

The Minutes of the 217th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 14th October, 2014 at 7.15 p.m.

Present: P/Cllrs. M. Williams (Chair), A. Liddle (Vice Chair), R. Dennison & A. Cooper. M. Newbould, Clerk to the Council. Public: 1.

63a/14, Apologies – Cllrs. A. Conroy and J. Holmes, both on holiday. Cllr. R. Macmillan – ill. **63b/14, Declarations of Interest** – none.

64/14, Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – the member of public present would participate at a later point in the Agenda (66/14(v)).

65/14, The Minutes of the 216th meeting held on Tuesday, 12th August, 2014 were formally approved by the Council and duly signed by the Chair as a true record.

66/14, Matters Arising from the above Minutes:-

(i) The **New Notice Board for Fawcett Avenue** had now been installed by the Thursday morning group of volunteers, who were thanked by the Chair on behalf of the Parish Council for all their work. Cork tiles would be added. A 2nd identical notice board was also required from the same joiner in Stainton for Cedarwood Glade (payment after 1st April, 2015).

(ii) **Additional ‘Speed Signs’? No feedback from Speed Watch or MBC traffic surveys** Cllr. A. Liddle reported that a speed watch survey had taken place in Thornton during the previous week. Wheelie Bin stickers, costing £70 per 100, depicting speed limits were discussed but a decision on these was postponed until after receipt of an answer on repeater signs.

(iii) **New seat for Vernon Court bus stop** The new seat had now been delivered and was awaiting installation. The Thursday volunteer group had initially intended to perform the installation but because of MBC Highways’ regulations, Cllr. A. Liddle now awaited a reply from Craig Winter, Area Care, about possible installation costs.

(iv) **Future Children’s Play Area** – the Chair’s meeting with MBC’s Public Right of Way Officer, provisionally arranged for 9 October, had now taken place with the outcome that, following an assessment of existing Rights of Way in the area, S. Williams (PRWO) would report back to the Parish Council with his thoughts. Cllr. R. Dennison was against the closure of any existing paths.

(v) **Local Auditor for the P/Council** – Mr. D. Lyness had considered the possibility of being the Local Auditor for the P/Council. He suggested a nominal fee of £25.00 per hour.

(vi) **Gala Day 2015 planning meeting arranged for 6.30 p.m. on 7 Nov.** The P/Council resolved to provide a portaloos as usual at £50 + VAT.

(vii) **Complaint about MBC Enforcement Letter about Wheelie bins in Fawcett Ave.** The Chair had now taken the complaint to Stage 2 of the procedure.

(viii) New Footpath Route from Rose Cottage Farm to footbridge – MBC decision to route this alongside Stainton Way, largely for safety reasons. The P/Council resolved to write to MBC, noting their decision and requesting them to consider a wooden kick-rail to deter children from running across the road. The Chair would check when the footpath would be finished.

67/14, The Report of the Clerk to the Council

1. Mr. Holt of The Granary at Stainton Vale Farm had expressed his concern about activities and the amount of traffic along the lane from Low Lane to Stainsby Hall Farm. His concerns were noted and would be passed on to MBC Highways and to the police. Agreed.
2. The Environment Agency had notified an assessment of proposals for new nuclear power stations in Anglesey and Gloucestershire.
3. Details of transpennine grants had been provided by Dr. Sue Antrobus, for the benefit of the Friends of S & T Grn Spaces. Cllr. A. Liddle had now submitted an application.
4. Cllr. A. Conroy had advised that the Christmas light-bulbs would be sorted on 3rd November ready for installation in the week commencing 10th Nov. by a new company called Galliford Try at the higher price of £462.50. Cllr. R. Dennison suggested a cheaper alternative. Cllr. A. Liddle was nominated for the Switch-On. The Memorial Hall Management Cttee. was arranging a Concert after the Switch-On on Friday, 21st November.
5. The County Training Partnership had provided details of a CILCA monitoring course starting in December at a cost of £170 per trainee.
6. Information re other Training courses had been sent to P/Councillors.
7. On circulation to Cllrs: the Clerks & Councils Direct magazine and the Local Council Review.
8. NALC circulars from CLCA had been forwarded to Parish Councillors.
9. If all Parish Councillors had now submitted the forms for registration and declaration of interests, a request would be made to MBC for copies of the forms to be held by the Parish Clerk.
10. A letter of resignation had just been received from Cllr. Bob Macmillan on account of ill health. MBC would be duly informed of the resignation and a letter of thanks written to Bob accepting his apologies.
11. The Financial Statement: the Balance in the Account at 14/10/2014 was: £6417.74, after Adding zero and Deducting:- A. Liddle re plants £30, Prontaprint re newsletter £101, M. Newbould, Clerk's salary £294.50 and expenses £69.02, Dell printer ink £10.99, Memorial Hall re hire of hall £96, Northumbrian Water £13.93, R. Dennison re Environment £29.92, Baines Jewitt re PAYE & RTI £36, Normans re notepads & raffle books £20.15. These payments were duly authorised by the Parish Council. Comments from the external audit had been reported in the Minutes of the mtg. in Aug. 2014, Ref. 57/14, No.3.

12. A letter with accompanying information had been received from MBC regarding their Polling Districts & Places Consultation. The Chair had written a response of approval from the Parish Council for the proposed single polling district covering the whole, new S & T ward and the proposed, central location but asking for consideration for when there was a simultaneous Parish Council election.

68/14, Committee Reports:- a) Planning Committee: - Applications granted by MBC: 7 Thornton Rd amendment to install 2 velux windows at rear; Whimsey Nook, Stainton Way extensions to front side and rear and dormers; 10 Thornton Vale cutting back of trees; new dwelling on land between Nos.137 & 139 Cedarwood Glade; 6 Low Farm Close removal of a tree; Proposal for new Police HQ/Community Safety Hub. New applications: Upper Farm upgrade of telecommunications mast and dishes; Stainton Vale Farm variation of previous application to use land for livestock accommodation; 69 Cedarwood Glade single storey rear extension. Whitewings, Cedar Drive: rear bungalow. Following discussion, there were no objections by the P/Cncl. Report accepted.

b) Environment Committee: N in Bloom results on 16 Sept: Gold Award for Large Village, Gold for Stainton Inn, Gold for Stainton Quarry Conservation Project, Gold for Haykin's Front Garden, Silver Award for Meldyke Place. Certificates issued, & letters sent to considered, front garden entrants. Judges' comments noted. Local 'Sunflower Awards' evening 19 Sept: attendance poor, last Sunflower competition for E. Revett, who would receive a letter of thanks from the P/Council for all her hard work. Further progress of maintenance of seats & barrel bands; Winter floral displays; Env. Cttee meeting arranged for 6.30 p.m. 17 Oct. Cherry tree with fungus felled on Strait Lane. Report accepted by P/Council.

c) Crime & Disorder Report: Cllr. A. Liddle reported that, following the discovery of a drug den (now dismantled) in The Spinney, the Thursday volunteers had informed the police who took action. Two fires were reported in the Quarry. Cllr. A. Cooper reported an incident on 2nd Oct. at 1.30 a.m. and complained about police behaviour. The Chair would draw this matter to the attention of Barry Coppinger.

69/14, Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces:- Cllr. A. Liddle reported that the village nameplate sign on Hemlington Road was now rebuilt; quotation of £1062 for the purchase of hardcore for the vehicular gate-entrance to Stainton Wood to be in a new grant application; Awards For All: new grant bid; hosting Forum of Friends Groups on 10 October – reasonably successful, attendance of 25 from various Friends' groups, refreshments served, Geoff Field's last Friends' Forum.

70/14, Provisional Parish Council Budget for 2015/16 circulated and discussed – to be finalised at the December P/Council meeting.

71/14, MBC adoption of Cobblestone Close and parking area last April There were no conditions with Middlesbrough Council.

72/14, Trees – a) Replacements along Fawcett Avenue etc; The MBC Arborist had confirmed that trees removed due to disease would not be replaced by Middlesbrough Council. However, MBC would assist groups who provided funds to replace those trees. A further tree was being removed from Whinstone Drive.

b) Consider request for some Tree Preservation Orders for trees off Hemlington Road The Chair would ask Middlesbrough Council to consider TPO's on 3 trees in Cobblestone Close.

73/14, Date for the next Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 9th December at 7.15pm.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.

Accepted as a true record and signed

Date

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