

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in Rookhope Workingmens Club on 5th August 2020

PRESENT:

Cllr M Brewin, Cllr L Blackett, Cllr W Wearmouth, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr Mrs H Maddison,
Cllr Miss Graham, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr B Thompson, Cllr Mrs S Thompson, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff,

Cllr Miss J Carrick

Cllr D Craig – Chairman

Susan Anderson – Clerk

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs A Hawkes

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To receive any declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meetings via email held on 1st April 2020, 6th May 2020, 3rd June 2020 1st July 2020.

All minutes were moved as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman

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Police and the Community

An update is needed from the Police **Resolved:** Clerk to invite the Police to a meeting or an update to be sent

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Matters Arising

1. **Frosterley Recycling** – Frosterley recycling reopened on 25th July 2020. On the A689 adjacent to the access to the HWRC, Frosterley temporary prohibition of waiting restriction has been introduced. This is to prevent obstruction and to improve road safety upon the opening of the Frosterley HWRC.
2. **Visit County Durham** – Information has been sent and Visit Durham welcome the opportunity to share details of their work. The email was sent to all the councillors
3. **Rookhope Working Mens Club Parish Council Meetings** – The Risk Assessment has been done by Steve Armstrong to enable meetings to go ahead. The venue is free and there is good car parking. A concern is that a limit of fifteen people can enter the lounge. At this moment in time it was felt by the councillors that this would not be a problem. There is always the bar area that could be used. **Resolved:** It was agreed to hold the meetings there

10338

Correspondence Received

1. Cllr Blackett reported to J Hodges some broken sheets on the footpath which has turned out to be asbestos sheeting. DCC are to try and trace the owner of the run down property which is adjacent to Sedling Farm between Cowhill – Newhouse, Blackdene. This has now been tidied up
2. Bookworms in County Durham will be able to take advantage of a book collection service from next week. DCC is introducing the pick and collect service to help library users access its book collection while its libraries remain closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.
3. NALC is to Lobby Government for the continuation of remote meetings after the pandemic eases. NALC is also pressing for financial support for parish councils who have lost income as a result of the pandemic. Email sent to all councillors
4. There is to be a phased reopening of the 175 Play Parks that DCC are responsible for.
5. A request has been received for a net in the tennis court at Wearhead Park. DCC has been contacted.
6. A resident has contacted the Parish Council with concerns over a music event being held on the Showfield on 5th & 6th September 2020. The event has been cancelled.
7. An email has been received regarding a letter that was received concerning the cultivation of an allotment plot. The email was sent to all the councillors.
8. A Covid -19 update has been received from DCC with regard to council services and a Coronavirus outbreak plan has been approved for County Durham. Sent to all the councillors.
9. Richard Holden MP would like to attend one of our meetings if it is possible for him to do so. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite Richard Holden to the September meeting
10. Proposals to create a business park in Durham generating an initial 4,000 jobs worth up to £400m have taken a step forward with the submission of plans.
11. A resident would like to know why the environment agency has put the stones top side of the steppingstones. They think they would have been better on the downside as if there is a lot of water the stones will be washed back in between the stepping stones. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the Environment Agency to find out the reasoning behind the stones being put on the top side
12. The Weardale Museum and Heritage Centre have sent an update on the progress of the developments at High House Chapel. This is forwarded for information only and was sent to all the councillors. Cllr Mrs Thompson commented that the plans are well thought out but the issue of where cars are to be parked safely is a major concern issue in her view. It is a big project to undertake without definite plans in place.
13. A resident from Frosterley sent an email concerning the condition of Frosterley Play Park. The email was sent to Barrie Alderson who replied that they are aware of a number of play areas that have experienced issues following opening. Further maintenance work will be carried out and the surface will be pressure washed. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC again

10339

Planning Matters

DM/20/01752/FPA

Use of site for 15 no static caravans and associated landscape and Environmental improvements.

Leisure Caravan Site

Stanhopeburn

Crawleyside

An objection email has been sent regarding this application on the following issues. Access and egress of vehicles, entrance to the Dene bends sharply and is very narrow and not suitable for extra vehicles, visibility issues, water supply and sewage, footpath issues, so many caravan sites already, area is peaceful and tranquil.

DM/20/01610/FPA

Change of open space to residential curtilage with boundary fence and retention of hardstanding.

