GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL
Council Office, Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall, Warrington WA4 2SG
Colette Fellows, Clerk to the Council/RFO
Tel 01925 264918 (Monday to Thursday 2.00 - 4.30 pm)
clerk@gtpc.org.uk

12th March 2025

Dear Councillor

Members of the Council you are hereby summoned to attend the Full Council meeting of GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL COUNCIL on Thursday 20th MARCH 2025 at 7.00 pm at the Council Office, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall WA4 2SG for the purpose of transacting the following business:

Yours sincerely

Colette Fellows

Clerk to the Council/RFO

A G E N D A

229. Apologies for Absence
To consider apologies and reasons for absence. For resolution.

230. Dispensation Requests
To consider any dispensation requests from members.

231. Disclosures of Pecuniary and Personal Interests
Members are reminded that personal interests or prejudicial interests, as defined in the Code of Conduct, in any matter before the meeting, must be disclosed no later than the start of discussion on that item.

232. Minutes
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on the 20th February 2025.

233. Correspondence
233.1 The Department of Transport has released a press release to say the government is extending support to help drivers, businesses, fleets and cabbies make the switch to cleaner vehicles.

On February 25th, 2025, the Future of Roads Minister Lilian Greenwood confirmed that the department is extending the plug-in van grant for another year to help van drivers and businesses transition to zero omissions vehicles.

The extension will mean business and van drivers can receive grants up to £2,500 when buying small vans up to 2.5 tonnes and up to £5,000 for larger vans up to 4.25 tonnes. The Clerk will investigate further to see if we are eligible for the grant.

233.2 Warrington Borough Council's climate emergency team are working in partnership with Pure Leapfrog (sustainability charity) to offer free Carbon Literacy training to parish/town councils and small

businesses based in Warrington, fully funded by Innovate UK. The Training will take place over several dates until June 2025. The first being Wednesday 2ndApril 8:30-17:00. You can book direct here: https://www.tickettailor.com/events/pureleapfrog/1598721 or if you would like to enquire about further course dates, please contact: carbonliteracy@pureleapfrog.org.

234. Information for Noting

a) The closing date has ended for the holiday cover Park caretaker role with 3 applicants. The interviews to take place on 24 March.
b) The closing date has also ended for the handyman position at the Walled Gardens with 2 interviews taking place w/c 10th March and 3 interviews w/c 24th March (the Clerk is on annual leave from the 13th -20th March2025.
c) Homes England presented an online briefing on the next stage of public engagement on the SEWUE on 5th March. The briefing was attended by the Chair of Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council, other members of South Warrington Parish Councils and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
d) The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended a briefing on the Carbon Literacy Project training on 5th March.
e) The Clerk has received notification that bank interest rates have fallen again, Barclays to 1.25% from 13th May and Unity Trust to 2.25% from 6th May.
f) Councillor contact information will be emailed separately to members.

235. Update on actions from previous meetings

Agenda Item	Action Point	Lead	Status	Update
2024/118	New Village Signage	BD	Ongoing	WBC have confirmed the cost will not exceed the agreed amount of £4724+vat.
2024/134	Heating PC Offices	CF	Ongoing	A Planning Application has been submitted to WBC.
2024/196	GYCA Solar PV Installation	CF	Ongoing	See agenda item 240 for an update

236. PCSO Crime Report

An updated crime report will be emailed to all members before the meeting.

237. Expenditure to date

237.1The Clerk will present the expenditure to date. (see attached)

237.2 To ratify the petty cash expenditure for the Parish Council Office April 24 – January 2025 for £911.69.

237.3 To ratify the petty cash expenditure for the Walled Garden from April 2024 – February 2025 for £603.08.

Cllr Fisher has checked and verified all receipts.

237.4 Cllrs Hignett and Williams attended the office and completed bank reconciliation checks on all accounts from April 2024 to December 2024. No issues found.

238. Accounts for Payment

A schedule of Accounts for Payment to be tabled. (see attached).

239. Requests for Funding

239.1 A request for funding has been received from the Railway Club after the GYCA have reviewed the rental charges and have confirmed they already benefit from reduced rates. The group is looking for £300 to replace equipment (see attached). For discussion and resolution.

239.2 A request for funding has been received from the 'Tuesday Litter Team' they are requesting a contribution of £270 towards costs (see attached). For discussion and resolution.

240. Printer Parish Council Offices

The lease on the canon photocopier had expired a few years ago, the copier is getting old and troublesome. The Clerk has obtained a quote from Hudson Hill Sensible, for a A3 and A4 laser printer to be more sustainable, saving around 58.8% in energy savings. The Clerk recommends a five-year lease for an A4 printer costs below. For discussion and resolution.

- Canon currently costs £405.17 on average per year for an ink printer
- An A3 machine with Sensible would cost £642 PY for a 5-year term.
- An A4 machine with Sensible would cost £551 PY for a 5-year term.

241. Parish Warden Additional Hours

In the Resources Committee meeting of the 16th January 2025 (minute ref 29) members resolved to recommend that Bradley Lowe increases his hours to 28 hours in the Parish and 9 hours at the Walled Garden, this is an increase of 8 hours in the Parish.
The increase in cost would be £7k (inclusive of pension contributions). The extra hours are to commence from April 2025. Once cover on a Tuesday for the Lead Warden is no longer required, the Clerk will reassess the situation and report back to Committee. The Clerk would like to offer the extra hours on a temporary contract. For resolution to accept.

242. Governance

The Clerk has reviewed the current 'request-for-Financial-Assistance-Policy' and is recommending that the attached be adopted for consistency and fairness. The current policy was last updated October 2018. For discussion and resolution to accept the new policy.

243. GYCA Solar PV Installation – LiveWire Investment

The Clerk was asked to contact Livewire to seek a reduction to purchase and manage the Solar PV Installation, the following response has been received:

'We (LiveWire) are unable to offer any variation to the price for a number of reasons:
1. This cost was set at the beginning of the lease to reflect the cost of us being able to reasonably repay the loan that is still outstanding to WBC. This is very much still the case.
2. We have made the offer to all host sites based on like for like lease costs and are progressing other sales on this basis. It would be unfair to not be consistent with this approach.
3. There is still considerable revenue potential from the FIT over and above the capital asset cost which is unique to this arrangement when compared to the cost of a new system'.

For discussion and resolution to accept the cost of £14,584 and terminate the lease of the roof to LiveWire. The Parish Council would then need to negotiate the return of the original investment of £15,000.00.

244. GYCA Garden Project

The GYCA committee would like to make changes to the outside area of the centre. The Clerk circulated the information on Wednesday 5th March. As part of the lease agreement (see below) the GYCA must seek approval from the landlord (Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council) for any external changes. For discussion and resolution.

'The Tenant shall not make any external or structural alteration or additions to the Property nor change the structure or layout of the Property without the consent of the Landlord, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed'.

245. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Update

A presentation prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to update members on current progress will be circulated to members.

246. Parks and Open Spaces

219.1 The Parks and Open Spaces Committee is recommending (see minute no 20 on P&OS minutes) that the Parish Council has a design and management strategy for both parks as part of the long-term strategic planning. As noted in the minutes, the committee has received two submissions (see attached) TEP £9670+vat and BCA Landscapes £14355+vat. For discussion and resolution.

219.2 The P&OS Committee is requesting the following budget lines move under their control. For resolution to accept. The Clerk would make the necessary changes to the Terms of reference and present for approval in April 2025.

- Hanging baskets/office garden £2,500.00
- Wildflower meadows £2,000.00
- Christmas lights £4,000.00

247. Glass house Survey and Repair

The Clerk would like members to approve the cost of a structural engineer as advised by Paul Travis of 'Paul Travis Conservation Ltd'. Paul has highlighted the entrance porch is severely damaged with rotten wood and measures should be undertaken to make the building safe, to continue using.
The Clerk has obtained two quotes for this specialist work (see attached), one is for £2,150 from John Ruddy (CARE Conservation Accredited Engineer). And £950+vat from Charles Blackett-Ord (Blackett-ord Conservation Engineering). For discussion and resolution.

248. SEWUE (South East Warrington Urban Extension)

Cllrs Browne and Speed will briefly update members on SEWUE matters.

249. Warrington Borough Council

Cllrs Browne, Hignett, Johnson, and Speed will update members on Warrington Borough Council matters.

250. Consideration of Planning Applications

To consider the following applications which require an immediate decision.

2025/00233/FULH 17 Shadewood Crescent, Grappenhall WA4 2SN
Ground floor side and rear extension

Thelwall and Grappenhall Model Railway Club



6 Barsbank Lane
Lymm
Cheshire
WA13 0ES

Ms C Fellows, Clerk to the Council,
Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council
Council Office
Bellhouse Lane,
Grappenhall.
Warrington WA4 2SG

6th March 2025

Dear Ms Fellows

Grants to Community Organisations

Our Model Railway Club is based at the rear of the Grappenhall Youth and Community Centre and its membership is open to anyone over 16 years of age as well as accompanied children. We have been operating now for over 15 years and hold regular Open Days attracting families from the parish. Pre-Covid we welcomed young people's groups such as cubs for their own operating sessions and are proposing to do this again.

