**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 12th May 2025**

**at 7.00 p.m. in the Trinity Methodist Church**

**Present:** Cllr. M. Cherrett (Chairman)

 Cllrs. N. Hill, Mrs. K. Iveson, Mrs. J. Sadler and J. Taylor

**713 Interests**

 No interests were declared.

**714 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last regular Meeting, held on Monday, 14th April 2025, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed, and signed as a true record.

**715 Matters Arising**

1. Fly Tipping

The Chaiman reported that the village appeared to be clear of any fly tipping.

1. North Lodge Access

The Clerk reported that he had received a revised planning application that day from Stockton BC and agreed to forward it to Members.

1. Preston Park problems

Cllr. Taylor reported that there would be a meeting on 21st May at which the problems would be discussed

1. Durham Lane development

Cllr. Taylor stated that he had asked for a 20 feet wide tree barrier be placed on the area just outside Network Rail land before the planning proceeded to provide some measure of protection for residents on the other side of the line.

1. Larch Crescent

The Clerk reported that Stockton BC had acknowledged receipt of the request but that there had been no action to date.

**716 Accounts**

1. The following accounts were approved, and payment authorised: -

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BACS | P. R. Joiner | Clerk’s salary & expenses (Mar) | £ 187.09 |
| D/D | Stockton Borough Council | Cemetery waste bin (Apr) | £ 38.00 |
| D/D | Information Commissioner | Annual Fee | £ 40.00 |
| BACS | Gordon Fletcher | Internal Audit Fee | £ 100.00 |
| D/D | WAVE | Cemetery metered water | £ 73.99 |
| BACS | Zurich Insurance | Annual Insurance Premium | £ 385.26 |

**717 Pending Matters**

1. Insurance

Members agreed to continue the Council’s insurance with Zurich Insurance.

1. Internal Audit

Members were pleased to accept the report from the Internal Auditor.

1. AGAR Certificate of Exemption

Members were pleased to agree that the exemption certificate should be signed.

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1. To receive the completed Accounting Statements for 2022/23

Members were pleased to approve the Accounting Statements which were duly signed.

1. To complete the Annual Governance Statement

The Clerk took Members through the requirements of the Annual Governance Statement which they were pleased to approve.

**718 Preston Park**

1. Upgrade and drainage

Cllr. Hill raised a query regarding the spoil from the new car park which remained alongside and continued to present a bare earth sight to visitors. The Clerk was asked to try to get an answer from the park.

**719 Cemetery**

1. Application for Grave Space Reservation

The Clerk reported that the enquirer had been in contact, and he was about to allocate a reservation.

**720 Correspondence**

1. Correspondence received was noted as listed.

**721 Any Other Business**

1. Street Lighting

The Chairman requested that the problem lights in Laburnum Road and the back alley be highlighted to Stockton BC.

1. Railway Fence

The Chairman reported that the fence onto the railway land at the end of the lane at the rear of Laburnum Road was broken. The Clerk agreed to report this to Rail Track as a matter of safety.

1. Allotments

Members agreed to fund the purchase of paint for the container used as the allotment hut.

1. Witham Road obstructed sight lines

Cllr. Taylor stated that he had discovered that the approach to the former Witham Hall was in the possession of the owner of 1, Dunnottar Avenue. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident for permission to cut back the offending vegetation as her son had indicated that there would be no problem.

1. Railway Terrace problem

It was agreed that the problem lay outside the parish. The Clerk agreed to pass on the email to Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe PC while Cllr. Taylor said that he would take the matter up with Stockton BC.

Dated this 9th day of June 2025

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Chairman

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