Land to the North East of

46 Bondisle Way

Stanhope

DM/20/01810/FPA

Agricultural implement shed and store

School House

Crawleyside

DM/20/01818/FPA

Retention of goat shelters and hardstanding

Briar Hill Cottage

1 Briar Hill

Ireshopeburn

DM/20/01813/FPA

First floor front extension

Camperdown

Frosterley

DM/20/01090/FPA

First floor extension to existing property

Laneside Farm

Wearhead

10340

Finance

1. St Thomas' Church would like to apply for the £300 church yard maintenance grant. **Resolved:** It was agreed
2. St Thomas Church Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money. **Resolved:** It was agreed
3. Westgate Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money. **Resolved:** It was agreed
4. Mr Thompson from Olivers Tree Services has inspected the trees and sent the report which has been circulated to the councillors. He has listed the work that is needed to be done at each of the areas. **Resolved:** It was agreed to have the work done but not Cowshill as the stumps are not in the play park.
5. Bank reconciliation figures for the end of June were sent to the councillors and were agreed
6. In Frosterley they have an educational charity called the Frosterley Exhibition Foundation. Usually coffee mornings are held to supplement the income figure but this year what will be given out will be very poor. In 2017 they has £1,640, 2018 £1,250 and last year £940. It is hoped that maybe the Parish Council can donate a small grant. A discussion took place and it was felt that the circumstances relating to covid there could be other groups that may need support. **Resolved:** It was agreed to advertise that the Parish Council may be able to offer a small grant to any groups. The applications should be received by the end of October so we can set our budget in November. We will ask the educational charity to apply again
7. S Makepeace has sent a quote for the fencing at Bondisle play park that we needed to have done following the recent Play Park Risk Assessment, £2680 plus vat. **Resolved:** The fencing quote was accepted
8. Cllr Miss Graham and the clerk will shortly do the Annual Best kept Allotment and the Most Improved Allotment. Last year we paid £20 first prize and £10 most improved. **Resolved:** This year tenants will get a years free rent next year

10341

Approval of the AGAR

1. The Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 was approved and accepted by the councillors and was signed by the Chairman and the clerk
2. The Approval of Accounting Statements for 2019/2020 was approved and accepted by the councillors and was signed by the Chairman and the clerk.

It is noted that the Internal Auditor has no recommendations

10342

Risk Assessment – Annual Review

All councillors received a copy of the Risk Assessment which was approved

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AAP Report

The AAP are doing training with Microsoft teams and the board members are to approve the budget

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CDALC Report

Cllr Ellwood was upset about the response relating to attending the Small Council meeting. It was a zoom meeting to see what other Parish Councils are doing. It was mentioned that maybe it should be shared out a bit more.

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Model Code of Conduct

There were no comments to be sent on the draft version of the Model Code of Conduct

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Accounts for Payment

Casa Safety Training Services Risk Assessments 5 play parks	£495.00
Casa Safety Training Services Risk Assessments Bus Shelter/Toilets	£180.00
Paul Irwin Grass cutting Ashcroft play park	£150.00
Zurich Insurance Policy	£1258.32
Casa Safety Training Services Risk Assessment Meeting	£90.00
BT Clerks Phone Bill	£95.48
NPower	£37.68
Anglian Water Old Cemetery	£12.94
S Anderson salary	£728.29
HM Rev	£23.01
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
Westgate Village Hall	£500.00
St Thomas Church Hall	£500.00
St Thomas PCC	£300.00
TOTAL	£4,405.72

10347

New Matter for discussion

1. Cllr Brewin mentioned the parking on the pavements at Frosterley again especially Front Street and by the Frosterley Inn. **Resolved:** Clerk to report the problem
2. The play park gate is still off and the flower tubs on The Green and Cromer Lea are still not planted. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
3. Cllr Mrs Maddison would like some traffic calming measures near to Frosterley House, Frosterley. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
4. A report needs sending to DCC concerning a street light near to the bus stop as you come into Frosterley from the Wolsingham end. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
5. There is an Ash tree that needs pruning back as its covered in ivy. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
6. We enquired a few months ago about some fly tipping up Wears Bank, Wolsingham that had names and addresses in the bags. We asked if any prosecutions had taken place but no reply has been received. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask for an update

7. Cllr Mrs Humble mentioned footpath 31 that there is gate with a rotten post before the bridge that was closed before lock down. Also after the bridge there used to be a small gate which needs replacing as it is no longer there. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
8. Cowshill War Memorial needs to be added to the routine weeding list regularly. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt.
9. Cllr Wearmouth mentioned that the Cragside application has been thrown out.
10. An update is needed on any progress on the Eastgate Site. It has been awhile since the Environment Agency was going to do a survey on the Rookhopeburn. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Mr Tellwright
11. Cllr Blackett mentioned the trees next to Cowshill Bridge that they have grown again and visibility is poor
12. Cllr Ellwood mentioned the Memorial Plaque for Crawleyside and wondered when the work will be completed. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the owner of the wall
13. Cllr Thompson reported that the Rookhope Inn has been sold.
14. Cllr Mrs Thompson reported that the Play Park at Ireshopeburn needs a good clean. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
15. The kerb stones on the main street, Ireshopeburn need inspecting. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
16. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that the ten-mile walk will take place on 30th August in support of men's health.
17. Light number J810 outside number 3 West Terrace, Stanhope is burning all the time **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
18. There has been a report that the Village Hall Notice Board at Eastgate has been vandalised
19. The three planters on the Market Place, St Johns Chapel have not been planted. Cllr Miss Carrick would like them planted in the autumn but if DCC will not plant them then the tubs can be taken away. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
20. On the east side of Eastgate Bridge there was a pot hole filled in but it needs doing again. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
21. Cllr Miss Graham would like an update on Newtown House. **Resolved:** Clerk to get an update
22. The AAP have been doing a scheme called In the Bag which has been very good. The only criteria is that you live in Weardale and have children at school.
23. Cars are parking both sides of the road by Cowgarth Hill and it is very tight when you are trying to get passed. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the Police and DCC
24. The Market Place at Stanhope is very clean and is been regularly litter picked and the bins emptied. Well done to the lads from DCC
25. Bollihope is still a problem when it is hot. The MP had arranged a litter pick up the main road.

10348

Clerks Business

1. An allotment tenant at Crosshill would like permission to erect a 6ft x 4ft shed on her plot which will be painted green. **Resolved:** This was agreed

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Date of next meeting will be Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at Rookhope Workingmens Club commencing at 7pm

.....signed.....date

