GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL

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Colette Fellows Clerk to the Council/RFO
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16th July 2026

Members of the Grappenhall Heys Estate Committee:
Councillors Mrs L Fernyhough (Chair), M Browne, M Dolan, D Hockenhull, Ford, and J McQuillan.

Copied to all members of the Council for information.

Dear Member

A meeting of the Grappenhall Heys Estate Committee at Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden, Witherwin Ave, WA4 3DS on Tuesday 21st July at **7.00 p.m.** at which your presence is requested.

Colette Fellows

Clerk to the Council

A G E N D A

4. Apologies for Absence
To consider reasons for absence. For resolution.

5. Disclosures of Pecuniary 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.

6. Planting of the Tree for the late Cliff Taylor
To receive Cliff's widow and a few friends to plant a tree in special remembrance at 6.45pm.

7. Business Rates
The Business Rates Relief (for Supporting Small Business) was protected before 2023, since then we have seen revaluation and protections phased out, the Walled Garden has gone from £0-£600-£2600 over a three-year period. Attached are some explanatory notes for information and current situation.

8. Walled Garden Finances
27.1 The Clerk will provide an overview of the current financial situation. (see attached).

27.2 The Clerk will present the financial position of the Arnold Stansby account for 2026/2027 (see attached).

9. Handyman list of works
Please see below a list of works completed by the handyman to date and work still to be completed currently.

10. Gardener Managers Report

9.1The Gardener/Manager (G/M), Oliver Groos, progress report (attached).

9.2 The G/M to make recommendations to members reference the current alarm situation and set-up. For discussion and resolution.

11. Outreach Officer's Report

The Outreach Officer progress report (attached).

12. Green Flag Report

To discuss the Green Flag report and recommendations for improvement. For discussion and resolution.

12. Glasshouse Repairs

Due to the complexity of repairs and financial implications members requested the following at the meeting of members on 26th May 2026.:

- Contact members of the original working group to ask questions about the heritage site and build for further advice. *The Clerk met with Ian Fountain in the Parish Council Offices.*
- Visit RHS Bridgewater Gardens to survey the glasshouses. *Cllr Fernyhough has visited and will update the Committee.*
- Cost to take down the Fountain Café. *Not yet completed.*
- Cost from White Cottages to replace the Janet Richards Glasshouse. *This has been requested by the Clerk as an action for Oliver Groos (G/M) as Oliver dealt with them in March.*

Community Outreach Officer Report – July, 2026

- We have been awarded the Green Flag Award for the tenth year in a row – this is a national (and international) benchmark measure of the quality of our open space. Criteria judged include: how welcoming the space is, signage, cleanliness and free of litter, reduced use of pesticides and peat, reducing and recycling. The judging sheet will be forwarded separately via the Clerk.

- We have a number of new users of space at the garden including:

  Pasta Ferrazza (2 further dates booked)
  Beth Fern Photography
  Estuary Botanics
  Home Ed Hut
  6th Warrington Brownies
  Walking Mums Cheshire (2 further dates booked)
  Sylvie Ball Yoga (2 further dates booked)

This has generated increased income and since April I estimate has brought in an extra £1760.00 to date.

- I have been successful in getting a £2000 grant from Redrow towards a shed/workshop to replace the gazebo in the rear yard, and am now pursuing other avenues for additional funding/support.

- For discussion – the idea of having a couple more 'sum up' machines for the garden for accepting cash free donations/payments

- Future dates – to be confirmed – Winter Fair (potentially Sunday 8th November) and wreathmaking Saturday 28th November, Sunday 29th November, Friday 4th December and Sunday 6th December (all dates to be confirmed)

CJF/14thJuly26