# Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 6.30 pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

**Present:** Cllrs. Davies, Rees and Williams
**In Attendance:** M. Ireland, Clerk

1. **Public Forum**: No members of the public were present.

2. **Apologies:** Parish Cllr Gillson, Ward Cllr Gardener – apologies accepted.

3. **Resignation of Councillor:** The Chairman noted with regret the resignation of Emma Teasdale due to family issues. **Action:** Clerk to inform SBC and start Co-option process.

4. **Declarations of Interest**: None declared.

5. **Minutes of 8th February 2022**: Cllr Williams proposed, with Cllr Davies seconding, the approval of the minutes. All concurring, it was **resolved** to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**: (a) ***Transfer of funds from Thorpe Thewles Residents Association*** **–** The Clerk informed that she had yet to receive notification from the bank of the monies arriving in our bank account.
   (b) ***Footpath issue*** – no further information available. The Chairman noted that, before her resignation, Cllr Teasdale's house had been subjected to an attack of stone throwing from the public footpath and this had been reported to the police. The Clerk informed that she had attended the recent Rural Crime Forum and that the Rural responsibility was now devolved to a Chief Inspector based in Redcar & Cleveland – the highest level of officer yet to be given this role. He seemed to understand the frustration, with the Cleveland Police Force, felt by rural residents, especially farmers, and had committed to making the service more responsive to rural needs and issues.

7. **Maintenance & Village Improvement Committee Report:** Cllr Williams reported that the 4 large planters had been purchased and all but one had now been planted up and were in situ; the final planter would be placed soon. An area of footpath had been cleared and the next Litter Pick was to take place later this month.

8. **Social Activities Committee report:** The Clerk tabled copies of the Minutes of the two meetings of the group that had taken place to date. She noted that an Easter Egg Hunt was being planned for the morning of Easter Sunday, with costs covered by parents; a volunteer had offered to pack the eggs and small gifts (yet to be purchased by the Clerk) and label with individual child's name, and to collect the fees from parents. Much of the meetings' time had been taken up with deciding on and then progressing ideas for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It had been agreed to focus on the Thursday and Sunday only, with the lighting of the Beacon (supplied by SBC), and Pie & pea supper on the Thursday and Family Activities followed by a 'Bring a picnic to share Royal Garden Party' on the Sunday afternoon. Requests were being made for volunteers to help with activities and for households to decorate houses for the Jubilee weekend. Several fund-

raising activities were to take place, to raise sufficient funds to allow the Jubilee events to be free of charge; these included a 'Race Night', a 'Gin Tasting' event and football/blind cards. Cllr Williams offered to take on the Chairmanship, as a temporary measure, following the resignation of Cllr Teasdale; she also reported that another resident had suggested the events take place on the Playing Field, subject to SBC permission being given. All present thought this an excellent idea. Cllr Williams proposed to hold the next meeting of the group on Wednesday 22nd March at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall and agreed to put this information out on Facebook. **Actions:** Cllr Williams to inform villagers of the next meeting of the Committee and Clerk to request use of the Playing Field and to purchase small gifts to go with the Easter Eggs.

9. **Finance:** The Clerk presented the Financial Transactions and Actual against Budget Report as at today's date; these were **approved**.

| **Payments:** | **£** |
|---|---|
| Grindon Parish Hall (room hire) | 20.00 |
| M. Davies (Parish Meeting expenses) | 60.00 |
| L. Williams (Children's Christmas party expenses) | 28.00 |
| Wel Medical (defibrillator supplies) | 122.10 |
| J. Gillson (repayment for purchase of planters) | 180.00 |
| Stockton Country Parish (newsletter advert) | 70.00 |
| D.M. Ireland (toner for printer) | 339.79 |
| D.M. Ireland (repayment for Easter Eggs) | 60.00 |
| D.M. Ireland (salary Jan-March + backpay from July) | 606.24 |
| HMRC (PAYE) | 151.56 |
| D.M. Ireland (contribution to broadband/tel costs for 9 months) | 150.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **1,787.69** |

10. **Ward Councillor's Report:** None Received.

11. **Parish Council Newsletter:** The draft of the first PC Newsletter had been circulated in advance of the meeting. In the light of her resignation, it was agreed to remove references to Emma Teasdale. With information on the History Group to be added to the Grindon Parish Hall section, the newsletter was **approved.** It was agreed that 250 copies should be produced for immediate circulation. **Action:** Clerk to amend the draft as requested and produce 250 copies for delivery on Friday.

12. **Correspondence:** *(a)* Letter regarding a non-statutory consultation on the proposed Net Zero Project – noted (Clerk to send copies to all Councillors); (b) Notification that the Mobile Library Service was to recommence on 5th April following the removal of Covid restrictions.

13. **Planning:** Application No: **22/0125/FUL** – Mill Farm, Middle Bank, Thorpe Thewles – Erection of A part two- storey, part single-storey, extension to the rear and installation of solar panels to front. Installation of new water treatment plant (demolition of existing outhouse). After a brief discussion, which included concerns about vehicular access to the new septic tank and the potential problems of the building being on a flood plain, (both issues covered in the application documentation) it was agreed that the Parish Council would make No Comment.

14. **Items of Concern to Councillors:**
Cllr Williams raised concerns about the History Group finances – the group wished to continue charging a membership fee and to apply independently for funding. The Clerk explained that, if the Group were to become a part of the Parish Council, as they had requested, then they could not charge a membership fee. An alternative would be to request members to make a fixed sum donation to the Parish Council to be designated for use solely for History Group activities. Any

fundraising activity would have to be done in the name of the Parish Council and any funds raised would be designated for the specific purpose for which they had been given.
Cllr Williams raised concern as to the address and signature to be used for the Community Fund contract being agreed wit the Solar Farm provider. It was **resolved** that the Clerk's address be given and the Clerk to sign the contract, as the Council's Proper Officer, wit the Chairman acting as witness. **Action**: Cllr Williams to inform the agent of this.
Cllr Rees raised concern about the dearth of dropped kerbs around the village. He asked that SBC be requested to undertake a survey to identify where these were needed. **Action:** Clerk to request SBC undertake a survey on dropped kerbs in Thorpe Thewles.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** 6.30pm Tuesday 12th April 2022.

*Meeting closed at 7.55pm*

**Minutes Authorised By:**

**Minutes Seconded By:**

**Date:**