

GRINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Grindon Parish Council, Minutes Created as PDF by VillageNotes.com

1122 Minutes – 13th February 2008

1. PRESENT

Mr D Godfrey (Chair), Mr W Allison, Mr J Atkinson Mr D Jones, Mr G Rees
In attendance: Mr R Cooper (Clerk); Mr S Lumb, PC J Ollett and 2 electors

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Ms S Robertson

3. POLICE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

PC J Ollett reported that there had been 3 crimes in the ward: 1 theft of motor vehicle; 1 assault; 1 theft of wheelie bin. He was requested to make contact with a Wynyard resident concerned about anti-social behaviour and agreed to do so.

3a. Presentation by Mr S Lumb (independent traffic consultant employed by Stockton BC). Mr Lumb reported on a traffic survey of the Wynd, Wynyard, which had been carried out west of The Coppice and west of Castlereagh for period of seven days. Average speeds recorded indicated that traffic calming would be beneficial and, after discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Richard McGuckin of SBC requesting that he liaise with Wynyard Estate Services re the installation of Speed Indication Devices.

Mr Lumb agreed to action a black box survey of Thorpe Thewles and to investigate the possibility of Grindon Lane being designated as a Quiet Lane.

4. INTERESTS TO DECLARE

5. MINUTES:

Mr J Atkinson proposed and Mr D Jones seconded that the minutes of the meeting of 9.1.2008 be approved and signed as a correct record. All in favour.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 Provision of dog bins for Wynyard. As the Clerk had been unable to progress this matter, the Chair agreed to approach WES direct.

8.2 Enquiry at Land Registry re Village Green, Thorpe Thewles: the Clerk presented the solicitor's draft letter for approval. It was proposed by Mr. W Allison and seconded by Mr J Atkinson that this letter be sent, if it proved impossible for this matter not to be dealt with informally. All in favour.

8.3 Risk assessment on financial activities: report from clerk. The Clerk undertook to bring a report to the next meeting.

8.4 SEIB grant for floral displays. Various planters had been sited in Thorpe Thewles, but in the absence of Cllr J Gardner there was nothing further to report. Mr D Jones was monitoring the situation, especially in St James's Close, where the siting was not ideal.

8.5 Thorpe Thewles village tidy-up: Procedure to seek replacement for Mr A Whitfield. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr D Bond to clarify whether Grindon PC could offer an honorarium for this work, without the complications of Employment legislation. It was agreed unanimously that, if this proved possible, the work be advertised as widely as appropriate by

the Clerk and that an honorarium of £400 pa be offered. As an alternative approach, Mr D Jones undertook to contact Cllr J Gardner to explore the possibility of this work being undertaken by SBC in conjunction with planned maintenance of the new planters.

8.6 Rural Bus Service: response from Arriva plc and Stockton BC. Letters from Arriva plc and SBC were read. Mr G Rees and Mr W Allison undertook to continue exploration of the provision of a new bus stop on the A177 near to Thorpe Thewles directly with Mr J Kavanagh.

8.7 CBS Construction: disturbance of verges in Wynyard due to building works. A letter from CSS Construction was read, indicating that damaged land would be re-instated at the end of the project.

8.8 A177: cutting back of hedge: an email from Stockton BC was read, indicating that it was hoped to undertake this work before the end of February.

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8.9 Grindon PC: Casual Vacancy. The Clerk reported that the vacancy had been advertised. If no-one responded by February 26, Grindon PC would be able to co-opt a new member.

7. PLANNING

7.1 The following planning decisions were noted:

7.1.1 07/2999/FUL Conversion of bungalow to dwellinghouse at Quarry House, The Transport Depot, Blakeston Lane. Approved with conditions.

7.2.2 APPEAL DECISION AAA/H0738/A/07/2052633 Leylandii Stables, Durham Road, Stockton on Tees
re 05/3333/COU

7.2.3 07/3344/FUL 34 The Wynd Wynyard Billingham TS22 5QE Two storey extension to side, single storey extension to rear, balcony to rear and porch to front Approved with conditions

7.2.4 07/2407/REM HS120 Site Wynyard Park Wynyard TS22 5NH Reserved matters application for the erection of 119,041 square metres of storage and distribution....Approved with conditions

7.2.5 07/2161/FUL Horse Shoe Plantation Wynyard Estate Billingham Erection of 2 no. steel storage sheds for agricultural machinery Approved with Conditions

7.2 Planning Applications

7.2.1 07/3452/FUL Drummoyne, Durham Road, Thorpe Thewles Extensions and alterations to farm buildings to create 9 no. apartments. The Clerk was asked to register strong objections to this application because of the dangerous access onto a single track road, which would be seriously exacerbated if 17 more cars were to use it regularly.

7.2.2 08/0020/FUL 5 Wellington Drive, Wynyard, Billingham Two storey extension to side containing swimming pool, family room, 2 no. bedrooms and triple garage with dormer window to side. No comment.

7.3.3 08/0073/FUL Springfield Stud, Wynyard Road, Thorpe Thewles Retrospective application for change of use from agriculture to horsiculture, siting of 2 no. static caravans (1 residential and 1 office), a portacabin and hardstanding together with erection of new barn and demolition of existing old barn.

The Clerk was asked to object to this application on the grounds that it represented sporadic development of the countryside into residential/business use.

7.4.4 08/0088/AAC Land At Wynyard Woods, Billingham Outline application for erection of 2 detached dwellings. No comment.

7.4.5 08/0100/REV Land Known As Daisys View, Sandy Lane West, Billingham Revised application for erection of 1 no. stable block, 2 no. stores and 1 no. polytunnel. The Clerk was asked to request that SBC planners ensure that conditions be applied to this application to prevent sporadic development of the countryside in future.

8. HIGHWAYS

No matters were reported.

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9. ACCOUNTS

9.1 GRINDON PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2007-8

The following position was noted:

INCOME RECEIVED/SPENT TO DATE

Precept 6700.00 6700.00

VAT repayment 103.00 104.17

Interest 50.00

Wayleave 4.60

Contra overspend on grasscutting 107.26 (From St James's PCC)

TOTAL 6857.60 6911.43

EXPENDITURE

Thorpe churchyard grass-cutting 650.00 757.26 (Overspend because of admin. error – see balancing contra income above)

Parish appearance 300.00 255.00

Audit fee 60.00 58.75

Donations 300.00 200.00 (Wynyard Fete)

Stationery 25.00

Insurance 400.00 375.84 (To be agreed at January meeting)

Wynyard bench and fixing 900.00

Wynyard dog bins 750.00

Felling diseased and dangerous tree 1500.00 1237.50 (As VAT not reclaimable 17.5% less than in Thorpe churchyard (one-off donation) budgeted)

Grindon Parish Hall meeting hire 120.00 220.00 (Overspend because of estimating mistake by Parish Hall – covered from contingency)

Clerk's salary and expenses 1400.00 1100.00

Contingency 455.00 135.00 (£25: Retirement gift re Thorpe Tidy-up £110.00: contra Parish hall overspend))

TOTAL 6860.00 4009.35

BALANCES AS AT 1.2.2008

Current a/c 269.15

Reserve a/c

The Clerk apologised that the Reserve account figure had been omitted.

9.2 Payment to R Lindley Groundworks for work to posts and chains on Thorpe Village Green of £95.00 was proposed by Mr J Atkinson and seconded by Mr D Jones. All in favour.

9.3 Audit Commission: the Clerk reported that BDO Stoy Hayward had again been retained as external auditor for 2008-9.

9.4 Bank Transfer: Mr G Rees proposed and Mr J Atkinson seconded the transfer of £750.00 from the reserve to the current a/c. All in favour.

9.5 Mr G Rees proposed and Mr J Atkinson seconded the payment of the Clerk's monthly salary of £110.00. All in favour.

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10. PARISH ISSUES

10.1 Fence and hedge: Vane Arms car park, Thorpe Thewles: Mr G Rees reported on conversations that he had had with a representative of Balfour Beatty concerning re-instatement of damaged areas of Thorpe Thewles Village Green. He was asked to provide contact details, so that the Clerk could write to explore the possibility of extending the paved path into North Close, if Grindon PC were to make a financial contribution. The Clerk was also asked to write to the Landlord of the Vane Arms welcoming his willingness to approach the owners about the poor state of the hedge and fence to the car park adjacent to the Village Green and encouraging him to seek their removal. The Clerk was also asked to request a survey of potholes and tripping hazards in North Close, Thorpe Thewles.

10.2 The Clerk was asked to write to SBC education department asking why Wynyard was the only village to have been omitted from a scheme to leaflet villages re Primary Capital Funding for schools.

10.3 The Clerk was asked to write to Rosemary Young of SBC asking that Grindon PC be kept informed at every possible stage, as the policy develops.

10.4 Thorpe Thewles Post Office: it was noted that this branch was under threat of closure and that there would be a period of public consultation.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 Patient Advice and Liaison Service: a leaflet was circulated.

11.2 TVRCC:

11.2.1 Training events: details were circulated.

11.2.2 Open Space and Recreation survey: details were circulated.

11.3 Communities and Local Govt: Orders and Regulations re conduct: a document was circulated.

11.4 Stockton BC:

11.4.1 Local development Framework: copies of a document re Planning the Future of Villages were passed out.

11.4.2 Environment Select Cttee review of Waste Services: details were received.

11.5 St James's Church, Thorpe Thewles: a request to use Village Green for Fete was considered and agreed.

11.6 NE England Regional Spatial Strategy: a CD-R re further proposed changes was circulated.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 12th, 2008