

## Stainton & Thornton Community Council

Minutes of the Community Council meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 10 September 2019 at 7pm

**Chair:** The meeting was chaired by Angela Cooper

**Present:** The attendance list recorded 23 people present at the meeting.

**Apologies:** C.Dean, F.Rix, M.Holmes

**Officers/Councillors in attendance:** P/Cllrs. A. Cooper, D. Coupe, A. Liddle, A.Conroy, R. Dennison.

**Police Report** – PCSO Josh Murphy attended the meeting to give the police report. Whilst Stainton and Thornton was quite quiet in comparison to other areas of Middlesbrough there had been a rise in reported crimes over the past 2 months (36 in July and August) compared to the previous 2 months (28 in May and June) which was mainly due to thefts from vehicles. Incidents of anti social behaviour over the same period had reduced slightly to 12 (previously 14). The officer and Cllr. Coupe stressed the importance of reporting incidents to the police so an accurate crime picture can be produced. The officer is happy to be contacted by email if necessary, [joshua.murphy@cleveland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:joshua.murphy@cleveland.pnn.police.uk)

Crimes in progress should be reported via the '999' system. All other matters can be relayed by phoning '101'.

**Speakers** – Both speakers booked to attend the meeting, Steve Elwick from MBC and Barry Coppinger, Police and Crime Commissioner did not attend. Reasons unknown.

**Minutes of Meeting held 9 July 2019** – The Minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 9 July 2019 were agreed and accepted as a true record. All minutes of Community Council meetings are available to be viewed on the Parish Council website under the Local Groups page. [www.staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk)

### **Matters arising**

Drivers exiting from Rose Cottage onto Strait Lane have their vision impaired by the hedges on Strait Lane which need cutting back. Hedge responsibility is currently with the developers, Taylor Wimpey – to be informed.

Drains and gulleys in Strait Lane and other roads nearby are blocked by mud and debris and require clearing. Cllr. Coupe aware and MBC have been informed. Further request to be made.

**Community Councils – Constitution** – A proposed change to the constitution of Community Councils was discussed. Currently the constitution states that Officers of the Community Council (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) must live within the boundary of the ward or area the Community Council covers. The proposal was that you no longer need to reside in the ward or area to occupy an officer role. After full discussion, it was unanimously agreed that Officers of the Community Council should live within the ward or area and there was no support to change the Constitution as it stands. MBC to be informed.

### **Ward Councillors report – Cllr. David Coupe**

Unfortunately, Steve Elwick from Middlesbrough Council is again unable to attend this evening. This is due to an illness in his family.

We welcome a new member of the Neighbourhood Police Team this evening. There has once again been a number of thefts and ASB in the area. There has again been more vandalism and fires in the Quarry. As usual ring 101 if not urgent but 999 if it is more serious.

The new development at Hemlington Grange, which is both part of our Ward and Parish, is expanding much faster than the developers expected. To this end there has been an application for the next stage. The new road through the development from the Safety Hub to Stokesley Road will be included in the next stage.

Cleveland Police are now carrying out speed checks in Stainton & Thornton. It should be noted that The Police are now enforcing the 20mph limit. The flashing speed signs should finally be fitted by early October on Thornton Road between Stainton and Thornton. These are set to trigger at 18mph and should encourage people to slow down.

I have again been talking to Cleveland Police regarding a Speed Watch with residents. This has been promised for some time. The new Chief Constable has promised a greater emphasis on Neighbourhood Policing, and so let us hope that this comes to fruition.

I am sure most of us have been the recipient of nuisance calls. This area has been especially targeted by people whose motive is to extract money from unsuspecting people. One of the main ploys is they will say they are BT or Microsoft and you have a problem with either your Internet Connection or your Windows Computer has a serious problem. Can I tell you that Microsoft will never try to contact you in this way. Neither will BT or any of the service providers. The best thing is to put the phone down straight away. BT and other providers offer various services to restrict nuisance calls and I strongly recommend these. I know of at least three people in Stainton and Thornton who have been taken in by these scams and have paid out hundreds of pounds. One resident in particular asked me to mention this as they currently trying to get their money refunded.

Middlesbrough Council have fitted bollards on Hemlington Road to try and reduce the problems caused by parking on both sides of the road. This has caused problems not only to residents but also to the bus service. They are reviewing the proposed yellow lines near to the Memorial Hall due to comments by some local residents.

There is still no news on the flats next to the care home planned by Angela Swift Developments.

The 13 and 13a Bus Service continue to be well used. I would encourage as many people as possible to use it so that the service can be maintained. The free bus to Coulby Shopping Centre on Mondays and Fridays is still proving very popular. The funding for this service is to be reviewed in the New Year and hopefully will continue.

The Environmental Committee AKA the Green Fingers Gang is there to help and encourage people to plant and maintain the flower beds and tubs throughout the villages. Again, thanks to the dedicated team of volunteers who plant and maintain these throughout the year.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Stainton & Thornton is progressing. The review of Middlesbrough Council Local Plan hopefully will not have a detrimental effect on our efforts but can be seen as a way to protect the identity of the villages.

My Facebook page is **Stainton & Thornton Community**, which is for matters that affect our communities. I hope as many of you can view it and it is also available for comments concerning the villages. I try to attend the Saturday Coffee Morning in the Memorial Hall if anyone wishes to bring any problems or concerns, or you can e-mail or telephone me.

**Treasurer's Report** – Current account stands at £2448 with Printing Costs (£20) and Hall Hire (£32) to be paid.

**Planning Applications** – Nothing contentious. All current applications are within permitted development.

**Grant Application** – None received.

**Any other business**

John Regan, local author, informed meeting that he had written a book of poems which were for sale, £4 per book. All profits would go the Unicorn Centre for disabled riders.

Carole White reminded the meeting that the coffee morning in the Memorial Hall on 21 September would be in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Trust.

Alan Liddle reminded the meeting that there was a village information talk and walk commencing 10am on Thursday 12 September starting from the Parish Church,

**Next meeting** – Tuesday 12 November 2019. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

The Minutes of the Community Council meetings will be circulated by e-mail to all residents who have registered their e-mail address. Please encourage your friends/neighbours to register with me.

Send an email to [ccdatabse@btinternet.com](mailto:ccdatabse@btinternet.com) requesting to be added to the database.

Minutes taken by Jim Holmes, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton TS8 9BB. Tel: 01642 296060 / 07980 572115