Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Maureen Milburn. 7 Marion Avenue Eaglescliffe Stockton-on-Tees, TS16 0LJ
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 6.30 pm. Due to the measures in place to restrict the spread of Covid 19 the meeting was conducted remotely using 'Zoom'.

Present: Cllrs Davies (Chair), Paul John, Michael Lowson, Gareth Rees, and Lynne Williams
Maureen Milburn (Parish Clerk)

45/20 Apologies for absence. None were received

46/20 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. No Declarations of interest were received.

47/20 Minutes – The minutes of the previous meeting held on **Tuesday 13th October 2020** and conducted remotely using Zoom, were **agreed** as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr John and seconded by Cllr Rees.

48/20 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Item 33/20 and Item 41/20 c) Cllr Wiliam's informed the meeting that she had sought advice from a friend who is a lawyer at a large local authority and they believe that the information received by the Clerk from Stockton BC, NALC and the SLCC about the six-month ruling of absent Councillors to have been misinterpreted. Cllr Williams requested that, moving forward, clarification be sought and that she be copied into the emails. **Noted.**

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49/20 To consider and authorise the payment of accounts.

a) The following payments were **agreed**:

Cheque no 000041	Mrs M Milburn	Salary - £190.20 Expenses - £10.00	£200.20
Cheque no 000042	HMRC	Outstanding PAYE/Tax/NI	£13.60
Cheque no 000043	Stockton BC Invoice no 622352	Installation of a bench	£930.40

b) To receive the external audit report 2019/2020 The External Audit was received and **approved**. The comments in Section 3 of the report AGAR were discussed and **noted**.

50/20 Correspondence. The correspondence list for October 2020 to November 2020 was **noted.**

51/20 Cowley Farm. Richard Turner of Lightsource BP sent his apologies for the meeting. Discussions took place and Councillors will collate a list of questions and forward them to Mr. Turner. **Deferred.**

52/20 Councillors report-

a) Cllr Rees raised concerns about a missing stile on the approach from footpath to the A177 and brickwork that had been damaged on the bridge. All items were discussed. The Clerk to follow this up. **Agreed**

Signature_____**Date:**_____

b) The reinstatement of the Crocus bed at the entrance of St James Close/Astral Park – **Deferred**
c) Cllr Williams raised a concern on the visibility of the access road from Astral Park when turning right. This was discussed and it was **agreed** it should be referred to the site manager of the development.
d) Cllr John gave an update on the Parish Hall refurbishment project. The hall is now completed apart from a few minor jobs and should re-open in January, subject to Covid19 restrictions. **Noted**
e) Cllr Williams will source costs associated with a new notice board for the Parish Hall and report to the next meeting. **Deferred.**

53/20 Clerks Report - The Clerk informed the meeting that:
She had been unable to upgrade the Zoom package from basic to pro due to the lack of the Parish Councils' ownership of a credit or debit car. It was **agreed** that Cllr Davies will pay for the upgrade and claim it back.
The Bench removed for repair by Stockton Borough Council has been assessed as repairable and will be reinstated but Stockton BC were unable to give a specific date when this would occur due to Covid19 restriction. **Noted.**
54/20 Public Discussion – There were no members of the public present
55/20 Planning – There were no issues raised on the planning application presented to the meeting
56/20 Consultation- The committee on standards in public life consultation was **noted.**
57/20 Website Accessibility and Compliance – The draft website accessibility statement was **agreed**. The Clerk is to post this on to the website.
58/20 The progress of internet/online banking. This was discussed and **deferred**.
59/20 The arrangements for vacancies of Parish Councillor was discussed. Once acknowledgement from Stockton BC that no election will be called has been received, Councillors will look to co-opt a Councillor. **Noted**
60/20 The arrangements for vacancies of a Parish Clerk was discussed. As no suitable candidate has been identified the post will remain vacant. The Clerk will produce the minutes from this meeting and action the urgent items identified from the meeting before leaving at the end of the week.
61/20 Items for information. No items for information and consideration for the next agenda were received.
The next meeting is due to take place on Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 6.30PM. The location and format of the meeting will be agreed nearer to the time depending upon the Covid 19 measures in place.
There being no further business the meeting closed as 20.34pm

Signature_____**Date:**_____

Signature_____**Date:**_____