# Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

**Present:** Cllrs. Davies (Chair); Gillson; and Rees
**In Attendance:** C. Chapman, Clerk; 2 residents

1. **Public Forum:**
   Resident advised they had been unwell recently and had struggled to get a prescription (does not have online access) and hence took some time to arrange through post. Asked if there was a way for the doctors to provide some local service, prescriptions by phone (website says they do this for over 65s) and deliver prescriptions to home address. Cllr Rees also queried whether the doctor's surgery could use the hall as many residents find travel difficult. **Resolved** for clerk to query with Stillington Doctors, request if they could attend to clarify approach. Clerk to then issue local communications to clarify issues.

2. **Ward Councillors report:** Apologies were received from Cllr Gardner. Cllr Gardner had provided an update to advise the new chicane on exit of village past Astral Park was scheduled for 23 February 2026.

3. **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Hamblett; Hogg and Moffat. Absence was also noted for Cllr McGee.

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

5. **Minutes of** the Parish Council meeting held on ***Tuesday 9th December 2025*** were proposed by Cllr Gillson and seconded by Cllr Davies. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising**: Cllr Rees referred to prior proposal for use of drones or use of Google Earth images to show the extent of solar farms, noting Byers Gill Solar Farm will dwarf existing solar farms. **Agreed** for Cllr Gillson to ask local resident with drone business for advice.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Cllr Gillson advised new planters had been received and had been located.

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

9. **Social Activities Committee report:** Cllr Gillson advised next wine night is 30 January, all tickets sold and all wine already purchased. Race night and music night also planned. Noted a local resident was also holding a music night.

10. **Financial Reports.** The financial reports were noted. The budget was discussed along with potential investment proposals, some of which would utilize future s106 monies. Lighting in the underpass was identified as another potential investment area. It was **resolved** to increase the precept by 2%; to increase salt bin budget to £300 following recent quote for this year; to purchase 2 new multi-tier planters; to seek quotes for planting and maintenance of planters (Chair will ask Ben @ Vane Arms for details of their provider; Clerk to ask Wolviston / others about their provider). Clerk to reissue budget with amendments.

**Financial Transactions 3 December – 5 January 2026**

| **Receipts:** | **£** |
|---|---|
| Wine night sales | £915.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **£915.00** |

**Payments:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Grindon Parish Hall – November Hire | £175.00 |
| Paper for printer | £5.75 |
| Reimburse P Rycroft – January wine night | £109.90 |
| Reimburse C Chapman – January wine night | £72.00 |
| Reimburse J Gillson – January wine night | £344.16 |
| Reimburse R Armitage – January wine night | £101.25 |
| Reimburse P Hedges – January wine night | £68.50 |
| Reimburse J Armitage – plants for planters | £80.50 |
| Reimburse J Hogg – hamper for last wine night | £39.76 |
| Clerk salary Oct-Dec | £560.80 |
| HMRC PAYE – Oct – Dec | £374.00 |
| Reimburse clerk – Wine for January wine night raffle | £9.00 |
| Reimburse J Hogg – Solar Christmas Tree lights | £38.46 |
| Reimburse N Settle – Selection boxes for Santa Day | £30.00 |
| Reimburse J Gillson - planters | £100.00 |
| Bank service charge - December | £6.00 |
| Brother print subscription | £4.49 |
| NALC annual subscription | £218.47 |
| **TOTAL** | **£2,338.04** |

11. **Training Opportunities:** New opportunities have been circulated to Cllrs.

12. **Planning:** No new applications received.

13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:** The issues log was reviewed and noted.
    - **Astral Park Amenity space** – Cllrs expressed concern about time to undertake reinstatement, it was noted Mandale were on site recently. SBC planners have not responded to requests for updates.
    - **Chicane at Astral Park Resolved** installation planned 23 February 2026.
    - **Speedwatch** – no update provided.
    - **Christmas Tree Lights –** agreed to pick up from April.
    - **Durham Road Hedgerow @ Henley Park.** SBC planners have not responded to requests for updates.
    - **A177 / Wynyard road junction –** SBC highways assessing options. Clerk to ask for update and future meeting attendance
    - **Play Park. Agreed** the Parish Council cannot take ownership but will seek to replace items as needed.

    Cllr Gillson asked whether a SBC contact list could be sourced. **Resolved** for Clerk to ask Cllr Gardner

    Cllr Davies advised she had reported mud on road at solar farm, which was left in a very poor state at the Christmas break.

    Cllr Rees advised the Wynyard Park pots and pans sculpture is missing a fork and the trees need cutting back. There is no pathway to the sculpture or the new seating**. Resolved** for Clerk to raise with Cllr Gardner to ask if this could be improved.

14. **Communications**. Clerk to post information regarding Doctors once info received.

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

*Meeting closed at 7:45 pm*

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