

## **STANTON AND THORNTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **The Report of the Responsible Financial Officer i.e. the Clerk**

on the Accounts of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2021

(Separate accounts are now kept for The Friends of Stainton & Thornton Green Spaces which became independent of the Parish Council on 31 May 2010.)

**Budget** – The Parish Council, in February 2020, set its budget for 2020/21 at £9500 with the precept remaining at £9.31 per household. Any shortfall between the precept and budget to be taken from Parish Council reserves. (Parish Council Minute 8/20).

**Expenditure** by the Parish Council totalled £7668.23 against receipts of £8727.39 – an excess of receipts over payments of £1059.16. The total spend was under budget by £1831.77.

The **Capital Statement** shows an excess of Receipts over Payments of £1059.16 which increased the capital at the end of the financial year to £8810.24 (from £7751.08 at 31 March 2020). The Parish Council had budgeted that £2000.00 of this reserve should be set aside to pay for possible Roadside Speed Display Units and also a reserve of £1000.00 for a new village notice board. However, the Coronavirus Pandemic throughout the financial year 2020/21, impacted on the proposed expenditure by the Parish Council with many activities/projects unable to be undertaken.

### **The Receipts & Payments Account**

The Receipts side shows the main income of the Parish Council in two parts – the precept of £8090.00 and a Council Tax support grant from Middlesbrough Council of £466.00. A reclaim for VAT from HMRC realised £112.59 and an unclaimed cheque payment of £58.80 was returned to the current account. Receipts for the year totalled £8727.39

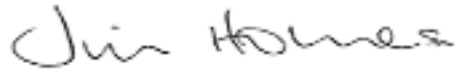
The Payments side shows: -

The **Administration Expenses** totalling £5067.18 a decrease of £411.48 on the previous year. Not being able to hold meetings in public resulted in a nil expenditure in Hall Hire costs – a saving of £408 from the previous year. Printing and Stationery costs reduced to £66, down £226 from the previous year when a Neighbourhood Plan survey increased normal annual costings. A Zoom remote platform subscription of £115 was purchased to enable the Parish Council to function via online meetings.

The **Regular Annual Expenses** decreased by £352.00 to £1359.95. The Village Newsletter was unable to be produced because of the pandemic resulting in a saving of nearly £300. Reduced spending on plants and materials by the Environment Committee also contributed to the overall underspend.

The **Other Expenses** total of £1241.10.19 was up by £400 on the previous year.

Defibrillator maintenance – new battery and pads – amounted to £318. Water testing for pollution at Kell Gate Green cost the Parish Council £200. However, these one-off costs were allayed by a new installer for the Christmas Lights who absorbed VAT charges. PC software costs increased slightly but there was no expenditure, as in the previous year for miscellaneous items such as storage boxes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**J. Holmes**

RFO and Clerk to Stainton & Thornton Parish Council.

11 April 2021