

Grindon and Thorpe Thewles Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th February 2024 at 6:30pm in Grindon Parish Hall, Thorpe Thewles.

Present: Cllrs. Davies (Chair), Gillson, McGee, Moffatt and Rees

In Attendance: C. Chapman, Clerk; 1 Resident

1. **Public Forum:**

A resident asked for an update on the movement of soil at Carlton and advised diggers appeared to be crunching up concrete on site. Cllr Gardner will be advised of this. It was **resolved** for the clerk to link to the Carlton parish clerk on this matter.

A resident asked about the sign at village close and was advised we had requested Stockton Council to verify ownership/responsibility.

It was noted the Durham Road at site of the new gas pipes was covered in soil and not swept. It was **resolved** for the clerk to raise with Stockton Council.

The number of potholes in the village and along A177 was discussed and reported damage to cars noted. It was **resolved** for the clerk to raise with Stockton Council and ask for the process for remedy to be advised.

A resident asked if the Police would attend future meetings noting they used to attend to provide an update on crime and provide advice. It was **resolved** for the clerk to seek attendance from the Police.

2. **Ward Councillors Report**

Apologies were received from Cllr Gardner and Cllr Sewell.

3. **Apologies:** Cllr Hamblett had submitted his apologies which were accepted.

Apologies were also received from Cllr Gardner and Cllr Sewell.

4. **Declarations of Interest:** None

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

6. **Matters Arising: (i) Bank Contract**

The report was reviewed noting alternatives available. It was **resolved** for the clerk to progress discussions with Barclays bank and report back to the next meeting.

7. **Maintenance Committee Report: (i) Village Signs**

Options were reviewed. It was **resolved** for:

- a) Cllr Rees and Moffat to link to history group to assess if the village has a crest (one is in the Church); and to obtain potential suitable photos.
- b) The Maintenance Committee to draw up options.
- c) The Clerk to then use info to obtain pricing for a sign with text and a sign with pictures from the 2 providers identified.
- d) The clerk to link to Stockton Council for approval and installation costs.

8. **Personnel Committee Report:** No issues to report.
9. **Social Activities Committee report:** The success of the Italian Wine and Food night was discussed. It was noted future events include Easter; Pie Peas and Bingo (April) and another wine/food event in June. Communications will be issued as appropriate.
10. **Financial Reports** – the Clerk presented the statement of Financial Transactions and the Actual against Budget Report. The clerk advised as we approach year end the main variance is 'Donations', noting the £250 paid to the food bank from Choir event proceeds and £500 earmarked in the 2024/25 budget to provide match funding, if needed, for defibrillator costs (It is hoped external grants and other fund raising will help fund a defibrillator). It was noted the Parish Hall charity are investing further into the building and will ask the Parish Council to help provide a donation as match funding to help secure external grants for this investment.

The clerk advised of new charges for advertising in the Parish News. It was **resolved** that as these are not budgeted the clerk to advise that we are unable to pay these charges.

Financial Transactions 1 January 2024 to 31 January 2024

Receipts:

	£
TOTAL	NIL

Payments:

Food for Santa Party – N Settle	28.78
Food / drink for Choir Event – N Settle	17.00
Parish Hall bookings	73.50
Donation – The Salvation Army Food Bank	250.00
TOTAL	369.28

11. **Training Opportunities:** The available training circulated previously was noted.
12. **Planning:**
24/0031/CPE: Certificate of lawfulness Land at West of New Close Farm. Resolved clerk to advise the Parish Council comments as previously submitted still stand.
13. **Items of Concern to Councillors:**
The issues log was reviewed. It was noted the safety barrier at Henley Drive was now installed. It was **resolved** for the clerk to continue to seek progress with Stockton Council and specifically to raise the play park gate being left open with risks to children; to seek advice about the bike stands in anticipation of play park being re-opened; to raise the cracked in the bridge near Thorpe Paddocks with the bridges team. The clerk to source a salt bin for Henley Drive.
14. **Communications**
It was agreed for the clerk to issue communications to include seeking Stockton Council action on having the road swept at site of new gas pipes and addressing potholes. To advise we are seeking to install village signs and how residents can input into decision; and on plan to locate salt bin at Henley Drive to improve road safety.
Separate communications will be issued by the Social Committee regarding events.
15. **Date of Next Meeting:** 6.30pm Tuesday 12th March 2024 at Grindon Parish Hall.
Meeting closed at 8.00pm
Minutes Authorised By:
Minutes Seconded By:
Date: