

STANTON & STREATLAM PARISH COUNCIL

on 24th July 2025, Stainton Village Hall

Present

J Rowlandson J M Taylor J Teasdale B Toulson S Chapman (Clerk)

1. **Public Participation** No members of the public were in attendance.
 2. **Apologies** – B Hutchinson, A Dobinson
 3. **No Declarations of Interest or Dispensations made.**
 4. **29th May Minutes** – Proposed by J M Taylor, seconded by J Teasdale, approved.
 5. **Progress or changes since last meeting**
 - 5.1 Councillor's completed Electoral Expenses forms and Register of Interest forms delivered to DCC and the Register of Interest form are now available on DCC website.
 - 5.2 As requested, grass-cutting invoices now state the date of completed cuts.
 - 5.3 Council has had no further reports of vermin sightings but information will be posted on the parish notice boards to let residents know how they can contact DCC's Environmental Health department for advice.
 - 5.4 Dog fouling is again on the increase within Stainton and unfortunately councillors have had reports of bagged waste being dropped into residents' gardens rather than being put into either of the two dog-waste bins in the village or taken home for disposal in the owner's bin. This is not only anti-social behaviour but also incredibly disrespectful to the residents in whose gardens the waste has been left.
 - 5.5 The STANTON sign on the approach to the village from the A688, Staindrop road was noticeably overgrown but this does seem to have been partially cleared although the speed sign next to it is still obscured.
 - 5.6 Issues recently reported to DCC included: -
 - i. *Damage to the footpath and kerbstones below Hesley Rise;
 - ii. Faded speed signs at western entrance to village;
 - iii. *Damaged barrier outside play area;
 - iv. Faded PLAYGROUND sign. A second sign for traffic approaching from the west was requested;
 - v. *PLAYGROUND sign has fallen from post at Stainton Grove
- UPDATE -*Footpath and Kerbing repaired; Fallen PLAYGROUND sign replaced; Barrier deemed to still be safe and fulfilling its purpose. The other items have been acknowledged but no remedial action as yet.
6. **Correspondence**

New DCC Councillors, Ms Campbell and Miss Fox have been notified of future meetings dates as requested. Cllr Campbell has advised she is unable to attend the September meeting but would add the November meeting to her calendar.
 7. **Financial Update Balance of Account** as at July 24th **£17,497.58**

Interim payments as previously agreed.

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|------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| E Taube | Memorial bench and plinth | £1,460.00 |
| I Chorlton | Bedding plants & compost | £54.99 |

Cheques for approval and signature at this time

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|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| S & S Village Hall | Hall hire 24 th July | £30.00 |
| HMRC | Tax (Clerk's wage June/July) | £77.20 |
| Playsafety | Play area inspection | £100.80 |
| S Chapman | Clerk's wage June/July | £308.30 |
| A R Toward | Grass cutting (3 cuts) | £405.00 |

8. Any other arising issues

8.1 Councillor Teasdale, expressed thanks to our former Durham County Councillors, G Richardson and J Rowlandson on behalf of both the village hall and the parish council, for their support and financial assistance through Teesdale Action Partnership. The Action Partnership was disbanded prior to the elections this year to be replaced by local area networks and it is hoped that our newly elected DCC councillors will be as supportive.

8.2 It was reported that a section of roofing at the rear of the village hall, covering a small cellar store, was in need of replacement. Once quotes have been received for the necessary work the village hall committee will be looking for funding and would appreciate any financial support that the parish council could offer.

8.3 Stainton village green has unfortunately been degraded over the course of time and is substantially smaller than when originally registered as a village green. This in the main is due to vehicles accessing properties to the side and rear of the green and destroying the border edges. If this were to continue it could affect the future viability of this being a dedicated village green.

Although the actual land is privately owned, the parish council is responsible for its maintenance and grass cutting, tree pruning etc. As a first step the Village Green registration department at DCC will be contacted to see what information they hold on the recorded boundary of the green. Once that is done it could be followed up with an approach to the registered landowner for their opinion as to what action to take next.

When the parish council is in a position to determine what remedial action is both possible and practical a meeting can be held to which any affected residents would be invited so they are fully aware of what action may be taken.

Signed

Dated

| Dates for future meetings in 2025 | |
|---|--|
| September 25th 7.00 pm in the Village Hall Parish Council Meeting | November 27th 7.00 pm in the Village Hall Parish Council Meeting |
| <i>MINUTES AS YET UNAPPROVED</i> | |