# Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

**Present:** Cllrs. Gillson (in Chair), Hamblett, McGee, Moffatt and Rees
**In Attendance:** C. Chapman, Clerk; 4 Residents

1. **Public Forum:**

   A resident from Grindon asked whether a Defibrillator could be installed at Grindon. The resident had advised of the popularity of the area for walkers, runners and cyclists, including Parkrun. A number of fatalities had occurred in recent years; and local residents had acted to save lives when incidents occurred and awaiting for emergency services.
   Residents also advised that emergency services sometimes turned up at the wrong walkway and queried whether they had the right locality information.

   In discussion it was noted solar powered defibrillators were available; batteries had a relatively long life and locality information such as What3Words could be included on the defibrillator housing.

   It was **Resolved** for the clerk to check availability of funding (eg Sustrans; Parkrun; Starting Hearts) and options for raising funds for a defibrillator at Grindon. Clerk to also include article in Newsletter.

   A resident advised the Facebook site proved successful with recent attempted burglary activity in the area. It was **Resolved** for the clerk to publicise in the next newsletter and include reference to the COPA App.

   An update was provided on planning for the Choir Evening. It was confirmed proceeds would be allocated to fund the Childrens Christmas Party and Sanat Visit, and to make a charitable donation in liaison with the Choir.

   It was noted the Hall alarm had been activated at 3am, which took some time to resolve. Hall Management Committee to be asked to ensure such issues can be addressed promptly in future.

   It was noted several issues from last minutes would carry forward pending resolution by Stockton Council.

2. **Apologies:** Michelle Davies had submitted her apologies which was accepted. Cllrs Gardner and Sewell had submitted apologies due to conflicting civic duties which were accepted.

3. **Declarations of Interest**: None

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

5. **Matters Arising**: ***(i) 2024/25 Budget***
   It was noted Stockton Council needed to receive our precept by 26th January 2024.

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The clerk advised the only change from prior budget discussions was the indicative taxbase which was an increase of 12.29, which would raise £303.93.

It was provisionally agreed for a below inflationary precept increase of 4%, which was needed to meet rising costs from suppliers. **Resolved** for clerk to progress on that basis pending final decision at the January meeting. The clerk advised they would reach out to other local Parishes to check their proposed increases.

6. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson updated on plans for locating other multi-tier planters and advised the Vane Arms offered to add to their watering contract arrangements. A further crocus patch needed planting. Which would be arranged weather permitting. Discounts would be formalized with a local gardening centre to fill planters.

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

8. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr McGee provided an update on the Choir event and Santa visit advising all planning was in hand. It was noted only a few presents had been dropped off and this would be followed up.
Plans for the Wine and Food night would be finalized in the New Year.

9. **Financial Reports –** the Clerk presented the statement of Financial Transactions and the Actual against Budget Report and advised all transactions were as expected, with most being related to recent events. The success in negotiating VAT repayments was noted.

**Financial Transactions 7 November – 5 December 2023**

**Receipts:**

| | **£** |
|---|---|
| Wine night revenue | 861.00 |
| Additional compensation negotiated with bank | 75.00 |
| VAT reclaimed to Sept 2023 (incl £57.23 from prior year) | 687.49 |
| Resident payment for FOI request information | 1.70 |
| **TOTAL** | **1,625.19** |

**Payments:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Parish Hall bookings | 285.00 |
| Parish Hall bookings – History Group | 25.00 |
| Halloween trail – prizes (reimburse N Settle) | 12.48 |
| Italian wine night (reimburse J Gillson) | 498.84 |
| Compost re village planters (reimburse J Gillson) | 48.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **869.32** |

10. **Training Opportunities:** No new opportunities identified,

11. **Ward Councillor's Report:** Apologies from Cllrs Gardner and Sewell were noted.

12. **Planning:**

**23/1691/VARY** Land West Of Bottle Hill Farm Wynyard Road Thorpe Thewles
Proposal Section 73 to vary the Restoration details (approved under condition 7 of approval 93/0719/P) to allow for a low level landform without the need to import inert waste materials. **Resolved** – No comment due to nature of s73 application.

**23/2067/FUL** 25 Wynyard Road Thorpe Thewles
Proposal Erection of a two storey extension to the side and rear. **Resolved:** Cllr Gillson to check with neighbouring resident to inform comment. Parish Council to comment re

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vehicular access arrangements. Post meeting note – Cllr Gillson confirmed neighbouring resident had no comments.

W**ynyard Village** – the community consultation was noted.

23/2099/FUL – Thorpe Leazes Farm 2 Storey Factory development. **Resolved** to support this application for the expansion of facility and job potential in the area.

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:**
The schedule of prior items was reviewed and noted.
The near completion of the play park was noted.

Cllr Rees noted the continued soil dumping on route to Carlton and mess on road and road verges. To be raised with Cllr Gardner as works were ongoing.

Cllr Rees and a resident asked about the sign at Vicars Close that was knocked down by a van. **Resolved** for clerk to follow up.

Cllr Hamblett raised an issue regarding the entrance to Henley Drive with residents struggling negotiate with recent snow/ice. **Resolved** clerk to request a salt bin for this new development.

Cllr Gillson noted continuing flytipping/dumping of soil on the walkway on the other side of A177. **Resolved** clerk to raise with Care for Your Area

Cllr Moffat raised a resident concern about street lighting outside the Vane Arms that was not working. **Resolved** for clerk to raise with Care for Your Area.

14. **Newsletter**
The current draft was reviewed. With additional items proposed in the meeting it was felt this was sufficient.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** 6.30pm Tuesday 9th January 2024 at Grindon Parish Hall.
Simon Grundy (SBC) be requested to attend to provide a full update

*Meeting closed at 8.10pm*

**Minutes Authorised By:**
**Minutes Seconded By:**
**Date:**

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