

Minutes of the 286th meeting of Stainton and Thornton Parish Council on Tuesday, 10 February 2026 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall, Stainton.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), D. Coupe, A. Cooper, M. Russell, B. Neale, J. Holmes (Clerk to the Council).

Members of the Public: 1 **Police:** PCSO Jak Fisher & colleague.

01/26. Apologies for absence: Cllr. A. Ward. (unwell). Cllr. D. Lister

02/26. Declarations of Interest: None

03/26. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 285th meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 December 2025 were approved by members present, recorded as a true copy and signed by the Chair.

04/26. Public Participation: Local resident and Community Council chair, Tia Elliah, addressed the Council with a 'wish list' of topics that residents had raised with her with via Facebook. The list included road surface needing repair on Strait Lane, pedestrian crossing on Low Lane near Sporting Lodge, traffic lights at the Strait Lane/Low Lane junction, High Rifts rat-run, more dog waste bins in the villages.

The Chair informed her that Strait Lane was due to be resurfaced on 4 March. The new Middlesbrough Local Plan would be looking at the Low Lane junction in connection with new housing developments to the north of Low Lane. Dog waste bins are available from MBC, upon request. Whilst it was acknowledged that some vehicles cut through High Rifts to access Strait Lane from Hemlington Road there was no evidence of excess speed.

05/26. Matters arising from the Minutes

- a) **Middlesbrough Council – Draft Local Plan** - Chair reported that the Examination of the plan starts on 3 March and will last a few weeks. The Examination process is open to the public and the Parish Council have been invited to address the local plan examination sessions on 5 March, 26 March and 1 April. The Chair indicated he would attend on these dates.
- b) **Parking and Speeding problems in Stainton and Thornton** – No further progress. MBC have yet to agree to meet Councillors on site to discuss options.
- c) **Communications with Middlesbrough Council** – No improvement. Chair had written to local MP, Luke Myers explaining the problem and awaiting a reply.
- d) **Fibre Broadband** – The Chair has corresponded with MBC and Luke Myers, MP regarding the poor quality of broadband services in Stainton & Thornton. The copper cable 'switch off' is less than a year away and nothing appears to be happening in the older part of village to rectify the problem.
- e) **Parish Council Budget 2026/27** – At the previous meeting of the Parish Council the budget for 2026/27 was set at £12,000. Clerk reported that nothing had occurred since that time had to affect that decision. *Resolved: The Parish Council budget for 2026/27 confirmed as £12000. Precept remains at £9.31 per household.*

06/26. Clerk's Report to the Council – February

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 **10.2.26.**

Balance at 9.12.25: **£22815.89**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£1797.70**

Balance at 10.2.26: **£21018.19**

Date	Payee	Reason	How paid	Amount
11.12.25.	C. Dean	Christmas Tree	BACS	125.00
22.12.25.	Virtually Branded	Website – January	BACS	30.00
22.12.25.	Memorial Hall	Hall hire	BACS	56.00
31.12.25.	J. Holmes	Salary – December	BACS	316.61
31.12.25.	HMRC	PAYE – December	BACS	79.20
31.12.25.	Unity Trust Bank	Service charge	Direct	6.00
2.1.26.	BitDefender	Anti-Virus Software	BACS	42.99
26.1.26.	Virtually Branded	Website – February	BACS	30.00
26.1.26.	Baines Jewitt	Professional Services	BACS	60.00
26.1.26.	MBC	Christmas Lights	BACS	570.10
26.1.26.	HMRC	PAYE – January	BACS	79.20
26.1.26.	J. Holmes	Microsoft 365	BACS	79.99
31.1.26.	J. Holmes	Salary - January	BACS	316.61
31.1.26.	Unity Trust Bank	Service charge	Direct	6.00
				1797.70

Resolved: All payments authorised

4. Signatories to Parish Council bank account – Cllr. Coupe has completed the procedure.
5. Unity Trust Bank – Monthly service charge will be £7 as from 1 February.

07/26. Committee Reports

- **Planning** – Applications granted by MBC and any new applications – Cllr. Liddle

25/0647/FUL. Erection of outbuilding including solar panels to proposed outbuilding and existing garage – 4 Stainton House, Marwood Wynd. TS8 9AD. – Comment made re listed building. No objection by Parish Council.

25/0668/FUL. First floor extension with bow window, including installation of bow window to ground floor elevation. – 10 Hemlington Road, TS8 9AJ. – No objection by Parish Council.

25/0622/FUL. Single storey extension to rear including part raising of roof. – 25 Maltby Road, TS9 9BU. – No objection by Parish Council.

To note that groundwork on the land behind Montpellier Manor commenced earlier this week.

- **Environment** – Cllr. Russell reported he has engaged a paviour to relocate the Village Pump on Thornton Road.
- **Crime and Disorder**
PCSO Jak Fisher attended the meeting and commented on the January crime statistics which were very low. Concerns were expressed about Quad bikes in Maelor's Wood and a person selling house cleaning items, door-to-door. Police are trying to identify this person. Once again, Cllr. Neale and PCSO Fisher encouraged residents to report incidents to the police. The police do not monitor Facebook and/or other social media. Incidents reported on social media but not to the police are not included in any crime statistics.

08/26. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – Chair reported he attended a Green Spaces Forum at Middlesbrough Environment City and spoke to Gary Hill, MBC and arranged for new litter bins to be sited in Stainton. A new noticeboard (near the play area) and seat (near SUDS pond) on RC3 as well as a new seat on RC1 are to be purchased by the group who have funding from a grant as well as match funding by the Parish Council. Purchase of this equipment is imminent.

09/26. Cleveland Local Council Association – Clerk reported that an invoice from NALC/CLCA had been received for the 2025/26 subscriptions.
NALC £236.86. CLCA £155.00 Total £391.86. Normally this invoice is received in early part of the year (May) but had been delayed owing to CLCA staffing issues.
Resolved: Invoice to be paid in full. Invoice for 2026/27 to be closely monitored when received.

10/26. Time and date of next meeting: 7pm, Tuesday 14 April 2026 in the Memorial Hall, Stainton.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Agreed and signed as a true record. Date

Minutes recorded by Clerk, J. Holmes. staintonandthorntonparishcouncil.org.uk