Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Davies (Chair); Gillson; Hamblett; McGee; and Rees
In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; 4 residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   Astral Park (regarding letter received from Stockton Council - Town and Planning Act 1990 – Appeal under s174 by Mandale Homes)
   North Close resident who backs onto the amenity land advised they had previously contacted Mandale regarding the scrub land. Were told (incorrectly) land was owned by the Parish Council.

   Residents raised several concerns including state of the area; it being not in accord with what Mandale sales office advised when they were looking to purchase a house; distress that the issue had been going on for a number of years; witnessing Mandale dump stuff in the area; area being dangerous and unsuitable for children to play on; site being very uneven and rubble strewn; hole being steep and deep; insurance being an issue due to flood risk.

   The Chair advised the Planning Inspectorate would review the appeal by Mandale and any other views expressed. Residents were advised to respond to the planning appeal and include photos if relevant.
   Agreed Clerk to post the address to send comments, the reference to quote and the deadline for responses to be received.
   Agreed The Parish Council will respond (issue to be discussed under later agenda item.
   Agreed Chair will post on Astral facebook site.

   Astral Chicane
   Residents raised concern about lack of progress and the bushes at junction with Durham Road being a safety issues and needing to be cut back regularly. The Chair advised these were on our issue log and raised with the Ward Councillor from Stockton Council regularly.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** Apologies were received from Cllr Gardner so no update provided. **Agreed** Clerk to ask for an update from Ward Councillor if they are not able to attend

3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr Moffatt and Cllr John Gardner (SBC).

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

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 14th January 2025*** were proposed by Cllr Hamblett and seconded by seconded by Cllr Gillson. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**: **i) Thorpe Cross update**
   It was advised that funding to locate a replica was not approved and therefore issue can be closed.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson provided an update. Hoping SBC will install village signs imminently. Still awaiting response regarding H-lines and other items as per issue log. With better weather the planters will be refreshed.

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

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson provided an update on successful Portuguese wine and social event. April is pie and pea Bingo. A programme of events for 2025 is being developed and will be discussed at next weeks Social Committee.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted.
The clerk advised of payments pending including reimbursement to Cllr Gillson and JH for wine night costs; payment for Hall rental; and invoiced pending from Stockton Council regarding the dropped kerbs. These were noted and payment will be reported next month.
Cllr Rees asked if the new bank account payments were working well – Clerk confirmed they were.

Financial Transactions 6 Jan 2025 – 3 February 2025

Receipts:

	£
Choir night proceeds	20.00
Portugal Wine Night Proceeds	930.00
TOTAL	**950.00**

Payments:

Selection Boxes for Santa Day	10.00
Bank Service Charge	6.00
New Printer	159.99
TOTAL	**175.99**

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

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

Cllrs discussed their proposed response regarding Astral Park Amenity space. **Agreed** Clerk to draft response to the planning appeal.

Noted Vane Arms approval was subject to a Management Plan, residents asked if they could have sight of the plan and be able to comment. **Agreed** Clerk to email Ben (Vane Arms) and request sight of such

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The schedule of prior items was reviewed under the Ward Councillor item.

It was noted the flooding at the Underpass was cleared; hoping its now on a maintenance schedule
Clerk is chasing updates periodically – concern was expressed at the poor response from Stockton Council.

14. **Communications** It was agreed to communicate where to send any response re Astral Park, the reference to quote and deadline for submission. Suggesting photos may be useful to evidence issues.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 11th March 2025 at Grindon Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:
Date: