

Minutes of the 263rd meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday 12 April 2022 at 7pm.

Present: Parish Councillors B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe (Vice Chair), A. Cooper, R. Dennison. Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

17/22. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest - Cllr. A. Liddle (Recovering from surgery)
Cllr. Coupe in the Chair.

18/22. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – None

19/22. The **Minutes of the 262nd meeting held on Tuesday 8 February 2022** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

20/22. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – The referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan took place on 3 March 2022 resulting in an overwhelming majority in favour of adoption. The NP will now go to a full meeting of Middlesbrough Council next month for ratification and implementation.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr Neale reported that support column for the speed display unit in Strait Lane had been installed by Middlesbrough Council, awaiting delivery of the actual unit from the manufacturer which is expected soon.
- c) **Parking Issues – Hemlington Road** – Cllr. Coupe reported that the yellow lines around the junction at Church Close together with pavement bollards are expected to be installed next month.
- d) **Village Newsletter** – Clerk reported that March edition of the Village Newsletter together with the Community Council newsletter had been delivered to the 400-500 properties at Hemlington Grange by a leaflet distribution firm, Famous Flyers, at a cost of £90.
- e) **Footpath – 3 Strait Lane** – Cllr. Coupe reported he still had not had a reply from MBC regarding the remedial work required to the footpath at 3 Strait Lane. Cllr. Dean stated there had been no resolution to this matter which was raised several months ago and in the absence of action by MBC a local contractor should be instructed by the Parish Council. Cllr. Coupe stated he would raise this matter with MBC as a matter of urgency.
- f) **Community Governance Review** – Middlesbrough Council had commissioned a survey ‘Your Area – Your Say’ – a document for residents to comment on the area and on the Parish Council. The consultation period closed on 31 March, and it is not known how many residents responded to the survey. It was agreed that the Parish Council would respond in its own right. The CGR also looks at the effectiveness of Community Councils. Cllr. Cooper, chair of the Community Council stated she had not been invited to any of the consultation meetings hosted by Middlesbrough Council.
- g) **Storm Arwen** – Cllr. Neale reported he had still not been able to contact anyone from the Emergency Planning at Middlesbrough Council and has had no response to emails. He will still endeavour to contact Geoff Field at MBC.
- h) **Footpaths & Overhanging hedges** – One of the properties on Thornton Road had still not cut back the overhanging hedge, which encroaches the footpath, as requested. Cllr. Coupe will revisit the property and speak to the occupiers. Middlesbrough Council will become involved if they are unable/fail to cut back the hedge.

- i) **Dilapidated building – 1 Hemlington Road** – Cllr. Coupe reported the Enforcement Officer at Middlesbrough Council is now back at work following a period of sick leave and will be responsible for looking into this matter and hopefully tracing the owner(s) of the property. Hopefully this matter will now be progressed.
- j) **Rose Cottage Farm housing developments** – It has been established that the housing developments at Rose Cottage Farm, Phases 1, 2 and 3 had still not been adopted by Middlesbrough Council owing to ongoing road defects. The adoption process normally takes place one year after completion of development. It has also been established that Middlesbrough Council would not be responsible for green areas within the estates, the children’s play area and the SUDS pond on the edge of Phase 3. The building developers, Taylor Wimpey have delegated this responsibility to a private company who will manage these areas with residents paying a monthly maintenance charge. The Parish Council has expressed concerns about safety issues at the SUDS pond which has no protection (unfenced).

21/22 The Report of the Clerk to the Council including correspondence, financial statement and authorisations.

- a. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.
- b. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.
- c. Financial Statement **12.4.22**.

Balance at 12.4.22. **£11380.59**

Income since last meeting: **£179.84** (VAT reclaim)

Expenditure since last meeting: **£1227.10** - Approval required.

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
8.2.22.	Baines Jewitt	Pro Services	548	42.00
22.2.22.	Whitegates	Planter trough	549	102.98
22.2.22.	MBC	Printing	550	68.77
28.2.22.	J. Holmes	Salary (Feb)	551	248.61
28.2.22.	HMRC	PAYE (Feb)	552	62.00
4.3.22.	Famous Flyers	Newsletter Delivery	553	90.00
7.3.22.	Memorial Hall	Hall Hire	554	24.00
13.3.22.	C. Wren	Plants	555	18.99
13.3.22.	M. Holmes	Plants/Compost	556	119.69
22.3.22.	HMRC	PAYE (March)	557	62.20
22.3.22.	Cherry Hill	Planter/compost	558	104.99
24.3.22.	J. Holmes	Clerks expenses	559	34.46
24.3.22.	J. Holmes	Salary (March)	560	<u>248.41</u>
				1227.10

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

Santander Business Bank Account 2021/22

Balance at 1.4.21.	8810.24
Receipts 2021/22.	<u>10774.84</u>
	19595.08
Payments 2021/22.	<u>8204.49</u>
Balance at 31.3.22.	11380.59

22/22. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 – Clerk reported that this return (AGAR) had to be completed before 1 July 2021. As the Parish Council was a smaller authority where gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 it could certify itself as exempt by submitting a Certificate of Exemption to the external auditor by 30 June 2021. To commence this process an internal auditor had to be appointed in accordance with Part 2 of AGAR 2020/21 and the Accounting Statements prepared and signed by the RFO (Clerk).

Resolved: Appointment of internal auditor to be progressed by Clerk.

23/22. Committee Reports

Planning – Cllr. Coupe

Application 22/0164/FUL. Enlargement of side garage 27 Maltby Road. Application refused by Middlesbrough Council and then went to appeal. Cllr. Coupe reported that the appeal has been rejected.

Application 21/0418/FUL. 8 Hemlington Road. MBC Planning to contact architect as some of the dimensions in relation to windows appear incorrect.

Environment – Cllrs. Conroy & Coupe

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – Cllrs. Conroy and Liddle have collected the necessary information and are now in the process of compiling a report to the Ombudsman about Middlesbrough Council mishandling the planning issue. Cllr. Conroy reports the beck is not in a bad state at the moment thanks to a good water flow.

Environment Committee (Green Finger Gang) – At a meeting on 15.2.22. the relocation of the village pump was agreed and a trough/planter to be purchased. The pump and trough to be re-sited at Thornton T junction. Currently awaiting confirmation from MBC regarding underground works at selected site. Cllr. Coupe to contact MBC Streetworks to progress.

Crime & Disorder – Cllr. Neale.

PCSO Jak Fisher has provided recent crime figures for the area in much better detail and Councillors were very appreciative of this improvement. It was noted that there had been no incidents of burglary during the past 2 months.

Clerk reported that he had received a reply from Cleveland Police about the recording of crimes that are not specific to this area and in future the crime figures would be more accurate.

Cllr. Neale continues to lobby for the Community Speedwatch to attend this area. The Councillor also serves on the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) however he is not convinced of its effectiveness.

24/22. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Cllr. Conroy.

Cllr. Conroy reported on the recent meeting of this group held on 4.4.22.

Children's Education Sessions are to be held in Maelor's Wood during August in conjunction with Sue Antrobus and Tees Valley Wildlife Trust.

Wood animal sculptures to be commissioned once Steve Iredale confirms he is able complete.

Storage for lawnmower needed in the Cedarwood Glade area following the sale of previous place of safekeeping.

Cutting regime in Quarry and Kell Gate Green has commenced now the weather has improved. In answer to a query from Cllr. Dennison there has been no progress on replacement trees, following the removal of diseased trees, in the Fawcett Avenue area. Residents have been consulted but the planting has not yet commenced.

25/22. Cleveland Local Council Association – Weekly circulars from CLCA and NALC continue to be forwarded to all councillors where relevant. The Chair of the local CLCA, Jim Wigham passed away recently and Cllr. Liddle attended his funeral. No date as yet for future meetings.

26/22. Risk Assessments – The annual risk assessment on Parish Council assets to be undertaken by Cllrs. Liddle and Conroy. Cllr. Conroy to also update the Asset Register.

27/22. Thornton Road resurfacing – Cllr. Coupe reported that the whole of Thornton Road is to be completely resurfaced during 2022/23 financial year and will include traffic calming measures. Several ‘soft cushions’ will be installed to slow the speed of vehicles using the road.

28/22. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 36th Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Tuesday, 17 May 2022. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
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