

STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15TH MAY 2024

Present: Cllr Brown (Chair), Cllr Barratt, Cllr I Watkins, Cllr K Watkins & Cllr Walsham

Attending: Di Hoyes (Parish Clerk)

Public: Representative from the VHT

01/24 Chair Person's Opening Statement

Cllr Brown welcomed all of Council to the meeting and gave thanks to the representative from the VHT who attended the meeting.

02/24 Chair Person's Annual Report

Report from Cllr Brown

“First of all, I'd like to thank everyone for their support of me as Chair this year and the past two years, and during the previous ten years when I was vice chair. This is my last report as sadly I resign today having moved from the Parish. I wish everyone well going forward.

Thanks to David, my great deputy and Ivor, Nick and Kate, and thanks also to Di, our Clerk who goes above and beyond to serve Stainton. I would also like to thank our Ward Councillors, particularly Martin Greenhalgh, who provided excellent support.

This past year has continued to show what a great community Stainton is. While the parish also covers Lambcote Grange and Wilsic the majority of this report is about activities within Stainton.

The Parish Council and the Village Hall Trust work closely together and the Parish Council is very grateful for receiving free use of the hall for our meetings over the last year the council contributes by paying the fees for the internet. Similarly, we jointly fund the band at Christmas.

The Village Hall Trust has had a very successful year. There has been an increase in the community engaging with activities and subjectively it feels there is a great feeling of community spirit.

The Village Hall Trust received funding from the CDC Ward Councillors budget to develop the Wi-Fi hub and the Earl of Scarborough gave a donation towards the cost of the walking nativity. Breedons have donated the cost of 4 new gazebos.

Working together the Village Hall Trust and Parish Council have built a strong relationship with the church which has led to the formal merger of St Winifrid with the parish of St Mary's Tickhill. This ensures the future of our lovely historic church which was in doubt as for some time it was closed with no services. The Parish Magazine continues to feature Stainton as well as Tickhill.

The past year has also seen the departure of some long-standing residents and welcomed new people to the village as many houses have changed hands. We are particularly pleased to see the new arrivals getting involved in the village

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This year has seen an increase in the number of volunteers supporting the work of the Trust and the Parish council, we offer them, our partners, our sincere thanks. We could not have the village and community without their continued support. They come from all over the parish not just Stainton. Some examples include

- Litter picking, including Aiden doing his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteering module
- Leading on and developing the Walking nativity and taking on many roles within the nativity
- Building the Stainton nativity manger
- Delivering newsletters
- Rebuilding planters, planting and maintaining around the village and planting bulbs both autumn and spring
- Clearing the pond and building a duck house
- Hosting the village Coronation Party
- Local councillors delivering sand bags to the hall

There have been 9 Parish Council Meetings during this last year with full agendas at each meeting. The meetings have been publicised and have attracted some different people to attend which has been positive.

During the past year:

We have worked with the local community to continue to improve the pond. Even the ducks are returning and now we have a wonderful house for them. We are continuing to chase CDC to get the path up past the pond improved having gathered evidence that it is dangerous. This is a path controlled by CDC so we cannot act ourselves.

We met with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to explore the potential for making the playing field and village more wildlife friendly; as part of the meeting, we identified the waste land next door to the playing field as an opportunity and have been exploring if the village could take over its management.

I was honoured to attend the 100-year memorial service for the Miners killed at Maltby pit and to lay a wreath on behalf of the village in July

The Orchard continues to thrive near the playground which now has a fence. The play area is very well used. Breedons kindly donated a “small” stone for the plaques from our funders and we were pleased to have a formal opening attended by Lord Scarborough in early September.

The council continues to allow the 5th Scouts to use the recreation field for activity days and overnight camps free of charge, accessing the village hall if needed.

We continue to employ a landscape company to tidy the area along the stream and the pond.

This year we have agreed on a budget for further planting around the village, we bought plants for volunteers to use in the planters and under street signs and further planters are planned. The goal is to give interest throughout the year while reducing work between the village hall trust and the council we have supplied spring and summer bulbs and the plants bought are perennials designed to last hopefully. We are very grateful to people who have adopted areas and weeded

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and watered as needed. We plan to add more information boards around the village and redo the one at the end of Raw Lane.

The demountable Flagpole on Stainton Lane, has been used for flag flying for important events. This flagpole also creates the centre for the Christmas decorative lighting tree. We investigated getting funding for installing an electrical source at an external point with no success and a solar panel does not appear to be feasible so we are grateful to Peter Keenan for allowing us to access his power and hope we will find a solution now Peter has moved.

CDC continue to support the village maintaining footpaths, doing grass cutting and cutting back undergrowth.

We have also made repeat representations about the flooding the roundabout and work continue to address this.

On Holme Hall Lane we have made representations about the danger caused by the reduced visibility on the bend near the phone box. This is still being progressed by CDC.

Members of the public raised their concerns about the inadequate quarry signage and there have been several incidents with HGVs getting stuck and doing damage in Holme Hall Lane. There has been some progress on new signage and we have recently approached Breedons to see if the postcode and address could be changed from Holme Hall Lane.

I am particularly pleased that after several years we have now almost finished the refurbishment of the phone box using funding received by the village hall trust from the ward councillors and CDC for its refurbishment.

The Parish Council has acted on behalf of residents on a number of planning issues throughout the year. I was particularly pleased to be able to attend a CDC planning meeting in support of the expansion of the Breedons quarry and speak on their behalf. They are extremely good neighbours and it was excellent that the planning application was granted.

Fly tipping has become an increasing problem and we are grateful to everyone who reports what they see, the more reports the more we are likely to get a response though recently it has been frustratingly slow.

The Parish Council pays a significant percentage of its budget to provide wi-fi in the village hall so with the Village Hall Trust we are pleased that we can now offer a wi-fi hub so that the village can benefit from the resource. The seating on the decking makes it a very pleasant place to “surf”. Thanks to Di we have an excellent Wi-Fi usage policy to protect users.

An issue which the Parish Council is still working on, after much frustration, is a bus service to the village. We briefly had a public bus service into the village but it was cancelled with no notice. We will continue to canvas for a bus service to be re-instated now that there is a new City region mayor in place who has more power.

In Stainton, we have regularly reported potholes and other highways issues regarding drainage and DMBC progresses these as budgets allow.

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David has led the successful updating of the website for the village and it now has links to Facebook and an up-to-date calendar. Find us on www.staintonvillage.net

While I have now moved out of the village I still enjoy returning to the village and am grateful for all the support I have had during my time on the council. If you are interested in being a councillor, please chat to any of the councillors”.

03/24 To receive any matters from parishioners

No parishioners attended the meeting

04/24 To approve the date for the next Stainton Annual Parish Meeting

Council agreed that the next Stainton Annual Parish meeting would be held on the 19th May 2025. With no further business to attend to, Cllr Brown closed the meeting at 7.15pm.

Signed: ***Kate Watkins***

1st July 2024

Cllr K Watkins – Chair of Stainton Parish Council