

Stainton & Thornton Community Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Community Council held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 at 7pm

Chair: The meeting was chaired by Angela Cooper

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

Apologies: D. Fewtrell, R. Rix, A. Conroy, J. French.

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

Police Report: PCSO Mark Ballinger was in attendance to give the report. Recorded crimes in March (25) and April (25) were higher than the previous 2 months (35). Incidents of assaults in this period had risen to 16 against a previous total of 9 whilst burglary remained the same, 8 reports in the two-month period. Incidents of vehicle crime had reduced slightly to 7 (previously 9) but reports of theft had risen to 8 (previously 3). Criminal damage had risen sharply to 11 incidents (previously 3). In general, the underlying crime rate was slowly increasing, as was anti-social behaviour with 17 incidents against a previous total of 9.

Concern was expressed about a known drug addict and associates in the Vernon Court area causing distress to residents, fearing for their own safety. The officer promised to give this matter police attention and that the Middlesbrough Council Interventions Team would also be informed of the situation.

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

Speaker: Andy Preston, newly elected Mayor of Middlesbrough gave an inspiring and enthusiastic talk setting out his ambitions and challenges for Middlesbrough during his term of office. He wants to create more housing in the town centre, make people feel safe walking around the area at all times and creating events and experiences that would bring people into the town centre. 40 extra Street Wardens would be employed to help ensure that there would be consequences for bad behaviour. He would also re-examine proposed south Middlesbrough housing development schemes to ascertain if they were really necessary. He would welcome suggestions from all residents and can be contacted at mayor@middlesbrough.gov.uk promising to answer all emails.

Minutes of Meeting held 12.3.19. The Minutes of the Community Council meeting on 12 March 2019 were agreed and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising – nil

Chair's Annual Report of the Community Council

As per our constitution, the Community Council held 6 business meetings during the year 2018-2019, including the Parish Assembly, a joint meeting with the Parish Council. The average attendance was 35 per meeting which was an increase on the figures for last year. The Minutes of the Community Council meetings were diligently taken by our secretary Jim Holmes and circulated by e-mail to all residents who have registered their e-mail address.

We are grateful to the police for attending every Community Council meeting this session and for reiterating that crimes however trivial should always be reported to the police, so they are aware where offences are being committed. As well as delivering the crime figures, PCSOs Simpson, Ballinger and French have listened and responded to concerns and complaints raised by residents. The police attend the Saturday Coffee Morning in the Memorial Hall once a month for anyone wishing to discuss any concerns.

Speeding through the villages continues to be a concern. The good news is that today I noticed a motorbike police office was using a speed gun on Thornton Road.

Fly tipping is still appearing periodically at various locations in the area and residents are urged to report any sightings to Middlesbrough Council immediately, so that it can be sifted through to try to trace the person(s) responsible and for removed. Post have been erected by the Council at entry points where fly tipping has been active. Hopefully this will act as a deterrent.

Dog fouling remains a major issue and we are still awaiting new signs from Middlesbrough Council.

In its new format, Gala Day 18 held on 15 July was well attended by local residents throughout the day. Using the Stainton Inn car park and Memorial Hall was a great success and is now the preferred option. The event raised just over £1100 on the day. This year's Family Fun Gala Day is on Sunday 28th July 1-4 p.m.

This year has seen a diverse selection of guest speakers at our meetings and I would like to thank them all for their interesting and informative talks.

In May Rebecca Hughes gave information about the work in the community undertaken by Ageing better Middlesbrough, in relation to combating isolation and loneliness in old age. July heard Nathan Stanislawski, Operations Manager for Stagecoach NE speak about the 13 and 13a bus services which operates through Stainton and his delight with the passenger numbers. He announced that the service was to be extended from 3 September and would also run to the Parkway Centre at Coulby Newham, which has happened.

At September's meeting, Dave Budd, Mayor of Middlesbrough talked about 'What's happening in Middlesbrough' and gave some details of the investment in the town centre, creating new office buildings and quality jobs. He listened to the concerns expressed by the meeting including planning applications, parking charges in the town centre, traffic and road infrastructure prior to housing development.

November's speaker was Jim Finnegan from Bloodrun Emergency Service who told the meeting about this charity's work providing a free voluntary courier service to North East NHS hospitals and trusts. The talk and his stories were well received and afterwards the meeting decided to donate £100 to Bloodrun EVS to help towards the running costs of the charity.

January's speaker Ben Houchen, Tees Valley Mayor, 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, a £45m rail project at Darlington and Middlesbrough railway stations to improve transport links to and within the Tees Valley area, two major road projects Darlington northern bypass and a new Tees crossing and the purchase of Durham Tees Valley airport, bringing it back into public ownership. He 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.

March saw the return of Rob Farnham, Principal Transport Planning Manager at Middlesbrough Council. He explained how the highway improvement schemes are planned, funded and eventually completed throughout the Middlesbrough area, including the Stainton Way Western Extension.

Concerns were expressed from the residents about the lack of footpaths and the safety of pedestrians along this area. He said that since December the police had agreed to enforce the 20mph speed limit in residential areas and the meeting took the opportunity to discuss various local problems including 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.

Thanks to Jim Holmes, Community Council secretary, for his meticulous reporting of the minutes, David Coupe, our Ward Councillor for keeping us up to date on the latest happenings at MBC and Alan Liddle, Community Council treasurer for keeping a tight hold on the purse strings. Finally, a big thank you to all the residents who attend and participate in these meetings.

The Accounts of the Community Council – Treasurer Alan Liddle

Stainton & Thornton Community Council Accounts 2018 – 2019.

Balance brought forward	£2234.16
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Receipts: -

Annual Grant from MBC	<u>750.00</u>
	2984.16

Expenditure: -

Annual Donation to Friends Group	100.00
MBC Printing Costs	120.00
Hall hire for meetings	96.00
Grant – Memorial Hall – Clock repair	200.00
Grant – Domino Club	30.00
Grant – Green Finger Gang – Winter Plants	250.00
Donation – Bloodrun EVS	<u>100.00</u>
	896.00.
	<u>896.00</u>
Balance to carry forward	2088.16

N.B. MBC have agreed to continue funding for Community Councils for 2019-20 at the same rate, £750.00 as in previous years. This money is normally paid by MBC in June,

Election of Officers

The following persons were nominated and re-elected to the positions identified.

- Chair – **Angela Cooper**
- Vice Chair – **David Coupe**
- Secretary – **Jim Holmes**
- Treasurer – **Alan Liddle**

Election of Executive Committee

The following persons were re-elected as members of the Executive Committee.

Keith Brentall, John Cooper, Christopher Dean.

Audrey Jackson, on behalf of the meeting thanked the Officers for organising the Community Council meetings for the benefit of all residents.

Ward Councillor's report – Cllr David Coupe.

Firstly, can I thank Andy Preston the new Mayor for Middlesbrough for his attendance this evening and setting out his vision for the future of Middlesbrough. I would also like to thank people for their support during the elections to the council. I look forward to being your Ward Councillor for the next 4 years.

Once again gain many thanks to the PCSO Mark Ballinger of the Neighbourhood Police Team were able to be with us this evening. There has once again been a number of thefts in the area. There has been vandalism in the Quarry as well as other crimes. To this end I will be meeting in Stainton with the manager of MBC Intervention Team and the police to discuss the problems. As usual ring 101 if not urgent but 999 if it is more serious.

Again, I mentioned the new development at Hemlington Grange, which is both part of our Ward and Parish, It is on course for 250 houses over the next year. There will be a new School built in Middlehaven which should relieve the pressure on this area. There are no plans to build a Secondary School in this area even though there will be fewer places at both Nunthorpe and Stokesley. Having said that there are plans for a Primary School in the South of Middlesbrough.

Over the last few months Cleveland Police carried out speed checks across Middlesbrough and Stockton. This included Stainton & Thornton. Cleveland Police are now enforcing the 20mph limit and in fact there was a speed check in Thornton and a Traffic Car at the end of Strait Lane today. I did promise that there will be temporary flashing speed signs on Thornton and Seamer Roads. I am still awaiting a date from the Council. The council has carried out other speed checks in the area including Strait Lane.

Although many people were doing under 30 mph a lot were doing 30 to 40 mph and above including 2 who were recorded at over 60 mph. Action by Cleveland Police including a Speed Watch with residents will happen shortly.

The parking in and around Meldyke Lane as well as on Hemlington Road still persists. To this end Middlesbrough Council have fitted bollards but this has spread the problems around the area. This has caused problems to the bus service.

Thornton Road has been repaired and despite MBC accidentally filling a drain with tarmac it is not too bad. There will be other roads repaired over the next few months and some roads including Church Close are to be resurfaced next year.

Angela Swift is still in the process of reviewing the plans for the flats next to the care home. Negotiations with Middlesbrough Council are ongoing, and I am sure we all await the outcome.

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. The free bus to Coulby Shopping Centre on Mondays and Fridays is also extremely well used. Again, my grateful thanks go to Zoe France of the Parkway Shopping Centre

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 again thank the dedicated team of volunteers who plant and maintain these throughout the year. We are just coming up to the planting season and thanks to the dedication of Maureen Holmes nearly all of last year's Geraniums have been saved. These will be added to the new plants and will help to make the villages look so good. The new plants will be purchased at the end of May for planting in June.

A lot of Stainton & Thornton are covered by a Conservation Area. The following is from Peter Wilson
Principal Planning Officer Development Control at Middlesbrough Council

Proposed Tree Works

Residents are reminded that many parts of Stainton and Thornton are situated within a designated conservation area. Not only does this designation signify tighter controls on building works, it also protects all trees within the boundaries of the conservation area. Anyone proposing to cut down or carry out any work on a tree in the conservation area is required to obtain consent from the Council prior to such works taking place.

It has been brought to our attention that some tree works may have taken place without the necessary consent being obtained. Anyone who carries out work on a tree in the conservation area may be guilty of an offence and fined, so please be sure to check whether trees within your property are protected before carrying out any work. It is recommended that you contact Middlesbrough Council Planning department on 729466 prior to carrying out any tree works.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Stainton & Thornton is now very near to completion. I would like to offer my thanks to the hard work by members of the committee. Copies of the plan will be available online shortly before it will be submitted for approval.

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.

Grant Applications – None

Planning Applications – None

Gala Day 2019 – Based on the same format as last year, Gala Day will be on Sunday 28 July. Donations of raffle prizes, tombola prizes, bric-a-brac, books, DVDs etc will be very welcome and can be left in the Memorial Hall for collection.

Any Other Business - Nil

Time and date of next meeting – Tuesday 10 July 2018 at 7.15pm.

The meeting was formally closed by the Chair 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 requesting to be added to the database.

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