

STANTON AND THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Report of the Responsible Financial Officer i.e. the Clerk

on the Accounts of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2018

(Separate accounts are now kept for The Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces which became independent of the Parish Council on 31 May, 2010.)

The **Capital Statement** shows an excess of Receipts over Payments of £3352.70 which increased the capital at the end of the financial year to £7738.31 (from £4385.61 at 31 March 2017). The Parish Council had budgeted that £1500.00 of this reserve should be set aside to pay for a possible P/Council election in May 2019 and also a reserve of £1000.00 for a new village notice board.

The Receipts & Payments Account

The Receipts side shows the main income of the Parish Council in two parts – the precept of £6500.00 and a Council Tax support grant from Middlesbrough Council of £466.00. A Transparency Fund grant of £509 was received which helped towards the funding of a new laptop and associated software. The Environment Committee donated £98.10 from the sale of plants at the village Gala Day. A reclaim for VAT from HMRC realised £484.84. Groundwork UK gave a grant of £2598.00 to fund the costs of preparing and submitting a Neighbourhood Plan for Stainton & Thornton. Receipts for the year totalled £10655.94.

The Payments side shows: -

The **Administration Expenses** totalling £2056.01 a decrease of £1115.14 on the previous year. Muriel Newbould retired from her role of Clerk to the Parish Council at the beginning of August 2017. The new Clerk, previously served as a Parish Councillor and is not permitted, by law, to receive remuneration for the post for a period of 12 months from appointment. Subsequently there was a saving on wages and PAYE costs as well as Clerk's expenses. Hall Hire, Insurance, Printing and Stationery costs were marginally higher than the previous year.

The **Regular Annual Expenses**, increased by £301.24 to £1249.24. This increase is the result of centralising all Environment Committee expenditure in respect of plants, materials and equipment. The Village Newsletter printing costs reduced by £47.26 but the contribution to FSTGS remained at £200.00. Water rates for Kell Gate Green were marginally reduced.

The **Other Expenses** total of £3997.99 includes £150.00 support for Gala Day, and an increased cost for the Christmas Lights now at £550.00. One off expenditure included a Presentation Vase for the retiring Clerk, £94.00 and a Crosscut Shredder for office use, £34.99. A new laptop and software totalled £916.00 but this was offset by the Transparency Fund grant of £509.00 and a VAT reclaim on this item of £153.67 which effectively reduced the cost of the equipment to £253.33. Maintenance and

repairs to street furniture by FSTGS resulted in an annual cost of £200.00 and this in future will be shown in the Regular Annual Expenses section. Spending by the Neighbourhood Plan action group amounted to £2048.00 which included an underspend of £417.88 which was returned to the grant provider. Detailed spending of the Neighbourhood Plan group is available from their Treasurer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.

J.Holmes

RFO and Clerk to Stainton & Thornton Parish Council.

1 May 2018.