

STAINTON & STREATLAM PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting scheduled for November 23rd had to be postponed for one week due to not enough councillors available to attend and make the meeting quorate.

Meeting held on 30th November 2023 in Stainton Village Hall

Present J Teasdale (JT) J Taylor (JMT) J Rowlandson (JR) A Dobinson
(AD) N B Hutchinson (NBH) S Chapman (SC) (Clerk)

1. **Public Participation** No members of the public in attendance
2. **Apologies** B Toulson (BT)
3. **Declarations of Interest** None
4. **Dispensations** None
5. **Approval of September Minutes** Proposed by JT, seconded by JMT
6. **Progress or changes since last meeting**

- 6.1 As yet there is still no sign of a new bus timetable being displayed on the village bus shelter but as bus services have recently been subject to quite a lot of disruption it was agreed by all present that the issue be put on hold and re-visited in 2024 when hopefully an updated version will be available.
- 6.2 The community bulb planting event was well attended and we anticipate a really good display next spring when the daffodils come into bloom.
- 6.3 A letter has been sent to Bounceback requesting some clarification about the base to be installed around the spring bouncers; how long installation would take and how long the play area would be out of action and if there is a specific maintenance routine we needed to ensure the surface remained in good condition. As 'yet we have not received their reply.
- 6.4 A number of wrought ironwork companies have been contacted about getting quotes for the ore Memorial Garden replacement railings. Messages were left on business's website contact forms and a couple have been in touch to arrange a site visit to price up the work. Also another local wrought iron worker has been approached (S. Hall) to also provide a quote.
- 6.5 Again several firms have been contacted or messages left on their website contact forms requesting a price to carry out health and safety reports on the trees in the Memorial Garden. It has also been suggested that we contact the official 'tree person' for DCC to see how much their charge would be.
- 6.6 Kinnivie crossroads are still subject to temporary traffic lights until the new electronic warning signs are installed.
- 6.7 DCC have pruned back overgrown hedges and trees on several of the local roads.
- 6.8 There is now no access to Runa Farm directly from the A67. Entry and access to their site is via Town Pasture Lane (Gypsy Lane). This change of access did not require permission from DCC.

7. **Correspondence received/sent** – Letter to Bounceback and contacts with Arborists and wrought ironworkers. DCC, Technical Accountancy Team – Precept request information and form.

8. Financial Report

Balance of Account as at 30th October 2023 £23,948.20 with a Direct Debit of £35.00 to the Information Commissioner's Office being taken on November 19th.

Invoices presented for payment.

Village Hall	Room hire, 1 hr at £15 per hr	£15.00
Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath	£28.99
HMRC	Tax on Clerk's wage (October/November)	£68.60

S Chapman	Clerk's wage (October/November)	£274.00
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- 8.1 An invoice is still to come from Mr Chorlton for the plants he used for winter planting.
- 8.2 It was agreed that the annual Precept be set to an amount (plus the LCTRS grant) that keeps the amount at a level that does not add any additional cost to parishioners.- i.e. keeps the Precept at a standstill position. To be submitted in January.

9. Dates of future meetings in 2024

January 25th
July 25th

March 28th
September 26th

May 23rd (Annual Meeting)
November 28th

10 . Matters arising (at discretion of Chair)

It had been reported that a number of DCC vans had been seen in the layby at the foot of the road into the village but it appears that this is due to the roll-out of the Digital Durham internet service.

Date and time of next meeting
25th January 2024 at 7.00pm in the village hall.

Chairman

Date

