Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th October 2025 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Davies (Chair); Gillson and McGee
In Attendance: Matt Storey (Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner; 2 community police officers; Cllr Gardner (SBC); C. Chapman, Clerk; 3 residents

1. **Public Forum:**

Chair welcomed Matt Storey (Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner).
Matt outlined his 'shape your safety' programme, where he is visiting every ward and local council / rural community as part of his community engagement. Matt was elected May 2024 (for 4 years) and outlined his background and role of PCC (being public voice to Cleveland Police and to hold the force to account). Funding had been obtained for additional neighbourhood policing – every ward will have own named PCSO. Matt also outlined key issues including victim support which is poorly funded versus other forces.
Matt asked residents to look at his website where they can choose an option regarding funding and Council Tax increases they preferred.
Matt advised reporting crimes was important as they are mapped and may subsequently be identified as a 'hot spot'. Crimes can be reported through the COPA App; call 101 for non-urgent and 999 for urgent issues; or use Crime Stoppers which is completely anonymous. Matt concluded by outlining how to raise complaints, which are handled independently and received a 98% satisfaction score with how they are handled.

Cllr Davies advised anti-social behaviour (off road bikes) and speeding have been the issues raised previously. Matt advised off road bikes was an issue across the force and advised drone use was being extended to track offenders and a rural crime team was operational.

A resident asked about relative roles between the Council and Police regarding speeding and outlined our two hotspots of Durham Road and A177 just outside the village. Matt advised accident history and fatalities were considered but would look at the site and report back.
Matt advised they were considering more static speed cameras to try and mitigate speeding but also signposted us to community speedwatch.

Cllr Davies thanked Matt for his attendance, and he left the meeting.

Rachel Shepherd and Liz Woods outlined their role as rural crime officers / community police and their focus upon ASB, community meetings and schools. Work is informed by intelligence so they can best focus activities. It was noted the community police would seek to attend the parish council regularly.

Cllr Davies thanked them for their attendance, and they left the meeting

Cllr Gardner advised about the play park and plans for closure and advised he would investigate the proposals. Cllr Davies advised nothing had been done regarding the Astral Park amenity space.
Cllr Gardner asked if the clerk would share recent exchange regarding Henley Drive with him.

Cllr Gardner left the meeting.

A resident advised footpath number 4, Hell Hole to level crossing, was going to be open this week but has been deferred. **Resolved** for the clerk to ask for an update

2. **Ward Councillors report:** updates provided above
3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hamblett; Hogg; Moffat and Rees.

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

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 9th September 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**:
   i) .gov.uk website. Paper from clerk was noted and it was **approved** to proceed as outlined

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Gift was purchased for resident who maintained the planters. The planters for Henley Drive will be progressed. The Env Agency viewed the flytipping at the beck and viewed it as being the responsibility of the landowner to remove. Graffiti on the village sign was noted and has been reported.

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

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson advised Oktoberfesr was well received, 49 attendees. Next event is 'round the world wine night (61 tickets sold). Halloween event not yet arranged.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted.
    Cllr McGee had advised she had sent forms off to be an approved bank signatory.

Financial Transactions 1 September – 7 October 2025

Receipts:	**£**
Oktoberfest ticket sales	£735.00
TOTAL	**£735.00**

Payments:

Reimburse J Hogg – Food Hygiene course	£24.00
Grindon Parish Hall Rent - August	£37.50
Clerk Salary – July to Sept 2025	£560.80
HMRC PAYE July to Sept 2025	£374.00
Re-imburse B Gillson – gift for resident re planter maintenance	£38.50
Re-imburse clerk – Oktoberfest raffle prizes	£36.49
Arborcut – remove diseased tree from village green	£936.00
Reimburse clerk – print subscription charges	£6.27
Reimburse J Gillson – November wine night purchases	£279.98
Reimburse N Settle – Oktoberfest expenses	£72.78
Reimburse J Hogg – Oktoberfest expenses	£31.13
Bank Charges - September	£6.00
Reimburse C Walker – Food Hygiene Course	£24.00
Reimburse P Walker – Oktoberfest beer	£572,82
TOTAL	**£2,995.28**

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

12. **Planning:**
    - **25/1938/FUL** erection of 156 dwellings east of Buckthorn crescent, Blakeston Road. **Support**, subject to road being improved and traffic calming. The new developments at Redmarshall and Stockton were noted which will have a cumulative impact on road infrastructure already under pressure.
    - **3 Henley Drive,** application for tree felling. **Query** whether these are protected and position relating to Homes by Carlton issues and need to reinstate the hedgerow

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The issues log was reviewed and noted.
    - **Christmas lights**. Switch on to be 1st Dec Clerk to link to SBC re viability of new lights at chosen site
    - **Replacement tree on Village Green**. **Resolved** for clerk to present options for next meeting.
    - **Solar farms**. Cllr Rees paper was noted. Consultation on existing farms happened years previously and can't be revisited. However, should further solar farms be proposed then the proposals from Cllr Rees should be considered as part of our consultation response. It was noted the national drive for both Solar Farms and Housing Developments may impact the local area further.

14. **Communications** None.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 11th November 2025 at Grindon Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:10 pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:

Date