The Minutes of the AGM of The Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Space held on Monday 5 December 2022 at 10.00 a.m. in the Parish Room, Stainton

1. **Chair's Welcome –** Cllr. Alan Liddle (Chair) welcomed those present, namely:
   Brian Hogarth (Treasurer), Cllr. Alan Conroy, John Cooper, Brian Chapman, David Sanders, David Fewtrell, Jim Holmes and Sue Antrobus (TVWLT)

2. **Apologies** – were received from David & Elizabeth Revett, Nick Cubitt and Geoff Edwards.

3. **The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2022** were agreed and accepted as a true record.

4. **Matters Arising from the above Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda** – Nil

5. **Chair's Report for the year 2021 to 2022 -** The Chair read out his report for the year and in conclusion thanked everyone for their time, effort and commitment to the group.

6. **Treasurer's Report for the year 2021 to 2022 -** B. Hogarth commented on the figures and answered any queries. The Report was agreed by all and duly signed by the Chair and the Treasurer. An additional report from 1.6.22. to 30.11.22. giving an up-to-date account was discussed and agreed by those present.

7. **Nominations & Election of Officers for 2022/2023**
   (a) Election of Chair:
   Nominations were requested for the position of Chair for the year 2022-2023, following which Cllr. Alan Liddle was proposed by Brain Chapman and seconded by David Fewtrell. All were in favour and Cllr. Liddle accepted the position.
   (b) Election of Vice Chair: John Cooper was proposed by Alan Liddle, seconded by David Sanders, and was happy to accept the position. All in favour.
   (c) Election of Treasurer: Brian Hogarth was proposed by Alan Liddle, seconded by Alan Conroy and all in favour. Brian Hogarth accepted the position.
   (d) Election of Secretary: Jim Holmes, proposed by Alan Liddle, seconded by David Fewtrell, was happy to accept the position. All in favour. No other nominations.

8. **Update on KGG beck pollution and latest test results** – **AL** informed the group that the Parish Council had recently taken water samples from Stainton Beck and after analysis it was found that the pollution in the beck from the package treatment plants was as bad as ever. The results have been forwarded to the Environment Agency however no acknowledgement has been received. Whilst it was accepted that the property owners were operating the package treatment equipment correctly the manufacturers specification claims did not prevent pollution into the beck. Complaints to Middlesbrough Council, the Environment Agency and even the Ombudsman's office has not resolved the problem and the pollution still exists. It was agreed that warning message about the pollution, keeping animals out of the beck and dogs kept on a lead in Kell Gate Green be reinforced.
   AC suggested that a flexible pipe, fixed from the outlet into the beck, leading to the bridge on Thornton Road would cause the pollutants to effectively by-pass the beck in Kell Gate Green. The pollution problem would not be solved but the danger to the public in KGG would be minimised. It was agreed that this idea would be further explored.

9. **Replacement sculptures by Steve Iredale** – **AL** reported that new badger sculpture was complete and ready for delivery. Steve Iredale had acquired a large piece of oak and was

creating a 'Doe **and** Fawn' sculpture which should be ready in the New Year. He had requested a further £1000 towards the cost. It was agreed that once the badger sculpture had been delivered the Treasurer would release the £1000 for completion of the Doe and Fawn sculpture.

10. **Green Spaces Forum** – This forum organised by **SA** was a meeting of other green spaces groups and included officers from Middlesbrough Council. It was informative with an exchange of ideas and best practice methods beneficial to all, including inter-group working. Sue was hopeful funding would be available from Middlesbrough Council to continue hosting the forum.

11. **Work programme including the Habitat and Maintenance schedule – AC** updated the meeting on the current progress of the schedule, which would be circulated to all members.

12. **Future of the group, to include future projects, possible grant applications and how to spend the remaining 106 monies.**
    The Chair reported that the Thursday group was becoming smaller and the green spaces in Kell Gate Green, The Quarry, The Spinney, and Maelor's Wood was a large area to maintain. It was unfortunate that some group members were divisive about certain tasks. **AC** agreed that it was not helpful to have members refusing to undertake certain tasks as this creates bad feeling.

    SA was going to progress an idea to involve younger residents and family groups, possibly from Rose Cottage. She would contact Gloria Robinson and Tammy Andrews and trial a work/guided walk in Maelor's Wood at weekends starting in the New Year.

    Wet Area KGG – It was agreed that the wet area in Kell Gate Green needs attention. A fallen tree needs to be removed and interposing coppice requires attention to promote new growth. A grass path behind the road wall leading to the churchyard needs to be established. A contractor may have to be engaged for some of the work.

13. **Any Other Business**
    JC as Vice Chair stated he was prepared to be a 'recruiting officer' for the group. He would publicise the good work of the group and hopefully encourage new blood to join us.

14. **Date and Time of next meeting** - To be announced.

Signed: ……. Date. ……

Meeting closed at 12noon.