

The Minutes of the 211th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Stainton on Tuesday, 8th October 2013 at 7.15 pm

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

67/13, Apologies were received from P/Councillors A. Cooper (continuing nursing of her mother in Doncaster), J. Holmes (long-standing commitment), and A. Liddle/Vice Chair (off-colour). The reasons for absence were accepted by the P/Council.

68/13, Declarations of Interest – none.

69/13, Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council

No public present.

70/13, The Minutes of the 210th meeting held on Tuesday, 13th August, 2013 were formally approved by the Council and duly signed by the Chair as a true record.

71/13, 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. *P/Council permission granted to go ahead.*

(ii) **Welcome Pack for new residents – proposal for 2-sided A3 format with useful telephone numbers and details of village organisations.** *Resolved that:* the welcome pack would be progressed by the Chair in the absence of Cllr. A. Cooper. A draft would be circulated to Cllrs. before the next meeting. **Village Newsletter** - Following recent problems re delivery and distribution, a reimbursement of £26.08 was authorised by the P/Council to be paid to Mrs. June Ellis, with a request that she might continue in her present role, at least until after the next Community Council meeting on 12th Nov. and for a list of distributors.

(iii) **40 mph signs now installed on Low Lane west of the hill before the Strait Lane junction** A point of information. The Chair also expressed the opinion that he would have preferred the sign to be much further back from the hill.

(iv) **CLCA – Report of meeting in Guisborough on 11th September** Cllr. M. Williams, who had attended with Cllr. A. Liddle, gave a report of the CLCA meeting. S & T matters reported were the 1% increase in the Clerk's salary; the change to the character of the village caused by housing development; and the notification of a TVRC meeting in Darlington.

(v) **Santander bank charges reimbursed** Following a letter from the Chair, Santander had refunded the £33.53 bank charges incurred when integrating the Deposit into the Current Account.

(vi) **Listing of assets worth over the £250 excess to check the insurance cover is for full replacement value** *Resolved that* Cllr. A. Conroy would write to the insurance company.

72/13, The Report of the Clerk to the Council

1. The Blood Transfusion Service had requested that notices were put on Parish Notice Boards as usual.
2. A Project Officer from Groundwork North East had requested permission to carry out educational sessions for classes from Hemlington Hall Primary School in Stainton Wood, The Quarry and Kell Gate Green. This request had been passed on to the Chair of the Friends of S & T Green Spaces and permission had been given.
3. The Chair had registered an interest in attending a training event about the Data Protection Act and the Freedom of Information Act. The fee was £27.00 per delegate. No date had yet been identified.
4. **Annual Return** – The Parish Council gave approval and acceptance for the Annual Return which the External Auditor had returned without any comments. There was no external audit fee. The Completion of Audit notice had been duly displayed on one village notice board for 14 days as required.
5. On circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerks & Councils Direct magazine, LCR magazine and the CPRE newsletter.
6. Communications from NALC have been forwarded to P/Councillors
7. Assets Register – no additions or disposals to report on this occasion.
8. The Financial Statement:- the Balance in the Account was £6217.13, After Adding Bank refunds £33.53, and Deducting: Northumbrian Water £14.70, Prontaprint re newsletter £94.80, M. Newbould – Clerk’s salary 2 months £300.34 less PAYE 60 pence, Clerk’s Expenses £72.40, Dell printer cartridges £86.36, Memorial Hall hire £76.00, CCL re notepads £4.69, Baines Jewitt re Payroll & PAYE £72.00. These payments were fully authorised by the P/Council.

73/13, Committee Reports:- (a) Planning Committee:- New applications: revised application for 21 Thornton Road (Vicarage) demolition of store & garage, and single storey office & garage extension. All of the three objections made by the P/Council having now been addressed, there was no reason for objection; Rose Cottage Farm Phase 2 for 36 dwellings – permission granted by MBC on 7th Oct; 29 Cedarwood Glade 2 storey & single storey extensions; 8 Meldyke Lane (the old school) change of use to dwelling; 17 Maltby Rd removal of whitebeam tree and crown reduction of 3 trees. Stainton House, 2 Hemlington Road section felling works to 1 sycamore tree & removal of stump. Report accepted by the P/Council. **(b) Environment Committee:- Northumbria in Bloom results: 4 Gold & 1 Silver Awards: The Stainton public house (GOLD), Stainton Quarry & Kell Gate Green (GOLD), 14 Church Close font garden (GOLD), Meldyke Place (SILVER), S & T LARGE VILLAGE (GOLD);**

next Environment Committee meeting on October 18 at 7 p.m.; Report of the Sunflower Awards evening on 20th September: 68 entries but disappointing attendance - not as good as in previous year, possibly due to lack of publicity; Winter plants distribution 10 October, 1.00 p.m. Cllr. Dennison would contact Richard Ward MBC re replacement cherry trees and also the failed crab apple tree near the rose bed on Strait Lane. Report accepted by the P/Council. © **Crime and Disorder** A burglary (in Quarry Drive) and theft of equipment & arson (at Rose Cottage Farm housing dev.) were reported by Chair.

74/13, Friends of Stainton & Thornton Grn Spaces Cllr. Conroy reported on recent work, events and finance. Also, barbed wire obstructing the circular path near the footbridge to Hemlington had now been removed. Cllr. Williams remarked on MBC resistance to the safer route for the new footpath from Rose Cottage Farm to the footbridge. The £30,000 106 Agreement money being apparently insufficient to cover lighting, the ***P/Cncl gave Cllr. Williams majority support*** to try to secure alternative funding for lighting for the new footpath through the field.

75/13, Consultation by Taylor Wimpey about Hemlington Grange development – Consultations would take place at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday, 15th October from 4.30-7.30 p.m. and at the 12th November Community Council meeting, 7.00 p.m. The Chair expressed his views that the backs of houses backing onto Stainton Way would be unsightly for Hemlington residents; a sound barrier was needed along Stainton Way; and a Community Hall, a convenience store & improved flood prevention measures were also required.

76/13, Provisional Parish Council budget for 2014-15 Following discussion during which Cllr. A. Conroy re-expressed concerns about the future funding of maintenance activities of the Friends group, ***the P/Council agreed in principle*** £200 for the Friends of S & T Gn. Spaces, £900 for a 2nd notice board and £100 to be added to Miscellaneous Items, it was ***Resolved that*** the Chair would revise the Budget draft for the December meeting and that the Precept amount would not be changed for 2014-15.

77/13, Date for next meeting of the Council – Tuesday, 10th December, 2013 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 9.25 p.m.

Accepted as a true record and signed

Date

Muriel Ruth Newbould, Clerk to the Council, 4 Thornton Close, Thornton, Middlesbrough TS8 9BT

E-mail address: mrnewbould@yahoo.co.uk Telephone: 01642 590340