now discovered the ownership of 47-48 Hartlepool Street, Thornley and was pursuing the issue of having it renovated because of its external appearance.

The Community Buildings Review was to be discussed by Cabinet in the near future.

Confirmation was given regarding the closure of Thornley Crossing recycling facility.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

145. Street Wardens Report

As the Wardens were not present a report was unavailable.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

146. Travellers

Councillor Nicholls advised that Durham County Council were now re-evaluating potential sites in the area on which travellers site could be developed using £3.5 million obtained from central government.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

147. Easington Association of Town & Parish Council's

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported that due to illness she had been unable to attend the last meeting.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

148. New Thornley

Councillor T. Unsworth reported that no meeting had been held recently. The Annual General Meeting was to take place in late January.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

149. Thornley Residents Group

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported that the group had donated £100 to Age Concern (Youll House) toward their annual Christmas Party.

A Residents Group Newsletter was currently being delivered to households in Thornley by its members.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

150. Youll House

Councillor G. Wilson reported that the group was running well but progress on the refurbishment of the toilets was being delayed.

The Parish Clerk reported that following investigation it could now be confirmed that Youll House belonged to the Parish Council¹⁹ and that a letter had been sent to Age Concern (Youll House) requesting compliance with the agreement that exists between them and the Parish Council on the operation of the facility.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

¹⁹ Copies of Title Deeds had been obtained from the Land Registry Office in Durham.

151. Public Question and Answer Session

A resident asked why Autumn bedding had not been planted at the war memorial in 2011 and requested that floral bedding (Summer & Autumn) could be provided at the war memorial on an annual basis in future. The Parish Clerk stated although bedding had not been provided in 2011 a quantity of bulbs had been planted. Subsequently the Thornley Residents Group had provided autumn bedding which was planted in time for the Remembrance Day Service.

Councillor Nichols agreed that he would endeavour to provide £100 in funding for 2012.

Resolved: That a separate budget heading be included in the annual estimates for the provision of Summer & Autumn bedding at the War Memorial in future years.

152. Parish Precept 2012/2013

Members considered the budget projections for 2012/13 compiled by the Parish Clerk in order to set the precept to be raised via Durham County Council.

Resolved: That the precept for 2012/13 be set at £127,695 and that Durham County Council be advised accordingly.

153. Staff Christmas Bonus

The Parish Clerk reported that it had been the practice at this time of year for the Parish Council to consider the payment of a Christmas bonus to members of the workforce.

Resolved: That staff receive a Christmas bonus of £50.

154. Request for Refund of Burial Fees (REF: 6510)

A request from Mrs. Dawn Brown 2, The Green, Thornley for the refund of double burial fees following the internment of her late father in Thornley Cemetery was considered.

Members were asked to recall that Cemetery Regulations stated that in order to qualify for single burial fees the Parish Council must be satisfied that the deceased was a resident of Thornley for a period of 50 years.

Resolved: That half the burial fees (£77.00) be refunded to Mrs. Brown.

155. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0469)

Durham County Council advised that Ms. L. Evans had applied for planning permission for a rear first floor extension & rear porch at 54, Dunelm Road, Thornley DH6 3HW.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

156. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/00453)

Durham County Council advised that John Hare Architect had applied for planning permission for a residential development comprising 10 dwelling houses at land opposite Moor View & adjacent Ashford Grove, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

157. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0374)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission had been granted to Mr. A. Richardson for change of use from a residential (C3) to a beauty salon (A1) at the ground floor, first floor flat and shutter to ground floor at 28, Hartlepool Street, Thornley DH6 3BG.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

158. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0410)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission had been granted to Ms. M. Taylor for rear conservatory at 52, East Lea, Thornley DH6 3ED.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

159. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0403)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission had been granted to Pf. Trading North East Ltd for an extension of the time limit for implementation of planning permission REF No: PLAN/2008/0532 for 5 no. Dwellings at land adjacent to Gore Hall Farm, Thornley.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

160. Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0283)

Durham County Council advised that planning permission hds been granted to Mr. G. Miller for 2 dwelling houses (part retrospective) at land rear of Glenside, The Villas, Thornley DH6.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

161. Refusal of Planning Permission (REF: PL/5/2011/0417)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. L. Mitchell had been refused planning permission for a side extension to an existing garage at 44, East Lea, Thornley DH6 3EA.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

162. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6514)

A letter of thanks received from Harbour for the Parish Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

163. Auditors Report of Accounts 1st April 2011 to 30th September 2011 (REF: 6536)

The Parish Clerk reported that the Internal Audit of accounts from 1st April 2011 to 30th September 2011 had been completed by W.J. Smith.

The accounts were in order.

A copy of the report was made available for members.

Resolved: That the report be received.

164. 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 make arrangements to settle any outstanding accounts.

165. 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.

166. Flooding Coopers Close Allotments

The Parish Clerk referred to minute 108 of the meeting held on 1st November 2010 and reported that Durham County Council had investigated the problem and discovered that a drainage chamber on the School car park was blocked. The debris had now been removed and the problems resolved.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

167. Request for Donation (REF: 6544)

The Lending Library requested a donation to help provided a service to all people with special needs in the area.

Resolved: That the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £50.00

168. Public Consultation – Housing Development, The Villas REF: 6545)

Yuill Homes provided details of a public consultation regarding the development of 9 bungalows at The Villas, Thornley (adjacent to Youll House).

Resolved: That the information be noted.

169. Friends of Thornley War Memorial

The Chairman reported that a verbal a request had been received requesting that the Parish Council send a representative to serve on a group that was being established the purpose of which would be to seek funding to improve the appearance of the war memorial .

Draft proposals on the proposed works would be provided to the Parish Council (a partnership organisation) for approval before funding was sought.

Resolved: That Councillor Mrs. Attey represent the Parish Council on the group once established.

170. Seasonal Staff

Councillor T. Unsworth enquired if the Parish Council would be employing any seasonal (temporary) staff over the summer months.

Resolved: The Parish Clerk reported that he was reviewing the anticipated workload and budget requirements. Once this had been established approval would be sought from the Parish Council appropriate.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
YOULL HOUSE, THORNLEY
ON
6TH MARCH 2012**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. A. Attey (Chair), Mrs. M. Brunskill, Mrs. I. Hind, Mrs. M. Ingram, Mrs. J. Middleton, Mrs. J. Unsworth, T. Unsworth, G. Wilson.

APOLOGIES

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Reason for Absence</i>	<i>Resolved</i>
<i>Mrs. P. English</i>	<i>Holiday</i>	<i>Approved</i>

171. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill referred to minute 151 and pointed out that the plants were provided by Thornley Moving Forward. Having noted this error the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th January 2012 accepted as a true record.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

172. Police Report

The Chairman welcomed P.C. Steve Rowe to the meeting who reported that the following incidents had been reported in Thornley in the previous month.

Theft	1
Anti Social Behaviour	5
Criminal Damage	1
Traffic Related (Quad Bikes)	4
Damage to Vehicles	1

Members enquired if there had been any further progress in addressing the instances of motorists speeding through the village.

P.C. Rowe provided details of a traffic survey that had been undertaken and that 5 cars had been identified. This represented a 40% of cars driving down Hartlepool Street were speeding. The Community Speedwatch had however only received a very low number of complaints regarding speeding from residents.

The Chairman asked if any progress had been made regarding the parking of vehicles on Stanley Terrace and was informed that although it had been proposed to reduce the extent of the Yellow Lines there was insufficient funding available at the present time to undertake the work.

The Chairman pointed out that the "Right Turn Ahead" signs on the A181 from the roundabout at Wheatley Hill approaching the Crossways Hotel corner had not yet been replaced.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

173. Street Wardens Report

As the Wardens were not present no report was available.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

174. Unitary County Councillor

Councillor Nicholls reported that £500,000 in funding had been identified to develop a new Resource Centre and progress was being made on how best this could be accomplished.

It was vital that a Management Committee was set up to develop the facility and manage it in the long term.

A further report was considered by the Cabinet of Durham County Council on 29th February 2012.

He also pointed out that the Thornley Community Centre was now closed because of problems with the heating & boiler system. Existing users were looking at alternative venues.

The transfer of 36 Community Centres to management committees was now underway and all had to have a business plan and be able to demonstrate that the community were supportive of the idea. It was anticipated that all transfers would be complete by September 2012.

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth suggested that the residents would need support to form a new Management group and that the Parish Council should facilitate this along with New Thornley Partnership and that this should be undertaken as soon as possible.

The County Archaeologist had identified that Gore Hall Farm dated from Circa 1600 to 1625 and had historical significance in the area. This may not however prevent its demolition.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

175. Travellers

There was no additional information on travellers in Thornley available for discussion.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

176. Youth Facilities Provision – Thornley

The Chairman welcomed Shealagh Pearce from the AAP Team who presented a report on a recently completed a mapping exercise of facilities and services currently available in Thornley for 0-19 year olds and young families.

Members considered multi agency plan (designed for use in South Hetton) on how Youth Delivery in Thornley could be developed in order to address and improve the issues in Thornley.

Resolved: That additional information on the cost and venues be sought.

177. Easington Association of Town & Parish Council's

Councillor Mrs. Brunskill reported that the next meeting would be held on 14th March 2012

Resolved: That the information be noted.

178. New Thornley

Councillor T. Unsworth reported that a funding application made to the A.A.P. had been rejected because of limited resources. To raise additional funds for the group a Prize Bingo was being held in Youll House in the near future.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

179. Youll House

Councillor G. Wilson reported that the operation was going well and that the repainting of the interior of the premises was being considered.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

180. Youll House Operation

The Parish Clerk reported that no response had been received from the Age Concern Management Committee asking for information on the operation of the centre in compliance with the agreement that existed between the two parties.²⁰

Resolved: That a further letter be sent to the Age Concern Management Committee explaining the seriousness of the situation and stating that that if they did not comply the terms of the agreement it would be terminated by the Parish Council.

181. Public Question and Answer Session

There were no questions from those members of the public who were in attendance.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

182. Parish Newsletter

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth tabled a motion that the Parish Council should produce a Newsletter to provide residents with general information on the council and its operation and details of planned projects etc.

It was suggested that in an attempt to minimise costs this would initially be produced in house and posted in the local retail outlets and on the various parish notice boards.

Councillor Mrs. Unsworth volunteered to produce “copy” and “edit” information in conjunction with the Parish Clerk if required.

Resolved: That an initial publication be produced soon as practicable.

183. Parish Plan – Update

The Parish Clerk provided examples of Parish Plans produced by other councils for consideration and to enable members to determine how to proceed.

Resolved: That additional examples be obtained from parishes similar in size and demographics to Thornley.

²⁰ Minute 140 refers.

184. Wind Turbines – Petition

Members considered a petition to prevent the construction of Wind Turbines on sites in Co. Durham.

Resolved: That the information be received.

185. Allotment Rents

The Parish Clerk reported that in accordance with minute 115 a meeting had been held with the Allotment Association to determine their views.

The Chairman pointed out that there was constructive dialogue and that the cost of maintaining the allotments had been kept to a minimum because of the assistance provided by association. A number of potential projects to improve the facility and possible funding sources had been identified.

Resolved: That the annual rent for 2012/2013 remain at the current level of £30.00 per allotment.

186. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0494)

Durham County Council advised that PF Trading North East Ltd. had applied for outline planning permission for a residential development of 14 semi detached/terraced dwellings on land adjacent to Gore Hall Farm, Thornley.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

187. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0365)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. C. Henderson had applied for planning permission to increase the height of the existing 1.8m fence to 2.3m by fitting trellis at 51, Cottingham Grove, Thornley DH6 3EJ.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

188. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2012/0015)

Durham County Council advised that Mrs. L. Beresford had applied for an extension of the time limit for implementation of planning permission Ref. no. PLAN/2008/0503 for 20 dwellings Gore Hall Farm, Gore Lane, Thornley DH6 3 DR.

Resolved: That no objections be raised other than those raised at the Special Meeting of the Parish Council held on to 26th August 2008 Minute 115 relating to the entrance and exit to the development.

189. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2012/0040)

Durham County Council advised that Ms L. Evans had applied for planning permission for a two storey extension to rear and rear porch (resubmission) at 54, Dunelm Road, Thornley DH6 3HW.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

190. Request for Donation (REF: 6555)

The Great North Air Ambulance requested a donation to their funds for 2012. Members were asked recall that a donation of £100 was made in January 2011.

Resolved: That the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £100.00

191. Request for Donation (REF: 6576)

Finchale College request a donation to improve student recreation facilities.

Resolved: That the request be received.

192. Personnel Sub-Committee

The Parish Clerk requested that a Personnel Sub Committee be convened to appoint a temporary employee to cover a period of illness of one of the council's permanent employees.

Resolved: That a Personnel Sub-Committee be convened to take place on Monday 12th March 2012 commencing 9:30am .

193. Planning Approval (REF: PL/5/2011/0453)

Durham County Council advised that Planning Permission had been granted to Ms. L. Evans to construct a rear first floor extension & rear porch at 54, Dunelm Road, Thornley DH6 3HW

Resolved: That the information is noted.

194. Letter of Thanks (REF: 6563)

A letter of thanks was received from the Learning Library for the Parish Council's recent donation.

Resolved: That the letter be received.

195. Community Buildings Review Post Consultation Event (REF: 6574)

Durham County Council invited members to attend a briefing meeting on the review to be held at The Glebe Centre Murton 5th March 2012 commencing 6:00pm. Members can also attend a Building Asset Transfer event to be held at The Glebe Centre Murton on Friday 16th March 2012 commencing 10:30-2:30 (lunch provided)

Resolved: That the information be noted

196. 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 make arrangements to settle any outstanding accounts.

197. 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.

198. Replacement Goal Posts

The Parish Clerk reported that the goal posts erected on the Pit Wheel site had now become unsafe and had had to be removed for Health & Safety reasons.

Permission was sought to purchase a replacement set.

Members observed that a Junior set rather than a full size set may be more appropriate.

Resolved: That the cost of both sets be obtained and that the Chairman & Vice Chairman be authorised to make a determination.

199. War Memorial Lights

The Parish Clerk reported that the sodium light s illuminating the War memorial were faulty. This had been reported to Durham County Council who were to effect repairs in the near future.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

200. Encroachment onto Parish Land

The Parish Clerk reported that the developer/owner of a property recently constructed on land adjacent to the Library Allotment site had encroached onto Parish Council land by erecting a temporary fence.

He went on to explain that he had met the person concerned and explained the situation and that as a result the fence was to be removed.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

201. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0056)

Durham County Council advised that CM Youll had applied for planning permission to construct 8 bungalows at Greenwood Cottages, Thornley DH6 3HF.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

202. Planning Application (REF: PL/5/2011/0076)

Durham County Council advised that Mr. S. Westgarth had applied for planning permission to construct a single storey front and rear extension at 56, Dunelm Road, Thornley DH6 3HW.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
PERSONNEL SUB COMMITTEE
ON
12TH MARCH 2012**

EXEMPT ITEMS NOT FOR PRESS OR PUBLICATION

In accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 the press and public be excluded from the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 1 Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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