

**The Minutes of the 212<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 at 7.15 p.m.**

**Present:** P/Cllrs. M. Williams (Chair), A. Conroy, A. Cooper, R. Dennison, J. Holmes and Bob Macmillan; Mrs. M. Newbould, Clerk to the Council. Public: none.

**78/13, Apologies** were received from P/Councillor A. Liddle/Vice Chair (unwell). The reason for absence was accepted by the P/Council.

**79/13, Declarations of Interest** – none.

**80/13, Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council**  
No public present.

**81/13, The Minutes of the 211<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2013** were formally approved by the Council and duly signed by the Chair as a true record.

**82/13, Matters Arising from the Minutes**

(i) **Notice Board replacement – progress and cost of large board for Fawcett Avenue** This item was being progressed by Cllr. A. Liddle, (see postscript for update).

(ii) **Welcome Leaflet for new residents** was being progressed by the Chair following the proposal for a 2-sided A3 format with useful telephone numbers and details of village organisations. An update was given by Cllr. M. Williams and further ideas were suggested by Parish Councillors. **Reported that** some new residents had already moved into the new housing at Rose Cottage Farm in Stainton.

(iii) **Check that the insurance cover is full replacement value for assets worth over the £250.00 excess** Came & Co. had stated in writing that the cover for the Council's assets was on a 'reinstatement' basis. The company also pointed out that there was a 'no claims discount' for future premiums such that councils enjoyed a 5% rebate up to a maximum of 4 years. This was the reason for the excess at £250.00 across all sections of the policy.

(iv) **Training course on Data Protection and Freedom of Information** A date had now been received from S. Ragg, CDCCTP. The course had been set for Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March from 10 till 4 at Shotton Hall, Peterlee. The Chair would attend. The fee was £27.00.

(v) **Alternative to Stainton Way footpath from Rose Cottage Farm to school** Resistance from MBC was being met by the Chair to the suggestion for an alternative route through the field at High Rifts for the Stainton Way footpath. Following discussion, it was **Resolved that** a P/Council letter of disapproval would be submitted for the lack of consideration by planners.

(vi) **Taylor Wimpey modified plans for Hemlington Grange displayed on 3<sup>rd</sup> December** A good attendance at the Consultation Meeting was recorded. Replies had been written to all those who had commented on the 1<sup>st</sup> consultation stage. The Chair's request had been agreed for improved appearance instead of backs of houses facing Hemlington on Stainton Way. There were now quite sizeable ponds for SUDS to have a beneficial effect on the quality of the water released. The amount of water would be monitored by MBC. Cllr. A. Liddle had pointed out that the development required a pavement/walkway from the dev. entrance along to Stainton village.

### **83/13, The Report of the Clerk to the Council**

1. NALC had published new Model Standing Orders on the 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 to replace those of 2010. The Chair had suggested that the Parish Council should note the differences before changing the present Council Standing Orders. Advice requested from CLCA was reported and noted. However, the P/Council resolved to adhere to the wording of the 2010 SO's.
2. The War Memorials Trust had written to suggest Parish Councils reviewed any local war memorials prior to the centenary of the start of World War I.
3. The Parish Council had received a copy of a letter to Mr. Ray Mallon expressing concern that Teesside University had made 14 compulsory redundancies so that car-parking could replace a children's nursery. Noted.
4. On behalf of a member council, CLCA had enquired about the Clerk's Annual Appraisal. The Chair had replied that the Clerk's Salary was reviewed at every Annual Meeting of the Council but there was no formal Annual Appraisal.
5. CLCA had sent a Briefing about the Government Consultation regarding European VAT rules for village halls. This has been passed to Mr. Peter Byers, Secretary of the Memorial Hall Management Committee.
6. On circulation to Parish Councillors: the Clerks & Councils Direct magazine and the Local Councils Review.
7. E-communications from NALC had been forwarded to P/Councillors.
8. Assets Register: there were no additions or disposals to be recorded on this occasion.
9. The Half-Year Account from the Internal Auditor, Mr. Chris Stout, had been forwarded to all Parish Councillors.
10. The Financial Statement:- the Balance in the General A/c. was £5533.45, After Adding: un-presented cheque yr. 2012/13 £83.98, and Deducting: June Ellis - refund re newsletter £26.08, M. Newbould – Clerk's salary Oct. & Nov. 2013 £294.50, R. Dennison – Springwell plants £248.00, CCL re copy paper £15.00, Northumbria in Bloom Entry Fee £75.00, A. Conroy re clips & ties for Christmas Lights £9.25, Prontaprint re newsletters £94.80, Northumbrian Water £12.32. These payments were duly authorised by the Parish Council.

**84/13, Committee Reports:- (a) Planning Committee:-** Applications granted by MBC: revised application for 21 Thornton Road (Vicarage) to demolish store & garage for single storey office & garage; Rose Cottage Farm Phase 2 for 36 dwellings (despite Local Plan phasing after 2019); 29 Cedarwood Glade 2 storey & single storey extensions; 8 Meldyke Lane change of use to dwelling; 17 Maltby Rd. removal of whitebeam tree and crown reduction of 3 trees. Stainton House felling of sycamore tree. New applications: Stainton Vale Farm hay store and all weather exercise arena; The Granary, Stainton Vale Farm: installation of 2 CCTV cameras to south east corner of stables; Rear of 42 Cedar Drive side extension and 2 front dormers; also 2 rear dormers, no comments received by the P/Cncl. from nearby neighbours. Rose Cottage Farm: Taylor Wimpey amendment to housing types along a certain stretch backing onto High Rifts. Report accepted by the P/Council. **(b) Environment Committee:-** Cllr. R. Dennison reported the completed distribution of winter plants; the committee meeting on 18 October; the submission of the Northumbria in Bloom 2014 entry; and MBC's Arborist's response about replacement trees: a potted plant would be purchased in the Spring from a local garden centre, costing approx. £33.00. The Report was accepted by the Parish Council. © **Crime and Disorder** - no incidents to report. Nothing to report from Cedarwood Glade. The damaged entrance-sign repair on Hemlington Rd. would be carried out by the 'Thursday Morning' Group at a minimal cost for materials only. MBC had now located the missing stones at Cargo Fleet.

**85/13, Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces:-** P/Cllr. A. Conroy reported on recent work, events and finance - bank account moved from Santander to HSBC. 'It's Your Neighbourhood' Awards – "outstanding" award for the 'Thursday Morning' group, report in Dec. 2013 Village Newsletter ; 420 free trees from the Woodland Trust recently planted; interpretation boards – model revised to avoid over-crowding at the entrance to Kell Gate Green returned to S. Ashton; picnic bench planned for the Spring". A Green Flag application for 2014-15 was to be submitted before the end of January 2014. A flagpole was still to be purchased under grant funding.

#### **86/13, Parish Council budget for 2014-15 as revised by the October meeting**

There being no further changes to the P/Council budget as revised at the October meeting, the Budget was duly accepted by the P/Council and a Precept demand of £6500.00 would be submitted to Middlesbrough Council. **Agreed and resolved.**

**87/13, Communications – request from P/Cllr. A. Conroy** Cllr. Conroy, without being critical, made observations regarding occasions where a lack of sufficient communication may have caused unintentional offence. **Resolved:** all information should be channelled through the Clerk to the Council. **Resolved:** each edition of the Village Newsletter would be issued one month earlier. The Chair thanked Cllr. Conroy for raising this matter.

**88/13, Wheelie Bins** - comments from residents were reported to the P/Council & noted

**89/13, Middlesbrough Council's proposed cuts for 2014/15 – local implications**

Maintaining standards in S & T – Cllr. R. Dennison suggested that the Env. Cttee. might have to introduce perennial planting for the large tubs and the flowerbeds. More volunteers were needed. Grass cutting would be discussed at the next Environment Cttee. meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. He would also discuss the mowing regime for the field behind High Rifts with John McQuade, MBC Area Care. Cllr. M. Williams would list concerns to report to Ray Mallon who was worried about those who had already entered Northumbria in Bloom 2014.

No Funding for Community Councils – this proposed cut would be discussed at the next Community Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

**90/13, Suggestions for spending Community Contributions from developers (incl. 106 Agreements)** Cllr. A. Liddle had emailed that there would be no 106 Agreement money from the former Hemlington Hospital site because that land belonged to MBC. The Parish should look to the Rose Cottage Farm developers for money for S & T. Suggestions should be submitted to Paul Clarke, MBC, ahead of developers making a decision, e.g. Funding Security for buses, street lights for Strait Lane, widening the footpath, etc. **91/13, Negotiating with landowners for routes to a future Children's Play Area** (requested by Pauline McInnes). The Chair wished to talk to The Pennyman Estate, Five Acres residents and the new owners of Upper Farm re the re-routing of the footpath from Five Acres to the beck area. ***Resolved that*** the Chair should negotiate with these landowners.

**92/13, Date for next meeting of the Council – Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 at 7.15 p.m**

**NOTE:** If any P/Cllrs. are unable to attend, could they please report to the Chair or the Clerk any progress on matters delegated to them. The meeting was formally closed by the Chair at 9.30 p.m.

**Accepted as a true record and signed .....**

**Date .....**

***Postscript: update received after the Parish Council meeting: Notice Board replacement – progress and cost of large board for Fawcett Avenue*** This item was being progressed by Cllr. A. Liddle, who had received a quotation of just over £701.00 from Stainton Joiner, Gary, for supply only of the new notice board. The board would then be erected by the 'Thursday Morning' group.

Muriel R. Newbould, Clerk to the Council, 4 Thornton Close, Thornton, Middlesbrough TS8 9BT  
E-mail address: [mrnewbould@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mrnewbould@yahoo.co.uk) Telephone: 01642 590340