Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Gillson (Chair); McGee and Moffatt
In Attendance: Cllr Gardner (SBC); C Chapman (Clerk); 1 resident

1. **Public Forum:** A resident advised their issues had been discussed previously and were on the issues log

2. **Ward Councillors report / items:** Cllr Gardner provided an update on the A177 junction and draft report to Stockton Council's Committee. Cllr Gardner had requested the report be amended to suggest the road be changed to single carriageway, which fellow SBC Councillor's supported. The clerk advised the report did not fully include proposals for road markings which the council officer had included in their email and suggested that speed cameras/enforcement be requested to amend behaviours. It was resolved for the clerk to request the report be amended as outlined.

   The speed survey results for Durham Road were noted along with high incidence of speeding. It was resolved for the clerk to write to SBC requesting speed cushions/traffic calming measures be installed. Cllr Gardner suggested including statement to acknowledge no deaths/serious accidents but that could only be a matter of time due to the volume of speeding traffic.

   Cllr Gardner asked if the parish council had responded to the survey regarding the ward budget. The clerk advised he hadn't but would do so after Cllr Gardner explained the reason.

3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Davies, Hamblett, Hogg and Rees.

4. **Declarations of Interest**: The clerk and Cllr Gillson advised of a conflict with the donation request due to their role as Trustees of the parish hall.

5. **Minutes of** the Annual Parish Council meeting and the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on ***Tuesday 12h May 2026*** were proposed by Cllr McGee and seconded by Cllr Moffatt. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**:
   I. AGM 30th June 2026. Trustees will provide the hall without charge. Cllr Gillson was requested to provide wine and cheese for the AGM, for which we have a budget. Unopened wine would be held for other social events / raffle prizes.
   II. Speed watch results (covered in Ward Councillor update)

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson advised 2 new multi-tier planters now planted, along with planters outside Hamilton Court (relocated from Astral Drive) and church; those at Henley Drive also been planted again. Clerk advised the bird boxes have been located on trees at the village green. It was noted the posts on village green need straightening, clerk to progress.

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

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** A full programme of events are scheduled.
   - 26th June; Presenters choice wine night
   - 19th July: Pop Choir and Afternoon Tea / Prosecco; Raffle
   - 25th September: ThorpeFest; Beer Festival

- 16th October: Music & Quiz Night.
- Halloween: no specific event but will encourage villagers to make the village the 'spookiest'
- 14th November: Christmas Fayre.
- 20th November: Wine Night. Cruise around the world.
- **NEW: 9th Dec Christmas Choir 7-10pm.**
- 19th Dec: Santa Day
- 15th January: Music Bingo and Pie and Peas

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted. The Donation request of £800 for the parish hall (charity) was approved. The details of achievements and future plans were noted. The need for the roof to be replaced imminently and plans to seek grant funding due to high costs was also noted. It was suggested the parish council may offer support if they receive additional funding.

Financial Transactions 5 May – 31 May 2026

Receipts: **£**

Total	**£NIL**

Payments:

Bank Service Charge – April	£7.00
Brother Print Subscription	£7.16
Reimburse P Walker – Wine for June social event	£129.50
Reimburse P Plendeleith – Wine for June social event	£81.00
Zurich – Insurance Premium	£300.00
North-East Traffic Data Collection – speed survey	£174.00
Wynyard Tree Services – install bird boxes	£46.68
TOTAL	**£745.34**

11. **Training Opportunities:** No new training opportunities have been received.

12. **Planning:**
- **226/0866/X** - Application to fell dead trees and remove branches on other trees at White House Plantation, Blakeston Lane. Noted – no comment.
- **East Coat Hydrogen Pipeline** – pre planning stage (planning application expected Feb 2028), Noted that proposals do not impact the parish or surrounding area

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The issues log was reviewed and noted.
1. **Astral Park**: Amenity Space; the response from SBC planners was noted with disappointment with their engagement, and state of the field. They advise they are just awaiting Mandale Homes to remove fencing once grass becomes established and then all works are complete. It was resolved for the clerk to contact Northumbrian Water regarding future maintenance.
2. **Christmas Lights:** quote chased; the clerk advised the SBC officer usually responds quickly so he has tried another contact in case the officer has since left.
3. **Durham Road Hedgerow @ Henley Drive** – SBC planners have advised they intend to visit in September to see if whips have taken. The clerk Has requested they visit now as the sight is overgrown.
4. **A177 / Wynyard Road junction and recent accidents:** To close following response to SBC.
5. **Request to reinstate speed signs on road on Durham Road (Henley Drive end);** To be included in request to SBC regarding speeding on Durhan Road. 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
6. **Closed path to Whitton –** SBC advise path closure extended till August 2026 and landowners chased for action
7. **Planter Maintenance –** it was noted that planters are being maintained. A resident advised the new tree had dead branches and offered to prune – Councillors thanked the resident and accepted the offer.

8. **Path adjacent to church** – the clerk advised SBC highways have advised use of road plainings for the path is not suitable and would look at other options but advised this may take some time! In interim it was approved for the clerk to investigate other options.
9. **Trees blocking signage at new chicane** C4A contacted to request they be cut back
10. **Playground, weeds covering equipment.** C4A were contacted and issue addressed the next day – with apologies as strimming and grass cutting seemed to have got out of sync

14. Communications. – It was agreed for the clerk to send reminders about the AGM as opportunity for residents to propose future investment / spending needs

15. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 6.30pm Tuesday 14th July 2026.

Meeting closed at 7:50 pm

Minutes Authorised By: **Minutes Seconded By:**