Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

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April 2026

The next meeting of Grindon & Thorpe Thewles Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 14th April 2026 at Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

1. **Public Forum –** Members of the public are invited to give their views and question the Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future discussion.
2. **Ward Councillor's Update** – to receive.
3. **Apologies for absence –** to note apologies and the reason and decide whether to accept.
4. **Declarations of Interest** – to declare any personal or prejudicial interests and their nature.
5. **Minutes –** to consider the approval of the Parish Meeting held on ***Tuesday 10th March 2026***.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting, not covered by issues log**.
   (i) Solar Farm funding: Clerk is contacting solar farm provider direct regarding signed deed
7. **Maintenance Committee update** – to receive.
8. **Personnel Committee update** – to receive.
9. **Social Activities Committee update** – to receive.
10. **Finance:** to receive Financial Reports & draft AGAR 2025/26
11. **Training:** no additional training courses notified
12. **Planning:**

- Durham Council: consultation on interim Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) policy
- SBC: proposal to require planning consent for change from 'dwelling house' to HMO
- 26/0632/VARY Section 73 application to vary condition No.2 (approved plans) of planning approval 23/1945/FUL - Siting of a battery storage facility, underground cable connection, ancillary equipment, fencing and associated landscaping and upgrade to existing access point. Battery Energy Storage System, Letch Lane, Carlton
- 26/0635/VARY Section 73 application to vary conditions no2 (Approved Plans), no12 (Flood Risk Assessment), no13 (Construction, Decommissioning and Manage) and no18 (Cessation of Use) of planning approval 20/2692/FUL - Installation of a ground mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation system (Solar Farm), co located battery storage, 132kV substation, associated equipment and infrastructure Land North West Of High Middlefield Farm, Durham Road, Thorpe Thewles

Any applications received after the agenda has been circulated will be tabled at the meeting.

13. **Items of concern to Councillors** – including Issues Log (Issue Log items below)
14. **Communications** - to agree any communications to be issued.
15. **Date of the next meeting** – the Annual Meeting (Governance Meeting) and Ordinary Meeting are both proposed to be held on Tuesday 12th May 2026 commencing at 6:30pm.

Issues Log items

The issues log captures items received in prior meetings until their conclusion. Current issues are:

1. **Astral Park**: Amenity Space; SBC planners have provided an update; to escalate?
2. **Chicane to address speeding cars**: Astral Park; work complete - CLOSED
3. **Speed Watch;** speed monitoring along Durham Road being scheduled
4. **Christmas Lights:** quote chased
5. **Durham Road Hedgerow @ Henley Drive** – SBC planners have provided an update

6. **A177 / Wynyard Road junction and recent accidents:** SBC highways confirm work imminent
7. **Request to reinstate speed signs on road on Durham Road (Henley Drive end);** SBC confirm road painting on forward plan when funding allows. SBC confirm no funding for traffic calming, as not an identified accident spot; however further speed monitoring will take place
8. **Closed path to Whitton –** SBC advise path closure extended till August 2026 and landowners chased for action
9. **Stillington Doctors –** no response to letter sent to Practice Manager
10. **Planter Maintenance –** no quotes received for regular maintenance
11. **Revised SBC contact list –** Requested Cllr Gardner to provide an updated contact list
12. **Mud on Road @ Solar Farm** – Cllr Davies has raised with SBC to seek regular cleaning
13. **Wynyard Park pots and pans sculpture**. Requested Cllr Gardner to support repairs and improve access
14. **St James Church** – noted Annual Parochial meeting is 12 April at St James Church; CLOSED
15. **Path adjacent to church** – SBC highways assessing use of road plainings for the path
16. **Road cleaning at north end of village** – SBC contacted to request regular cleaning
17. **S106 / CIL funding**: SBC advise no further outstanding funding; CLOSED
18. **Signed deed with Solar Farm**: Solar Farm been contacted direct regarding signed deed