

Minutes of the 244th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held on Tuesday, 9 April at 7pm in the Memorial Hall, Stainton

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), A. Conroy, C. Dean, B. Neale, D. Fewtrell, D. Coupe, J. Holmes (Clerk to the Council).

15/19. Apologies and Declarations of Interest – Cllr. A. Cooper (Holiday)

16/19. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – None

17/19. The Minutes of the 243rd meeting held on Tuesday 12 February 2019 were approved by the Parish Council and duly signed as a true record by the Chair.

18/19. Matters arising from the above Minutes

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – The Chair reported that the Neighbourhood Plan was almost ready for submission but before doing so all residents, landowners and utility firms within the NP area have to be informed about the plan. All reasonable steps will be taken to consult and inform the necessary bodies before submission.
- b) **Fly Tipping Problems** – To note that Middlesbrough Council have installed wooden posts at the entrance to The Spinney from Hemlington Road and Stainton Way in an effort to prevent vehicle access.
- c) **Dog Fouling Problems** – New signage was now available from Middlesbrough Council and would be placed on lamp posts and noticeboards in an effort to educate offending dog owners.
- d) **Parking issues** – Middlesbrough Council, after consultation with residents would be installing yellow lines around the island in Meldyke Lane. The Chair, with approval of the Parish Council, will be informing all residents about the dangers and possible consequences of inconsiderate parking of vehicles especially in the problem areas of Hemlington Road, Meldyke Lane and Strait Lane and would also be writing separately about this to the 2 businesses and Church on Hemlington Road.
- e) **106 Monies** – To note that the 106 Monies due from Taylor Wimpey via Middlesbrough Council had now been received by the Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces group.
Resolved: Satisfactory conclusion. Item removed from Agenda.
- f) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Councillor David Coupe reported that roadside speed display units were soon to be installed in Thornton on a temporary basis. It was noted that the Road Traffic Policing Unit were still monitoring vehicle speeds and enforcing where necessary on their unannounced visits to the area.

19/19. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

a. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk, LCR, CPRE.

b. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.

c. Financial Statement 31.3.19.

Income since last meeting: **£167.87** (VAT reclaim)

Expenditure since last meeting: **£1535.77** Approval required.

12.2.19.	A. Liddle	Inks	362	22.00
22.2.19.	WAVE	Water rates KGG	DD	26.46
28.2.19.	J. Holmes	Clerks Salary	363	235.03
28.2.19.	HMRC	PAYE	364	58.60
6.3.19.	C. Cutler	Website	365	50.00
12.3.19.	Prontaprint	Newsletters	366	137.00
12.3.19.	A. Conroy	Xmas Lights	367	101.88
23.3.19.	Memorial Hall	Hall Hire	368	80.00
25.3.19.	Memorial Hall	Hall Hire	369	16.00
26.3.19.	HMRC	PAYE	370	58.80
26.3.19.	J. Holmes	Clerks Salary	371	234.83
26.3.19.	J. Holmes	Clerks expenses	372	<u>66.62</u>
				1109.22

Balances: Parish Council **£7664.30** Neighbourhood Plan **£258.50** **Total: £7922.80**

Income and Expenditure 1.4.18. – 31.3.19

Total Income: £15441.18

Total Expenditure: £7518.38

Balance at 31.3.19. £7922.80

Invoices received

A. Liddle – Printer inks and paper.	61.70
CLCA membership fee 2019/20	259.92
Data Protection fee 2019/20.	40.00
Toner ink Online.	62.40

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

d. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2018/29. – This process has to be completed by 1 July. As the higher of gross income or gross expenditure for this Parish Council does not exceed £25000 per year it can certify itself as being exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

The Certificate of Exemption was then completed and signed by the Responsible Financial Officer (Clerk to the Council) and the Chair of the Parish Council.

Mrs Carole Whitehead was again appointed as auditor for the purposes of the Internal Audit Report 2018/19.

e. Parish Council Precept 2019/20 – To note that the precept had not as yet been received from Middlesbrough Council but is normally credited to the Parish Council during the month of April.

f. Parish Council Elections 2019 – Clerk reported that the Returning Officer for Middlesbrough Council had issued a Notice of Uncontested Election for the parish of Stainton and Thornton. A maximum of 7 candidates were required and 7 nominations were received. The new council would take office on Tuesday 7 May and the councillors will be Alan Liddle, James Alan Conroy, Angela Cooper, David Coupe, Christopher Dean, Brian Neale and Ronald Dennison.

