

STAINTON PARISH COUNCIL

(Draft copy of minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd May 2016)

MINUTES

Present: Out-going Chair John Stott, retiring Vice Chair Thomas Nelson, Councillors: Tot Mason, (retiring)Geoff Wilson, Julie Knowles, Sarah Kitching(newly elected cllr) Clerk Karen Wells, County councillor Brenda Grey District Councillor Sheila Eccles (10 members of the public)

1.16 Chairman's report – Chairman John Stott read his annual report.

The report reflected the councils work for the past year inc.:

Highways, policing, opening of new stretch of Lancaster canal and the leaks later in the year, footpaths, common land, the devastating flooding, setting up of the web site.

Two successful events: litter picking and celebrating the queens 90th birthday by lighting a beacon. The chair also thanked cllrs that help keep the parish tidy and the community for supporting each other during the flooding in December. (Full copy of report can be obtained from the clerk)

2.16 MINUTES: the minutes of the AGM dated 18th May 2015 and minutes of the parish council meeting 21st March 2016 were signed by the chair as a true record of the meeting.

3.16 The newly elected cllrs were welcomed: They signed the 'acceptance of office' papers. They were also issued with 'Declaration of interest' forms to be completed and returned to SLDC.

The council members are: Julie Knowles, Sarah Kitching John Stott, and Geoff Wilson.

This leaves the council with a vacancy and this is to be advertised on noticeboards, website and by email, for a period of two weeks, at which time the council will make a decision on who will fill the position.

Retiring cllrs Tot Mason and Thomas Nelson were thanked for their years of service to the council and the community.

4.16 ELECTION OF CHAIR: The outgoing chair stood down and the clerk officiated the election of the new chair. There was one nomination, Cllr Julie Knowles nominated by Cllr John Stott and seconded by Cllr Geoff Wilson. As there was only one nomination Cllr Julie Knowles was duly elected to be the chair for the flowing year, 2016/17.

Chair Julie Knowles signed and accepted the office. She also thanked the outgoing chair John Stott for all his work as chair over the preceding years.

5.16 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR: Chair Julie Knowles officiated the rest of the meeting and the election of the vice chair. There was one nomination. Cllr John Stott nominated by Chair Julie Knowles and seconded by Cllr Sarah Kitching. As there was only one nomination Cllr John Stott was duly elected as Vice Chair.

Vice chair John Stott signed and accepted the office.

6.16 APOLOGIES - Ref Ian Swift, PCSO,

7.16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on either agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.)

Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

8.16 Annual report from Crosscrake School- report on the school year 2015/16, Linda Fletcher head teacher gave the report at the end of the meeting, because she was attending another meeting earlier in the evening. She explained that it had been another year of change at the school and there had been staff changes as there had been cuts in the budget. However the school and the children continue to do well and is supported by a

good team of staff, governors, parents and PTFA. The children have enjoyed a variety of opportunities outside the curriculum including sports, a wide range of visits and learning musical instruments. The school continues to have close links with the church. (Full copy of report can be obtained from the clerk)

9.16 Canal & River trust: The council had received a copy of a letter sent to Tim Farron from Chantelle Seabourne Waterway manager North West, NW Waterways. This letter contained an update on the repairs to the aqueduct at Stainton Cross in which she explained that they are: *'currently carrying out works to stabilise the movement in the structure to prevent further deterioration until we secure funding to undertake full restoration works in the future.'* *Stainton aqueduct is a significant priority in the North West and you can be assured that we are actively seeking to restore it as soon as we can, however this will involve us in fundraising to contribute towards the substantial costs. The initial works being undertaken include putting in a clay dam, enabling us to reduce water levels thus reducing the weight on the aqueduct, for this reason the dam will stay in place until the full restoration is undertaken. We have then placed appropriately sized stone in the area scoured during the flood to support the displaced south east wing wall and prevent further erosion of the aqueduct, and finally the reopening of a towpath over the structure. The path under the aqueduct will not be repaired until the full works are complete, and we have applied for the Right of Way to be closed until then.'* She ends a report with a promise to meet with local residents again on 10th June 2016. (Full copy of the letter can be obtained from the clerk).

10.16 Annual report from Stainton Institute – up to March 2016. The report was prepared by Chair David Coates and read at the meeting by Cllr Geoff Wilson. There have been significant steps forward made on the renovation this year. These inc: concrete sub-base for the floor, internal draining, underpinning of the rear wall, external drainage, new windows installed and internal ceiling completed. Now these works have been completed the building has a dry and pleasant feel to it. The fund raising adverts that took place this year were well supported. The chair thanked, the committee, local cllrs and everyone who has helped with the renovation for their support and looks forward to an exciting year ahead. (Full copy of the report can be obtained from the clerk).

