

**MINUTES OF
THORNLEY PARISH COUNCIL
THORNLEY VILLAGE CENTRE
1ST NOVEMBER 2022**

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs. J. Unsworth (Chairperson), Ms. E. Bramfitt, Mrs. A. Galley, Ms. J. Grant, J. Hughes, Mrs. P. Maddison, David Smith, T. Unsworth.

County Councillors J Miller, Mrs. L. Hovells

APOLOGIES

Councillor	Reason for Absence	Resolved
Mrs. G. Ismail	Work Commitments	Approved

PUBLIC

No members of the public were present.

Meeting Commenced: 6:30pm

55. Draft Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th September 2022 were tabled, approved and signed by the Chairperson as an accurate record.

56. Co-option of Councillor

57. Police Report

No police report was available.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

58. Unitary County Councillor

Councillor Miller provided an update on various issues reported to him since the previous meeting. In most cases these had been attended to by D.C.C.

Resolved: That the report be received

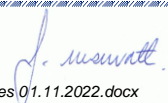
59. Public Question and Answer Session

No questions were raised.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

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

- The activities of groups and individuals congregating around the Ellerby Mews Play Area (possibly drug related) was highlighted. Councillor Miller was asked if he could raise it with Police and Wardens.
- A visit to Police Headquarters and Control Room by members had proven to be extremely interesting and worthwhile.
- The newly appointed Parish Clerk (Claire Llewelyn) was to commence her duties on Monday 21st November 2022.
- Legionella testing had been undertaken at the Village Centre and Welfare Park and arrangements for necessary improvements were in hand.



- An additional Dog Refuse Bin would to be installed adjacent to the War Memorial on receipt of an acceptable quotation from D.C.C.
- As previously reported the development of a Wildflower Area had been completed and arrangements were in hand to have it maintained in future years.
- D.C.C. were still consulting on the Parish Council's request for the Asset Transfer of the Village Centre.
- D.C.C. were still consulting on a the renewal of an expired Lease between the Parish Council and D.C.C. for part of the Welfare Park.
- An initial design and estimate for the construction of a "Pump Track" had been sought from a Contractor.
- A request to replace the damaged traffic barriers and signage at the chicane adjacent to St. Godric's School Wheatley Hill with more suitable items had been raised with D.C.C.
- In response to the Avian Flu epidemic appropriate signage was to be erected on the Parish Councils allotment sites
- It was reported that a Defibrillator installed by a resident group adjacent to the Doctors Surgery on Dunelm Road, Thornley would be out of service until repairs had been undertaken.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

61. Review of Cemetery Fees & Charges

The Parish Clerk reported that consideration be given to revising the Cemetery Fees and Charges for 2023/24

Resolved: That no increases be made for 2023/24

62. Review of Allotment Rents 2022/23

The Parish Clerk reported that consideration be given to revising the Allotment rents for 2023/24

Resolved: That no increases be made for 2023/24

63. Capital Works 2023/24

The report of the Parish Clerk was tabled for consideration.

Resolved: That the suggestions contained in the report be agreed and implemented.

64. Emergency Plan

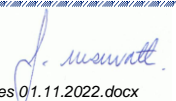
A copy of the Emergency Plan produced by Councillor Miller had been provided. Parish Councils were being asked to contribute to the cost of distribution.

Resolved: That the report be received and Thornley Parish Council cover the estimated cost of £330 for distribution to residents in Thornley.

65. Dog Fouling Notices

It was suggested that additional notices requesting residents who exercise their pets on Council land use the dog bins provided to dispose of their waste material.

Resolved: That notices be placed in various locations and vehicles as necessary.



66. Policy for Using of Parish Land

The Chair highlighted the potential for claims against the Council if events were held on the land adjacent to the Village Centre without permission or appropriate insurance etc. It was therefore suggested that a Policy be produced to protect the Parish Council should this occur. Organisers would need to apply in advance to use of the land and provide documentary evidence that they had taken appropriate measures before permission was granted and the event took place.

Resolved: That a appropriate Policy be drawn up and instigate.

67. Remembrance Day

The Chair reminded members that she was to lay a wreath at the Thornley War Memorial on Sunday 13th November at 11:00am and requested that the Parish Council make a donation of £35.00 to the Trindon Brass Band for a bugler to be present.

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 a total expenditure of £35.00.

68. Planning Matters

Members considered all applications provided by Durham County Council.

Resolved: That no objections be raised.

69. Training & Development

Details of training and development courses available through CDALC and the SLCC since the previous meeting had been circulated to members. None of the members had participated in the events.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk circulates information to members as it became available.

70. Report of the Facilities & Community Officer

The report was tabled for consideration

Resolved: That the information be noted.

71. Letter of Thanks

Letters of thanks were received from the following organisations for donations made by the Parish Council.

- Alice House Hospice
- Durham Hospital Radio

Resolved: that the information be noted

72. 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 the Parish Clerk settles any outstanding accounts.

Meeting Terminated: 8:20pm

