Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th February 2021 at 6.30 p.m. Due to the measures in place to restrict the spread of Covid-19 the meeting was conducted remotely using "Zoom".

In Attendance: Cllrs: Michelle Davies (Chair), Lynne Williams, Gareth Rees, Paul John, Michael Lowson and Jeff Gillson.

1. Apologies.

Parish Clerk .

2. Declaration of Interest.

No declaration of interest declared.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January were approved by all present.

4. Public Discussion.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5. Durham Road.

Cllr. Paul John explained that the Road has been dug up 5 times since December, with no communication from Highways department regarding the matter. The road and the pathway outside Nos 4 & 2 Durham Road are in a bad state with no communication regarding if and when they will be repaired. It was agreed that Cllr. John contact Stockton Borough Council in his capacity as a resident regarding the issues of poor communication and disruption to services. Cllr. Lynne Williams on behalf of the Parish Council will write to Highways Department regarding concerns expressed about repeated digging, and also to ascertain if there is a plan for the re-surfacing of the road.

6. Naming of Road at Middlefield Stud.

The road leading up Thorpe Thewles Lodge and the surrounding bungalows does not have a name or directional signage. The area does have a post code but Sat Navs only take drivers to the bottom of the road. It is causing a lot of problems for people who wish to access any of the properties i.e. delivery drivers, postal delivery staff and Lodge guests. It was agreed that Cllr. Michelle Davies write to the Council to request a name for the road.

7. BP Solar Farm – Middlefield Farm.

Richard Turner (Light Source BP) had been asked once again to meet with the Council but no response was received.

Section 106 monies and monies from BP were discussed, it was agreed that Cllr. Lynne Williams contact Alex Cunningham MP regarding any funding which would come from the approval of the Solar Farm be directed towards improvements for residents Thorpe Thewles.

8. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Cllr. Lynne Williams gave an update on Astral Park issues. The senior planning officer for Astral Park has asked that the Developer submit plans for the reduction of the field height and the pathway. She is awaiting their submission and will advise once a decision has been made on the suitability of the amendment.

9. Finance.

The Precept submission has been made and we are to expect funds into our account in March 2021.

10. To Consider and Authorise Payment of Accounts.

Not applicable

11. Break N/A

12. Councillor's Report.

Cllr. Gareth Rees raised the issue of the bridge still being in need of repair, also that drains are now becoming clogged. Cllr. Lynne Williams will follow-up on her correspondence with Care for Your Area regarding the Bridge, Paving and Seat, and add the issue of clogged drains to her communication.

Cllr. Gareth Rees reported that the PCSO for the area had been in touch to say that there was a glut of poaching going on in the area and that they are carrying out surveillance patrol. The PCSO indicated that whilst a number of people had been stopped in a van there was no evidence of poaching but drugs were found.

It was raised that the gate /stile to the filed on the right hand side past vicars bridge was broken. Discussion took place around who actually had responsibility for the gate/stile, it was thought that this was Mr. John Hargreaves, owner of The Mill. No decision was made to contact Mr. Hargreaves.

13. Clerk's Report N/A

14. Planning

Only one planning application concerning Grindon and Thorpe Thewles, this was for improvements to an agricultural building. No Objections were raised.

15. Items of information for next meeting.

Nothing was raised for the next meeting, but should anything arise then request to have the issue on the agenda will be sent to the Clerk.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 6.30 p.m. The location and format of the meeting will be agreed nearer the time, depending on Covid-19 restrictions in place.

Minutes Authorised By: …….. (Chairperson)

Minutes Seconded By: …….(Councillor)