

Minutes of the 275th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held on Tuesday, 9 April 2024 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall, Stainton.

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

Members of the public – 2

12/24. Apologies for absence: Cllr. A. Cooper (Bereavement)

13/24. Public Participation – None

14/24 In Memoria – The meeting took a period of silence in memory of John Cooper, local resident, husband of Cllr. Angela Cooper, and also Vice Chair of the Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Space who passed away recently.

15/24. Minutes of the 274th meeting of the Parish Council held on 13.2.24. – The Minutes were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair.

16/24. Matters arising from the above Minutes:

a) Village Christmas Lights/Christmas Tree – It was agreed at the last meeting that an appreciation fee be paid to Taj Elliah for allowing the village Christmas Tree to be erected and lit from his premises. £20 was the suggested amount. Cllr. Liddle to arrange.

b) Local Government Boundary Review – Cllr. Liddle reported he has submitted a response on behalf of the Parish Council. The number of parish councillors (7) would remain the same however an additional Ward Councillor may be necessary, and the parish boundary would become the WARD boundary. Hopefully the Boundary Commission Review will publish its findings by September.

c) Middlesbrough Council – Financial Management. – Cllr. Liddle reported that Ernst Young (EY) were the appointed external auditors for Middlesbrough Council. They had failed to complete the external audit and were subject to scrutiny by HM Government. Mazars have been appointed the new external auditors for 2024/24.

d) Middlesbrough Council – Draft Local Plan – The Parish Council has submitted its initial response to the draft local plan. There have been over 2000 responses and 3 petitions borough wide to the draft Local Plan which the Planning Department are collating and reviewing. Owing to the number of responses the timescale for the final Local Plan may have to be put back. Originally planned to go out for consultation in July, it is more likely to go for public consultation again in September.

17/24. Report of the Clerk to the Council. – April.

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 **31.3.24.** (End of financial year)

Balance at 13.2.24. **£12816.39**

Income since last meeting: **£392.82** (VAT reclaim)

Expenditure since last meeting: **£991.22** - Approval required.

Balance at 31.3.24. **£12217.99**

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|----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------|---------------|
| 27.2.24. | HMRC | PAYE – February | BACS | 69.20 |
| 27.2.24. | Virtually Branded | Website – March | BACS | 30.00 |
| 29.2.24. | J. Holmes | Salary – February | BACS | 277.21 |
| 1.3.24. | MBC | Printing - Newsletter | BACS | 93.88 |
| 8.3.24. | Famous Flyers | Newsletter delivery | BACS | 80.00 |
| 19.3.24. | J. Holmes | Incidental expenses | BACS | 33.76 |
| 25.3.24. | M. Holmes | Plants – EC | BACS | 14.76 |
| 28.3.24. | HMRC | PAYE – March | BACS | 69.20 |
| 28.3.24. | Memorial Hall | Hall hire | BACS | 16.00 |
| 28.3.24. | J. Holmes | Salary - March | BACS | 277.21 |
| 28.3.24. | P. Burton | Plants - EC | BACS | 12.00 |
| 31.3.24. | Unity Trust Bank | Service charge | Direct | <u>18.00</u> |
| | | | | 991.22 |

Income & Expenditure 2023/24

Balance at 1.4.23. 9813.62

Income 13412.79

Expenditure. 11008.42

Balance at 31.3.24. 12217.99

Resolved: All payments approved.

18/24. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2023/24 – Clerk reported that this return had to be completed and published on its website before 1 July 2024. As the Parish Council was a smaller authority, where the gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 it could certify itself exempt by submitting a Certificate of Exemption to the external auditor by 30 June 2024. To commence this process an internal auditor had to be appointed in accordance with Part 2 of AGAR 2023/24 and the Accounting Statements prepared and signed by the RFO (Clerk).

Resolved: Appointment of internal auditor to be progressed by Clerk.

19/24. Committee Reports

a) Planning

24/0109/FUL. 11 Parnaby Way. TS8 9NG. – Single storey extension to rear and conversion of garage to habitable room. – No objections.

24/0095/FUL. 5 Thornton Road – Erection of conservatory. – No objections.

24/0095/FUL. 9 Pennyman Way – Extension to side and rear. – No objections.

23/0527/MAJ. Land at Strait Lane – Revised submission to build 22 properties on land between Montpellier Manor and Rose Cottage. – Whilst the plan is an improvement on previous submission the parish council objections remain the same – Access, design type, parking etc.

b) Environment – Cllr Coupe

Drains around Thornton T junction blocked causing water to pool and potholes appearing. MBC informed re drains.

c) Crime and Disorder – Cllr Neale

No information from the police as local officer on leave despite request for crime stats from alternate source. Cllr. Coupe to raise at JAG meeting later this week.

20/24. Friends of Stainton and Thornton Green Spaces – The sudden passing of John Cooper, Vice Chair came as a shock to everyone. His funeral will be held next week.

The group have managed a first cut in the Quarry. Vandalism has resulted in the chain and lock to the Quarry gate being cut off with bolt cutters. Advice from Steve Iredale requested on how to site and locate the new deer sculpture at Thornton T junction. 2 members have been welcomed to the group. The Quarterly meeting and AGM will be held 22.4.24. in the Church Room.

21/24. Cleveland Local Councils Association – Weekly circulars from CLCA and NALC continue to be forwarded to all councillors. The Minutes of the recent CLCA meeting at Stainton on 27.2.24. are not yet available. Cllr. Coupe attended the meeting and found it interesting and informative.

22/24. Hemlington Grange – Engagement with residents. – 2 members of the public, from Hemlington Grange, attended the meeting, concerned about the lack of bins in the public areas at Hemlington Grange. The estate management is still in the hands of Taylor Wimpey and not yet adopted by Middlesbrough Council. Cllr. Coupe to liaise with developers.

23/24. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7 May 2024. 7pm in the Memorial Hall. The 38th Annual Meeting of Stainton & Thornton Parish Council

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9pm.

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.