

STANTON & STREATLAM PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Thursday 30th March 2017

Present: J Rowlandson (JR); T Cooke (TC); J Brown (JB)
J Teasdale (JT); S Chapman (SC) Cllr D Kinch (Staindrop)
Mrs A Pettit

1. **Apologies:** Eileen O'Hara (EO'H)
2. **Public Participation:** – Mrs A Pettit remained after attending the Annual Parish Meeting preceding this Parish Council meeting.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** - (in Agenda items) - None received.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting:- (January 2017)**
Agreed as a true record - Proposed by JB & seconded by TC.
5. **Councillor reports of meetings/events on behalf of the P C;** - see agenda item 7
6. **Matters Arising from the previous Minutes:** -
 - 6.1(6.2) **Playground safety and advisory signs;** A ROSPA playground inspection has been booked for June at a cost of £66 and following receipt of the inspection report the Council will respond to what needs to be done and what recommendations to implement.
Action JB
 - 6.2(6.3) **Road-surfacing works within the Parish;** Road works recently carried out at Stainton Grove are not considered to be of acceptable standard and will be reported to DCC – photos of the areas of complaint will be supplied by Cllr Cooke as evidence of the issue and forwarded to the Highways Dept.
Action SC
 - 6.3(6.4) **Stainton Grove top junction issues;** Another instance of a near-miss incident at the top junction of Stainton Grove was reported by Cllr. Cooke. This is developing into an ongoing issue and councillors feel will only worsen when work starts on the new skip site/recycling facility. Clearer signage warning of the concealed entrance would be a step in the right direction and may help to slow traffic. This is an ongoing issue to be flagged up to DCC for their attention.
Action SC
 - 6.4(6.7) **Flower tubs or troughs;** A suggestion was made that it would possibly be appropriate to source stone troughs from Stainton Quarry to site at each end of the village. A 4' x 2' x 20inches deep trough would be £300 and cost £150 to have it engraved with STANTON or STANTON GROVE. There is £3000 of funding available and Lowfield Gardens could be asked to fill and plant up the troughs with a perennial framework and yearly annuals. Darlington Borough Council is also known to sell off surplus bedding stock at the end of their planting season, possibly May/June. We may need permission from DCC to site these.
Action JB;BH & SC
7. **Travellers Forum;** There has been some work carried out at the temporary Shaw Bank stopover site to remove ragwort as it's dangerous to horses. Also Shaw Bank and Broomielaw will each be supplied with a water bowser for the watering of the horses – this is **not** intended for human use! Their next meeting takes place on April 25th in the Town Council Offices.
8. **Finance;**

The closing balance of our account is £13,377.94 and there are no payments still to clear in this financial period. Payments to clear next month will be:-

- Hall Hire payment Stainton Grove - £20.00
- EurOffice Stationery supplies, Sue Chapman - £67.26

9 Correspondence; None received..

10 Any Other business;

10.1 A post that is a part of the target hardening provision on the green outside the Community Centre has snapped off at its base. The Council approved asking C A Stamp if he could supply and fit a replacement prior to the Appleby Horse Fair. **Action SC**

10.2 Suggested dates for future meetings – to be confirmed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May.

20 th July 2017 Stainton Village	21 st September 2017 Stainton Grove	16 th November 2017 Stainton Village
18 th January 2018 Stainton Grove	15 th March 2018 Stainton Village	Annual PC Meeting May 2018 Stainton Village

10.3 Dog fouling on village paths is once again becoming an issue. Mr Ian Charlton has voluntarily been clearing up behind irresponsible dog owners. Signage is required to warn the owners of offending dogs of the penalties they face if caught. Future incidents may be reported to DCC for further monitoring and action.

10.4 Councillor David Kinch, (Staindrop PC) attended this meeting to provide advice to the council on the recommended content of our PC web site, (still a work in progress) and provided items of documentation to be uploaded onto the site to ensure we are progressing towards compliance. He also told us that both Standing Orders and Financial Regulations should be adopted by the council after every election.

He brought along a file containing copies of Legal Topics as issued by NALC which provide guidance and the framework for the proper running order of a Parish Council. He suggested buying a copy of Arnold Baker’s book on Local Council Administration which has recently been updated and reissued – this covers almost all eventualities that may face a parish council and the correct way of addressing these issues.

He advised us how to access information on the NALC website and we will be able to compile our own reference file of legal topics.

The next meeting will be held on 11th May 2017 and this will be the Annual Meeting of Stainton & Streatlam Parish Council.

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Chairman

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Date