

STANTON & STREATLAM PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on 23rd September 2021 in Stainton Village Hall

Present N B Hutchinson (NBH) J Taylor (JMT) B Toulson (BT)
J Rowlandson (JR) S Chapman (SC) (Clerk)

1. **Apologies;** J Teasdale, A Dobinson, J Brown
2. **Declarations of Interest;** None
3. **Dispensations;** None
4. **Minutes of meeting on 28th July 2021;** Proposed by JR, seconded by BT.
5. **Matters arising from last meeting** and village walk-through
6. 5.1 Play Park – There is currently an issue with the wall bordering the footpath. Several stones have become loose and some have fallen out – this is an issue as children have been seen climbing on it and there is the potential for an injury to occur. A local contractor (G Allinson) will be asked to quote to carry out repairs. The dying cherry tree to the rear of the climbing/play structure still requires removal but there is potential to recoup some of the cost of doing this by selling off the resulting wood cuts for wood turning or as winter fuel. We have received one quote for £400 to cut it down and remove entirely but the council will seek a second quote to cut it down but leave the usable remains. Any proceeds from the sale of these remains to be donated to the village hall.

5.2 Bus shelter at Stainton Grove – this requires repair to its roof to ensure it is made watertight for the foreseeable future – G Allinson to be asked to quote for this and also give a price to cut back the overgrown trees at the entrance to the village.

5.3 Hesley Rise well – during the village walk through it was noted the 2 top stones had been deposited in the water. Councillors were unable to determine the original location of these stones so councillor Toulson will arrange to have them put into her nearby garden until it was known where they originally came from.

5.4 Village green – The village green is public space therefore it is not legally permitted to park a SORN registered vehicle on it. The car in question is also impeding the grasscutter and preventing proper maintenance of the green. This is the third time that this issue has arisen and previous correspondence will be checked to see how it was dealt with on these occasions. The village green registry has been approached to try and get definitive boundaries but as yet have not responded.

5.5 Public footpath behind West Farm – this path had been reported as overgrown and not accessible but further investigation has shown this is not the case.

5.6 Signage on the A688 and a street sign at Stainton Grove were reported to DCC as requiring attention or replacement. Currently only the sign at Stainton Grove has been replaced. The clerk was advised that road signs and street signs were dealt with by different departments and the information about the road signs would be passed to the relevant dept. There has also been no action on the request for a new Playground sign or replacement 30mph signage.

5.7 Village green bench – an email was sent to Tam to thank him for the very good job he did of repainting this bench. It was commented on during the walk through as looking very smart but it will still need to be replaced at some point as there is some damage to the legs.

5.8 Following the installation of new LED street lighting in the village, two complaints were received. One was from residents of the Police House that the new lights were shining directly into their home even through curtains and the second issue raised by Hesley Rise residents was that as the new lights were directed towards the road running through the village, they no longer cast any light on the Hesley Rise road which is substantially higher than the village road – for reference, the Police House is below the road level. DCC highways and lighting to be notified to see if these issues can be resolved.

5.9 As yet the clerk has not been able to contact Martin Clark of Gainford Parish Council to make enquiries about their speed signage, installation and costs, he will be emailed to try and get some information for the next meeting as there is currently funds available to try and slow traffic through the village.

7. 5.10 Stainton Grove noticeboard – a noticeboard is to be fixed to the bus shelter for advertising meetings and events in the local area. An aluminium one would cost about £300 but prices will also be checked for one with a hardwood frame.

8. 5.11 Stainton Grove play park – this area has previously been reported as being untidy, needing bins emptied etc by councillor Dobinson but this is actually owned and maintained by DCC. However the suggestion was made that perhaps councillors could do a walkthrough of the estate to see what issues could be resolved. Due to the time of year this would probably need to be done at a weekend.

9. Correspondence – none received

10. **Financial Report** – balance of account as at 37th August was £21,080.24

10.1 Payment made between then and this meeting was £460.00 for grass-cutting to R Toward

Payments to be made –

10.2.1 Hall hire Stainton village hall £20.00

10.2.2 Clerk's wage (two months) £229.80

10.2.3 HMRC tax on wage £57.60

11. Any Other Business

11.1 Retaining wooden wall in Memorial Park – progress on this project to be checked to see how much further work is required and if the wooden seat has been planed and sanded to prevent any injury from rough surfaces.

11.2 The footpath below Hesley Rise has been checked and some grass removed to display the narrowing caused by the overgrowth of the grass. This evidence will be sent to the Find and Fix section (Civic Pride) at DCC to highlight the issue with a request to attend to both this and the path along the foot of the triangle between the two junctions onto the A688.

11.3 Councillor Toulson handed over a key fob with a number of keys which are connected to access to the well. This to be checked out to see exactly what is there.

11.4 Councillor Taylor reported that he had heard of a possible complaint regarding trees in the Memorial Park blocking light to a property behind the park. This information was relayed through a third party and it was agreed that until some formal correspondence was received from that home owner, that the council could take no action. At this time it was suggested that one or more trees in the park could have been donated by the royal family as the Queen Mother had links to the village. This to be investigated further, possibly by means of a visit to the local records office at County Hall.

11.5 Stainton Grove Heritage Trail – unfortunately due to the closure of the Community Centre it has not been possible to maintain all of the Heritage Trail Military Memories locations and this has meant they are now seriously overgrown and obscuring the information panels. As councillor Dobinson was not at this meeting, on her behalf the clerk asked the council to consider asking the grasscutter to give us a quote to cut back all the shrubbery around the panels and to consider the possibility of at some future date removing the shrubs and replacing them with a mulch or decorative gravel. This would then cut back on future maintenance costs. It was agreed to ask for a quote.

11.6 On the list of councillor responsibilities, councillors Brown and Toulson are playground officers but due to ill health councillor Taylor agreed to stand in for councillor Brown.

Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday 1st December at 7.00pm