Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Gillson; (Chair); Hamblett; Hogg, McGee, Moffat and Rees
In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; 6 residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   Residents raised issues with the proposals for the local bus service. Concern was also expressed that residents not on Facebook would not have been aware if other residents had not advised them. Residents advised the X12 passes the end of the village but does not currently go through the village; but could perhaps be an option to have this stop at the village.
   Resolved for the Clerk to email Arriva as link to consultation is now closed and write expressing residents (and Parish Council concerns); and to write to Chris McDonald, Stockton North MP and Cllr Gardner (SBC).

   A resident referenced his prior concern regarding skips and ensuring companies were registered waste carriers, particularly with recent news regarding flytipping. **Resolved** for clerk to follow up and request a list of registered waste providers from SBC.

   A resident raised an issue regarding lorry tracks and speed of lorry traffic.
   Cllr McGee advised she was still liaising with Speedwatch and hoped for campaign to start soon. **Resolved** for clerk to write to Solar Farm asking for care, reduced speed and wheel wash.

   A resident had advised they had reported racist Graffiti on the village sign twice but it has still not been removed. **Resolved** for clerk to report again.

   A resident advised they had reported fly tipping near the beck which has been mostly removed but also had reported other flytipping.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** no updates provided, Cllr Gardner absent.

3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Davies.

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

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 11th October 2025*** were proposed by Cllr Gillson and seconded by Cllr McGee. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**: None outside of the issues log.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson advised new planters had not yet been purchased; planters would be replanted; and a quote for a new tree for the village green is pending. **Resolved** for clerk to ask for the drain at entrance to Vane Arms to be cleared to prevent flooding.

8. **Personnel Committee Report:** Nothing to report.

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson advised 58 tickets sold for the 'round the world wine night' on 21st November, 4 have since been 'refunded'. Christmas Fayre is Saturday 15th November 2025.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted.

The new hire charges for the parish hall were noted.

Financial Transactions 7 October – 3 November 2025

Receipts:

	£
VAT reimbursement	£565.10
Oktoberfest raffle proceeds	£207.40
November wine night – 58 tickets sold	£870.00
November wine night – sale of wine to speakers	£67.00
TOTAL	**£1,709.50**

Payments:

Bank Charges October	£6.00
Grindon Parish Hall Hire – Sept & Oct 2025	£125.00
Reimburse clerk – print subscription	£4.49
Grindon Parish Hall – remainder of donation approved	£470.12
TOTAL	**£605.61**

11. **Training Opportunities:** No new opportunities had been identified.

12. **Planning:**

- 25/2128/FUL New House Middlefield Farm Durham Road. Erection of annexe extension to the rear and single storey extension and porch canopy to the front. Application of render to existing dwelling and alterations to existing windows / doors (demolition of existing porch and detached garage). **Resolved - no comment**

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The issues log was reviewed and noted.
    - **Christmas lights**. Approved to purchase some solar lights and request SBC to put up if they can.
    - **A177 / Wynyard Road junction.** SBC advise they are due to receive the first draft proposals on November 26th for an initial review and will therefore be in a better position to provide a full update either late this year or early in the New Year.
    - **Replacement tree on Village Green**. Replacement tree to be planted.
    - **Play Park.** Pending SBC scrutiny outcomes the clerk to request future attendance at the Parish Council to discuss proposals and options.
    - **Solar farms**. Cllr Rees asked to revisit his paper on solar farms in the wider local area impacting Stockton Council, Darlington and Sedgefield / Durham Councils. The former rural area is now quite disrupted by Solar Farms and new developments. Cllr Rees asked whether linking with other local councils to obtain an overall 'drone' view of the area would be worthwhile. **Resolved** for clerk to contact other local clerks to ask if they would be interested in joint funding some drone footage. Cllr Rees undertook to speak with Alan McPhail re drone survey scope & costs?
    - The closed footpath to Whitton to be added to the issues log

14. **Communications** None.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 9th December 2025 at Grindon Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:00 pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By: