

Minutes of the 234th meeting of the Stainton & Thornton Parish Council held on Tuesday, 8 August, 2017 at 7.15 p.m. in the Memorial Hall, Stainton

Present: Parish Councillors A. Liddle (Chair), J. Holmes (Vice Chair), A. Conroy, C. Dean, B. Neale, D. Coupe and A. Cooper.

Members of the Public - 1.

57/17. Apologies and Declarations of Interest - None.

58/17. Public Participation – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council – 1 person present. See items 61c/17 and 61g/17.

59/17. Appointment of new Clerk to the Parish Council – The Chair reported that Muriel Newbould had retired from her role of Clerk to the Parish Council, after 30 years service, on 3 August 2017. Councillor J. Holmes was standing in, carrying out the duties of the Clerk until a new person was appointed. The post had been advertised via the CLCA to all parishes in the Tees Valley area. In Stainton & Thornton local residents had been made aware of the vacancy via the Community Council and the weekly community email circulation. 2 people had initially shown interest but had not progressed the matter any further. Cllr. Holmes indicated he was prepared to resign from the Parish Council and apply for the post Clerk to the Council - citing his experience as a Parish Clerk some years ago when he lived in the Durham area. After discussion and consideration it was **resolved** that Mr. J. Holmes be appointed Clerk to the Parish Council with effect from 1 September 2017.

60/17. The Minutes of the 233rd meeting held on Tues. 13 June, 2017 were approved by the Parish Council and duly signed as a true record by the Chair.

61/17. Matters arising from the above Minutes

(a) Neighbourhood Plan - An update was given by the Chair. The group were currently trying to identify proposed development sites for the MBC Local Plan. The group were meeting on a regular basis and making good progress with the plan. The group's next meeting was on 22 August.

(b) Parish Council contribution to Friends Group - The extra expenses incurred in the preparation of Kell Gate Green had not as yet been received by the Parish Council.

(c) Provision of Bus Services through Stainton - Cllr. Coupe reported a conversation he had with Steve Walker, Managing Director of Stagecoach North East. Mr Walker had been invited to the next meeting of the Community Council in September where he would listen to the concerns of residents with the possibility of a service being re-routed through Stainton. The Monday service being offered by the Parkway Centre Shops was still in its infancy but the indications were that it was being used by a number of residents. The member of the public present at the meeting, Mr. R. Dennison raised concerns about the route the bus was taking through Stainton and suggested an alternative route which Cllr. Coupe will discuss with the bus organisers.

(d) Dog Fouling problems - Community Watch dog fouling signs had been displayed in the Spinney in the hope of having the desired effect. MBC have employed extra enforcement officers and they would be requested to attend the problem areas.

(e) Gala Day – report. – Gala Day was held on 16 July and deemed a success. The event raised over £900 on the day thanks mainly to the donation of Raffle Prizes sourced from local businesses. Money in the region of £1400 was now available to carry over to Gala Day 2018. A debrief meeting of this year’s event is due to be held tomorrow night – 9 August.

(f) 106 monies. – The Chair reported that money promised had not as yet been received but he was hopeful it would be received in due course.

(g) Maintenance of seats and noticeboards. – Cllr. Conroy reported that the Friends Group are considering undertaking the work of maintenance of seats and noticeboards. If approved, a schedule of work would be drawn up to commence in the winter months. A member of the public present, Mr R. Dennison made reference to the seats and noticeboard that he and another person had maintained in Starit Lane and High Rifts. Mr Dennison was thanked for his efforts.

62/17. The Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

1. The following magazines are on circulation to Parish Councillors: Clerk & Councils Direct, CPRE and Local Council Review.

2. All NALC circulars and information received from CLCA have been forwarded to all 7 parish councillors.

3. Financial Statement – Balance as at 3.8.17. Balance: £8616.40. Payments made since the last meeting :

£10 – MBC re Neighbourhood Plan

£22 – M. Holmes (Environment Committee) re plants, Strait Lane flower bed.

£50 – Paula Hall re Internal Audit

£300.96 – M. Newbould (Clerk’s salary June and July).

£20 – Pat Burton (Environment Committee) re plants.

£94 – Angela Cooper re Living Designs – Service gift.

£34.95 – Alan Liddle re printer paper, ink and key cut.

£95 – RCTW re Purple4Polio crocus corms.

£13.16 – Normans of Billingham re stationery.

£80 – Memorial Hall re hall hire for meetings.

£110.40 – Baines Jewitt RTI and payroll.

Full authorisation was given by the PC for all the above payments.

4. As recommended by the Internal Auditor, the NALC Legal Briefings (LO2-14 Amendment to NALC’s Model standing Orders and LO5-15 Public Contract Regulations 2015) and also the NALC Draft Financial Regulations previously forwarded to Parish Councillors all require adoption by the Parish Council. **Resolved – all documents adopted by Parish Council.**

5. The BDO External Audit Exercise of Public Rights period which began on 3.7.17. will end on 11.8.17.

6. The BDO Annual Return was submitted to BDO with supporting information to arrive before 24.7.17.

63/17, Committee Reports:

a) Planning: Cllr. A. Liddle reported: Stainton Grange – Listed building consent for internal and external alterations and demolition of existing orangery; Silk Healthcare, Strait Lane – sold to Methodist Home Association; Taylor Wimpey (Phase 3) Strait Lane; 43 Cedar Drive – 2 storey side extension; Bramblewick, Holly Lane – oak framed veranda to front; 1 Low Farm

Close – single storey extension to rear; 4 Church Close – single storey extension to front and rear; 5 Glebe Gardens – enclosure of existing canopy to front.

There were no PC objections and no controversial issues.

(b) Environment Committee: Cllr. D.Coupe reported Minutes of EC Meeting 5.6.17. circulated; Northumbria in Bloom – summer judging took place 12.7.17. Results announced 13.9.17; Gala Day plant stall was a success; Possibility of local gardens competition with Nunthorpe Parish Council – visit to Nunthorpe Open Gardens by members of EC had taken place.

(c) Crime and Disorder Report: Cllr. A.Liddle reported no further information to hand re incident at 81 Cedarwood Glade. Recent theft of lead from bay window on Hemlington Road. Concern expressed about non police attendance at recent Community Council meeting and lack of crime statistics from police. Reply awaited from police.

Cllr. Holmes reported incidents of inconsiderate parking of vehicles in private car park in Cobblestone Close – no formal complaint received.

Cllr. Holmes reported incidents of vehicles parking on grassed area in Strait Lane causing possible damage to verge. Parking in this area to be discouraged. Warning/advice notes to be left on vehicle in absence of driver.

64/17. Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces: Cll. A.Liddle reported recent committee changes. Chair: A.Liddle. Vice Chair: E.Revett. Treasurer: B.Hogarth. Recent family day in Maelor’s Wood a success despite weather. Steve Iredale is replacing the ‘owl’ on Friday – extra security measures. £10k grant application form ‘Awards for All’ unsuccessful. Maintenance work carried out in Kell Gate Green and Quarry. Steps now have yellow edge markings. Volunteers to undergo training on certain appliances and PPE equipment to be issued in line with H&S recommendations.

Cllr. Cooper reported the debris left after the tree felling in Thornton Plantation was a fire risk – MBC to be notified. Chair to speak to Roddy Findlaay, land agent for Pennyman Estate regarding remedial tidy up in the Thornton Plantation.

65/17. Date of the 235th Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 10 October. 7.15pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Chair formally closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Agreed and signed as a true recordDate

Minutes taken by: J.Holmes, Acting Clerk to the Council, 13 Strait Lane, Stainton, TS8 9BB.
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