Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Gillson (Chair); Hamblett; McGee; Moffat and Rees
In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; Cllr John Gardner (SBC); 5 residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   Cllr Gillson reviewed the current issue log, which was noted with the following additional points.
   - Cllr Gardner confirmed the chicane is approved and will be installed Oct/Nov
   - Cllr McGee advised Community Speedwatch on Durham Road is to be undertaken. Dates to be confirmed. A resident also offered to provide support. Cllr Rees also advised Community Speedwatch is on the rural crime forum agenda, which he intends to attend.
   - H-lines: the clerk will seek to send more photos showing need for these.
   - Gate under A177 underpass. It was thought a motorcycle gate would provide a better solution. It was **resolved** for the clerk to suggest this as a potential solution.
   - Planters: Cllr Gillson advised a resident had offered to look after the 4 multi-tier planters. It was **resolved** for the clerk to post locally seeking volunteers to look after the other planters.
   - Durham Road land for sale; it was noted the 'for sale' sign has now been removed

   Resolved for the clerk to chase progress. Cllr Gardner asked to be copied in so he can also chase progress.

   Cllr Rees raised on issue about the A177 grass on central reservation which is starting to obstruct visibility for cars at junction; **resolved** for the clerk to ask for grass cutting around the junction to improve sight lines

   Cllr Rees – advised there was a lot of flytipping at Hell Hole lane on farm land. Cllr Gardner advised unfortunately it is farmers responsibility as on private land.

   A resident raised tipping in the beck near the bridge; it was noted this fell under the Environment Agency. It was **resolved** for the clerk to contact Env Agency; the resident will also contact Env Agency

   A query was raised about the ownership of land near the flood basin at Henley Drive as tree planting would improve the area and act as a noise barrier from the A177. The clerk advised that there are often grants to support tree planting if the owner is amenable.

   Cllr Gardner and residents left the meeting
   7:00pm The meeting was suspended, and the Annual Parish Council meeting was held.
   7:25pm the meeting re-commenced

2. **Ward Councillors report:** Updates were provided by Cllr Gardner under the public forum item.

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

4. **Declarations of Interest**: No declarations of interest were received.

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 8th April 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**: **i) Planters Maintenance:** covered within the Public Forum item**.**

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson advised there were no additional items outside those reported under the Public Forum item. It was noted the clerk had sought quotes for the maintenance of planters and for bulb planting, it is hoped more local volunteers may agree to maintain planters.

8. **Personnel Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson noted the actions following agreement to seek co-option would fall upon this Committee.

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson provide an update. The good turnout to VE day events was noted. The English Wine night is fully sold out. Future events include the Race Night and a potential Oktoberfest style event. A programme of events to the end of the year is in hand.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted.
The clerk advised the precept had been received along with a large VAT claim for last year. Income and payments in relation to social events were recorded.
An invoice was received for Hall Hire in April of £116.25 and £300 was due following agreement to the insurance renewal. This items will be paid and reported next month.

Financial Transactions 1 April – 6 May 2025

Receipts:

	£
Precept	10,879.00
VAT Claim – Oct 24-Mar 25	1,711.98
Easter Egg Hunt ticket sales	95.00
English Wine Night Tickets Sales	990.00
TOTAL	**13,675.98**

Payments:

Bank Service charge (April)	6.00
Hall Hire Fees Feb & March	160.00
Pie and Peas (reimburse clerk)	260.00
Bingo prizes (reimburse N Settle)	118.20
Premier Race Night deposit	100.00
Printer paper (reimburse clerk)	11.50
Easter Egg prizes (reimburse N Settle)	39.98
Laminator pouches for easter Egg hunt (reimburse N Settle)	9.95
TOTAL	**705.63**

11. **Training Opportunities:** The schedule of training opportunities was noted. It was noted that any co-opted Councillor may require training which was available.

12. **Planning:** No additional planning application was received. It was noted SBC were investigating a potential breach of planning control in relation to the Hedgerow at Durham Road alongside the Henley Drive development.

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** Nothing additional outside items discussed under the Public Forum item.

14. **Communications** It was **agreed** for the clerk to post about Co-option of a Councillor for a period; and to post seeking volunteers for planter maintenance.

15. Any Other Business
    i) The clerk advised Grindon Parish Hall Trustees had reviewed fire safety at the hall and put Fire Evacuation Plans in each of the 3 rooms. Trustees were asking if the Parish Council (and other group leads) could review Fire Evacuation Plans and refresh themselves on fire routes and location of extinguishers. Cllr McGee suggested fire evacuation processes should be advised at next wine night.
    ii) The clerk advised the Hall Trustees AGM was to be held on Tuesday 1st July at 6:30pm. Councillors were invited and asked to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements. The Hall Annual Report was circulated. Cllr McGee advised the Youth Club was a great success. The

clerk advised funding had also been provided to hold a regular warm space/ community space event and school holiday activity, which would be put to the Social Committee for discussion. Cllr McGee suggested the Coffee Morning may appreciate use of items proposed for use at the warm space/ community space sessions eg chess, draughts, cards, dominoes

16. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 10th June 2025 at Grindon Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:00pm

Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By: