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Minutes of the 256th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held online via a remote platform (Zoom) on Tuesday, 13 April 2021 at 7pm.

Authority to hold meeting: The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, R. Dennison. Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

Remembrance. Before the commencement of the meeting the Chair called for a minutes silence in respect of the recent passing of HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh.

14/21. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest. None

15/21. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council - None

16/21. The **Minutes of the 255th meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2021** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair.

17/21. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Group were meeting on a regular basis and have updated the plan taking into account representations following the consultation statements. The NP is currently being proof read and awaiting revised maps from Middlesbrough Council. It is anticipated that the Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Middlesbrough Council at the end of April.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit/ Community Speedwatch scheme** – Cllr. Coupe reported that the roadside speed display signs temporarily sited on Thornton Road had been removed by Middlesbrough Council for use elsewhere. In the absence of any funding from Middlesbrough Council it was agreed that the Parish Council would use some of its reserves to obtain its own roadside speed display units subject to evaluation and suitability. Cllr. Neale agreed to make the necessary enquiries and recommendations on behalf of the Parish Council. In respect of the Community Speedwatch scheme, Cllr. Neale reported that no further progress had been made with regard to police engagement.
- c) **Right of Way footpath – Wynd to Low Lane** – Cllr. Liddle reported that the ROW footpath appears complete however the Footpaths Officer at Middlesbrough Council has yet to lift the restriction order. Cllr. Coupe to contact Middlesbrough Council to progress.
- d) **Potholes/footpaths/maintenance of hedges** – Richard Ward from Middlesbrough Council Area Care has been approached regarding hedges and footpaths but has yet to respond. The extremely poor state of the road surface on the main routes through Stainton and Thornton are a matter of concern to all road users. Cllr. Coupe reported that the next allocation of funding for road repairs by Middlesbrough Council is about to be released. Concern was also expressed about the substandard workmanship of recent pothole repairs in the parish council area.
- e) **Cold calling signage – High Rifts** – No further progress. Item to be removed from agenda.
- f) **Housing developments – Elderwood Park and Ashfield Park.** – These two new housing developments are expanding at a fast rate. Residents there are probably unaware that the

developments fall within the Stainton and Thornton Parish Council area. Future circulation of newsletters etc will be distributed to households at both developments.

- g) **Parking issues, Hemlington Road/Re-siting of bus stops 05/21.** Following the easing of covid restrictions and the reopening of retail and personal care businesses the parking of vehicles in Hemlington Road will be monitored and the street wardens informed of any vehicles causing unnecessary obstruction. Cllr. Coupe reported that Middlesbrough Council will be consulting with residents before re-siting bus stops in Meldyke Terrace and Hemlington Road.

18/21. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

1. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.

2. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.

3. Financial Statement **31.3.21.**

Balance at 31.3.21. **£8810.24**

Income since last meeting: **£112.59.** (VAT reclaim)

Expenditure since last meeting: **£1120.36** Approval required.

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
27.1.21.	A.Liddle	Printer Inks	480	17.58
23.2.21.	WAVE	Water KGG	DD	49.49
26.2.21.	J.Holmes	Zoom Subscription	486	115.10
26.2.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (February)	487	248.61
26.2.21.	HMRC	PAYE (February)	488	62.00
24.3.21.	Northumbria Water	Water test KGG	489	200.18
26.3.21.	J.Holmes	Clerks Expenses	491	34.83
26.3.21.	M.Holmes	Bedding Plants (EC)	492	31.96
26.3.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (March)	493	248.41
26.3.21.	HMRC	PAYE (March)	494	<u>62.20</u>
				1070.36
Unpresented cheques				
25.3.21.	C.Cutler	Website	490	50.00

Balance at 1.4.20. **£7751.08**

Total Receipts 1.4.20. - 1.3.21. **£8727.39**

Total Payments. 1.4.20. - 31.3.21. **£7668.23**

Excess of Receipts over Payments **£1059.16**

Balance at 31.3.21. **£8810.24**

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

19/21. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 – Clerk reported that this return (AGAR) had to be completed before 1 July 2021. As the Parish Council was a smaller authority where gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 it could certify itself as exempt by submitting a Certificate of Exemption to the external auditor by 30 June 2021. To commence this

process an internal auditor had to be appointed in accordance with Part 2 of AGAR 2020/21 and the Accounting Statements prepared and signed by the RFO (Clerk).

20/21. Committee Reports

PLANNING. Recent planning applications received.

21/0210/FUL. 15 Fawcett Avenue – Single storey extension to side (demolition of existing garage) – No objection by Parish Council.

21/0209/DEXIN – 41 Buttercup Grove – Erection of non-exempt detached building excluding electrical work. – Building regulations approved by MBC on 18.2.21. however, size of building means that planning permission required. MBC investigating. Debris/waste from the building appears to be deposited in Maelor's Wood. MBC Area Care investigating.

ENVIRONMENT

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – Following the latest sampling of water from the beck in Kell Gate Green the Environment Agency and Middlesbrough Council had indicated that KGG could be reopened to the public provided appropriate signage was in place. However, the latest analysis shows there has been no improvement at all in the scientifically proven and continued presence of pathogens and toxic substances being discharged from a package sewage treatment plant into the beck, despite maintenance work being recently undertaken. The volume of discharge will increase significantly once the currently empty property is sold. The Pollution Sub Committee reported that as water levels in the beck fall due to seasonal reductions in rainfall, with the existing discharges continuing, concentrations of these substances in the beck around KGG will increase and could represent a significant risk to public health.

Recent discussions with MBC and the EA have not brought about any material change in the conditions causing this problem. Absence of planning detail approval and vagueness about meeting discharge conditions has not been helpful.

Taking all the above points into consideration councillors were asked if the Parish Council should open up Kell Gate Green to the public.

3 Councillors voted to open Kell Gate Green. 4 Councillors voted to keep KGG closed.

There were no abstentions.

By locking the gates to KGG the Parish Council, having a duty of care to uphold, believes it is the best way to keep residents and pets safe. Disappointingly locked gates simply present a hurdle to some people, with warning notices being ignored.

It was agreed that a fuller explanation of the efforts by the Parish Council to resolve the issue including specific details of the content of this pollution, should be shared widely with all residents and others who may be able to help to resolve the problem. It was also agreed that the KGG Pollution Sub Committee would meet as soon as possible to discuss and report back to full Council at their next meeting on the following points.

- MBC reaction on the decision to keep KGG closed
- How the PC can increase pressure to get MBC and EA to take responsibility to resolve the issue.
- Carry out a risk assessment of the current situation – public still going into KGG even though gates are locked.

Boot scrapers – Cllr. Dennison had previously circulated details of various types of boot scrapers available. This matter will be progressed in future meetings.

Volunteer helpers – Cllr Coupe reported that some residents had come forward and volunteered their services to tend and maintain various planters and floral display areas in both Stainton and Thornton. Additional planters had been requested for the Rose Cottage developments. To be discussed at the next Environment Committee meeting.

CRIME & DISORDER – The crime statistics for the month of March showed a marked increase (32 offences) against the previous month (11). Public order offences (14) and vehicle crime (11) were where the biggest increases occurred. Anti-Social Behaviour incidents remains low (4).

Cllr. Neale reported that he has been recently been appointed to the Middlesbrough Independent Advisory Group (IAG) and their first meeting will be held on 13.5.21.

20/21. Village Newsletter – Chair reminded councillors that the quarterly village newsletter had not been published for over a year owing to COVID restrictions. Now that restrictions were being eased consideration should be given to restart publications. After discussion it was agreed that the Village Newsletter would restart from June and in the meantime a leaflet would be produced and circulated to all households with information about the KGG pollution problem and advice regarding unnecessary obstruction by vehicles on Hemlington Road.

21/21. Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces. – Cllr. Liddle reported following the easing of COVID restrictions the group had its first working day last week in Kell Gate Green. Tees Valley Wild Life has 3 new Project Officers who will be assisting and advising on various projects. Chair will also be attending a Green Spaces Forum (via Zoom) on Wednesday 14.4.21.

22/21. Risk Assessments – The annual risk assessments on Parish Council assets are due. Cllr Conroy (Noticeboards) Cllr Liddle (Seats, planters and troughs) to complete necessary forms.

23/21. Cleveland Local Councils Association – No meetings programmed. Weekly circulations are continuing to be forwarded on to all councillors. The local office is readily available for advice if necessary.

24/21. Defibrillator – Clerk reported to councillors that as ‘guardian’ of the defibrillator, fixed on the outside wall of the Memorial Hall, the equipment was regularly checked to ensure it was available for public use. It was evident that on 4 occasions this year the defibrillator had been removed from its cabinet but fortunately later returned unused. The NE Ambulance Service has not been informing the guardian that the defibrillator has been deployed and has not responded to emails requesting clarification on the process.

25/21. Date and Time of Next Meeting: The legislation permitting remote meetings of the Parish Council expires on 6.5.21. after which face-to-face meetings have to resume. However, the Rule of 6, indoors still applies until at least 21 June. Unless the current legislation is extended it was agreed the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be Tuesday 4 May at 7pm via Zoom.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9.30pm

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.

Minutes of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held on Tuesday, 6 May 2021 at 7pm using the Zoom remote platform.

Present: Parish Councillors - A. Liddle, D. Coupe, C. Dean, A. Cooper, B. Neale, A. Conroy, R. Dennison. J. Holmes (Clerk to the Council).

30/21. Election of a Chair of the Parish Council for 2021/2022. The Clerk, as Proper Officer, requested nominations for position of Chair. Alan Liddle was proposed by Cllr. Coupe and seconded by Cllr. Cooper. There were no other nominations. Cllr. Alan Liddle accepted the position and was unanimously re-elected as Chair. He then read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

31/21. Election of Vice Chair of the Council for 2021/2022. Nominations were invited for the position of Vice Chair. Cllr. David Coupe was proposed by Cllr. Conroy and seconded by Cllr. Cooper. There were no other nominations. Cllr. David Coupe accepted the position and duly read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

32/21. Apologies for absence. – None

33/21. Adoption of Standing Orders. The NALC 2018 Model Standing Orders (Revised 2020) were reviewed and adopted by the Council without alteration. Copies will be sent to all councillors. **Resolved:** *2018 Model Standing Orders adopted by the Council.*

34/21. The Annual Report of the Chair of the Council for 2020/21. The Annual Report was read out by the Chair and accepted by the Council. **Resolved:** *Annual Report to be displayed on village noticeboards and on Parish Council Website. Hard copies to be made available on request to the Clerk.*

35/21. The Financial Accounts of the Council for the financial year to 31 March 2021 and the Report of the Responsible Financial Officer (the Clerk). The Parish Council accounts for 2020/2021 and the Report of the Responsible Financial Officer were agreed and accepted and duly signed by the Chair and the RFO. **Resolved:** *The NALC Model Financial Regulations were adopted by the Parish Council and Responsible Financial Officer (Clerk).*

36/21. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21. The Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer had completed the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

- a). The Certificate of Exemption was completed and dated 6.5.21.
- b). The Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21 was undertaken and signed by an independent internal auditor on 27.4.21.
- c). The Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 was approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk on 6.5.21.
- d). The Accounting Statements 2020/21 were approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer (Clerk) on 6.5.21.

Resolved: All relevant documents to be published on the Parish Council website and Middlesbrough Council website, Stainton and Thornton Parish Council webpage by 11.6.21.

37/21. Assets Register. The Assets Register updated by the Clerk. There had been no additions or deletions to the register in the year 2020/2021. Cllr. Conroy to oversee Assets Register during the 2021/22 year.

38/21. To review the Committee arrangements of the Council and elect Committee Chairs. It was agreed that the existing committee arrangements would continue. Cllr. Coupe was nominated as Chair of the Environment Committee (aka Green Finger Gang) with the Clerk continuing as Secretary. Cllr. Liddle would continue to Chair the Planning Committee and Cllr. Neale would Chair the Crime and Disorder Committee, both committees comprising of the full Parish Council. **Resolved:** Existing committee arrangements to continue.

39/21. To elect Members to the Environment Committee. Members and volunteers were invited to continue as at present. Cllrs. Coupe, Cooper and Liddle would attend meetings. Residents on the committee would be confirmed at its next meeting. New members and volunteers were very welcome. The KGG Pollution Sub Committee will continue until the pollution issue is resolved.

40/21. To appoint, if necessary, members to Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces, confirmation of insurance cover for the group and payment of water charges for field alongside Kell Gate Green. Members attending meetings of FSTGS were Cllrs. Liddle, Conroy and Dennison. Minutes of their meetings would be issued to all parish councillors who were all welcome to join the FSTGS group as were any interested residents. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council insurance also covered the FSTGS group and the Council also paid the water charges relating to the field alongside Kell Gate Green.

41/21. Membership review of Cleveland Local Council's Association. The Council's membership was reviewed and Cllr. Liddle proposed, seconded by Cllr. Coupe, continuation of membership. A majority of councillors present voted to continue membership of CLCA. It was agreed that the Chair and any parish councillor would be welcome to attend CLCA meetings. **Resolved:** Membership of CLCA to continue. Payment of CLCA subscription authorised.

42/21. Review of Insurance Cover of the Council and payment authorisation of next annual premium due on 1 June 2021. Insurance cover was discussed. Clerk reminded councillors that last year the Parish Council entered into a Long Term Agreement Premium with Came & Company, Local Council Insurance. The renewal premium this year is £613.97 **Resolved:** Renewal of insurance cover via Came & Company authorised on LTA terms.

43/21. Clerk's report of any urgent correspondence and to authorise any urgent expenditure. - None

44/21. Planning Applications requiring a response before next meeting. - None

45/21. Review of the Budget of the Council for 2021/22. Finances were currently in a healthy state allowing for the Parish Council precept to remain the same, per household as the previous year and using reserves, if necessary, to make up any shortfall in budget requirements. Costings for a roadside speed camera are being actively progressed.

46/21. New agenda items for future Parish Council meetings. – No additions identified.

47/21. Other business requiring response before next meeting.

a) Kell Gate Green Pollution Problem – Chair reported that robust signage is currently being produced by Middlesbrough Council and should be in situ by the end of next week.

b) Inconsiderate parking of vehicles on Hemlington Road – The parking problem is escalating, and Middlesbrough Enforcement Team are visiting the area regularly. Cllr. Coupe to highlight the problem with MBC officer during a ‘walk the ward’ next week.

48/21. To confirm dates of future business meetings of the Parish Council for the year 2021/22

Tuesday 22 June

Tuesday 10 August

Tuesday 12 October

Tuesday 14 December

Tuesday 8 February 2022

Meetings to commence at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 8pm.

Agreed and signed as a true recordDate

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB. Email: clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.

Minutes of the 258th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 22nd June 2021 at 7pm.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, R. Dennison. Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

Member of the public – Dr. Ronan O’Kennedy

49/21. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest. None

50/21. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – Dr. Ronan O’Kennedy, local resident and member of the K.G.G. Pollution Sub Committee. – see item 56/21 Environment

51/21. The **Minutes of the 256th meeting held on Tuesday 13 April 2021** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair.

52/21. The **Minutes of the 257th meeting held on Thursday 29 April 2021** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair.

53/21. The Minutes of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 6 May 2021 were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair,

54/21. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that the completed Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to Middlesbrough Council who in turn will put it out for public consultation – a 6-week period commencing 5 July. An Inspector will be appointed, who will arrange for a referendum for local residents after which Middlesbrough Council will vote, taking into account the referendum result, on the plan which if successful will then be incorporated into the Middlesbrough Council Local Plan.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr Neale updated members regarding his research and communications with relevant parties surrounding the purchase and installation of one or more road-side speed display units. It was agreed by members that the parish council should go ahead with the Unipart Dorman unit - V6AGLBH and accompanying solar power kit. The purchase and installation of two units would be £6,397.00. (£3,198.50 each, excluding VAT.) Prior to any decision to purchase, Cllr Coupe is to contact Mayor Preston, to confirm the costs and availability of funds from his office to purchase units alongside any investment by the Stainton and Thornton Parish Council.
- c) **Parking Issues – Hemlington Road** – PCSO Mike Fenwick has been liaising with Middlesbrough Council about possible road markings on Hemlington Road to prevent the inconsiderate parking of motor vehicles which obstruct the free passage for other vehicles using Hemlington Road. Meanwhile, Middlesbrough Council Enforcement Team will be visiting the area and ticketing offending vehicles in the main areas of concern – outside the two shops and around the Church Close junction.
- d) **Re-siting of Bus Stops** – Cllr. Coupe reported this matter is still ongoing. Consultation by Middlesbrough Council with residents along Hemlington Road and Meldyke Terrace has yet to

take place. Cllr. Dennison reported that the unkempt hedgerow down the west side of Strait Lane was obstructing vision for people standing at the bus stop at the bottom of Strait Lane causing them to step into the road to see if a bus was coming.

- e) **Village Newsletter** – It was agreed that the quarterly newsletter should resume publication in September when hopefully meetings of the Community Council will also resume. The difficulties of delivering the newsletter to the houses in the new developments at Hemlington Grange was highlighted. The possibility of engaging a company distribution service to be looked in to. Cllr. Cooper will edit the newsletter.
- f) **Risk Assessments** – The annual risk assessments on parish council assets have been completed by Cllrs. Conroy and Liddle.
- g) **Defibrillator** – Clerk reported that the communication problems with N.E.A.S. whenever the defibrillator (sited on the wall of the Memorial Hall) was deployed had now been resolved. The defibrillator guardian (Clerk) gets notified by N.E.A.S. by email of its use and the equipment is marked 'out of service' until the guardian confirms the defibrillator is ready again for use.
- h) **Housing developments – Elderwood Park and Ashfield Park.** – A new development phase near to the Police Community Hub on Hemlington Grange Way has commenced. This road, when completed will exit onto the Stokesley Road and Stainton Way.

55/21. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council.

1. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.

2. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.

3. Financial Statement **22.6.21.**

Balance at 1.4.21. **£8810.24**

Income since last meeting: **£10595.00** (Precept and Council Tax Support Grant)

Expenditure since last meeting: **£1872.83.** - Approval required.

Balance at 20.6.21. **£17269.41**

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
23.4.21.	Info. Commissioner	GDPR renewal	495	40.00
27.4.21.	Baines Jewitt	Pro. Services	496	40.80
27.4.21.	RCTW	Internal Audit	497	30.00
29.4.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (April)	498	248.61
26.2.21.	HMRC	PAYE (April)	499	62.00
8.5.21.	CLCA	LCR subs.	500	17.00
8.5.21.	CLCA	Membership Fee	501	322.84
8.5.21.	Came & Co.	Insurance	502	613.97
25.5.21.	C.Cutler	Website (April/May)	503	90.00
31.5.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (May)	504	248.41

31.5.21.	HMRC	PAYE (May)	505	<u>62.20</u>
				1775.83
Unpresented cheques				
13.6.21.	B. Chapman.	Plants	506	40.00
13.6.21.	A. Conroy	Signs KGG	507	<u>57.00</u>
				97.00

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

Northumbria Water have eventually read the meter for water supply to the field next to KGG and have issued a credit of £70.78

The Accessibility Regulations now creates additional work on the website to make it compliant, which is outside of the scope of our website hosting package. Additional costs may be incurred.

56/21. Committee Reports

PLANNING ISSUES – Cllr. Liddle

21/0064/COU. Whimsey Nook, Stainton Way. TS8 9DF. - Retrospective extension to residential curtilage with boundary fencing and wall to front. – Due to be heard at next Planning Meeting at Middlesbrough Council. Cllr. Dennison has objected to this application.

ENVIRONMENT – Cllr. Coupe

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – Following the siting of appropriate warning signs Kell Gate Green has now re-opened to the public. (see Minute 28/21). Currently the water levels in the beck are low, the water clear and there is no odour. Middlesbrough Council had agreed to test the water again in late spring/early summer and it was agreed that it would be appropriate for the test to be taken now. Cllr. Coupe to liaise with Middlesbrough Council.

However, the situation remains unchanged and the matter is unresolved. Toxic substances are still being discharged into the beck from the treatment plants at the 2 properties in the grounds of Stainton House. Connecting the properties to the main sewer system would solve the pollution problem but the cost of such work is prohibitive to the homeowners. Nevertheless, the responsibility to rectify the problem lies with the owners of the properties involved.

Middlesbrough Council who approved the planning applications (M/FP/0916/07/P) in 2007 and the Environment Agency are fully aware of the current situation but are not forthcoming in explaining what actions, if any, they intend to take. Frustrated at the lack of response from all parties the Parish Council decided to refer the matter to the relevant ombudsman in an effort to resolve the issue.

Resolved: Parish Council to write to local Member of Parliament requesting the matter be referred to the relevant ombudsman.

Replacement Planters – Cllr. Liddle reported that the large wooden planter at Thornton T junction had rotted and had to be removed. Barrel planters along Seamer Road could be re-sited at the T junction subject to approval from the Environment Committee. Cllr. Coupe to convene a meeting of the committee in the near future.

Boot Scrapers – An original suggestion from Cllr. Dennison will now be taken onboard by the Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces.

Public Right of Way – Wynd to Low Lane. Cllr. Coupe reported that the Footpaths Officer from Middlesbrough Council had recently visited the area following a complaint of obstruction of the public right of way footpath on land near the Five Acres property which the ROW footpath crosses. The Footpaths Officer is going to write to the Five Acres residents explaining their obligations about keeping the public right of way clear and maintained, including a stile which needs repair.

CRIME & DISORDER – Cllr. Neale.

Crime statistics - are now being received from the police monthly. During the month of May, 39 crimes were reported the highest number for over 12 months. Whilst the information provided is appreciated a little more supporting information around the figures would help us to fully understand what is happening in our area, thus being in an informed position to notify our community members and indeed support the police in any relevant message they want us to pass on, e.g., Crime Prevention messages.

Clerk will liaise with PCSO Fenwick regarding future information.

Rural Resilience – PC 1484 Andy Hampson, Engagement Team, Cleveland Police has contacted the Parish Council regarding issues of dogs, out of control, attacking horses and rural crime in the form of poaching. This was occurring on the rights of way which go through the Pennyman land part of which is within our parish area. The officer asks that we inform residents to use the rights of way whilst keeping to the countryside code. He will also be preparing an information message in relation to recent incidents for circulation via the Clerk.

57/21. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Cllr. Liddle reported that the Friends Thursday Group were now back out on a regular basis cutting and strimming in the Quarry and Kell Gate Green. They had also undertaken a programme of refurbishment on noticeboards and seats. With the easing of covid restrictions it was hoped the quarterly FSTGS meetings will resume.

58/21. Cleveland Local Councils Association – Weekly circulations of emails continue to be forwarded to councillors where relevant. There has been no indication of when meetings will resume.

59/21. Footpath 3 Strait Lane – Cllr. Dean highlighted an area outside 3 Strait Lane that would benefit from being repaired, replacing grass with tarmac. Currently the grassed area was rutted, unsightly and dangerous to pedestrians. He identified a 2 metre strip from the end of the present footpath to the start of the dropped kerb, believed to be Middlesbrough Council land, as the area of concern. Cllr. Coupe to liaise with the appropriate department at Middlesbrough Council.

60/21. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 10 August. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.

Minutes of the 259th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 10 August 2021 at 7pm.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, R. Dennison. Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

Member of the public – B & C Lee, T.Elahi, PCSO Mike Fenwick, PCSO Tony Smith.

61/21. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest. None

62/21. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – Mr & Mrs Lee – Village Newsletter. See item 4e.

63/21. The **Minutes of the 258th meeting held on Tuesday 22 June 2021** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

64/21. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that the completed Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to Middlesbrough Borough Council. The public consultation period ends on the 16 August and an independent examiner has been appointed by MBC with parish council agreement. The examiner will assess the Plan to ensure it meets the Basic Conditions of a Neighbourhood Plan and make recommendation, where necessary, to modify the Plan to make sure it complies. Once agreed, the Plan can then proceed to a referendum. If the referendum result is positive/successful, then the Neighbourhood Plan will then be incorporated into the new emerging MBC Local Plan.

b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr Neale updated members regarding his research and communications with relevant parties surrounding the purchase and installation of one or more road-side speed display units. It had been established that data from the preferred unit could be downloaded for analysis.

It was proposed by Cllr Conroy, seconded by Cllr Liddle, that the Parish Council purchase one roadside display unit – Unipart Dorman V6AGLBH and accompanying solar power kit - irrespective of whether any match funding would be forthcoming from Middlesbrough Council for additional units. The proposal was carried unanimously. Cllr Neale to liaise with Middlesbrough Council to progress the purchase.

Resolved: The Parish Council to purchase one roadside speed display unit as described.

c) **Parking Issues – Hemlington Road** – Cllr Coupe reported that Middlesbrough Council officials had visited the area and will be making some proposals to try alleviate the parking problems on Hemlington Road - which may include the installation of yellow lines. In the meantime, the Council Community Enforcement team will be visiting the area on an ad hoc basis, and ticketing offending vehicles in the main areas of concern – outside the two shops and around the Church Close junction.

d) **Re-siting of Bus Stops** – No further progress on the re-siting of the bus stop in Hemlington Road and Meldyke Lane near the old Board School. A request will be made to Tees Valley Connect for the bus stop signage to be correctly named.

- e) **Village Newsletter** – Cllr. Cooper will be the editor of the village newsletter which because of the new housing developments at Hemlington Grange (**Elderwood Park and Ashfield Park**) will be retitled '*The Parish of Stainton and Thornton Residents Newsletter.*' Clerk reported that the volunteer distributors in Stainton and Thornton had confirmed their willingness to continue but additional volunteers were required to service the 400+ houses at Hemlington Grange. An appeal for additional volunteers would be made but the services of a leaflet distribution company will have to be considered. The current number of houses in the new developments to be ascertained.
- f) **Footpath – 3 Strait Lane** – Cllr. Dean reported that he was still awaiting conformation from Middlesbrough Council that they were the owners of the land in question. Cllr. Coupe to progress enquiry.

65/21. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council.

- The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.
- NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.
- Financial Statement **9.8.21.**

Balance at 6.6.21. **£17629.41**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£820.22.** - Approval required.

Balance at 9.8.21. **£16809.19**

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
13.6.21.	B. Chapman.	Plants	506	40.00
13.6.21.	A. Conroy	Signs KGG	507	57.00
30.6.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (June)	509	248.61
30.6.21.	HMRC	PAYE (June)	510	62.00
8.7.21.	Baines Jewitt	Pro. Services	511	42.00
31.7.21.	C.Cutler	Website	512	60.00
31.7.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (July)	513	248.41
31.7.21.	HMRC	PAYE (July)	514	<u>62.20</u>
				820.22

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

66/21. Committee Reports

PLANNING ISSUES – Recent applications received at Middlesbrough Council include:

21/0541/FUL. 16 Meldyke Lane. – Blocking up of one of two doors to front.

20/0539/FUL. 62 Cedarwood Glade – Single storey extension to rear.

21/0540/PNH. 5 Brookes Lane – Single storey extension to rear.

No objections to the applications by the Parish Council.

ENVIRONMENT

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – The Environment Agency, at the request of Middlesbrough Council, have taken further sampling from Stainton Beck and the results show no improvement in the levels of pollution in the water course at the discharge point, upstream and downstream points. The situation remains unchanged, and the matter is still unresolved.

At the Parish Council meeting held on 22 June 2021 it was decided to write to the local Member of Parliament requesting the matter be referred to the relevant ombudsman. Advice received from his office indicates the Parish Council should in the first instance make an official complaint to the Environment Agency after which the matter can be referred to the Parliamentary Ombudsman if the outcome is unsatisfactory.

In the meantime, it was agreed that all residents should be brought up to date with the ongoing situation in Kell Gate Green and that an article in the Residents Newsletter was the best forum to share this information.

Resolved: Stainton & Thornton Parish Council to make an official complaint to the Environment Agency in relation to the pollution problem in Stainton Beck.

Environment Committee (GFG) – Cllr. Coupe (Chair) suggested that a meeting of the Environment Committee be scheduled for 31 August to discuss ongoing matters including, replacement planters, tubs, and overhanging hedges. – Clerk to arrange.

CRIME & DISORDER – PSCOs Mike Fenwick and Tony Smith attended the meeting and were introduced to members of the Parish Council. The officers were thanked for supplying the local crime statistics on a monthly basis. It was agreed that Parish Council would be informed, where possible, of any trends in advance of the monthly figures e.g., theft from the new building developments near the Community Safety Hub off Stainton Way, or any other incidents where residents could be warned accordingly. It was evident that although some incidents were not being reported to the police they were actively shared on social media (Facebook etc). The officers stated they monitored social media as a matter of course which allowed them to keep up to date with 'non reported' incidents, however crime statistics would be more accurate if all matters were reported.

The Community Safety Hub is located within the parish of Stainton and Thornton, and it was a concern for councillors to learn that the monthly crime statistics could be distorted as any crime report in the force area without an identified address is allocated to the Community Safety Hub for location purposes. The Clerk will write to Cleveland Police and to the Police and Crime Commissioner highlighting this concern and requesting accurate statistics in future.

PCSO Fenwick also reported that the Speed Watch team returned to the area last week resulting in 5 drivers reported and 13 drivers cautioned for speeding offences. The Speed Watch team will return to the area on an ad hoc basis.

67/21 Traffic Monitoring – Stainton Way – It had been noticed that some form of traffic monitoring was taking place on Stainton Way near the footbridge, however the reason for the monitoring was unknown. Cllr. Neale to liaise with Steve Rigg, Middlesbrough Council on this matter.

68/71 Middlesbrough Area Care – Workload and Work Schedule. It had been noted that whilst Area Care had been cutting on the grassed areas in Stainton and Thornton, Maelor's Wood remains somewhat neglected with the grass paths and hedges overgrown and in need of attention. The Chair will request to meet Area Care on site to discuss areas of concern and to clarify their work schedule.

69/21. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Cllr. Liddle reported that the group had recently held their AGM. The elected officers are Chair – Alan Liddle, Vice Chair – John Cooper, Treasurer – Brian Hogarth, Secretary – Muriel Newbould.

One of the badger sculptures on Strait Lane had rotted and had to be removed. A replacement badger sculpture would be ordered along with possibly two more animal sculptures for Kell Gate Green and the Quarry. Sue Antrobus from TVWLT will be organising some children's sessions in Maelor's Wood on the 18 – 19 September and in the half term week on 26 October.

The chair is to contact Simon Blenkinsop at MBC to organise the replacement of several street trees that have been removed due to damage or disease. Replacement street trees have been identified and will be planted when acquired.

70/21. Cleveland Local Councils Association – Weekly circulations of emails continue to be forwarded to councillors where relevant. There has been no indication of when meetings will resume.

71/21. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 12 October. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.

Minutes of the 260th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 12 October 2021 at 7pm.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

Member of the public – K & V Robinson, J. McCabe, PCSO Jack Fisher

72/21. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest. Apologies received from Cllr. R. Dennison (unwell)

73/21. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – Mr & Mrs Robinson, Mrs J. McCabe. – Speeding of vehicles on Thornton Road. (see item 75/21b).

74/21. The **Minutes of the 259th meeting held on Tuesday 10 August 2021** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

75/21. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that following the submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to Middlesbrough Council, Patrick Whitehead had been appointed as Examiner. He has contacted the NP Group for clarification on certain matters and has undertaken a site visit. His recommendations to Middlesbrough Council on the plan are imminent. If successful, it is hoped that a public referendum will be held before Christmas.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr Neale reported that he had held a site meeting in the villages with Steve Rigg (Middlesbrough Council) on 30 September. Locations for roadside units were discussed and identified. A funding bid had been submitted to the Mayor which, if successful, could result in the purchase of 4 units.
Local residents present, Mr & Mrs Robinson and Mrs McCabe expressed their concerns about the speed of vehicles on Thornton Road as well as the driving of vehicles at the T junction of Thornton Road and Maltby Road. Their suggestion of a STOP sign at the junction would be put to Middlesbrough Council. A request to repaint the 20mph road markings on Thornton Road will also be made. The residents were assured that the Parish Council and the police were fully aware of the speeding concerns and were actively pressing for a solution to the problem. Cllr Neale will be contacting Steve Rigg on timescales regarding the funding bid.
- c) **Parking Issues – Hemlington Road** – Very little progress has been made and vehicles continue to be left unattended, parked without consideration to other road users. Education by means of enforcement by Street Wardens is to be encouraged. Cllr Coupe to speak to Street Wardens and arrange regular visits to the area.
- d) **Re-siting of Bus Stops** – No further progress on the re-siting of the bus stop in Hemlington Road and Meldyke Lane near the old Board School, although the location of the re-siting had been identified
- e) **Village Newsletter** – Cllr. Cooper reported that the September edition of the newsletter had been delivered to all residents including the new developments at Hemlington Grange. Following an appeal for volunteers to service the 400+ houses at the development 2 residents had offered their services. Hopefully more will follow suit.
- f) **Footpath – 3 Strait Lane** – Cllr. Dean reported that he was still awaiting conformation from Middlesbrough Council that they were the owners of the land in question. Meanwhile the

heavy flower planter will be moved from the footpath to the grassed area which should, in the short term, driving over the affected area.

- g) **Area Care** – Chair reported that the Parish Council had a very good relationship with Richard Ward at Middlesbrough Council who responds effectively to requests. MBC grass cutters had now attended Maelor's Wood, Stainton Quarry and Kell Gate Green.
- h) **Traffic Monitoring – Stainton Way** – Cllr Neale reported he was unable to ascertain the reason for the monitoring of traffic in August on Stainton Way. However, it was suggested that traffic flows were being measured in relation to the proposed new road in Stainsby Park.

76/21. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council.

1. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.

2. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.

3. Financial Statement **10.10.21.**

Balance at 9.10.21. **£15886.70**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£922.39.** - Approval required.

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
26.8.21.	MBC	Printing	515	68.67
26.8.21.	SLCC	Membership renewal	516	45.00
28.8.21.	HMRC	PAYE (August)	517	62.20
28.8.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (August)	518	248.41
21.9.21.	M.Holmes	Bedding Plants	519	95.71
30.9.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (Sept)	520	248.61
30.9.21.	HMRC	PAYE (Sept)	521	62.00
30.9.21.	Baines Jewitt	Pro. Services	522	42.00
3.10.21.	J.Holmes	Toner tank	523	16.79
3.10.21.	B.Chapman	Bedding plants	524	<u>33.00</u>
				922.39

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

77/21. Committee Reports

PLANNING ISSUES

21/0418/FUL. 8 Hemlington Road. Chair reported that Middlesbrough Council had confirmed that the curtilage of the property was not in the Stainton conservation area and not subject to restrictions. However, there were other concerns about the development and the builder has been told to stop work by Middlesbrough Council whilst officials investigate.

ENVIRONMENT

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – Following an official complaint to the Environment Agency it has been revealed that they did in fact respond to Middlesbrough

Planning Department stating there should be no foul or contaminated discharge from any source into Stainton Beck.

Middlesbrough Council maintain their stance that the treatment plants at the properties concerned when working efficiently prevent any foul discharge.

The pollution problem in Kell Gate Green continues with foul discharge into the beck and the matter remains unresolved.

Cllr. Conroy proposed that the Parish Council obtain new water samples at the outlet source and once the results are known the Parish Council consider making an official complaint to the Middlesbrough Council before referring the matter to the Ombudsman.

Resolved: Cllr Conroy to arrange for water sampling from Stainton Beck for analysis.

Environment Committee (GFG) – Cllr. Coupe (Chair) reported on two recent meetings of his committee which has resulted in new volunteers coming forward. A gardening event is to be held in the Memorial Hall next March in the form of a ‘Gardeners Question Time’ with the past owner of Cherry Hill Garden Centre offering advice etc. The old village pump on Thornton Road is to be relocated to an area near the T junction, a more prominent position.

Some residents from Rose Cottage 3 have complained about the state of the ROW footpath from the Wynd to Low Lane. There are also concerns that the suds pond in the same development near Low Lane, is unsafe and should be fenced off. Cllr. Coupe to arrange site meeting with Stuart Muir Williams, Footpaths Officer, Middlesbrough Council.

Resolved: Environment Committee reports accepted.

CRIME & DISORDER – PCSO Jack Fisher was in attendance, deputising for the local officers who were unavailable.

Current concerns were the recent grass fires in Maelor’s Wood caused apparently by youths from out of area. The police were aware of the incidents and will be visiting the area frequently. Similar incidents should be reported to them immediately.

The monthly crime statistics supplied by the police were appreciated as it gives a flavour of what is occurring in the area, although historic in nature. It was requested that police inform the council of any concerns/crimes that were currently ongoing so as to be aware and inform residents accordingly.

Clerk reported that he had expressed concern in writing regarding the recording of crimes without an identified address being logged at the Community Safety Hub located in our area and possibly distorting the crime figures. No reply has been received from the police. The officer stated he would investigate the matter on the reference number provided by the Clerk.

78/21. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Cllr. Liddle reported that the recently circulated AGM minutes were inaccurate and should be withdrawn. New minutes will be circulated in due course.

The Thursday Group had acquired a new volunteer. The Quarry will have the final cut this week followed by KGG the following week after which the cutters will be put to be until next year.

The Maintenance Contract with the Parish Council continues at a cost of £500 per annum.

The annual donation of £200 to the FSTGS in assist in running costs was approved with a proviso that a further donation would be made if running costs were unexpectedly high.

Resolved: The maintenance ‘contract’ be renewed at a cost of £500 and a donation of £200 made towards running costs.

79/21. Cleveland Local Councils Association – Weekly circulations of emails continue to be forwarded to councillors where relevant. Clerk to contact Secretary to ascertain when quarterly meetings are likely to resume.

80/21. Community Governance Review – Chair reported that Middlesbrough Council are conducting a community governance review after Nunthorpe Parish Council requested an alteration to their parish boundary. A review by MBC is long overdue as the original legislation came into force in 2007 and must be reviewed every 10 years. Documents released by Middlesbrough Council have been circulated to all councillors inviting comment. The review is ongoing with the Chair and Ward Councillor attending meetings via Webex.

81/21. Christmas Lights – It was noted that the seasonal christmas lights ‘switch on’ would be held on Friday 3 December 2021. The Memorial Hall had booked a brass band to play christmas carols in the ‘Square’ as a community event. Cllr. Conroy to arrange installation of lights with Middlesbrough Council

82/21. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 14 December 2021. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.

Minutes of the 261st meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 14 December 2021 at 7pm.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

83/21. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest. Apologies received from Cllr. R. Dennison (Shielding)

84/21. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – None

85/21. The **Minutes of the 260th meeting held on Tuesday 12 October 2021** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

86/21. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that the submitted Stainton and Thornton Neighbourhood Plan has been the subject of an independent examination by Mr Patrick Whitehead for Middlesbrough Council with the support of Stainton and Thornton Parish Council to assess the validity of the plan. The Fact Check report provided by the examiner was discussed by the Neighbourhood Plan Group on the 7 December (with the approval of the Parish Council) where it was agreed to accept the suggested recommendations to modify a number of policies and text to ensure the Plan meets the Basic Conditions and other legal requirements. The final examination report has now been submitted by the examiner to both the Parish Council AND Middlesbrough Council. The modifications suggested by the examiner are primarily to aid clarification and prevent repetition in the policies. These suggestions/modifications will be included in the Plan by Middlesbrough Council and agreed by the Parish Council.

The examiner has concluded that once the Plan has been modified, it should proceed to referendum. Middlesbrough Council are now responsible for progressing the Plan to referendum and it is estimated that the referendum should take place in March 2022. If the referendum results in a "yes" vote, the resulting Plan should provide appropriate policy responses to complement the local strategic planning framework and the emerging Middlesbrough Council local plan and assist with decision making for development proposals.

- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr Neale reported that Steve Rigg, Principal Engineer at Middlesbrough Council has confirmed with the manufacturers the specification for the proposed sign and post on Strait Lane. Consultation letters to the affected properties will be sent out later this week. His department are awaiting the results of the funding bid for further road safety measures, and this should be known by the end of January. The Parish Council's contribution for the initial unit will be in the region of £3500.
- c) **Parking Issues – Hemlington Road** – Middlesbrough Council are proposing to implement double yellow line waiting restrictions at the junction of Hemlington Road and Church Close. Complaints have been received regarding parking at this location, obstructing traffic flow and reducing visibility at the junction. The proposed yellow lines would improve traffic flow and road safety by restricting parking at the junction and would apply to all motorists (including residents of Church Close). Consultation letters have been sent to affected residents and

businesses after which a traffic regulation order is required to legalise the process which will take around 3 to 6 months to complete.

- d) **Re-siting of Bus Stops** – Cllr. Coupe reported that the bus stop on the south side of Hemlington Road had recently been moved towards the Cedarwood Glade junction. New road markings were now in situ. The re-siting of the bus stop outside the Stainton Inn has yet to be completed.
- e) **Village Newsletter** – Cllr. Cooper reported that the December edition of the newsletter was currently being delivered to all residents including the new developments at Hemlington Grange. Door to door delivery in the new developments are proving problematic and a direct appeal for volunteers from this area is to be made in the next issue.
- f) **Footpath – 3 Strait Lane** – Middlesbrough Council are yet to confirm that the affected area is council owned. Cllr. Coupe to follow up. Meanwhile, Cllr. Dean would speak to resident at 5 Strait Lane to see if she had any objection to any remedial work to the footpath and verge.
- g) **Community Governance Review** – Cllrs. Liddle and Coupe reported on a meeting held 13.12.21. Middlesbrough Council will be conducting a survey – ‘Your Area – Your Say’ which will go out to every resident in the Middlesbrough Council area. Cllrs. Liddle and Coupe were not convinced that the Democratic Services department knew how Parish and Community Councils operated. To this end representatives from the department will be invited to future Stainton and Thornton Parish and Community Council meetings.
- h) **Christmas Lights** – Cllr. Conroy reported the village christmas lights were installed mid-November and the ‘switch on’ took place on 3 December. Initially there were some problems with the electrics tripping out, believed caused by recent heavy rains. However, all connections were checked and made watertight by a re-visit by the installers. The lights, on a timer, are now working normally. A Thornton resident had enquired if it was possible to have Christmas Lights/Tree in Thornton near the T junction. The feasibility would need to be addressed by the Parish Council.

87/21. The Report of the Clerk to the Council

a. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.

b. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.

c. Financial Statement 14.12.21.

Balance at 13.12.21. **£13853.84**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£2034.86** - Approval required.

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
12.10.21.	FSTGS	Maintenance Plan	525	500.00
12.10.21.	FSTGS	Donation	526	200.00
24.10.21.	P.Burton	Bedding plants	527	25.47
30.10.21.	C.Cutler	Website (Aug-Nov)	528	120.00
30.10.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (Oct)	529	248.41
30.10.21.	HMRC	PAYE (Oct)	530	62.20

1.11.21.	P.McInnes	Bedding plants	531	76.50
9.11.21.	Cllr. Conroy	Xmas Lights	533	114.47
22.11.21.	Memorial Hall	Hall Hire	534	88.00
23.11.21.	Northumbria Water	Water analysis	535	200.18
26.11.21.	MBC	Printing	536	68.77
30.11.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (Nov)	537	248.61
30.11.21.	HRMC	PAYE (Nov)	538	62.00
4.12.21.	J.Holmes	Raffle books	539	<u>20.25</u>
				2034.86

Invoice to pay – Middlesbrough Council – Installation of Christmas Lights - £570.10

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

d. **Zoom portal** – Clerk reported that the Zoom portal would be due for renewal in February if unlimited use was still required. Following discussion, it was agreed not to renew the contract.

e. **Risk Management Policy** – Annual Review. The Clerk had previously circulated the Risk Management Policy to all councillors for annual review.

Resolved: Risk Management Policy reviewed and adopted without change.

88/21. Committee Reports

PLANNING ISSUES

All current planning applications recently received are of a non-contentious nature and do not warrant comment by the Parish Council.

ENVIRONMENT

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – Cllrs. Conroy and Liddle. As agreed at the last meeting water sampling from Stainton Beck had been analysed recently. Pollution levels in the beck have reduced but pollution is still present. The package treatment plants in the 2 properties appear to be working better but not to the manufacturer's standards. Dr. O'Kennedy (Microbiologist) and member of the Parish Council pollution sub-committee has concerns about power outages, equipment failure (pump breakdown) and poor maintenance. Any of these could result in further major pollution issues into the seasonal beck.

Despite the current improvement in pollution levels the problem still exists and is being caused by discharge into the beck from the package treatment plants in the 2 properties. Explanations from Middlesbrough Council, as to why planning permission for the package treatment plants was granted in the first instance is unsatisfactory. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the Ombudsman. Cllrs. Conroy and Liddle to explore the procedures required for the referral.

CRIME & DISORDER – It was noted that PCSO Mike Fenwick, the Neighbourhood Office for our area, had resigned from the force. No notification of any replacement yet.

The damage to the Vernon Court noticeboard by visitors to the nearby Children's Home had been investigated by the police, without result.

Cllr. Neale reported that the October meeting of the I.A.G. did not go ahead and the December meeting was cancelled as a suitable venue could not be found. The next scheduled meeting of the I.A.G. will be in February. The latest Key Messages document from the Neighbourhood Policing and Community Partnership has been circulated by email.

89/21. Cleveland Local Councils Association – Weekly circulations of emails continue to be forwarded to councillors where relevant. Clerk contacted CLCA Secretary to ask when quarterly meetings resume.

Informed that the regional chair was recovering from a knee replacement. Hopefully a date will be fixed soon.

90/21. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Chair reported on the quarterly meeting held on 29.11.21.

Dr. Ronan O’Kennedy gave a power point presentation on the pollution problem in Stainton Beck at Kell Gate Green. The slide presentation would be made available to group members and councillors for reference, if needed.

The Treasurer reported a balance of £18033.38 following an income of £850 made up from donations from the Community Council and Parish Council as well as the annual street furniture maintenance grants from the Parish Council. An updated Habitat and Maintenance scheduled was prepared by Alan Conroy.

The Children’s Nature Event held on 26 October, organised by Sue Antrobus, was a great success and 2 more are planned for next year, one at Easter, one in late Spring or early Summer. The cost would be £250 per session.

Steve Iredale had checked over the damaged/rotten wood sculptures and suggested they all be replaced with new ones. He would look at sculpting 2 pairs of animals, size and design to be agreed. Cost would be in the region of £5000.

Sue Antrobus suggested it may be worth considering the formation of a sub-group of volunteers to look after the northern part of the village, Maelor’s Wood and Stainton Low Wood with residents from Rose Cottage Farm. Sue will progress the idea and report back.

The next meeting of the FSTGS group will be in March 2022.

91/21. Draft Budget and Precept Proposals 2022/23. – Clerk had prepared a preliminary budget forecast based on a precept of £9.31 per household. Full budget details will be agreed at the next meeting in February however councillors did agree that the precept should remain at £9.31. It was noted that provisionally the number of dwellings (Band D equivalent) base is 1240 compared to 1088 last year.

Resolved: 2022/23 precept for Parish of Stainton & Thornton to remain at £9.31 per household.

92/22. Storm Arwen – Interruption of electricity supply. – Cllr. Neale reported that as a result of the storm damage causing damage to power lines a certain section of Stainton was without power for 8 hours. Several homes with vulnerable residents were affected. There was a distinct lack of communication from Middlesbrough Council and certainly no cohesion with the Parish Council who would have been able to identify efficiently where help was needed most. He intended to take the matter up with the Emergency Planning team at Middlesbrough Council.

93/21. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 8 February 2022. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.

Minutes of the 262nd meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday 8 February 2022 at 7pm.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, R. Dennison. Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.

01/22. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest - None

02/22. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – None

03/22. The Minutes of the 261st meeting held on Tuesday 14 December 2021 were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

04/22. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Chair reported that the submitted Stainton and Thornton Neighbourhood Plan was now at the referendum stage and voting cards had gone out to all residents. The referendum on Neighbourhood Plan will take place on Thursday, 3 March 2022 between the hours of 7am – 10pm. The NP document can be viewed online at www.staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk and a hard copy is available to view on request.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr Neale reported that Steve Rigg, Principal Engineer at Middlesbrough Council has confirmed with the manufacturers the specification for the proposed sign and post on Strait Lane. The order for the unit for Strait Lane has been placed at a total cost to the Parish Council of £3446.00. Following a successful bid to Middlesbrough Council further speed reducing measures will be installed in our area in the new financial year.
- c) **Parking Issues – Hemlington Road** – Cllr. Coupe reported that he held a site meeting with the Principal Engineer at Middlesbrough Council last week. Parking restrictions (yellow lines) are to be introduced on Hemlington Road, either side of the Church Close junction. There will also be a physical barrier (post) to prevent parking on the footpath on the corner of Church Close. Complaints have been received regarding parking at this location, obstructing traffic flow and reducing visibility at the junction. The proposed yellow lines would improve traffic flow and road safety by restricting parking at the junction and would apply to all motorists, including residents of Church Close.
- d) **Re-siting of Bus Stops** – Cllr. Coupe reported that re-siting of the bus stop outside the Stainton Inn has been completed. A physical barrier (posts) will be installed to prevent parking of vehicles on the footpath outside the premises.
- e) **Village Newsletter** – Cllr. Cooper reported that the March edition of the Village Newsletter would be circulated with Community Council newsletter due out at the same time. Clerk will explore the viability of using a leaflet distributor to service the 450 properties at Hemlington Grange.
- f) **Footpath – 3 Strait Lane** – Cllr. Dean reported it had been established that the affected land is owned by Middlesbrough Council. The resident at 5 Strait Lane had no objection to the remedial work to the footpath which would be carried out by Middlesbrough Council or a sub-contractor. Cllr. Coupe to progress.
- g) **Community Governance Review** – Cllrs. Liddle and Coupe reported that there had been no further communication from Middlesbrough Council on this matter.

- h) **Christmas Lights** – Cllr. Conroy reported the village christmas lights had been taken down by Middlesbrough Council and were now stored in the Memorial Hall. The invoice for the installation and then removal of the lights £570.10 has been paid to Middlesbrough Council.
- i) **Storm Arwen** – Cllr. Neale reported he had been unable to contact anyone from the Emergency Planning at Middlesbrough Council and has had no response to emails. He will endeavour to make contact.
- j) **Parish Council Budget/Precept** – Clerk reported that parish council precept for 2022/23 at £9.31 per household would realise £11544. The Parish Council budget was initially set at £10000. It was likely there would be extra funds available for the purchase of seats or noticeboards once sites had been identified.

05/22. Footpaths & Overhanging hedges – Cllr. Coupe reported that the overhanging hedge at two properties on Seamer Road, Thornton was in the process of removal. One of the properties concerned had cut back the hedge and MBC will be asked to send a letter to the adjoining property asking the resident to severely cut back their hedge otherwise MBC could cut it back themselves. All the footpaths in Thornton were in a poor state if repair as were some in Stainton. Cllr Coupe to bring to attention of MBC in the next ‘walk the ward’ meeting.

06/22. Other Parking Issues – Cllr. Coupe reported that he continues to receive complaints of parking issues in Meldyke Lane and outside the Memorial Hall and Old Board School. The Community Enforcement Team (Camera car) will be making ad hoc visits to the area and acting if necessary.

07/22. Dilapidated building – 1 Hemlington Road – The whereabouts of the owner of this property is currently unknown. The building is Grade II listed but Middlesbrough Council state that if the property is structurally sound there is little they can do despite it being unsightly. Cllr. Coupe to speak to Paul Clarke at MBC in an effort to trace the owner of the property.

08/22. Rose Cottage Farm estates – Chair reported that roads and footpaths in Rose Cottage Farm Phases 1 & 2 have been adopted by Middlesbrough Council. In Phase 3, whilst the building work has been completed, the roads and footpaths have yet to be adopted. The green spaces in all 3 phases are managed by a private company with all residents paying a monthly maintenance charge. In addition to housing phase 3 contains a children’s play area (with equipment) installed by the developers, Taylor Wimpey who also created a sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS) at the Low Lane end of the estate. The SUDS pond has no protective fence. The Parish Council needs to know who is responsible for the maintenance of the hedgerows and SUDS pond areas in Phase 3. The Parish Council also needs to know who is responsible for the maintenance and subsequent insurance of the play area. All areas of the Rose Cottage estates fall within the parish and the parish council is concerned for the safety and insurance liability of these areas. Initial enquiries with Middlesbrough Council have proved inconclusive. It was agreed to write to Middlesbrough Council for a definitive answer on the Parish Council’s concerns.

09/22. Salt bins, road sweeping and drains – Following complaints to the ward councillor, Cllr. Coupe had arranged for Middlesbrough Council to attend the area. The roads had swept by a mini-sweeper and the blocked drains on Strait Lane and Low Lane had been cleaned after examination by council engineers. Salt bins were available on request to MBC.

10/22. Gardening Services – Rose Cottage residents. A resident moving house from Rose Cottage has informed the parish council that the sale of her property was nearly jeopardised because of the exorbitant charge for the termination of contract by the private company who maintain the green spaces in Rose Cottage. Enquiries reveal residents at Rose Cottage are contracted to pay a monthly fee to a private company that maintains the green spaces on the estate. The maintenance fees are currently unregulated and uncapped, meaning that in some areas whoever provides the service, can increase the charges as they see fit and impose their own set of rules regarding payments and termination charges. Whilst the termination charges appear unpalatable, they are not illegal and conveyancing solicitors should be highlighting these issues to prospective purchasers.

11/22 The Report of the Clerk to the Council including correspondence, financial statement and authorisations.

a. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, The Clerk.

b. NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all councillors where appropriate.

c. Financial Statement **8.2.22.**

Balance at 7.2.22. **£12427.85**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£1425.99** - Approval required.

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
14.12.21.	MBC	Xmas lights	540	570.10
20.12.21.	A.Liddle	Printer inks	541	34.68
29.12.21.	J.Holmes	Salary (Dec)	542	248.41
29.12.21.	HMRC	PAYE	543	62.20
31.1.22.	J.Holmes	Microsoft 365	544	79.99
31.1.22.	C.Cutler	Website (Dec-Mar)	545	120.00
31.1.22.	J.Holmes	Salary (Jan)	546	248.41
31.1.22.	HMRC	PAYE	547	<u>62.20</u>
				1425.99

Invoice to pay – Baines Jewitt – Professional Services. £42.00

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved.

12/22. Committee Reports

Planning – Cllr. Liddle

Applications received. 22/0080/TCA. – Redwalls, 15 Thornton Road. – Tree works in conservation area. No objection by Parish Council.

Environment – Cllrs. Coupe & Liddle.

Stainton Beck – Pollution at Kell Gate Green. – Cllr. Liddle reported that on a recent visit to KGG the water at the outfall appeared clear, with no odour. This could be an indication that the 2 package treatment plants were now working efficiently. However, it was agreed to pursue with a complaint

about the way Middlesbrough Council had permitted discharge into the beck and refer the matter to the Ombudsman. Cllr. Liddle and Cllr. Conroy to progress.

Environment Committee (Green Finger Gang) - The next meeting of the Environment Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, 15 February. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Crime & Disorder – Cllr. Neale.

The latest crime figures from the police for January show a doubling of reported crimes – 24 in January against 12 in December. Anti-social behaviour incidents (3) no narrative regarding the locations of the crimes. Police to be asked to supply a better breakdown of reported incidents.

13/22. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Cllr. Liddle reported that the Thursday morning group had installed boot scrapers at the entrance to the Quarry on Cedarwood Glade and on the entrance to Kell Gate Green on Thornton Road.

Letters will go out to residents in the Fawcett Avenue area asking if they would like a replacement tree following the removal of some diseased trees. Species of tree has yet to be agreed.

A damaged 'Welcome to The Spinney' sign had been repaired. The trunk of a felled Atlantic Cedar tree needs removal in Kell Gate Green. The hedgerow in Maelor's Wood requires cutting back by Middlesbrough Council.

14/22. Cleveland Local Council Association – Weekly circulars from CLCA and NALC continue to be forwarded to all councillors where relevant. No dates received for quarterly CLCA meeting.

15/22. Queen's Platinum Jubilee – It was agreed in principal that the Parish Council would be supportive of any local group making their own preparations to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June.

16/22. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 12 April 2022. 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

Minutes taken by: J. Holmes, Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
clerk@staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk Tel: 01642 296060. 07980 572115.