STAINTON & STREATLAM PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting held on Thursday 19th January 2017

Present:　　J Rowlandson (JR);　　T Cooke (TC);　　J Brown(JB)

　　　　　　　J Teasdale (JT);　　Eileen O'Hara (EO'H);　　S Chapman (SC)

1.　　Apologies:

2.　　Declarations of Interest: - (in Agenda items) - None received**.**

3.　　Minutes of the last meeting:- (December 2016)

Agreed as a true record -　Proposed by TC & seconded by JB.

4.　　Councillor reports of meetings/events on behalf of the P C; - None

5.　　Matters Arising from the previous Minutes: -

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6.1　Parking issue raised by Mr S Slack at the October meeting – a letter has been delivered to him advising him of the legal position of pavement parking/ obstructing the pavement and stating that the Parish Council was unable to offer any further assistance in the matter.

6.2　Playground safety and advisory signs -　the Council has decided to get ROSPA to undertake regular safety inspections of the play area at a cost of £66 per inspection.　This would advise on the state of the play equipment and necessary signage.

6.3　Road-surfacing works within the Parish -.　An email will be sent to Keith Jamieson at Highways restating the complaints and with photographs of the areas of concern.

6.4　Since The previous meeting there has been yet another 'close shave' at the top junction into Stainton Grove between a vehicle exiting the estate and fast moving traffic coming down Stainton Bank.　This is an on-going source of concern with the possibility of a fatal accident occurring there. It was suggested that we apply for information about hiring or borrowing a hand held speed camera, although information on it could not be used in a prosecution it could be possibly be used by police to issue a warning letter.　An email will be sent to Keith Jamieson to reiterate our concerns about traffic on the main road and the junction onto it.

6.5　The cost of the speed signs that JB has been checking for us is £2700.00 + VAT and additional batteries cost £400. Further details will follow.

6.6　As a token of thanks to Mr Phil Coates for his ongoing voluntary maintenance of the War Memorial garden, the Parish Council gave him a small gift in recognition of his efforts.　After enquiring from family members what would be appropriate he was gifted a bottle of Jura malt whisky (£24).　This was delivered to him by JT in time for Christmas.

6.7　Re the flower tubs or troughs at either end of Stainton village and possibly outside the Community Centre at Stainton Grove, funding to be applied for from JR's councillor allowance through Teesdale Action Partnership.

7　Finance
Our account balance is presently £13,504.94 and the only payment still to clear at this time is for Chris Stamp for the final grass cut, £130.00.
Postage stamps were purchased, 6 x first class and 5 x second class.

8　Correspondence ;　None received..

9   Any Other business;

9.1   Stainton Village Hall - The village hall is experiencing issues with damp due to defective pointing on exterior walls. They have got quotes in for a specialist paint coating to protect the structure and the window frames from further damage – this in total is almost £1400.00. As the village hall is actually owned by the Parish Council and managed by the village hall committee it seems reasonable to split the cost between the two organisations. This was approved by all councillors (with the exception of JT who was representing the village hall committee and abstained from taking part in the decision.)

9.2   Precept for 2017/2018

Looking ahead to what projected expenses will be in the coming year, it was agreed to apply for a 20% increase on the precept awarded last year.

Money needs to be spent on the Play park; New benches; Insurance; Speed signs; Grass-cutting and supporting the upcoming village hall refurbishment. And hopefully, asking Steve Ragg to advertise online for a new clerk will also lead to a wage bill.

10   Date of next Parish Council Meeting and future dates.

30th March 2017 at 7.30 pm
Stainton Village Hall

Annual Parish Council Meeting
11th May 2017 - 7.00pm
Stainton Village Hall

Chairman ....   Date ....