

# GRINDON PARISH COUNCIL

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

## 1126 Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008

### 1. PRESENT

Mr W Allison (Chair for the meeting), Mr D Jones, Ms S Robertson, Mr G Rees  
In attendance: Mr R Cooper (Clerk), Cllr J Gardner, PC J Ollett and 3 electors

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr J Atkinson; Mr D Godfrey

#### 2a ELECTION OF ACTING CHAIR FOR THE MEETING

Mr D Godfrey had sent a message that he was held up in traffic. In his absence it was unanimously agreed that Mr W Allison act as Chair for the meeting.

### 3. POLICE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

3.1 PC Ollett reported that there had been 5 crimes in the ward, including 2 theft of vehicle; 1 theft; 1 vehicle broken into.

### 4. INTERESTS TO DECLARE

There were none.

### 5. MINUTES:

Mr G Rees proposed and Mr W Allison seconded adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 12.2.2008 as a correct record. All being in favour, these were signed by the acting Chair.

### 6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Provision of dog bins for Wynyard. The Clerk reported that, following a letter from Wynyard Estate Services agreeing sites for dog bins, an order had been placed for two with Stockton BC, but that he had as yet been unable to obtain confirmation of the order.

6.2 Enquiry at Land Registry re Village Green, Thorpe Thewles: This matter was ongoing and there was as yet no progress to report.

6.3 Risk assessment on financial activities: the Clerk reported that he had obtained a paper outlining the Principal Powers and Duties of Parish Councils to clarify issues relating to the Risk Assessment. He also reported that the Director of Law and Democracy at Stockton BC had indicated that it was in order for councillors to claim reasonable expenses e.g. in relation to travel to meetings. Following discussion, it was agreed that no expenses claims were currently necessary. The matter was therefore noted and would be re-visited as appropriate, bearing in mind the needs of members at any given time.

6.4 SEIB grant for floral displays. Mr D Jones reported that 2 floral tubs in Thorpe Thewles had been repositioned to residents' satisfaction. He thanked Cllr Gardner for his help and guidance in obtaining the grant that had made these improvements possible.

6.5 Thorpe Thewles village tidy-up: the Clerk reported that there had, as yet, been no response to the advertisement for an individual to succeed Mr A Whitfield. However, Cllr Gardner confirmed that other PC's use the SEIB to fund maintenance of green areas. He had received details of areas in Thorpe Thewles in need of regular maintenance and had passed these on to the appropriate member of staff at Stockton BC. He would contact the Clerk

regarding the cost of maintenance direct. Cllr Gardner was thanked for his help in this matter also.

6.6 Grindon PC: Casual Vacancy: the Clerk reported that there had been no response to the Notice of Casual Vacancy. He had therefore informed Stockton BC of this and requested permission to co-opt a new member. Mr Paul Burke was introduced to the meeting and expressed his willingness to be co-opted. He was thanked for this offer and told that he would be co-opted as soon as permission to do this was received from SBC.

6.7 Speed Indication Devices on the Wynd, Wynyard. The Clerk read a letter from the Senior Engineer, Traffic Management, at Stockton BC, explaining that, though the survey justified the introduction of Speed Indication Devices on the Wynd, there was no funding available as priority was currently given to rural villages. Wynyard was not classed as a rural village. The Clerk was therefore asked to write to Stockton BC to challenge this view. The Clerk was also asked to contact Mr S Lumb to ascertain the status of the promised speed survey in Thorpe Thewles, in the light of the fact that funding priorities might be changed before this was carried out.

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6.8 Thorpe Village Green – re-instatement following works. Mr W Allison and Mr G Rees reported on a meeting with a representative of Balfour Beatty. As a result, Mr W Allison proposed that “on completion of the work by the contractor Balfour Beatty, their offer of excavating the area in front of the sub station and adjacent garage, then laying ten inches of ballast topped with road stone to cover the area between the flagged foot path and the roadway of North Close, through the five-barred gate, be accepted.” Following discussion Mr G Rees proposed an amendment whereby, “the Clerk should write to NEDL requesting that, given the history of poor relations with village members over the time of the project, NEDL be asked as a matter of goodwill to upgrade this area in a manner to be agreed with the Parish Council.” This amendment was passed by 3 votes to 1.

**6.9 07/3452/FUL** Extensions & alterations to Drummoyne, Durham Rd, Thorpe Thewles: the Clerk informed the meeting that this application had been withdrawn

6.10 In response to a question from an elector, Mr D Jones informed the meeting that no progress had been possible towards improving access to the Thorpe Thewles Playing Field. This was the responsibility of Stockton BC who had said that funding for this was not available.

## **7. PLANNING**

### **7.1 Planning decisions**

The following decisions were noted:

**7.1.1 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

**7.2.2 07/3173/FUL 18** Fulthorpe Grove Wynyard Billingham TS22 5QZ Single storey rear dining room/garden room with balcony above. Approved with conditions

**7.2.3 06/3477/FPD 15** Paddock Green Wynyard Billingham TS22 5QP Erection of 1.8m high boundary wall/fence to both side and rear elevations Finally disposed of

**7.2.4 07/3464/FUL 19** Fulthorpe Grove Wynyard BILLINGHAM Cleveland TS22 5QZ Revised Application for single storey extension to front side and rear (change to rear extension). Approved with conditions

**7.2.5 08/0088/AAC** Land At Wynyard Woods Billingham OutLine application for erection of 2 detached dwellings LOBJ

## 7.2 Planning Applications

**7.2.1 08/0265/FUL** 14 Paddock Green, Wynyard, Billingham Single storey extension to rear. No comment

**7.2.2 08/0302/FUL** 7 North Close, Thorpe Thewles, Stockton-on-Tees Erection of porch and canopy to front. No comment

**7.3.3 08/0325/FUL** 36 Castlereagh, Wynyard, Billingham Two storey extension to rear. No comment

**7.4.4 08/0373/CPE** Wellington Manor, 14 Wellington Drive, Wynyard Application for Certificate of lawful use of land which was formally part of Wynyard Park as residential garden. No comment

**7.4.5 08/0396/OUT** Adjacent To 14, Wellington Drive, Wynyard Outline application for detached dwellinghouse and associated means of access. No comment

**7.4.6 08/0399/COU** Units 7 and 8 The Stables, Wynyard Change of use from D1 (Dental Surgery) to A1 on ground floor and A2 on first floor. No comment

**7.4.7 08/0219/FUL** Land to North side of Wynyard Road, Thorpe Thewles Erection of stable block and septic tank. The Clerk was asked to object to this application on the grounds that it was close to a busy junction. The danger of more horses being ridden on an already busy road was also a matter for concern.

**7.4.8 08/0340/ful** Land Adjacent to Evolution One, Wynyard Avenue, Wynyard Park Erection of 2 storey offices and garages for Cleveland Police Authority. No comment

**7.4.9 08/0469/FUL** Middlefield Farm, Durham Road, Thorpe Thewles Extension to agricultural building for storage of agricultural machines. No comment

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## 8. HIGHWAYS

8.1 The Clerk was asked to contact CFYA to ask why the hedge at the bottom of Middle Bank, Thorpe Thewles had not yet been cut back. It was overhanging the highway and a particular problem when vehicles were passing in both directions at the same time.

8.2 Concern was raised that school buses (parked up before collecting students for school) were causing an obstruction at the first entrance off Coal Lane into Wynyard Village. Ms S Robertson agreed to contact Community Transport at Stockton BC to explore whether anything could be done about this.

## 9. ACCOUNTS

### 9.1 GRINDON PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2007-8

#### 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 (Overspend due to work to railings round Thorpe Village Green)

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 1220.00  
Contingency 455.00 230.00 (£25: Retirement gift re Thorpe Tidy-up;  
£110.00: contra Parish hall overspend; £95.00 repairs to Thorpe Green railings)

TOTAL 6860.00 4554.35

### **BALANCES AS AT 1.2.2008**

Current a/c 814.19  
Reserve a/c 5343.01

9.4 Ms S Robertson proposed and Mr W Allison seconded payment of Clerk's monthly salary of £110.00 and annual expenses of £98.27. All in favour.

### **10. PARISH ISSUES**

10.1 Fence and hedge: Vane Arms car park, Thorpe Thewles: The Clerk was asked to write to Punch Taverns requesting that they assume their proper responsibility for maintaining the hedge and fence around the car park of the Vane Arms in good condition

10.2 Proposed hotel for Wynyard: Mr D Godfrey was unable to report on a presentation re the proposed hotel.

10.3 Stockton Quarry: in response to a question from an elector Mr W Allison explained that the decision to allow extraction at Stockton Quarry went back to 1991, when there had been a full and proper enquiry at which Grindon PC's objections had been over-ruled. Full documentation could be inspected at Gloucester House, Church Road, Stockton.

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### **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1 WRVS: Mr G Rees proposed a donation of £25.00 be made to the work of WRVS. All in favour.

11.2 Hartlepool Partnership: publication of Community Strategy. Notice of availability for inspection was circulated.

11.3 Billingham Partnership: papers were received.

11.5 Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Development Plan: documents: papers were received.

### **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, April 9th, 2008