Chair Julie Knowles thanked Cllr Geoff Wilson and the committee for their work on the project.

CLOSE OF STAINTON PARISH COUNCIL AGM

To be followed by the ordinary meeting of Stainton Parish Council

Draft copy minutes for Parish Council Meeting 23rd May 2016

1.16 OPEN SESSION: There were no issues.

2.16 Flooding update: Since the last meeting the Environment agency (EA) have been to visit the parish and meet with some cllrs and residents. After which they sent a lot of information to the council, the clerk forwarded this to the Email group and posted it on the web site. (Paper copies are available from the clerk) It was decided to wait until the July meeting before contacting the EA again. The council will then look at any outstanding issues left over from the flood damage.

There were also concerns over the delay to the repair of the aqueduct, at Stainton Cross and the possible danger to the residents in the area from further flooding if it were to collapse. The clerk will contact Tim Farron and ask if there is any more action that the PC can take to speed up the process.

It was reported by a parishioner that the culvert up Millbeck lane has been repaired.

3.16 UPPER KENT LAP: Update from Chair Julie Knowles who attended the LAP meeting on 11th May 2016. The meeting covered: Parish charter, a new highways steward for our area who is to cover 5 lap areas and broadband.

4.16 POLICING IN THE COMMUNITY: PCSO did not attend the meeting. The clerk read out a report sent to the council. (Copy of full report held by clerk) A summary of the points: Over the last 12 months the crime statistics for the area in which Stainton falls were: 645 reported incidents compared to 693 in the year before. These resulted in 101 reported crimes, with 102 last year. Anti-social behaviour reports this year were 25 down, burglary from dwellings remained the same 3, burglaries from non dwellings reduced to 11 from 19, criminal damage 8 this year and 6 last. However assaults have risen to 22 from 7 last year. The Cumbrian force continue to co-operate with Lancashire and North Yorkshire to combat rural crime. They are looking for volunteers from the public in non-confrontational roles for night action in the future. (Full copy of the report can be obtained from the clerk)

Two new neighbourhood watch signs to be put up in parish.

5.16 HIGHWAYS: New hotline tel no. has been circulated by the clerk. Before the next meeting the clerk is to contact Highways dept. and check how best to report highway faults, in the parish. As it is felt that many issues are reported, repeatedly but don't always get solved.

6.16 PLANNING.

Application Received: SL/2016/0362 St Sundays Cottage, Stainton, Kendal First floor extension.

Notifications Received: None

7.16 FINANCE:

Authorised schedule of payments for May/June

i. **Payments:**

Made between meetings: None

Payments sanctioned during the meeting:

Clerks May wage £ 129.15 + expenses £10 (broadband/telephone) + £12.45 (paper + black ink)	= £151.60
Clerks June wage £129.15 + expenses £10 (broadband/telephone)	= 139.15
Hire and associated costs of meeting payable to School	= £20
CALC Annual Subscription	= £130.00
Community Lincs Insurance (Zurich)	= £423.11
Internal audit	= £50.00

i. **Payments received:**

SLDC Annual precept	= £3358.64
SLDC Top up precept grant	= £82.82

AUDIT

- i) Signed during meeting Asset and risk registers, reviewed and agreed at March meeting.
- ii) Agreed and signed during meeting parts 1 + 2 of annual audit returns and authorise the chair to sign.
- iii) Approved and signed during meeting, summary receipts and payments for year 2015/16.

8.16CONSULTATION & FUNDING REQUESTS: none

9.16. Environment Partnership Fund: Clerk to contact SLDC to forward ideas for funding.

10.16: Cycle racing: on Crosscrake and Shyreakes lane (concerns raised by Sedgwick resident after incident). It was decided that Chair Julie Knowles would contact the group that runs the events and request more marshals in the area and give the council some notice so that residents can be warned.

The clerk is also to forward the concerns to the PCSO and inform the Sedgwick resident of the council's action.

11.16: Fund raising: Ideas to be put forward.

12.16 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.

- i) An email of thanks was received by the council from Sedgwick PC for all the work done to organise the lighting of the beacon, for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations.

13.16 AOB: Electoral Reforms: SLDC have sent a draft copy of the electoral reforms for the area for consultation by the council and the public.

14.16 Councillor's issues to be raised at next meeting – None

(No discussions must take place on these matters but will be placed on the next Agenda)

15.16 Meeting closed at 9:15pm

16.16 next meeting – Monday 25th July 2016, 7.30pm to be held at St Thomas' Church Crosscrake

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