

STANTON & STREATLAM PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on 25th January 2024 in Stainton Village Hall

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

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

- 6.1 Following Bounceback's response to the questions raised about the play area work it was agreed unanimously to contact them and ask for the works to be scheduled in as soon as possible so that the area is functional by Easter.
- 6.2 Memorial garden railings and wall – A quote was received for £520 per stretch of railings but this business to be contacted again to clarify exactly what this covered. Other sources of wrought iron work to be contacted are N H and IT – currently carrying out some excellent work on a property in Barnard Castle. S H has advised he currently has no availability to take on the work but would be happy to check any quotes to ensure they are appropriate for the work involved. Stone masons will also be asked to provide quotes for the repair of the wall as it seems sensible to carry out the two works together. Glasper & Tunstall to be contacted for an updated quote for the wall repair.
- 6.3 We received a quote of £300 + VAT to carry out an inspection and report on the Health & safety status of the trees in the Memorial garden but have also been advised that DCC have qualified staff who could inspect and report for a basic fee of £172. They however would not carry out any remedial work – that would need to be outsourced to another company. They will be contacted to arrange an inspection and the other company advised and considered for any other works required.
- 6.4 The Precept request has been submitted and accepted. £8201.78 was requested plus the LCTRS grant of £160.00 giving a total of £8361.78. This is a 0% increase on last year (there has been no Parish Council increase to the Precept for several years now) meaning there is no change to any of the property bands due to the parish Precept.

7. Correspondence received/sent

- 7.1 Email response from Bounceback.
- 7.2 Technical Accountancy Team, DCC – Precept request form and confirmation of receipt.
- 7.3 Survey quote from Special Branch Tree Services.
- 7.4 Quote from Valley Wrought Iron.

8. Financial Report

The Balance of Account as at 29th December 2023 was £23,541.61

It is calculated that approximately £307.38 can be reclaimed for VAT payments made in 2023.

Invoices presented and approved for payment at this meeting.

Village Hall	Room hire, 2 hr at £15 per hr	£30.00
HMRC	Tax on Clerk's wage (December/January)	£68.60
S Chapman	Clerk's wage (December/January)	£274.00

9. Matters arising (at discretion of the Chair)

- 9.1 It was reported that a bund had been constructed around the former tank stand at the top of Stainton Bank – this is part of the target-hardening being carried out prior to Appleby Fair.

