

**THE MEETING OF  
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
AT  
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE,  
THORNLEY  
5TH MAY 2020  
AGENDA**

**Note to Members**

*Whilst many Town & Parish Councils had decided to hold virtual meetings via the internet during the lockdown brought about by the Coronavirus Pandemic, Thornley Parish Councillors voted, 4 to 3 with 3 abstentions (following an email consultation), to maintain the Council's operation by delegating powers to the Parish Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair and before taking action on major issues members would be briefed via email to obtain a consensus of opinion.*

*Members are therefore advised that the meeting due to be held on 5th May 2020 will not take place but are asked to note the following.*

- 1. Draft Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting**  
*These are attached for reference and will be signed by the Chair as a correct record.*
- 2. Draft minutes of the Personnel Committee**  
*These are attached for reference and will be signed by the Chair as a correct record.*
- 3. Police Report**  
*No report has been provided by the Police*
- 4. Unitary County Councillor**  
*No report is available because of the current lockdown*
- 5. Matters Arising - Progress Report of the Parish Clerk & Councillors**
  - *The stabilisation of the Welfare Park fence remains unresolved as the firm is not able to undertake the repair because of the lockdown. It is anticipated that this will be carried out as soon as working practices return to normal.*
  - *It has not been possible to obtain additional quotes for the refurbishment of Youll House because of the lockdown. It is anticipated that will be resolved as soon as working practices return to normal.*
- 6. Resignation of Parish Councillor**  
*To record that George Wilson has tendered his resignation as a member of Thornley Parish Council with immediate effect.  
Durham County Council has been advised and arrangements are being made to call an election or fill the vacancy by co-option as appropriate.*
- 7. Account Balance Sheet 2019/20**  
*If approved it should be sign be the Chair and Parish Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.*

**8. Annual Governance & Accountability Return Ending 31st March 2020**

*Mazars LLP (the Government appointed external auditor) has advised that the annual return for the 2019/20 accounts has been extended due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.*

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

*Members are requested to approve Section 1 and then Section 2 of the Governance & Accountability Return and to authorise the Chairman to sign it on behalf of the Parish Council.*

*Members are also advised that arrangements have to be made to inform residents of their rights to inspect the accounts etc., in accordance with the statutory regulations, to commence no later than 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020.*

**9. Training & Development**

*Non available.*

**10. Report of the Facilities & Community Officer**

*An update is attached for reference.*

**11. Planning Matters**

*Members should visit the D.C.C. Planning Portal for additional information if required*

- DM/20/01039/FPA

**12. Finance & Budgetary Control Reports**

*Copies attached*

**13. Urgent Items of Business**

*In accordance with the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) Act, 1985, section 100B (4)(b), to consider any item the Chair considers urgent, following consultation with the Proper Officer.*

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Thornley Village Centre, High Street, Thornley on 7th July 2020 at 7:00 p.m.