

STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting for Stainton Parish Council held on the 18th May 2026

Present: Cllr Watkins, Cllr Barratt, Cllr Washam & Cllr Weston

Attending: Di Hoyes (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public: 1 member of the public attended

001/26 Chair Person's Opening Statement

Cllr Watkins welcomed all of Council to the meeting and the resident.

002/25 Chair Person's Annual Report

Chairman's Annual Report for the Financial Year 2025–26

On behalf of Stainton Parish Council, I am pleased to present this Annual Report covering the period from April 2025 to March 2026. This report outlines the Council's activities, financial position, and future objectives.

During the year, the Parish Council consisted of the following members:

- **Kate Watkins** – Chairperson
- **David Barratt** – Vice Chair
- **Nick Walsham**
- **Ivor Watkins** – who has now stepped down
- **Steve Weston**

Supported by our Parish Clerk:

- **Di Hoyes**

I would like to extend my thanks to our Parish Clerk for her knowledge, guidance, and insight, without whom the smooth running of the parish would not be possible.

I would also like to thank all councillors for their support, commitment, and efforts on community matters. Their work does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated by many.

Together, we would like to thank those who have supported us in our roles: Martin Greenhalgh and Jackie Dudley, our Ward Councillors; Stainton Village Hall Trust, particularly Sue Barrett; and all the volunteers who have contributed their time and effort in service of our community.

Update on Priorities Set Last Year

Continuing improvements to green spaces and recreational facilities, including renewing seating areas and the village pond notice board

Funding has been agreed and received from DMBC, thanks to the support of Martin and Jackie, for the procurement of additional village benches. The quarry has also agreed to contribute; however, this funding is still awaited.

Benches will be purchased shortly, and those suitable for repair will be restored. The village notice board was repaired earlier in the year, and plans are in place for an additional '**Duck and Stainton Mile**' notice board to be installed by the pond.

Registered Office – 62 Doncaster Road, Braithwell. Rotherham S66 7BB

Clerk – Miss D Hoyes Email clerk_stainton@yahoo.com

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Community spaces continue to thrive through our shared care and the hard work of DS Paddock Care.

The parish is now the proud owner of Muscovy ducks, which the community has embraced and remains committed to caring for. Their impact in bringing the village together has been remarkable.

Understanding the impact of the proposed solar farm to enable informed decision-making

There has been little communication or update regarding the proposed solar farm. However, the Parish Council remains vigilant for any new developments, which will be shared promptly with residents.

The Parish Council continues to maintain a “wish list” of village improvements that could potentially be negotiated as part of this future development.

Increasing residents’ engagement through partnership activities

The Parish Council and the Village Hall Trust (VHT) continue to maintain a strong and supportive relationship. The bulb planting around the village is one example of this partnership, alongside the Parish Council’s contribution towards catering for ‘**Stainton Memories Day**’.

Recently, concerns have been raised regarding the continued viability of St Winifrid’s Church, and consultations have taken place with the community. The Parish Council and VHT have both been represented in these discussions.

Regular liaison continues with businesses within the village and those operating from the quarry. We remain committed to reducing instances of quarry traffic travelling through Stainton Village by continually reviewing signage, assessing what is and is not working, and feeding concerns back to both the quarry and DMBC.

Our village website remains well maintained, regularly updated, and continues to be a valuable source of information for residents, alongside social media platforms and WhatsApp groups managed by local volunteers. These channels enable us to consult with residents, hear their concerns, and provide parish councillors with additional ways of being visible and contactable.

Maintaining efforts to minimise fly-tipping, illegal off-road biking, and anti-social behaviour

Fly-tipping continues to be reported and remains an ongoing focus for action. Councillor Steve Weston continues to make a visible difference to the cleanliness of the village and surrounding areas through regular litter-picking.

At our request, DMBC has installed an additional bin near the lay-by close to Marshalls.

Illegal off-road biking appears to be less of an issue than in previous years, likely due to the continued efforts of South Yorkshire Police, to whom we extend our thanks.

The village park was recently vandalised with graffiti, but the community responded swiftly. Local residents offered removal solutions, and one resident took immediate action to remove it — another fine example of growing community spirit.

Reinstating conversations around Stainton’s public transport links

In partnership with the VHT, the Parish Council shared a transport survey that generated significant feedback from residents. The return of a bus service through the village is clearly viewed as a priority public service.

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The Parish Council remains committed to raising this issue with key stakeholders; however, we are currently no closer to achieving a resolution.

Finances

Financial Report

The Parish Council remains in a healthy financial position. Below is a summary of income and expenditure for the year:

- **Income (including precept):** Precept - £8168 VAT Return - £250.04 Grant £1,000.
Total income - £9,418.04
- **Expenditure:** £8089.51
- **Reserves at year-end:** £10,165.86

A full financial statement is available upon request and will also be published on the village website.

It is the Parish Council's intention to utilise a portion of reserves during 2026–27, and a budget has been agreed to support this.

Looking Ahead – Priorities for 2026–27

Our priorities for the coming year include:

- **Stainton Mile** – Implementation of a one-mile circular walk, starting and finishing at the pond, with a bird theme. The bird carvings have already been sourced; efforts are now focused on installing them.
- **Additional seating** – Procurement and installation of new seating, alongside restoration of existing benches that are suitable for repair.
- **Pond area improvements** – Installation of an additional notice board featuring Duck and Stainton Mile information, together with the addition of a garden swing bench.
- **Solar lighting** – Installation of solar lighting along the path on Raw Lane.
- **Phone box area restoration** – Restoration of the area surrounding the village phone box.

Appreciation

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all parishioners for their continued support, and to our local partners, volunteers, and council representatives for their collaboration.

Together, we are making a difference and helping to make our community an even better place to live.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Watkins

Chairperson, Stainton Parish Council

Date: 15 May 2026

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003/26 To receive any matters from parishioners

No matter raised.

004/25 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 10th May 2027. With no further business to attend to, Cllr Watkins closed the meeting at 7.15pm.



Signed:

Dated: 29th June 2026

Cllr Kate Watkins
Chair of Stainton Parish Council