The Club's income from membership fees and open days is only sufficient to pay rent to the Grappenhall Youth & Community Association and for public liability insurance. Improvements to the layouts have to be financed by members or donations. Much of our trackwork is now past its useful life and is failing causing running problems and we have no reserves to fix the increasing issues.

Our members are enthusiastic about continuing and are planning five Open days during 2025.

We did apply for a grant last year but this was not successful. It would be much appreciated if the Parish Council could this year consider assisting the Club with a grant of say £300 to help us in replacing faulty pointwork and deteriorating track and improving the scenery on our layouts so we can continue to be an asset to the community.

A copy of our latest Accounts is enclosed. If you require any further information, I will be pleased to provide it.

Yours sincerely.

CD Harrop

Chris Harrop (Chairman)
d.harrop733@btinternet.com
07788 595611

Grappenhall &Thelwall Parish Council funding application February 2025

Cheque Payee name **Tuesday Litter Team**

What are the main aims/activities of the organisation?

We are a **voluntary litterpicking team** operating in Warrington. We are particularly active in South and Central Warrington.

Tuesday team originated in South Warrington, in April 2019. We formed after a local Parish Council Spring Litterpick of that year.

Our regular Tuesday litter picks have expanded into morning and afternoon shifts and we have helped a number of sister teams to develop across Warrington. Local residents Bill Cooke and Jim Park were both founder members, who continue with Tuesday team today. They and a network of others act as solo pickers who are active in Stockton Heath and south Warrington throughout the year.

Tuesday Team are Warrington's Leading Litter Team and our record 2024 results are published in Warrington Worldwide (Feb 2025**). Tuesday Team picked over 70% of Warrington's total litterbags in 2024.** According to **Keep Britain Tidy's Collect and Count figures, Warrington teams picked 20% of England's litterbags in the whole of 2022.** We work closely with WBC and support WBC public picks (such as Barleycastle Lane) and helped tidy the route for the Women's Tour of Britain Cycle Race stage in 2024.

We work very closely with WBC (chiefly communicating with Ian Brackenbury and Chantelle Bramhall). They supply us with blue litter bags and arrange collection of our filled bags from most areas.

As a team we have developed skills and experience with regular practice. We have an active safety culture, and risk assess each location. Our **KBT Litterheroes Ambassadors have Public Liability Insurance from Keep Britain Tidy** when leading team litterpicks.

We hold our own **annual training workshops** and have currently trained 40 leaders. WBC recognise our safety and leadership training and have kindly agreed to provide **WBC PLI cover** to our workshop-trained team leaders. As well as Litternetworks.org, we communicate using WhatsApp and currently run two 2-hour picking shifts every Tuesday.

We operate within Warrington's **Litter Networks** communication structure and specialise in safely tackling some of the more challenging and visible litter hotspots, which can be anywhere in town (Warrington has are 22 litter network areas). We work alongside local volunteers, aiming to build local teams wherever possible. Many examples of our litter pick reports can be found on the litternetworks.org Facebook pages. We have also featured regularly in the local media. In 2025 Warrington Litter Volunteers have been nominated for a prestigious National Award, and hope to hear some news in November.

Our stats so far.

We keep a rolling bag count. Our **Tuesday Litter Team annual litter bag returns** have grown from

765 bags in 2019, 1,000 in 2020 lockdown, 4,750 in 2021. Then 4,827, 4,659 and 6,295 bags in 2024.

In 2025 we have picked over 750 bags by Valentine's day.

We are proud to say that in 2024 we accounted for 72% of all litter bags picked by Warrington volunteers. The 2024 total for all Warrington teams was 8,660 bags, or 33,900 bags to 31.12.14. That's 6,295 bags out of the 8,660 bag total for all Warrington litter groups.

We continue to support new team development and improve local environments where we can.

We have a small Saturday morning team tidying Latchford Village (since Aug 2021), with remarkable effect. We have plans for more litter teams coming through. We want Warrington to become the tidiest large town in North

Cheshire. We believe we are good value because the team volunteers give their time freely. We have developed on a shoestring, but we are constantly wearing out litter-picking kit and so we have become a constituted group, looking for support.

We have covered a long list of Warrington locations including Stockton Heath, Wilderspool, Latchford, all of the TransPennine Trail from Lymm to Runcorn, Wilderspool Park, Appleton, Appleton Thorn, Walton and many others.

We are part of Warrington Litter Volunteer movement which has picked 33,900 bags of litter from the Borough to 31.12.24.

Many examples of our pick reports with photos are accessible on the litternetworks facebook pages, so please take a look if you have time.

www.litternetworks.org