

Stainton & Thornton Community Council

Minutes of the general meeting for the Stainton & Thornton Community Council held in Stainton Memorial Hall on Tuesday, 11 July 2023 at 7pm.

Chair: The meeting was chaired by Tia Ellahi.

Present: The attendance list recorded 17 people present at the meeting.

Apologies for absence: A. Conroy, B. Chapman and H Orchel

Officers and parish councillors in attendance: T Ellahi (Chair), Cllr D. Coupe (Vice Chair), R. Ellison (Secretary), C Lee (Treasurer), J. Cooper and A. Liddle.

Report from Cleveland Police – PCSO Jak Fisher, Cleveland Police

There is a [Ward Newsletter](#) for Hemlington, Stainton and Thornton alongside what is happening in [Stainton and Thornton](#): the local officer, the latest crime statistics and advice, appeals for information and what the Neighbourhood Policing Team are doing to tackle crime in Middlesbrough South.

PCSOs have been assigned to an ongoing policing operation elsewhere and therefore will not be available.

Last month he did not hear anything in particular which is cause for alarm or any indications of a particular crime trend. At the moment he would state that we have had some issues within the surrounding wards and at times within Stainton of off road bike/electric motorbikes being driven dangerously and at speed. Anyone who may have an idea of where these bikes are being stored or who is driving them please pass that information on to the police so the relevant action can be taken. He would also like to remind residents to be vigilant in relation to any suspicious persons within the area: he was informed of a

suspicious male who appeared to be outside of someone's property. If in doubt please report any activity to ourselves as it may be part of a larger picture in the event something occurs.

He hopes to have the drone fly over the general area from time to time especially within nearby farming areas.

[Antisocial behaviour](#): [report](#) online (using [Report It](#)) or call the [council department or agency](#) responsible; contact the Neighbourhood Safety Team by email to asbunit@middlesbrough.gov.uk or Neighbourhood Policing Team by calling 101 (nonemergency) or 999 (emergency).

[Report crimes and incidents](#): if you feel that you have been affected by crime in any way please contact the police ([report online](#), call 101, [visit a police station](#) or in an emergency call 999; anonymously to Crimestoppers [online](#) or by 0800 555 111; fraud and cybercrime to Action Fraud [online](#) or 0300 123 2040) even if you are not sure the incident or event was a crime.

Guest Speaker – Barry Whitton, Community Liaison Officer, Cleveland Fire Brigade

As part of his role, he deals with arson reduction as part of a multiagency response. He happily attended the meeting and shared information regarding what Cleveland Fire Brigade do and how the partnership is dealing with these issues.

As a community liaison officer, he ensures that a Risk based assessment of an area or property is correctly conducted to identify the extent of an existing or potential fire setting or arson problem. Fuel management, removal or relocation plus safe storage actions are identified and where possible taken immediately or referred for Partner action to proactively and positively impact on the reduction of deliberate fires. Intel regarding these issues are passed to all partner agencies

at either a morning police led meeting or at the strategic neighbourhood safety group meeting.

Advocate services include specialist help with the following areas:

- sensory loss
- fire setting advice
- befriending service (cuppa and a chat)
- safe and warm advice during colder months
- schools education officers

Home fire safety checks are carried out by operational response staff: this is where crews attend homes and talk about the importance of working smoke alarms and maintaining clear escape routes.

The brigade are promoting their FireStoppers reporting tool. This service is 100% anonymous by telephone or via email.

firestoppersreport.co.uk

Tell Cleveland Fire Brigade what you know: call FireStoppers on 0800 169 5558 or go to firestoppersreport.co.uk and complete the simple online form. 100 % anonymous. Always.

Minutes of the general meeting held 9 May 2023

The Minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 9 May 2023 were agreed and accepted as a true record. These proper minutes are on the [Stainton and Thornton Parish Council website](#) and circulated by email through the CC database.

Matters arising

CityFibre are currently still in the planning process. Unfortunately, due to the nature of how CityFibre are able to work at present and the fluid working procedures, Sophie is unable to give a timeline at present for when CityFibre full fibre broadband will be available.

To be the first to know when CityFibre are coming to your street and when you can access full fibre broadband, CityFibre kindly advise you sign up with CityFibre via their website for their latest updates and announcements

<https://www.cityfibre.com/homes>

No Cold Call Zones (Trading Standards): please give evidence of a history of unsolicited visits from businesses in the parish of Stainton and Thornton to Councillor Coupe.

Report from the Ward Councillor – Councillor David Coupe

Unfortunately Cleveland Police were unable to be with us this evening due to shift patterns and ongoing operations. I know that the police have carried out a series of speed checks in the village with people mainly sticking to the speed limits. There has again been several attempted break ins of motor vehicles. Please also note that antisocial behaviour increases during the summer months. As usual ring 101 if not urgent but 999 if it is more serious.

Tonight, we have had a talk by Barry Whitton, Cleveland Fire Brigade. He gave an illustrated lecture about the hazards of fires and he will return later in the year to talk about the help Cleveland Fire Brigade can give in terms of keeping warm (including how they give out blankets) and other advice.

A few weeks ago I walked around Hemlington Grange. One of the topics of conversation was the future of one of the wooded areas close to Elderwood. There is quite a diverse mixture of wildlife in the wood but unfortunately, they

are not protected species. Earlier this year a large number of frogs and toads had problems navigating over the roads resulting in a number being killed. This was in spite of a valiant effort by residents to scoop them up.

The 13 and 13A bus service continues to serve the people of Stainton as well as the main part of Hemlington. Hemlington Grange does have bus stops, but no service. I have had a meeting with Cllr David Branson regarding the plans for bus services to serve the whole of the south of Middlesbrough.

O₂ are having a network problem, which is caused by trees getting in the way of the signal. They have a statutory right to cut the trees back after consultation with the council. I and others have experienced drop outs with O₂; this was first of all blamed on a faulty part.

CityFibre are between contractors and when they sort that out they will get back to us.

The hedge outside Rose Cottage Phase 3 is the responsibility of Middlesbrough Council although Taylor Wimpey have trimmed it this year. The hedge on the eastern side of Strait Lane is the responsibility of Taylor Wimpey and Montpellier Care Home.

Hemlington Road in Stainton is due to be resurfaced hopefully between September and October. I will let you know when I have the details. Maltby Road between the edge of Thornton and the boundary with Maltby is due to be repaired next week commencing on the 17th July 2023. I am fully aware of the problems in Winstone and Priory drives, and I have asked council officers to relook at the area.

As I am sure you will have seen, Bellway Homes have proposed a development of 550 homes in the land to the west of The Sporting Lodge. This area is well used by wildlife and by walkers. As has been the case at Hemlington Grange,

there are currently no shops or amenities proposed. They would struggle in getting a bus service and there would have to be a drastic improvement in footpaths otherwise the only way out would be by car, adding to an already congested Low Lane.

Again, there is no news on the land previously owned by Angela Swift
Developments near to Rose Cottage Phase 2

The review of the local plan continues. This should come into effect early 2025, with our existing Local Plan and our Neighbourhood Plan helping to protect our area.

The proposed respite care home was passed by the Planning Committee at the June meeting despite many objections from residents. I think it is a retrograde step in not having site visits. I did try and have it delayed but this was unsuccessful.

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. Once again, my thanks to the dedicated team of volunteers who plant and maintain these throughout the year. We are always looking for more helpers so if you feel you can help please contact either Maureen Holmes or myself.

I try to attend the Saturday Coffee Morning in the Memorial Hall if anyone wishes to bring any problems or concerns, or you can email or telephone me.

Report from the Treasurer – Caroline Lee, Treasurer

The cheque payable to Marske Brass Band for the Christmas Lights Switch On was presented for payment during May so that is now sorted.

Virgin Money are paying us cashback for using our debit card which means each time I pay the printing costs they pay a few pence into our account.

Financial Update

Opening Balance as at 14 March 2023			2676.38
<i>Receipts</i>			
Virgin Money Cashback (£0.37 & £0.26)		0.63	
Total Receipts			0.63
Balance			2677.01
<i>Expenditure</i>			
Hire Of Memorial Hall (10/1/23 & 14/3/23)	32.00		
Printing Costs (1/6/23)	104.94		
Grant for King's Coronation Party (Helen Ward)	200.00		
<i>Outstanding Payments</i>			
Total Expenditure			336.94
Closing Balance as at 11 July 2023			2340.07

Grant Applications – Caroline Lee, Treasurer

Residents can request small grants for local groups in writing to the Secretary at least one week before the Community Council meeting but special or urgent requests for grant aid can be considered by the meeting at the discretion of the Chair.

The Big Sing (care of David Bye) requested £125 for a grant funding activities related to the Coronation Year Big Sing.

The Executive Committee considered the application and recommended funding £125.

The Community Council decided to award the Big Sing £125.

Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces (care of John Cooper) requested £150 for a grant funding activities related to their usual: tasks in our villages (grass cutting/repairs) to keep our green spaces and villages looking good.

The Executive Committee considered the application and recommended funding £150.

The Community Council decided to award Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces £150.

Planning applications – Alan Liddle, Parish Councillor

Residents can comment on valid planning applications on the [Citizen Portal Planning](#) by clicking on the [Latest weekly list – registered](#) or [searching](#) then click the tab labelled ‘Comments’ (you will need to [Sign up](#) and Log In to submit a comment).

The only planning application received was 23/0233/FUL for a single storey rear extension to 27 Maltby Road, Thornton. This was approved by MBC on the 3/7/2023 under permitted development rules.

Any other business

Please contact the committee about matters in the ward.

Thank you to the volunteers delivering leaflets and especially to Florence and Ray Rix for distributing them to our network of volunteers.

Next meeting

Members present at the meeting agreed: Tuesday, 12 September 2023 at 7pm in Stainton Memorial Hall and each second Tuesday of alternate months thereafter.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

The minutes of meetings are available on the Stainton and Thornton Parish Council website under the Local Groups tab for Stainton and Thornton Community Council: staintonsndthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk.