

**Minutes of the 254<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held online via a remote platform (Zoom) on Tuesday, 8 December at 7pm.**

Authority to hold meeting: The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

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

Members of the Public: J. Cooper, R. O’Kennedy, A. Miller, J. Miller, J. Bytheway, K. Brentnall, T. Brentnall. (local residents)

**79/20. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest.** None

**80/20. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council.**

Dr. R. O’Kennedy, J. Cooper, K & T Brentnall wanted to hear discussion on the water pollution problem in Stainton Beck - See item 84/20 Environment below.

Rose Cottage Barbers

Mr & Mrs Miller complained to the Parish Council about the parking problems caused in their cul-de-sac in Rose Cottage Gardens by visitors to the recently opened Barber salon operated by Ms Bytheway. They also queried whether or not Ms Bytheway had the appropriate permissions to operate the business in that location. Ms Bytheway stated she did inform Middlesbrough Council, who did not object to her opening her business, operating from a converted garage in Rose Cottage Gardens. Cllr. Coupe confirmed Middlesbrough Planning Department had not raised any objections. Ms. Bytheway apologised for the inconvenience caused by her customers, who attended by appointment only, and stressed she would try to ensure that any customers attending in vehicles parked appropriately.

**81/20.** The **Minutes of the 253<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on Tuesday 13 October 2020** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**82/20. Matters arising from the above Minutes.**

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that the Draft Neighbourhood Plan consultation period finished on 30 November. Several responses have been received from local residents and statutory consultees. These responses will be analysed, and the plan would be revised where appropriate.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr. Coupe reported that funding for roadside speed display may well be possible from the Towns Fund via Middlesbrough Council. The application has been completed but not as yet submitted as he was awaiting a start date for the Towns Fund. Cllr. Neale reported he had attempted to contact PCSO Mark Ballinger regarding the Community Speedwatch scheme, and available equipment. The officer has yet to reply. Alternative traffic calming measures had been suggested by a resident but with the main village roads being on a bus route it was thought speed display units were the better option.
- c) **Right of Way footpath – Wynd to Low Lane** – Some of the fencing alongside the path near the Wynd has been repaired however some obstructions still remain. Cllr. Coupe to progress.
- d) **Maintenance and Cutting of Hedges/Footpaths** – A letter to residents - sent in previous years - would be revamped, updated and used where necessary.
- e) **Cold calling signage – High Rifts** – No further progress at the moment.

- f) **Housing developments – Elderwood Park and Ashfield Park.** – It was noted that a new phase to Ashfield Park had started with access off Stainton Way near the entrance to the old Hemlington Hospital site. Cllr. Coupe reported there were concerns regarding pedestrian access across Stainton Way near the Gables pub and also across the Stokesley Road into Ridgeway at Coulby Newham.
- g) **Parish precept** – Housing numbers. Clerk reported that Middlesbrough Council state the housing numbers of Band D equivalents at 30.9.12. as 1126.5. Based on a collection rate of 97.4% this number reduces down to 1097 – a 228 increase from last year.
- h) **Community Fibre Partnership** – Cllr Coupe reported that City Fibre would be commencing work in the new year throughout the Middlesbrough area which will provide full fibre broadband. Stainton and Thornton are expected to be in the second phase when it rolls out.
- i) **Christmas Lights** – Cllr Conroy reported that the village christmas lights were put up by Middlesbrough Council on 19 November without any problems, although the reserves of new LED bulbs have been depleted. Lights will be taken down shortly after 6 January. Invoice from Middlesbrough Council not yet received.

### 83/20. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

1. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.
2. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.
3. Financial Statement **8.12.20.**

Bank Balance at 4.12.20: **£10994.69**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£950.82** Approval required.

| Date:               | Payee.      | Reason .          | Cheque No. | Amount. |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|---------|
| 3.10.20.            | SLCC        | Subscription      | 466        | 43.00   |
| 6.10.20.            | B.Chapman   | Plants (GFG)      | 467        | 34.00   |
| 7.10.20.            | MBC         | Printing (NHP)    | 468        | 27.00   |
| 30.10.20.           | J.Holmes    | Salary (October)  | 469        | 234.83  |
| 30.10.20.           | HMRC        | PAYE (October)    | 470        | 58.80   |
| 19.11.20.           | Defib Store | Defib Battery     | 471        | 270.00  |
| 20.11.20.           | Wave        | Water – KGG       | DD         | 48.36   |
| 30.11.20.           | J.Holmes    | Salary (November) | 473        | 234.83  |
| Unpresented cheques |             |                   |            |         |
| 26.11.20.           | Defib Store | Defib pads        | 472        | 47.94   |
| 30.11.20.           | HMRC        | PAYE (November)   | 474        | 58.80   |

*Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved*

### 84/20 Committee Reports:

**Planning.** Recent planning notifications.

20/0686/FUL. 42 De Havilland Way, TS8 9GQ. Erection of glass veranda to rear. – No objection by Parish Council.

20/0698/DIS and 20/0699DIS. Phase B Hemlington Grange. – Chair reported he had been in contact with Middlesbrough Planning to ascertain what conditions are being discharged by the developers Persimmon. MBC to report back.

#### **Environment.**

**Grey water discharge from grounds of Stainton House into Stainton Beck** – Chair referred to a report and analysis distributed to parish councillors earlier today which indicates that raw/foul effluent and detergent based pollutants continue to enter the watercourse into the beck at Kell Gate Green. Middlesbrough Council will be passing the results to the Environment Agency who have the enforcement powers to deal with the cause. Middlesbrough Council also recommends that public access to Kell Gate Green be restricted by the locking of the access gates and displaying appropriate information notices.

As there were clearly public health issues and owing to the high numbers of dog walkers using the area for the exercise of animals, councillors agreed that restricting access to Kell Gate Green was a priority.

Dr. O’Kennedy, a biochemical scientist and local resident, offered his services to the Parish Council in an advisory role.

As a matter of urgency, the Parish Council will contact Middlesbrough Council and the Environment Agency expressing our concerns about the poor handling of the situation.

Cllr. Coupe will be speaking to Middlesbrough Mayor, Andy Preston about the pollution problem.

*Resolved: Public access to Kell Gate Green be restricted by the locking of both access gates. Appropriate signage to be displayed. Dr. R.O’Kennedy appointed as advisor to the Parish Council in biochemical matters.*

**HGV restricted access** – A suggestion from a resident that Heavy Goods Vehicles over a certain weight should have restricted access in Stainton and Thornton villages. Matter to be pursued via Middlesbrough Council – Cllr Coupe.

**Crime and Disorder** – Nothing to report.

Clerk reports that he will try obtain bi-monthly crime statistics from the police for the information of councillors.

**85/20. Draft Budget Proposal and Precept 2021/2022** – Clerk had prepared a preliminary budget forecast for next year based on a precept of £9.31 per household. Full budget details will be agreed at the next meeting in February however councillors did agree that the precept should remain at £9.31. It was likely, owing to Covid restrictions, there would be an underspend on this year’s budget. Expenditure on items such as Hall Hire and Environment materials were well below expectations.

**86/20. Clerk – Salary review.** Chair reported that the Clerk was entitled to a salary review and the NJC had published the 2020-21 National Salary Award which increases the Clerk’s hourly rate to £10.24 effective from 1.9.20. It was noted the Clerk did not take the 2019-20 award.

*Resolved: Clerk’s salary to be set according to national pay scales 2020-21, SCP 6. £10.24 per hour effective from 1.9.20.*

**87/20. Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces** – Chair reported poor weather had restricted maintenance work however Dr Sue Antrobus, Tees Valley Wildlife Trust had recently prepared a management plan for Kell Gate Green. This would be discussed at the next meeting of the Friends Group.

**88/20. Cleveland Local Councils Association** – No meetings programmed yet but weekly circulations by email to all Councillors continues.

**89/20. COVID-19.** The Parish Council is actively keeping residents aware by newsletter, email and social media of the help and assistance available during any lockdown or self-isolating period. Currently this area (and also the whole of the Tees Valley) is placed in Tier 3 – Very high alert.

Although infection rates have recently dropped and now levelling the Tier is unlikely to change when reviewed on 16 December. It was noted that the national vaccine programme for those most at risk started today.

**90/20. Date and Time of Next Meeting** – Tuesday 9 February. 7pm. Venue to be decided.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9.30pm

Agreed and signed as a true record ..... Date .....

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