Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th July 2024 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Gillson (Chair); Hamblett, McGee, Moffatt and Rees
In Attendance: Cllr Gardner (SBC); C. Chapman, Clerk; 2 residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   Options for the design of the Village Sign, to be located at each of the four road entrances to the village, were shown. A design was chosen. It was **resolved** for the clerk to progress once Stockton Council have confirmed they can be installed and costs to install.

   A resident asked about grass cutting, it was noted the area between the chicane and Astral Park has been raised with Stockton Council who confirm it is their land

   Cllr Gardner provided an update on moving speed limits and the chicane that has been costed and plans drawn up. Cllr Gardner will send copies of the plan for information and requested the Parish Council provide feedback promptly. Speed limits would also be moved past Henley Drive.

   Cllr Rees advised of recent Facebook posts regarding the exit from Thorpe Thewles onto A177 with some drivers going the wrong way on dual carriageway. It was noted this was reported through Carlton Facebook. **Resolved** for Clerk to request "No Entry" signs through Cllr Gardner.

   Cllr Gillson advised the hedging on road across bridge is restricting visibility. **Resolved** for clerk to raise with Care for Your Area.

   Cllr Gardner advised position on Vane Arms planning application remained as his last update.

   Cllr Garder left the meeting to attend Carlton Parish Council.

   A resident asked about rules for setting fires, it was noted common courtesy applies, fires cannot be lit if smoke blows across roads or become a nuisance.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** Included above.

3. **Apologies:** Apologies from Cllr Davies and Cllr Sewell (SBC) were noted and accepted.

4. **Declarations of Interest**: There were no declarations of interest received.

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 11th June 2024*** were proposed by Cllr Hamblett and seconded by Cllr McGee. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**:

   (i) ***Bank Contract:*** the clerk asked if Councillors could complete the Barclays validation processes so we can switch banks. Forms have been received from Cllr Davies and Cllr Gillson.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:**
   Cllr Gillson advised we have accepted a quote to edge pavements in the village, stand up village posts where needed and clean all posts. Work will commence when weather allows.

The location of the remaining two 3-tier planters has been agreed by Councillors. It was **resolved** for available Councillors to meet at the Hall on Friday 12th July at 2pm to site the planters.
It was further resolved to seek assistance for the planting and maintenance of all planters. Cllr McGee offered to produce a poster and place on Facebook.

Works to the footpath at entrance to village from A177 were noted. These were Stockton Council works and included an extension of cycle way and footpath

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

9. **Social Activities Committee report:**
Cllr McGee provided on update, including the success of the New Zealand Wine and Social Night, which had raised £408, including £250 from the raffle (thanks to those who donated prizes) and VAT to be reclaimed of £100. Proceeds will fund future activities and/or village improvements.

Cllr McGee advised the next event is a South African Wine and Social Night which will be advertised imminently; and of a full programme of events for the remainder of the year including Halloween events, Christmas Fayre, Race Night and Christmas events.

Cllr McGee advised the next meeting of the Social Committee is Tuesday 16th July at 6:30pm and all are welcome to attend.

10. **Financial Reports**
The Clerk presented the statement of Financial Transactions and the Actual against Budget Report. Transactions were as expected. The clerk advised to date we have not spent much of the approved maintenance budget, but plans outlined under the Maintenance Committee Report item will draw down some of this budget.

Cllr Gillson asked if funding was in place for the Village signs, and the clerk confirmed funding was allocated for these.

Financial Transactions 4 June – 1 July 2024

Receipts:

	£
NZ Wine Night – raffle ticket sales	250.00
NZ Wine Night – cash ticket sales	60.00
TOTAL	**310.00**

Payments:

NZ wine night, food – reimburse B Gillson	179.39
Clerk Pay April – June 2024	529.20
HMRC PAYE April – June 2024	352.80
NALC late invoice for Good Councillor /guides purchased 2022	14.47
NZ Wine Night Food / prizes – reimburse J Hogg	45.14
Microsoft Licences – reimburse Clerk	59.99
Parish Hall rent May 2024	56.00
Norton Antivirus Software – reimburse Clerk	64.99
TOTAL	**1,301.98**

11. **Training Opportunities:**
There was no specific training relevant to our needs identified.

Councillors noted having First Aiders at events would be beneficial, and this will be reviewed.

12. **Planning:**
There were no relevant planning applications to review.

13. **Grindon Parish Hall CIO – nominated Trustee.**
    The clerk advised the Grindon Parish Hall CIO, a registered Charity, had a trustee post for a nominated Parish Council representative. No councillor wished to fill this role noting Cllrs Gillson and Hamblett (and the Clerk) are already individual Trustees, and noting the close working between both bodies already in place. It was further confirmed that any individual can nominate themselves as a Trustee, and nominations would be reviewed and decided upon by existing trustees.

14. **Items of Concern to Councillors:**
    The schedule of prior items was reviewed and noted.

    It was **resolved** for the clerk to ask Stockton Council planners for their availability during office hours so a meeting to discuss appropriate issues with residents.

    The clerk advised the Environment Agency have confirmed works were needed to Thorpe Beck, suggesting these should extend 30 feet downstream, of the bridge. However, they note the road is not adopted and works would therefore be responsibility of householders on Vicars Close. The clerk advised he will follow up further.

15. **Communications**
    It was agreed the key matters to communicate were the village signs (only when SBC confirm they can be installed); meeting with SBC planners (once confirmed); and the request for volunteers to help with planters and their maintenance.

16. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 10th September 2024 at Grindon Parish Hall. A meeting will be convened on Tuesday 13th August 2024 if there are urgent items to discuss; this will be communicated in advance to residents.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:
Date: