Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 7:00pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Davies; Gillson, McGee and Rees
In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; M. Ireland, outgoing Clerk; 5 residents

1. **Public Forum:** None

2. **Apologies:** No apologies received. It was noted Simon Grundy was unable to attend but will attend the June meeting.

3. **Declarations of Interest**: None received.

4. **Minutes of 11th April 2023**: Cllr McGee proposed, with Cllr Gillson seconding, the approval of the draft minutes of 11th April. All concurring, it was **resolved** to accept the minutes as a true record.

5. **Matters Arising**: ***(i) Planning Application 23/0086/FUL, The Barns, The Granary, Blakeston Lane.*** – it was noted the plan was on hold due to Nutrient Neutrality issues.
   Cllr Davies advised plans for soft landscaping in relation to Solar Farm, noting this was not for consultation as is a change in condition.
   The outgoing Clerk advised other Parishes had included 'change in conditions' within Parish Charters, It was agreed the Parish Council may consider the same if needed in the future

6. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson advised the White Posts had been straightened around the Village. **Action** – Clerk to follow up invoicing.

   The clerk advised he had chased all actions currently with Stockton Borough Council but had only received feedback regarding the Bus Shelter, which the Council would seek to investigate in 10 working days. The clerk advised a resident had agreed to purchase the crocus bulbs as approved by the Parish Council (to be reimbursed). The Clerk will chase any outstanding action fortnightly, before and after each Parish meeting.
   Post Meeting note: the uneven footpath at St James has since been marked up, presumably by the Council for repairs.

   A resident had advised the Council bungalow boundary walls at North Close were crumbling and in poor repair. It was advised the resident needed to raise the issue directly with Stockton Borough Council.

   It was noted a resident had raised parking issues at hell hole. This had been raised previously with Stockton Borough Council who had decided not to act. It was noted this was not Parish Council land and therefore the Parish Council could not take any action.

7. **Personnel Committee Report:** The election outcome was noted, and Cllrs congratulated on their appointment. The 2 vacant Councillor positions were discussed, and it was **agreed** for the Clerk to seek to expedite appointment processes with Stockton Borough Council.

M Ireland was warmly thanked by all for her activity as Parish Clerk and all wished her a happy retirement

8. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr McGee reported that:
   - The Scarecrow Trail had received many positive comments, with suggestions it could be an annual event, possibly ending with a Summer Fete, possibly with road closures outside the Parish Hall. Action Cllr McGee and SAC to consider further and report back.
   - The Street Party attracted more attendees than was expected and despite a heavy rain shower had been very successful. Positive feedback was received from Longlast home with residents stating they had felt included and part of the village. Cllr Rees noted the elderly were generally not represented and asked whether all was being done to be fully inclusive. It was agreed that the event had been well publicised but efforts would be taken to continue to reach out to as many residents as possible for all events. **Action** – Cllr McGee to raise through SAC

   It was noted 'CashCow' was to be held in the Parish Hall on Thursday as a Parish Hall activity.

9. **Financial Reports –** the Clerk presented the statement of Financial Transactions and the Actual against Budget Report, which were **approved**.

Receipts	**£**		**Payments**	**£**
SAC - Easter Eggs		42.00	SAC – Easter Egss	42.00
			Clerk Expenses (laptop repair and stationary)	181.14
			CLCA Membership	213.75
			SAC – Coronation Expenses	41.23
			Grindon Parish Hall room hire	63.75
			Zurich Municipal Insurance	401.17
TOTAL		**42.00**	**TOTAL**	**946.04**

10. **Training Opportunities:** The Clerk provided a schedule of training available for Parish Councillors and staff.
    Cllr Davies would like to attend the Chairmanship Training if available.
    Cllr McGee will attend the New Councillor Training
    Clerk will attend training as required for the role – including CiLCA

11. **Ward Councillor's Report:** None received. **Agreed** for Clerk to write to the 2 ward councillors and invite their attendance and reports to future meetings.

12. **Correspondence:** The Clerk provided a schedule of main correspondence. In reviewing the correspondence, it was **agreed** for the Clerk to assess the proposal for defibrillator signs and obtain quotes for next meeting.

13. **Planning:**

    23/0575/COU – Thorp Leazes Farm House, proposed change of use of current farmhouse from Residential to Offices. **Support**

    Byers Gill Solar – it was noted some residents received direct notification of this development and others had not. The Parish Council had also received direct notification from the developer.
    Agreed – defer to next meeting to enable Parish Councillors to assess information and attend consultation events as available. Clerk to scan all info and send to Councillors.

14. **Items of Concern to Councillors:**
    - Concerns raised about unavailability of Simon Grundy till next meeting. **Agreed** for clerk to take photos of the area a few days before next meeting and send to Simon Grundy for information.
    - Cllr McGee advised a resident had raised on issue re a footpath off Henley Drive and a number of anti-social activities over a period of time. **Action** – Cllr McGee to invite the resident to next months meeting to enable full discussion.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** 6.30pm Tuesday 13th June 2023 at Grindon Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:
Date: