

STANTON AND THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL.

CHAIRS REPORT 2023-2024. (May 2024)

The parish council held 6 business meetings and their AGM throughout the year and had an 88% attendance by councillors. There was no need for an election in 2023 as following the decision of Christopher Dean to retire from the council after 8 years' service, there were only 6 nominations for the 7 vacancies and as such a notice of Uncontested Election had been issued. Local resident, David Lister was subsequently co-opted onto the council in August.

As the number of dwellings continue to increase because of new builds within the parish, coupled with a boundary anomaly in the parish of Nunthorpe a Local Government Boundary Commission Review was undertaken in 2023 with the results being published in September/October 2024. The Commission will be looking at the number of WARD councillors within the borough as currently the Stainton and Thornton Ward is drastically underrepresented based on elector numbers. The parish council submitted their recommendations to increase the number of WARD councillors to two from one.

At long last MBC have put out their new draft Local Plan for consultation. The suggested Local Plan is for 2400 extra houses to be built within the parish against a borough wide requirement of just over 4000, meaning over 50% of the projected development over the 15 years of the Local Plan will be in Stainton and Thornton. The parish council have objected to the proposed plan. A second and final Local Plan will be submitted by MBC in September/October 2024 for consultation. Residents will have the opportunity to comment on the plan before it goes before an independent inspector for consideration and/or approval or rejection. The parish council will continue to respond to the proposals, reflecting the feelings of residents.

The parish council have commented on several planning applications within the parish, including the proposed development of 22 affordable housing on the land off Strait Lane next to Montpelier Manor Care Home. The application is still under consideration by MBC.

Speeding and parking continue to be a problem on the through roads in the village and the parish council are continuing to work with local businesses, residents and the borough council to improve the situation.

The Hemlington Grange development continues to be built out and because of the increase in the number of dwellings within the parish, once again the parish council have not increased the parish precept contribution and it remains at £9.31.

Finally, once again, I would like to thank Jim Holmes, our parish clerk and all the parish councillors for their help and support throughout the year.

Alan Liddle – Chair.

Stainton and Thornton Parish Council.