The Chair stated it was fortunate that we have had an uncontested Parish Council Election. Councillor David Coupe advised the council that had an election to the Parish Council to decide the seven Parish Councillors had to have taken place because we had more than seven nominations, it would have cost the villages/Parish Council in the region of £5000. This would have been our share of the cost of running the election on the 2 May. A 'stand alone' Parish Council election, not combined with ward and/or mayoral election could cost in excess of £15000, something to be avoided.

Councillor Conroy commented "Had Mr. Dennison openly indicated his intention to stand for the Parish Council with the chairman or any other sitting member of the council, the risk of incurring this punitive cost would have been deliberately avoided, by other members of the parish council not standing"

Fortunately for the Parish Council one of the existing council members was unable to submit the required papers in time due to illness, the need for the election and the costs involved was therefore avoided purely by accident.

g. Insurance renewal – Clerk reported that the policy for Stainton and Thornton Parish Council and The Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces is due for renewal on 1.6.19. The insurance broker Came & Company are requesting to be notified of any additional requirements to the policy. *Resolved: Insurance renewal invite to be based on same terms as previous year.*

Chair reported that a resident was seeking permission to host a child's birthday party in Kell Gate Green later in the year. However, it was noted that the public liability insurance only covered events organised by the Parish Council. Parking, public access as well as health and safety issues were other factors that led the Parish Council in not approving the request.

20/19. Committee Reports:

Planning. Recent planning applications received.

19/0092/FUL. 43 Cedar Drive – Single storey extension to side.

19/0085/FUL. 5 Greenacres – Single storey extension to front and rear.

19/0138/TCA. 9 Thornton Road – Removal of conifer tree from front garden.

All approved with conditions by MBC Planning.

19/0217/TCA. 41 Hemlington Road – Crown reduction of 1 holly tree and 1 conifer tree. – Awaiting decision from MBC Planning.

To note that MBC Planning are investigating the removal of a tree in the conservation area outside the Stainton Inn.

Environment. – Councillor Coupe reported that the committee were looking into the possibility of replacing some of the diseased trees recently removed from Fawcett Avenue area via contributions from local residents who were willing to fund replacements. The next meeting of the Green Finger Gang was scheduled for 16 April.

Crime and Disorder – It was noted that there had been an increase in reported crimes over the past few weeks including a house burglary at Thornton, several thefts from the building site at Phase 3 of Rose Cottage as well as lead removed from the roof of the parish church. Suspicious vehicles (white vans) and occupants have been sighted in the village displaying number plates from other vehicles. As a consequence, police patrols in the area had increased.

21/19. Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces: The Minutes of the FSTGS meeting held 8.4.19. were noted. FSTGS have been nominated for a civic award for projects that improve the environment. The award ceremony is next week and will be attended by members of the group. Estimates for field drainage improvements are being sought and environmental improvement throughout the villages are being discussed now that the group are now in receipt of the long promised 106 monies. An application for a grant from the Big Lottery Group has been made but the outcome is not yet known. The Parish Council agreed in principle to continue to support FSTGS with an annual donation of £200 to help with running costs of tools and machinery. The maintenance contract, £500 per annum, for parish council assets – seats, noticeboards, troughs and planters etc would also continue and the maintenance schedule drawn up by the group was noted.

22/19. Cleveland Local Councils Association – The membership renewal fees (£259.92) for the CLCA 2019/20 had been received along with the Local Council Review publication subscription (£17).
Resolved: Membership of the Cleveland Local Councils Association to continue.

23/19. Gala Day 2019 – To note that a resident’s group are in the process of arranging a village Gala Day, scheduled for Sunday 28 July 2019. At this stage there is no involvement with the Parish Council.

24/19. Risk Assessments – The Clerk reminded Councillors that the yearly risk assessments on parish council assets were now due. The following councillors volunteered to undertake this task.

Councillor Conroy – Notice Boards. Councillor Liddle – Troughs and planters. Councillor Fewtrell – Seats.

25/19. Final meeting of the Parish Council – The Clerk reminded members that this was the final meeting of the current Parish Council. Councillors would remain in post until 2 May and the new council would be effective from 7 May. Councillor David Fewtrell was not seeking re-election and was retiring from the parish council. The Chair and other councillors present thanked Cllr. Fewtrell for his contribution to Parish Council matters.

26/19. Dates for future Meetings – all 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Tuesday **14 May**. Parish Council Annual Meeting.

Tuesday **11 June**. Parish Council Meeting.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9pm

Agreed and signed as a true recordDate

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB. Email: clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.