Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Davies (Chair); Gillson; Hamblett, McGee, Moffatt and Rees
In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; Cllr Gardner (SBC); 3 Residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   A resident asked for an update on the movement of soil at Carlton. Cllr Gardner said he has been advised multiple agencies are ensuring all is appropriate.

   A resident advised that the Vicars Close sign has been restored by residents. Councillors thanked residents for undertaking this activity.

   Residents expressed concern about potholes, and their poor repair when undertaken. **Resolved** for Clerk to contact SBC and copy in the Chief Executive / Leader of the Council.

   A resident asked if the Police would be attending future meetings. The Clerk advised he had received some responses and is awaiting named contact. Cllr Gardner asked if he could be copied into future emails on this as may be able to support.

   The mud on road outside Henley Drive was noted again. **Resolved** for clerk to raise the issue again, Cllr Gardner asked to be copied in for his information.

   Residents raised issues with Bird Scarers, noting the NFU and Govt guidance on such and number of farms in the area. Cllr Gardner advised this is an issue in Stillington and other Parishes and provided an Environmental Health contact in Stockton Council for clerk to contact.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** Cllr Gardner advised he had no other issues than those previously discussed.

3. **Apologies:** Cllrs Sewell (SBC)

4. **Declarations of Interest**: The Clerk advised a declaration of interest in relation to the Donation request under item 10 i) in their role as Chair of Trustees for the Parish Hall.

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 13th February 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**: ***(i) Bank Contract***
   The clerk advised of further assessment undertaken. It was **resolved** for all Councillors to be signatories; clerk to progress banking arrangements as agreed last meeting.

7. **AGM May 2024:** After discussion it was **resolved** to hold on same day as the Parish Hall Trustees AGM – 7th May @ 6:30pm.

8. **Maintenance Committee Report: (i) Village signs.**
   The clerk advised approval had been obtained to use the Boyne family crest. The maintenance committee to draft proposals and the clerk will then obtain quotes from suppliers.

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

10. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr McGee provided an update on the Easter event (31st March); Pie, Peas and Bingo (19th April); Wine night (7th June). Cllr Gillson advised he is sourcing pies and advised of an alternative provider whose pricing was more favourable. It was **resolved** to progress discussions with providers.

    Cllr Gardner left to attend another Parish Council meeting.

11. **Financial Reports –** the Clerk presented the statement of Financial Transactions and the Actual against Budget Report and advised the main variances were Social Activities income and expenditure both being higher than expected due to the number and success of events. The clerk will consider how best to present this information.
    The clerk advised the 2023/24 accounts would be available at next meeting.

Financial Transactions 1 February 2024 to 28 February 2024

Receipts:	**£**
TOTAL	**NIL**

Payments:

Parish Hall – History Group Booking	24.50
Parish Hall – Parish Council bookings	50.00
Printer Toner – reimburse C Chapman (clerk)	68.78
TOTAL	**143.28**

12. **Training Opportunities:** HR training had been circulated and was noted.

13. **Planning:**

    23/2241/OUT Land East of A19 and West of Wynyard Park, Erection of 74no. dwellings. Resolved to respond with same comments as per other planned developments at Wynyard.

    Planning Consultation: Durham Council
    2nd drafts of the Solar Energy and the Housing Needs Supplementary Planning Documents were noted.

    24/0424/FUL. Land Rear of Astral House, erection of dwelling house. Resolved to resend original comments regarding this site.

    24/0109/RET Blakeston Croft Farm Blakeston Lane. Part retrospective application for the siting of 3no module buildings to be used in association with dog boarding business and creation of dog excercise area and erection 1no building to be used for dogs.
    The resident applicant was in attendance and explained the application. **Resolved** to support as a local rural business.

    24/0313/FUL Middlefield Farm: Erection of 1no agricultural buildings to cover over existing muck store. **Resolved** to support as a local rural business.

14. **Items of Concern to Councillors:**
    The schedule of prior items was reviewed and noted.
    It was **resolved** for the clerk to:
    - Close the Vicars close item as this has been resolved by residents.

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- Highlight those that Cllr Gardner is leading on resolution.
- Liaise with Keith Matthews and procure a key access lock for the play park gate.
- Close the 'bike rack' item as there are no enforcement powers available.
- Refer the extra Salt Bin request for Mill Terrace to Stockton Council.

A resident queried items on the issue log and it was resolved to list these on future agendas.

Cllr Moffat advised he is still awaiting a quote for road/ pavement edging plus straightening one white post on the village green and cleaning the posts.

15. Communications

No specific items to communicate were noted.

16. Date of Next Meeting: 6.30pm Tuesday 9th April 2024 at Grindon Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:
Date:

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