

Stainton & Thornton Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Assembly, a joint meeting of the Parish and Community Councils, held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 12 March 2019 at 7pm.

Chair: The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Angela Cooper

Present: The attendance list recorded 42 people present at the meeting.

Apologies: E.Revett, H.Orchel, Cllr.B.Neale

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 January and February were down (35) compared to the previous 2 months (39). However, over this period there had been a rise (8) in the number of burglary offences. Whilst the majority of these offences are confined to sheds and garages it was disturbing to report there was a dwelling house burglary on the Rose Cottage development where computers and jewellery was stolen. Incidents of anti-social behaviour (9) remained the same over both periods.

Following on from complaints of speeding through both Stainton and Thornton the area was on the 'hotlist' for attention by Road Traffic Policing Unit and the Officer stated he was also keen to set up a Community Speedwatch, hopefully in April, when the equipment would become available.

PCSO French said he was aware of complaints by residents of nuisance 'cold callers' and he was awaiting a reply from Trading Standards at Middlesbrough Council about extending the 'No Cold Calling' area in Stainton with additional signage.

The Officer also listened and responded to matters raised by the meeting which included road rage incidents and suspicious activity by occupants of a grey van seen regularly in the area. He also reminded the meeting that he attended the Saturday coffee morning in the Memorial Hall once a month if anyone wished to discuss any concerns. The dates are displayed in the Memorial Hall.

Crimes, however trivial, should always be reported to the police so they are aware where offences are being committed.

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

Guest Speaker: Rob Farnham, Principal Transport Planning Manager at Middlesbrough Council gave a very informed talk on how the highway improvement schemes are planned, funded and eventually completed throughout the Middlesbrough area. One major scheme, the Stainton Way Western Extension was explained in detail and concerns were expressed about the lack of footpaths and the safety of pedestrians along this area. Mr Farnham also explained that since December the police had agreed to enforce the 20mph speed limit in residential areas and hopefully vehicle users will adapt their driving habits accordingly. The meeting took the opportunity to discuss with Mr Farnham various local problems which included parking issues, the state of Strait Lane because of building works/construction traffic and the difficulty road users experience when leaving Stainton at the junctions onto Low Lane and Stainton Way. The Chair thanked Mr Farnham for his attendance who was warmly applauded by the meeting.

Minutes of Meeting held 8.1.19. The Minutes of the Community Council meeting on 8 January 2019 were agreed and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

- Fly-Tipping – Incidents of rubbish being illegally dumped at various locations in the area were still occurring periodically and residents are urged to report any sightings to Middlesbrough Council immediately. Where possible the Council would sift through the rubbish to try trace the person(s) responsible.
- Dog fouling – Still a major issue. New signs still awaited from Middlesbrough Council. Parish Council are considering installing their own signage.

Great British Spring Clean 2019 - Villages and Parish Councils are being encouraged to take part in this national event which runs for a month from 22 March. The Green Finger Gang have suggested that Thursday, 11 April (in the school holidays) would be a suitable date for a village litter-pick if there was enough support from residents. The event would be advertised in the village newsletter.

Ward Councillors report – Cllr David Coupe

Firstly, can I thank Rob Farnham from Middlesbrough Council for attending this evening and helping to explain the road and transport policies of the Council.

Again, many thanks to the PCSO Simon French of the Neighbourhood Police Team were able to be with us this evening. There has again been a number of thefts in the area and attempted break-in to cars, especially around Rose Cottage There have also been break-ins in Thornton. As usual ring 101 if not urgent but 999 if it is more serious.

At the last meeting I mentioned the new development at Hemlington Grange, which is both part of our Ward and Parish, is expanding apace. Last week I walked around the development and there were about 150 either occupied or just about to be occupied. This is quite a large expansion to the southern part of the Parish. I am concerned as to school places as a result of the rapid expansion. I mentioned this last September to the Director of Children's Services on Middlesbrough Council and did not receive a satisfactory reply. As we can see there are children in Middlesbrough struggling to get suitable school places. I am actively pursuing the matter with MBC.

The adoption of Rose Cottage Farm Phases 1&2 by Middlesbrough Council is underway. These phases have not yet been adopted as publicly maintainable highway but have been placed on a 12-month maintenance period. This period is to ensure that the standards of construction are suitable and to allow time for any issues to arise. During the maintenance period the development is still the responsibility of the developer.

Upon satisfactory completion of the 12-month maintenance period and any remedial works which may become apparent the areas covered by the agreement will be formally adopted as public highway and thus the responsibility of the Highway Authority. Formal adoption is anticipated to take place at the end of the calendar year

During the month of February Cleveland Police carried out speed checks across Middlesbrough and Stockton. One of their targets was Stainton & Thornton. Cleveland Police are now enforcing the 20MPH limit but it is my understanding that anyone going at between 20 to 30 MPH were warned but anyone going over 30 MPH were issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. Please note that they could in the future issue tickets at speeds less than 30MPH. Over the next few weeks there will be temporary flashing speed signs on Thornton and Seamer Roads. The council has carried out other speed checks in the area and I will let people know the results when I have them.

There are problems with parking in and around Meldyke Lane. There will be Yellow Lines along part of Meldyke Lane. I am also very much aware of the problems on Hemlington Road. To this end Middlesbrough Council are looking into fitting bollards.

We now come to the very prickly problem of potholes, road surfaces and the state of the pavements across the area. A number of weeks ago during the Walk the Ward with MBC these were pointed out. On Thursday afternoon I will be walking around the Ward with Geoff Field who is the Director of Environmental and Commercial services for MBC to show to him the problems and hopefully get dates when repairs will take place.

I am delighted to say that as a result of this both Thornton Road and other roads are in the process of being repaired. This will not all happen at once, but I will keep pursuing the matter with MBC.

The appeal by Angela Swift against Middlesbrough Councils decision to turn down her application to build assisted living apartments has been refused by the Planning Inspectorate. As there is still outline planning permission for something

A further submission to build on the site is likely by October this year.

I am very pleased to say that 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 also delighted that the free bus to Coulby Shopping Centre on Mondays and Fridays is to continue for at least another year. My grateful thanks goes to Zoe France of the Parkway Shopping centre for securing the necessary funds to enable it to 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. Can I once more thank the dedicated team of volunteers who plant and maintain these throughout the year. Can I say that they do an excellent job. There have been incidents of people cutting down trees without the required permission. A lot of Stainton & Thornton are covered by a Conservation Area. I will be putting details of advice from MBC on my Facebook page.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Stainton & Thornton is nearing completion. 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.

Treasurers Report – The Treasurer reported that the current balance in the account stood at £2170.76. Printing and hall hire costs had yet to be deducted.

Planning Applications – 6 recent applications had been received but all were non-contentious in nature and not subject to objection by the Parish Council.

Grant Applications received – Stainton Domino Group run a monthly domino drive in the Memorial Hall which is well attended by residents and visitors. The profit from each event is donated to church organisations in the village - Parish Church and Methodist Chapel. The group have been running the domino evenings since 1993 and were applying for a £30 grant to purchase new sets of dominoes. The Grant was unanimously approved by the meeting.

Any Other Business

John Regan, a new resident to Stainton who lives in Marwood Wynd introduced himself. He is a local author and would be willing to speak to interested groups. He can be contacted by email at johnregan1965@yahoo.co.uk

Time and date of next meeting – Tuesday 7 May at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

This is also the AGM of the Community Council when the election of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary will take place. Interested persons should contact the secretary in the first instance.

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