

Minutes of the 252nd meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held Tuesday, 11 August 2020 in the Memorial Hall, Stainton.

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), B. Neale, C. Dean, A. Conroy, D. Coupe, A. Cooper, R. Dennison, Clerk the Council - J. Holmes.
Member of the public: Ronan O’Kennedy (local resident)

54/20. Apologies for absence/Declarations of Interest. None

55/20. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council. Mr O’Kennedy wanted to discuss the water pollution in Stainton Beck. See item 59/20 below – Environment.

56/20. The **Minutes of the 251st meeting held on Tuesday 9 June 2020** were approved by the Parish Council, recorded as a true record and signed by the Chair.

57/20. Matters arising from the above Minutes.

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Now that lockdown regulations had eased the Neighbourhood Plan group were holding their next meeting in the Memorial Hall on 25 August with the intention of submitting the Neighbourhood Plan to Middlesbrough Council in September.
- b) **Roadside Speed Display Unit** – Cllr. Coupe reported he had completed a £5000 grant application to Middlesbrough Council ready for submission in October. This would cover the cost of 2 roadside speed signs with a power source. There was also the possibility of match funding by Middlesbrough Council if the Parish Council were prepared to fund additional units. Cllr. Neale added that he had researched the various types of speed units available and the basic display and record type were suitable for Parish Council purposes.
- c) **Stagecoach services 13 and 13a** – Service running normally but with reduced passenger numbers owing to COVID-19 concerns. No current concerns. Item removed from Agenda.
- d) **Right of Way footpath – Wynd to Low Lane** – MBC Footpaths officer, Stuart Williams intends holding a site meeting later this week to discuss the final section of the path near the Low Lane exit. Cllr. Coupe to attend.
- e) **Maintenance and Cutting of Hedges/Footpaths** – It was noted that Middlesbrough Council had sent letters to various residents requesting hedges encroaching onto footpaths to be cut back. Situation to be monitored.
- f) **Cold calling signage – High Rifts** – No further complaints received. Cllr. Neale will attempt to contact Gerry McBride (Middlesbrough Council) to ascertain current legal situation.
- g) **Housing developments – Elderwood Park and Ashwood Park.** – It was agreed that an information letter be compiled and delivered to each household making residents aware of their parish council, parish councillors and contact numbers should they be needed.

58/20. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

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 **11.8.20.**

Bank Balance at 8.8.20: **£13321.43**

Income since last meeting: **Nil**

Expenditure since last meeting: **£904.11** Approval required.

Date:	Payee.	Reason .	Cheque No.	Amount.
23.6.20.	FSTGS	Annual Donation	451	200.00
30.6.20.	J.Holmes	Salary (June)	452	235.03
30.6.20.	HMRC	PAYE (June)	453	58.60
30.6.20.	Baines Jewitt	Professional Services	454	40.80
4.7.20.	C.Cutler	Website	455	50.00
9.7.20.	WAVE	Water KGG	DD	26.05
31.7.20.	J.Holmes	Salary (July)	456	234.83
31.7.20.	HMRC	PAYE (July)	457	58.80

Invoices received/ Unpresented cheques.

23.4.20. Unpresented cheque no. 440. ICO (GDPR renewal) £40.00

21.8.20. WAVE. Water KGG. £48.36. – Direct Debit

Resolved: All payments aforementioned approved

59/20 Committee Reports:

Planning. Recent planning notifications.

20/0376/FUL. 8 Hemlington Road. – erection of two storey dwelling with detached double garage (demolition of existing bungalow). – No objection from Parish Council

19/0687/FUL. 19 Maltby Road. Appeal against refusal for single storey extension to side – Appeal allowed 17.7.20.

Planning consultation – Hemlington North and South sites. – Chair has responded on behalf of Parish Council.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has issued three consultations on reform of the planning system:

Changes to the current planning system; Planning for the future; Transparency and competition – a call for evidence on data on land control.

Documents circulated to all Councillors. Responses and comments to NALC by mid October.

Environment.

Grey water discharge from grounds of Stainton House into Stainton Beck –

An Environment Officer from Land and Water – Wear and Tees attended the site earlier today and confirmed there is sewage fungus in the water course in the location of the discharge from the two new nearby properties however she was unable to take meter readings as the water level was too low. Both properties have package treatment plants, not septic tanks, and all foul drainage goes through the package plant – nothing is being discharged untreated however if there is no flow in the watercourse, they can still have an impact despite being maintained and serviced.

Councillors discussed the matter and decided to obtain water samples from various points in the beck to test for Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) to ascertain the level of pollution in the watercourse before taking the matter further with Middlesbrough Council and the Environment Agency – public safety being the prime concern. Clerk to arrange for samples to be obtained.

Weedkiller – Concern was expressed about the excessive amount of weedkiller applied by Middlesbrough Council employees on roadside verges in both Stainton and Thornton following recent grass cutting. – Chair to write to Middlesbrough Council.

Crime and Disorder – Nothing to report.

60/20. Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces

The group have now resumed normal work on Thursdays and the maintenance programme has restarted.

Resolved: The maintenance agreement with the Parish Council, at a cost of £500 was authorised by Councillors.

61/20. Cleveland Local Councils Association – No meetings programmed yet but weekly circulations by email to all Councillors continues.

62/20. Parish Precept – Enquiries by Cllrs. Coupe and Liddle reveal that in the past four years the number of properties (Band D equivalents) in the parish, according to Middlesbrough Council has risen by only 171 despite the huge growth in housing development within the parish. It was agreed that the Parish Council would ask Middlesbrough Council for a breakdown by council tax band of all properties currently registered in the parish. This would show how many Band D properties exist in the parish thus enabling us to get a truer picture of what to expect when it comes to budget discussions and precept expectations for the next meeting of the council in October. Currently the Parish Council keep a consistent Band D charge per property so our precept would only increase if there were more equivalent properties within our parish area.

63/20. Christmas Lights – Cllr. Conroy reported that Galliford Try would no longer be responsible for erecting and dismantling of the village christmas lights as the company was no longer contracted to Middlesbrough Council. This task would now be undertaken by Middlesbrough Council itself on the same basis and would invoice us accordingly.

64/20. COVID-19. The Parish Council is actively keeping residents aware by newsletter, email and social media of the help and assistance available to residents during any lockdown period. Due notice will be taken from HM Government and Local Authorities regarding local lockdowns should they be needed to be implemented in our area.

65/20. Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tuesday 13 October 2020. 7pm. Venue to be decided.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9pm

Agreed and signed as a true record Date

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.