

Stainton & Thornton Community Council

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 8 January 2019 at 7pm

Chair: The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Angela Cooper

Present: The attendance list recorded 46 people present at the meeting.

Apologies: H. Dennison, H. Wren, E. Revett.

Officers/Councillors in attendance: P/Cllrs. D.Coupe (Vice Chair) A. Liddle (Treasurer) D. Fewtrell, A. Conroy, C. Dean, J. Holmes (Secretary).

Police Report: PCSO 8141 Simon French was in attendance to give the police report. Recorded crimes in November and December were up (39) compared to the previous 2 months (25). Incidents of anti-social behaviour (9) were down slightly on the previous 2 months (11). Thefts and attempted thefts from motor vehicles was on the increase. These were occurring mainly during the night (early hours) and the suspect was a lone male on a bicycle. Similar incidents were occurring in Hemlington and Coulby Newham and special measures have been instigated in an attempt to identify the culprit. Any private CCTV footage from victims of these crimes would also be helpful to the police. The officer stated he knew some incidents had not been reported to the police, but he was aware of them having been discussed on social media, Facebook etc. Crimes, however trivial, should always be reported to the police so they are aware of offences being committed in a particular area.

Visit <https://www.police.uk/cleveland/Coulby> and see the Crime Map for our area.

Guest Speaker: Ben Houchen, Tees Valley Mayor gave a very positive and inspired talk which was warmly received. He outlined four major projects giving details of the progress made so far by the South Tees Development Corporation on the acquisition of the old SSI site at Redcar. Check out www.southteesdc.com for full details. A £45m rail project at Darlington and Middlesbrough railway stations would improve transport links to and within the Tees Valley area. Two major road projects, the Darlington northern by-pass and a new Tees crossing were vital to the road infrastructure for the area. The purchase of Durham Tees Valley airport, bringing it back into public ownership, would encourage trade links from afar. However, the airport purchase was dependent on the agreement by the 5 local authorities later this month and it was hoped that they would see and appreciate the benefits of such a deal. Progress on this project can be found at www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk All in all the job prospects for this area would be immense.

Ben invited questions from the meeting and afterwards received generous applause from the audience having agreed to return on a future date to give a progress report.

Minutes of Meeting held 13.11.18. The Minutes of the Community Council meeting on 13 November 2018 were agreed and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising – nil

Ward Councillors report – Cllr David Coupe

Firstly, can I thank Ben Houchen, the Tees Valley Mayor, for attending this evening and updating us on what is happening in the Tees Valley. I think that we can all agree it was an excellent talk. Ben has said he would like to come back later in the year to update us on progress in The Tees Valley.

Again, many thanks to the members of the Neighbourhood Police Team were able to be with us this evening. There has again been an increase of theft in the area and attempted break-in to cars. One of the problems is that people are not reporting some crimes. It is most important that all crimes are reported so the police have a better picture as to what is happening. 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 very rapidly. I have again spent some time walking round with a leaflet and talking to residents. They are of course most welcome to attend our meetings. The new Cleveland Police Safety Hub is a possible venue for a future meeting with residents.

The Speeding through Stainton and Thornton is as bad as ever. After the survey carried out by Middlesbrough Council in Stainton & Thornton showed that many people were travelling at over 30 mph, some at over 50 mph. Middlesbrough Council are to fit flashing warning signs over the coming weeks. I can also announce tonight that Cleveland Police will now be enforcing the 20 mph limits not only in Stainton & Thornton but throughout the Cleveland Police area. There will be a 2-week campaign starting on Monday 14th January. There will also be enforcement beyond this date.

There are problems with parking in and around Meldyke Lane and Hemlington Road Stainton. As you may know here was a recent incident when an ambulance was unable to get through. Middlesbrough Council have now submitted a plan which will see yellow lines along part of Meldyke Lane. I have asked Rob Farnham who is Principal Engineer-Traffic Management Middlesbrough Council, to come to our next meeting to address some of the problems.

There has been an increase in dog fouling across the villages. Dog owners must realise that they are responsible for the actions of their dogs. There are large fines for those who flout the law. There has also been an increase in rubbish being dumped in and around the villages. There appears to be two fridges dumped near to the seat on Maltby Road. Please remember we are all responsible for the correct and safe disposal of all our waste.

The 13 and 13a Bus Service continue to be well used. This allows residents to not only travel into Middlesbrough but also to Coulby Newham Shopping Centre. I am afraid that the free bus to Coulby Shopping Centre on Mondays and Fridays may cease in March 2019 as the funding from the Shopping Centre is due to run out. I am working with local Councillors to see if it would be possible to find alternative funding for this well used service.

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. Can I once more thank the dedicated team of volunteers who plant and maintain these throughout the year. They do an excellent job. I am also delighted the agreement for the 106 Money from Taylor Wimpey has finely been signed off by them and passed to Middlesbrough Council for payment in the very near future.

The appeal for The Planning Application by Angela Silk Developments for 64 Apartments which was turned down by MBC took place at Middlesbrough Town Hall on Wednesday 5 December. The result of the appeal should be known by the end of January or the beginning of February I will put the result on my Facebook page.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Stainton & Thornton is progressing very well. Thanks should be given to the hard work by members of the committee. My Facebook page is **Stainton & Thornton Community**, which I try to keep it up to date with 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.

Dog fouling problems – It was agreed that the dog owners responsible for their animal fouling footpaths and gardens and not cleaning up were acting in a very unreasonable manner. The locations of such incidents indicated it was the same person or persons responsible on a regular basis (late evening/early morning). If identified, such persons would be reported.

Litter – A Thornton resident gave details of how she and her son collected a bin bag of roadside litter, plastic bottles and fast food cartons just in the Thornton area. These items had obviously been discarded without thought for the environment or the fact it was an offence to create litter in public spaces. Her son had created a 'litter poster' in an attempt to educate and create awareness of the problem. Cllr. Cooper agreed to bring the poster to the attention of the Parish Council.

Treasurers Report – The Treasurer reported that the current balance in the account was £2206.76. Printing and Hall Hire costs had yet to be deducted. It was hoped that the community council grant from Middlesbrough Council, £750 per annum, would not be subject to budget cuts for the year 2019-20.

Planning Applications – None

Grant Applications received - None

Any Other Business

A Rose Cottage resident requested that everyone be made aware that the open spaces in the Rose Cottage developments were now managed by a company called Green Belt and residents had to pay a yearly service charge, currently £63 per household. It had been suggested that all residents of Rose Cottage form a resident's association or action group to resist further increases in the service charge. It was agreed that a suitable article in the next Village Newsletter, which is distributed to every household, would be a way to progress matters.

Jacqui French said the residents should be complemented on the wonderful display of Christmas lights throughout the villages during the festive season.

Angela Cooper, on behalf of residents, thanked Clare Wren and her team of helpers for providing a wonderful night of free entertainment in the Memorial Hall on New Year's Eve.

Time and date of next meeting – Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 7pm. This would be the Parish Assembly – a joint meeting of the Parish and Community Councils.

The meeting was formally closed by the Chair at 8.45pm

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 requesting to be added to the database.

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