Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Davies (Chair); Gillson; Hamblett; Moffatt and Rees
In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; 1 resident

1. **Public Forum:** Cllrs were aware of parking issues at North Close that were preventing ease of access and entry / exit arrangements needed at all hours. It was agreed to issue a communication asking for residents' consideration when parking.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** Cllr Gardner not in attendance, so no update

3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr McGee.

4. **Declarations of Interest**: No declarations of interest were received.

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 12th November 2024*** were proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Gillson. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**: There were no matters arising other than the issues log.
   It was noted that Cllr Rees now had access to the Unity Trust bank system. Cllr McGee and Hamblett to secure their access.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson provided an update. Drop kerbs were being installed presently. It was agreed to ask the Stockton Council officer to progress the H-lines to ensure parked cars do not obstruct these dropped kerbs. There is a walkabout with Stockton Council officers tomorrow to agree location of village signs.
   Approval was made to purchase more bulbs to plant around the village and to replant the planters using the allocated budget.
   It was noted surveyors were at Astral Park field, but no update has been received. **Resolved** for the clerk to chase with other outstanding actions,

8. **Personnel Committee Report:** No issues to report.

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson updated on Social Activities. The Christmas Fayre was well received and attended. Carol concert is scheduled for tomorrow, and 50 tickets have been sold and there will also be a raffle. Santa Day is on 21st December and is being advertised through the facebook site, a selection box will be provided to each child attending. Christmas Eve there is a light festival at the Church.
   Feb 7th is the Portuguese Wine and Social Event and a full programme of events will be held in 2025/26.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted.
    It was approved that payments needed approval in advance before being entered and authorised through the on-line banking system.
    The draft 2025/26 budget was reviewed. It was noted the earmarked reserve for contribution to traffic chicanes was not needed as the Highways department have refused their installation near Henley Drive. It was approved to designate this as a reserve for replacing and adding new Christmas Lights in the village, which the clerk will seek pricing from Stockton Council. Based on current proposals it was

suggested the precept could remain at existing levels. **Agreed** for Councillors to consider any budget requirements for the next meeting to finalise plans

Financial Transactions 5 Nov – 2 Dec 2024

Receipts:

	£
Race Night Sales and sponsorship	584.00
SA wine night ticket sales	345.00
Halloween night income	68.00
TOTAL	**997.00**

Payments:

Bank Charges – Unity Trust Bank	1.00
Topsoil for bulb planting – reimburse clerk	4.00
Admin expenses incl stamps – reimburse clerk	17.60
Hire of Parish Hall – August and Sept	125.00
Race Night – sponsorship funding (previously paid in)	100.00
NALC – replacement of cheque 200 not presented	14.47
Race Night event – payment to organisers	345.00
Laptop	399.00
Mcafee virus protection (2 yr cover)	39.99
Salt Bin for Henley Drive	137.99
AGM costs – reimburse Chair	93.53
Wine for Portugal wine and social event – reimburse Jeff Gillson	430.15
Halloween event costs	45.71
TOTAL	**1,753.44**

11. **Training Opportunities:** No new opportunities identified.

12. **Planning:** No new applications were received.

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The schedule of prior items was reviewed and noted. It was **resolved** for the clerk to continue to seek resolution from Stockton Council.

    Cllr Rees advised that along school close there is a lot of conifer debris after the storm, which is blocking drains. Cllr Rees will send photos and seek resolution from CareForYourArea. **Resolved** for the clerk to seek general road sweeping in the village

    Cllr Davies advised she attended the virtual event re the Byers Gill Solar Farm. The local authorities had submitted objections as had villagers. The planning inspectorate would make a decision based on information received and relative merits or otherwise. Decision imminent. It was noted their may be s106 funding re the local solar farms. **Resolved** for the clerk to seek a copy of the signed deed.

    Cllr Moffatt raised the Salt bin at North Close being obscured by parked cars – request to move closer to the parking area – Cllrs happy for it to be moved to where residents feel of best use, as long as its near the inclines as intended.

14. **Communications** It was agreed to communicate asking for consideration when parking at north close; reminder of where to send parking enforcement issues; and news of dropped kerbs.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 14th January 2025 at Grindon Parish Hall.

    Meeting closed at 7.25pm

    Minutes Authorised By:
    Minutes Seconded By:
    Date: