

## STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr L Blackett, Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr M Brewin, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr B Thompson,

Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Miss J Carrick

Susan Anderson Clerk

Also in attendance

PCSO from Wolsingham Chris and PCSO from Stanhope Kim Anderson

### 10042

#### Apologies for Absence

Cllr Miss Graham, Cllr Mrs S Thompson

### 10043

#### To Receive any Declarations of Interest from Members

None received

### 10044

#### Minutes of the meeting held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Minutes were moved as a true and correct record and were signed by the chairman

### 10045

#### Police and the Community

Cllr Craig welcomed the two PCSOs to the meeting

Chris had reports from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2019. There were two burglaries in Stanhope and thefts of scrap metal, treadmill, gas bottle and twenty to thirty sheep. The Police are getting the message across that scrap metal thieves are not tolerated in the dale. There has been criminal damage done to the lighting in the Dales Centre, a shed window has been smashed at Harehope Quarry, damage to a door in Stanhope and five thefts from vehicles which could be linked to the incident in St Thomas Close, Stanhope. Anti-social behaviour is on the rise around the Dales Centre, Stanhope and patrols have increased around this area. Frosterley also has a problem and five calls have been received. An investigation is taking place at the moment regarding youths. A man was arrested and appeared at the Crown Court following the incident at St Thomas Close, Stanhope. Farm watch now has a group of 20-30 new members through What's App this is now including gamekeepers. It was mentioned that the group should involve other rural residents and not just farmers. The interviews will be taking place shortly for two new tri responders and the children's bikes are being marked by the police by going into the schools. A person from Frosterley has been seen throwing away a bag of beer cans over a bench, this will be passed onto the Street Warden. Cars parking on the pavements is a problem, this will be looked into and Police warning notices will be issued if necessary, in Frosterley and It was mentioned about abandoned vehicles in the car park. Cllr Craig thanked the PCSOs for attending and for giving an excellent update.

10046

**Carole Dillon DCC – Neighbourhood Plan**

Due to unforeseen circumstances Carole has had to cancel tonight's meeting

10047

**Matters Arising**

1. **BONDISLE ALLOTMENTS** – Cllr Miss Graham, Cllr Ellwood and the clerk had a site meeting at Bondisle Allotments. The gateway into the allotments was fine so no work is required. Concerns were raised that people were walking their dogs through the site and leaving dog muck. Two signs could be put on the two entrance gates saying "Access for Allotment Holders Only ". An email has been received requesting that any caterpillar tracked vehicles have to have permission to enter the allotments and make do any damage should be added to the rules. The rules state no vehicles at all. A letter has been received for Cllrs Miss Graham and D Ellwood. Cllr Ellwood enquired if the allotments had garden waste bins, they don't as the tenants have their own bins. Cllr Thompson commented that Wolsingham pay £30 per plot rent. **Resolved:** It was agreed to have two signs put up. The letter was received and noted
2. **SIGN ON THE WEARDALE WAY** – The sign has been cleaned
3. **DRAIN OPPOSITE LANEHEAD SCHOOL** – This has been inspected and will be replaced
4. **MEMORIAL TREES, IRESHOPEBURN** – Cllr Mrs Thompson has spoken to D Gillett in length and he will go and have a look at the trees
5. **GATE AT THE CATTLE GRID, CRAWLEYSIDE** - The gate has been inspected in February but it is not a priority as it is still functional. It will be monitored
6. **EASTGATE WORKS SITE** – Cllr Craig has spoken to Mr Tellwright who has sent a letter. To allay peoples concerns he would like to remove the spoil and he is expecting this to be a requirement under any planning consent that is granted, but his hands are tied without a consent. DCC are correct in saying this is not their issue. The hold up in planning is all down to the Environment Agency not having funding to conduct a flood risk assessment for the Rookhopeburn. He is hoping to switch the application to the west end of the site and leave the current application in abeyance. With a consent the spoil would be removed. Mr Tellwright hopes this demonstrates that he wants to get on and invest in the site and at the same time resolve the issue of the sports hall demolition and removal from site
7. **ASHCROFT MEETING** – A meeting has been arranged at Ashcroft with Lee Mowbray, the Police and Cllr Miss Graham
8. **ROAD SURFACE FROM THE WRECK TO BLACKDENE ROAD ENTRANCE** – J Hodges has spoken to Cllr Mrs Thompson and DCC are aware of the surface conditions and the road has been submitted for Surface Dressing Resurfacing. This may not happen this year but will be a priority for next year
9. **PROVISION OF SALT BIN ON ASHCROFT BANK** – It is not possible for the Council to provide salt bins on all parts of the highway network, salt bins are provided at key locations to allow residents, motorists and pedestrians to spread the salt on the adopted highway. Specific criteria must be met and this location has failed to meet the required level
10. **WEARDALE RAILWAY** – All coach operators are informed by the railway that they are not allowed to come into Bondisle Way. On the occasions it happened the event manager approached the drivers of the coaches and instructed them to leave Bondisle Way and to use Weardale Motors, a service that they pay for. The passengers on the coaches were not allowed to disembark at the station and had to walk from the coach parking area. We have assurances that the railway will inform all coach companies of this stipulation in their licence. The company that did come down to the station will be reminded again before they travel to the event

11. **EDUCATION REVIEW** – Richard Crane Head of Education and Skills will be attending the April Parish Council meeting
12. **VACANCY FOR STANHOPE URBAN COUNCILLOR** - No request has been received for an election so we can now co-opt, we have received three applications **Resolved:** Clerk to invite the three applicants for an interview to be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 with councillors Thompson, Ellwood, Craig, Carrick and GRaham
13. **GATE POST AT THE OLD CEMETERY, STANHOPE** - S Makepeace has replaced the gate post as someone has backed into it and snapped it
14. **TREE IN WESTGATE ALLOTMENTS** – The Ash tree that the tenant was concerned about needs inspecting by a councillor first before we do anything with it as it is larger than a small self seeding **Resolved:** Chairman and the clerk to inspect the tree
15. **RIVERSIDE PLAY PARK, STANHOPE** – The new play equipment has arrived and is being installed. When the Play Park is finished it would be nice to have an opening ceremony with the AAP and the Parish Council. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact A Maddison
16. **SIGN AT HILL END, FROSTERLEY** - The sign at Hill End has been inspected and the speed limit sign has been reset. No further action required
17. **WOLSINGHAM SCHOOL** – Cllr Ellwood received part of the report on the review of Weardale Schools. The report will go to Cabinet on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Spennymoor and anyone can attend to hear the discussion.
18. **TEMPORARY PUBLIC FOOTPATH CLOSURE ORDER** : Footpath 25 from Middle Blackdene to the junction with road C77 adjacent to High Barnes, Newhouse is still closed on safety grounds. **RESOLVED:** Clerk to enquire if there is any intention to re-open the footpath
19. **NEWTOWN HOUSE/TOWN HALL, STANHOPE** – Cllr Ellwood has mentioned both buildings and they have been brought into the County Durham Plan
20. **LITTER PICK** – The litter pick has begun

**10048**

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

1. The WCP would like to replace an existing wooden shed on the plot at Bondisle Allotments. The new proposed shed is 8 x 8 which is larger than stated in our rules. The rules are the rules and they must be adhered to. **Resolved:** Clerk to write and explain this
2. The County Durham Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan 2019-2029 was agreed by Cabinet in January. A summary report of all comments received on the draft plan and DCC response is available to read along with the final version of the plan.
3. S Ragg has sent information on the Payment of Basic Allowances and the procedure to follow before the council introduces allowance payments.
4. DCC will be consulting on the Licensing Statement of Policy as the current policy was established in 2014. The new one will focus on four licensing objectives, the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance and protection of children from harm. Comments can be sent via the website or by post until 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019
5. Last year the Government consulted on powers for dealing with unauthorised development and encampments. On 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 the Government published a summary of the consultation responses and the governments way forward. The Government has set out a package of measures to strengthen police powers and to assist local authorities in responding to unauthorised development and encampments, in addition to support for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. The Government will provide new good practice guidance to support local authorities use of powers
6. An email has been received via the website concerning a complaint that an allotment tenant is keeping ducks. Apparently the ducks are being kept with large number of hens and don't

have suitable living conditions. **Resolved:** A councillor and the clerk will go and inspect the plot, the rules state no ducks

7. S Ragg has sent information relating to The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) No2 Accessibility Regulations 2018. We will have to contact Northgate to ensure our website is compliant by September 2020. The website will have to meet an accessibility requirement, provide an accessibility statement and provide an accessible alternative format upon request.
8. A presentation was given at the recent CDALC Forum meeting held in Murton on 21<sup>st</sup> February. The presentation was on Risk Assessment
9. Every five years an authority must complete a review of its polling districts and polling places. The consultation review will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> March until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Comments can be sent regarding those stations currently used and suggestions for possible alternative venues
10. Stanhope Parish Councillors are cordially invited to the consultation meetings on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and 6<sup>th</sup> April concerning High House Chapel. The Weardale Museum has decided to seek to buy the building and raise the necessary funds to repair, renovate and adapt the building turning it into a Heritage Centre expanding the Museum offer, holding events, exhibitions and hopefully returning it as a place for worship by the fellowship. Cllr Ellwood mentioned that it was brought up at CDALC that it is coming into practice that councillors are public servants at all times and that if you attend a function you are attending as a Parish Councillor and not as a person who can have their own views
11. NALC is recommending that Parish Councils have a clear Complaints Procedure which is documented in writing. A good complaints system should cover the thirteen points listed in the guidance information.
12. S Makepeace has reported that someone has broken the lock in the toilets at Daddry Shield and he has replaced it.
13. A letter has been received from Cllr Mrs Hutchinson that after twenty-five years of serving on the Parish Council she is resigning. The councillors were sorry to hear this as Cllr Mrs Hutchinson has been a good hard-working councillor. **Resolved:** Clerk to send a letter and some flowers

## 10049

### PLANNING MATTERS

DM/19/00360/TPO

Remove dead and dying trees to make safe, open out the canopy

To allow for growth of other trees and woodland floor

Parson Byers Farm

Stanhope

DM/19/00441/FPA

Storage Building

Far Cornriggs

Cowshill

DM/19/00604/FPA

Single storey side extension

Brookside

Bridge End

Frosterley

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFUSED**

DM/18/03479/VOC

Variation of condition 5(timber windows and doors) of planning permission

DM/17/02989/FPA to allow UPVC to side rear elevation

St Johns Methodist Chapel

Hood Street

St Johns Chapel

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN**

Withdrawn application

2 Storey side extension

Bank Foot Cottage

25 High Town

Westgate

### **PLANNING APPROVALS**

DM/18/01303/FPA

Conversion of barn to dwelling and porch extension

Land east of Front Street,

Rookhope

DM/18/03290/LB

Works associated with change of use from bed and breakfast (C1) to 2 dwellings (C3)

Stanhope Old Hall

1-2 Stanhope Hall

Stanhope

DM/18/03355/FPA

Detached outbuilding and retaining walls

Quarry House

Middlehope Bank

ST Johns Chapel

DM/18/03408/FPA

2 Storey Side Extension

26 East End

Stanhope

DM/18/03695/FPA

Conservatory and detached outbuilding to east

Mill Isle

The Batts

Frosterley

DM/18/03718/FPA  
Detached outbuilding to south (retrospective)  
Greenhead Cottage  
Stanhope

DM/18/03886/FPA  
First floor rear extension  
21 Hill End  
Frosterley

#### **10050**

##### **PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Cllr Mrs Maddison would like more content on the website in the attractions, news, what's on sections. **Resolved:** Ideas for next meeting

#### **10051**

##### **Finance**

Nothing to be discussed

#### **10052**

##### **AAP REPORT**

Cllr Thompson reported that Ron Hogg had attended the Board meeting and six drones have been purchased. Cllr Mrs Savory has given a donation towards two more automatic number plate recognition machines The AAP Priorities are Health & Wellbeing, Children & Local Groups, Culture & Tourism. The small grants are still available

#### **10053**

##### **CDALC**

Cllr Ellwood attended the meeting and was given part of the report on Wolsingham School. He is concerned about par 18, page 10 which mentions a managed closure if the failure of a federation or academy is not agreed on. Near Eaglescliffe on the A1 Heritage are looking to build a 50m sculpture in connection with Darlington Railway **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Wolsingham Parish Council and to write to the Education Cabinet with our concerns

#### **10054**

##### **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Wave Allotment Gardens Willard Grove, Stanhope	£112.25
Wave Old Cemetery, Stanhope	£12.57
DCC Cemetery rates	£145.32
Ireshopeburn fencing Allotments	£411.12
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
S Anderson Salary	£1048.07
HM Rev PAYE	£116.20

S Anderson Expenses	£169.43
TOTAL	£2049.96

**10055**

**New matters for discussion**

1. Cllr Brewin would like to report light no 14 is not working on Front Street, Frosterley  
**Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
2. Cllr Thompson commented that the play park at Rookhope is finished and he will arrange to have a meeting with some of ladies to discuss some of the problems. Boltsburn Garage is now closed and the site is being cleared
3. Cllr Ellwood mentioned that the AONB would like Weardale in the Dark Skies project. Crawleyside has the new LED lights and he was wondering when the rest of the dale will have the lights fitted or have they stopped **Resolved:** Clerk to find out
4. Cllr Ellwood is attending Wolsingham Parish Council meeting to introduce himself as the CDALC representative
5. Cllr Blackett commented that his son takes photographs of the sky at night and he was recently stopped by the Police
6. Cllr Mrs Maddison mentioned that residents from Westfield, Frosterley are parking in the car park and people who use the Village Hall cannot get parked. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
7. There has recently been a Light Up the Dale meeting and the following are interested in lights, the Weardale Adventure Centre, Rookhope, Wearhead and Westgate. Fund raising events are looking to be held.
8. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff would like to see the Railway Line between Stanhope and Eastgate turned into a walk which would be a good asset to the dale. **Resolved:** Clerk to make enquiries
9. Cllr Miss Carrick would like to report that the hand rail on the bridge in the dene is still wobbly and has not been repaired **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
10. Cllr Craig mentioned that the self seeding trees on the roadside up the dale have not been cut back yet. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC

**10056**

**CLERKS BUSINESS**

Nothing to report

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

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