Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Gillson (Chair); Hamblett; Hogg, McGee and Moffatt
In Attendance: Michael Naylor (SBC Waste & Recycling Officer); 2 community police officers; C. Chapman, Clerk; 3 residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   Michael Naylor (SBC Waste & Recycling Officer) outlined changes to waste / recycling processes, due to legislation changes regarding waste segregation.
   Main change is the dry recycling (white bag) will be split into a white bag for cardboard / paper and a blue bag for cans, cartons and plastic. Batteries can be put in the glass box within a separate bag. New food waste caddies (internal and external with bags) will be introduced. Food waste will go to anaerobic digestion, creating energy and fertiliser. Recycling will be weekly and household waste every 2 weeks.
   Small electricals and textiles will also be collected at kerbside.
   Garden waste will remain unchanged other than slightly extended weeks of collection.
   - A resident asked if recycling will be collected from Farms. Michael responded "Yes it will be from April" and asked for resident to provide address so he can raise directly.
   - A resident asked if the bin operatives were on board with proposals, confirmed Yes.
   - Cllr Moffat asked if garden waste would still be collected to late Autumn for leaves, confirmed collection ends in early November. Michael will speak to operations about collecting large bags of leaves.
   - Clerk asked about those who maybe don't recycle and their bin is overfull every week; Michael advised the Council is looking to help provide support and advice over the initial period and was conscious that space is premium for some households.

   Community Police advised latest statistics. No issues of community awareness, off road vehicles are a general issue in the region and they are aware of speeding in the village. Road Harm statistics used to help inform where to locate speed vans and activities. Could organise a community speedwatch campaign with Councillors and residents, warning letters then sent to the drivers. Cllr McGee advised she had been liaising with the lady leading speedwatch. The officer in attendance offered to chase the officer (will leave contact info).
   Cleveland Connected App was outlined as a way of sharing alerts (not crime reporting).
   The officers asked if there were any other issues / concerns; Parking was raised but noted it is not a policing issue. Officers were thanked and left the meeting.

   A resident asked if there was any update on A177 or litter bin. The clerk advised no update as yet on A177 but will keep following this up. The litter bin has been approved and is expected imminently.

   A resident advised dumping at the beck was occurring again; they contacted the Env Agency who advised there was little they would do unless creates a flood risk. **Resolved** for clerk to also contact Env Agency.

   The letter from a resident regarding parking on Durham Road was noted and it was **resolved** for the clerk to respond to the resident.

   A letter from a resident regarding felled trees was noted and it was **resolved** for the clerk to respond to the resident.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** None provided as Cllr Gardner not in attendance.

3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Davies and Rees. Cllr Gardner (SBC) apologies received and noted.

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

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 8th July 2025*** were proposed by Cllr Gillson and seconded by Cllr Hamblett. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**: None not covered by issues log and other items.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllrs were appreciative of the planting and maintenance, as were residents in attendance. It was **agreed** for Cllr Gillson to purchase a thankyou gift for the residents responsible.

   A resident asked if rectangular planters could be purchased for Henley Drive and offered to maintain these. It was **approved** to purchase two planters for Henley Drive.

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

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson advised the race night was cancelled due to insufficient numbers but may be done in new year. Oktoberfest has sold 47 tickets and decision to be taken on whether to proceed at next Social Committee.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted with new costs of Hall Hire in August (£37.50) and Food Hygiene certificate for J Hogg (£24). The need to move to a gov.uk website was noted and it was **agreed** for the clerk to present a short report on options for the next meeting.
    The clerk asked Councillors to consider use of funds (especially as an earmarked sum no longer needed), clerk suggested maybe some sheep for the village (as Sadberge) or other animals, more planters. A resident asked if they could suggest items which was warmly welcomed.
    It was noted the multi-tier planters in Sedgefield were no longer on display and the clerk was asked to see if these were available.

Financial Transactions 1 July -31 August 2025

Receipts: **£**

TOTAL	**£NIL**

Payments:

Reimburse J Gillson – wine night	435.15
Reimburse B Gillson – food safety course	24.00
Grindon Parish Hall rent June	103.75
Brother print subscription	10.68
Wine Glasses for Social events – donated to the Hall	105.00
Donation Box (donated to the Hall)	14.99
L0r Barista coffee machine and coffee (donated to the Hall)	124.99
Race Night payment	295.00
Bank Charges July	6.00
Grindon Parish Hall rent July	53.75
Reimburse Clerk for Microsoft Licences	84.99
Reimburse clerk for storage boxes for glasses (donated to the Hall)	84.90
Bank Charges - August	6.00
TOTAL	**£1,349.20**

11. **Training Opportunities:** The clerk referred to his email providing the schedule of training available.

12. **Planning:**
    - **Durham CC amendment to article 4 Direction** – resolved not to comment.
    - **Tree on village green** – noted and pending decision
    - **25/1148/COU Howden House –** resolved to support subject to access considerations.

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The issues log was reviewed and noted.
    - Gate under A177 underpass – the update from SBC was noted and viewed as completely unsatisfactory. **Resolved** for clerk to submit a formal complaint
    - Durham Road Hedgerow at Henley Drive. The lack of any response from SBC was viewed as unsatisfactory. **Resolved** for clerk to submit a formal complaint and an FoI request for info along with photos of the site.
    - Cyclists on Wynyard Road. **Resolved** for the clerk to update the resident.

14. **Communications** Seek resident ideas on how to beautify the village; share recycling info. Start to compile a "who to contact" list for future communications.

15. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 14th October 2025 at Grindon Parish Hall. Matt Storey, Police Commissioner in attendance.

Meeting closed at 8:11 pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:

Date