

**MINUTES OF
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE
5TH NOVEMBER 2019**

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

None

PUBLIC

No members of the public were present.

Meeting Commenced 7:00pm

83. Draft Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2019 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chairperson as an accurate record.

84. Draft Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting

Councillor David Smith referred to minute 79 and for clarification pointed out that it was Davy Smith who chaired the meeting following the withdrawal of Councillor Mrs. Unsworth.

Councillor Maddison moved a motion which was seconded by Councillor Kelly that a letter¹³ highlighting a number of issues be sent to all allotment tenants.

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2019 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chairperson as an accurate record and that on a vote of 6 to 0 (2 abstentions) the letter be sent to all allotment tenants .

85. Draft Minutes of Allotment Allocation Panel

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2019 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chairperson as an accurate record.

86. Chairs Statement

The Chair referred to the Extraordinary Meeting held on 8th October 2019 and tabled a Meeting Procedure document as a reminder to members on the manner in which business of the Parish Council should be conducted.

87. Police Report

The report provided by the police on activities in Thornley since the last meeting was tabled for discussion.

Resolved: That the report be received.

88. Unitary County Councillor

County Councillor Grant's report was tabled for discussion.

Resolved: That the report be received.

¹³ Tabled for discussion

89. Public Participation Policy

A document setting out the rules for the participation of members of the public in Parish Council meetings was tabled for information.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

90. Public Question and Answer Session

There were no members of the public present.

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

The Parish Clerk provided a progress report on:-

Youll House – Awaiting additional Quotations.

Police/Wardens meetings – Chair & Vice Chair in attendance.

Banner Society – contacted about Big Meeting and available funding.

50th Anniversary pit closure – planning for event.

Xmas Lights event – planning.

Proposed Skate Park – site relocation.

Resolved: That the information be noted

92. Outstanding Grave Payment – County Court Action

The Parish Clerk explained that the Bank of a Memorial Mason had refused to cash his cheque for £200 to erect a tablet in Thornley Cemetery.

Although several subsequent requests had been made to the Mason no payment had been forthcoming.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk instigate proceedings in the County Court to recover the debt.

Note: Councillor Davey Smith left the meeting.

93. Parish Precept 2020 - Financial Considerations

In order that the Precept requirement and Budget for 2020/21 could be calculated members were asked to review the following:-

Capital Program 2020/21¹⁴

Welfare Hire Fees 2020

Cemetery Fees and Charges

Note: Councillor Mrs. P. Maddison declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and left the meeting.

Allotment Rents 2020

Resolved: That the amounts detailed in the Capital Program be approved and that all Fees and charges remain unchanged for 2020.

Note: Councillor Mrs. P. Maddison returned to the meeting.

94. P.I.T. Project Update

The Chair pointed out that the initial meeting of the Pride in Thornley Group due to take place on 4th November 2019 had had to be postponed until further notice because of pressing engagements.

Resolved: That the information noted.

95. VE Day Celebrations May Day Friday

The Chair outlined proposals of celebrations to mark the event.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

¹⁴ Report previously circulated to members.

96. Training & Development

The Parish Clerk reported on a V.A.T. training event he and the Chair had attended recently in Shotton Hall and provided details of a Planning Training event on 26th November 2019 6:00pm till 8:30pm £3

Resolved: That the report be received.

97. Report of the Facilities & Community Officer

The report of the Facilities & Community Officer was tabled for discussion.

Resolved: That the report be received and that Mrs. Hodgson be commended for providing the wide array of events in the Village Centre.

98. Planning Matters

The following planning matters were considered:-

- DM/19/02115/FPA – granted
- DM/19/02264/RM – granted
- DM/19/02440/FPA – granted
- DM/19/02448/RM – granted
- DM/19/02450/RM – application
- DM/19/02587/FPA - Granted

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

99. Request for Donations

A request for donation from the Great North Air Ambulance was considered.

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.

100. Request for Donations (REF: 9781)

A request for donation from the Schools Benevolent Fund was considered.

Resolved: That the request be received.

101. 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. Councillor Mrs. Maddison suggested that where feasible measures be taken to reduce Parish expenditure e.g. mileage payments.

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

Meeting Terminated: 8:00pm