

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 4th July 2018

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr L Blackett, Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr M Brewin,

Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Miss J Carrick, Cllr B Thompson, Cllr Mrs S Thompson

Susan Anderson Clerk

Also Present

Andy Mawson, Jim Entwistle – Great North East Ambulance Service

Andrea Wakefield, Jane Herron – Wolsingham School Parents Group

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs K Hutchinson

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To Receive and Declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2018

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

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Police and the Community

No Police were in attendance

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North East Air Ambulance – A Mawson and J Entwistle

Cllr Craig welcomed Mr Mawson and Mr Entwistle to the meeting. The case up the dale was discussed and Mr Mawson had spoken to the resident concerned. He could understand why we were frustrated and concerned why the Air Ambulance had not been deployed. The Air Ambulance will attend when the accident is a major trauma and the person would die without them. Sometimes injuries are hidden, and the patient would be then transferred by road from Durham to a trauma hospital such as the RVI or the James Cook. Certain terrain the Air Ambulance cannot land, and the Mountain Rescue team is called in along with the ground paramedics. Donations keep the Great North Air Ambulance flying which costs £5000 to operate one flight. It would not be sustainable to attend every incident so only in the right circumstances will it be deployed. There are three helicopters, two that operate and one that covers for services. These are in Durham, Tees Valley, Newcastle and Preston and will only fly during daylight hours. The control room is Durham, Tees Valley is monitored closely, and the jobs are filtered. Cllr Brewin asked if the Air Ambulance would automatically attend a heart attack incident

once a defibrillator was activated. The control room would see the incident and would be in contact with the person on the ground who had activated the defibrillator, if the patient was not breathing after CPR was been done then the aircraft would be deployed if the patient was more than twenty to thirty minutes from Durham. The paramedics would also be on the ground. The Great North Air Ambulance takes the hospital to the patient and can do scans and operations on major trauma cases which saves lives. Mr Mawson gave reassurances that the Air Ambulance would come out if anyone was going to die without them. Cllr Miss Graham commented that we know that the Air Ambulance does come into the dale as it seen. Cllr Thompson commented that nothing is 100% and something will go wrong but 99% of the time everything goes right. On the charity side of every £1 donated 80p goes to the front-line services. The worrying thing is that other charities are receiving donations to the Air Ambulance which operate outside our region, residents are assuming that they are for our region. Our region charity is the Great North Air Ambulance. Cllr Craig thanked Mr Mawson and Mr Entwistle for attending

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Wolsingham School Action Group – A Wakefield and J Herron

Cllr Craig welcomed the ladies to the meeting to give an update. A meeting had taken place between Cllr O Gunn, M Whelan, L Pidcock and the ladies. The transport was discussed and DCC have no responsibility to provide transport. There is a hardship fund available to parents if they are eligible. Cllr Miss Graham mentioned the email that we received from the Department of Education stating that DCC have a statutory responsibility for transport to sixth form education and are considering the transport requirements for students in Weardale; they are also advising the school on its financial options. The group stressed the importance of a public meeting but DCC and the Board of Governors refused. Apparently, a member from the House of Lords is visiting the school and the group have asked to meet with him. They need to highlight the rural aspect and the discriminating life changes it will have on loosing the sixth form. Wolsingham Parish Council are supportive and have written to DCC on the transport issue, as yet the group have not updated them on their recent findings. At a meeting held at Crook the education deficit budgets were set and Wolsinghams has gone up, so they are still no better off than they were with the 6th form being there. The group are disappointed at the lack of support of the two County Councillors. Other issues have been uncovered and the group are considering taking legal advice. It was mentioned that the Chair of the Board of Governors has resigned, and would it be possible to have this confirmed by DCC **Resolved:** Clerk to write to DCC

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Matters Arising

- 1. WEARDALE PRACTICE** – In the April minutes that appeared in the Weardale Gazette edition 556 when Laura Pidcock MP attended the Parish Council meeting she stated that in the last ten months (of which she has been MP) she has been involved in campaigns such as St Johns Chapel Dispensary, an issue brought to her attention by many constituents. The Practice was contacted by the MPs office in mid-October 2017 following the announcement to close the dispensary. The Practice are concerned on reading the minutes in the gazette that it may be interpreted that the Practice were working with people prior to the announced closure, which they can assure was not the case. The Parish Council hopes this clarifies the matter.
- 2. BOLLIHOPE BOTTOM** – The bins are now there and this year there are two there
- 3. GULLY SUCKER** - The gully sucker has been up the dale. Cllr Craig mentioned that he had seen the gully sucker but not all the drain covers had been opened. The gullies need looking at from the Pack Horse down to The Butts **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
- 4. PLANTERS** - The planters have now been planted with flowers
- 5. MINE ADITS STANHOPE DENE** - The Church Commissioners have sent a reply which has been passed to the managing agents Savills. The adits were secured following a notice of

unauthorised entry from DCC. Given heightened health and safety concerns it was agreed with DCC and the HSE Principal Mines Inspector that the adits would be secured as quickly as possible and by the most secure method. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to DCC to ask to see the reports that would be done

6. **PARKING PROBLEMS-ASHCROFT,STANHOPE** - Durham Constabulary has powers available to deal with motorists that are causing an obstruction to other road users. The offence of 'parking causing unnecessary obstruction' is extremely subjective requiring a Police Officer to consider discretion/judgement when dealing with such matters. The area referred to is a typical estate road design whereby 'turning heads' or 'hammer heads' have been constructed to aid vehicle turning movements at the end of cul-de-sacs. Should vehicles park within a turning head or indeed any other locations upon the public highway then the offence of parking causing unnecessary obstruction could be considered by the Police depending upon the degree of obstruction being caused.
7. **RECORD OFFICE, COUNTY HALL** - The County Archivist has been out and collected seven boxes and will shred material that is not needed. She will be returning in July to collect the remaining records.
8. **SMIDDY BURN BRIDGE, STANHOPE** – The works were granted for a replacement bridge which will be constructed to match the existing with the surface being of the same materials and width as it is now. This scheme has been designed so that on completion the lawfully made road/footpath will have a similar surface to the existing one. As there will be no extension of the bridge then these works will not constitute a new impediment to access to the common land and there is no requirement to seek approval from the Secretary of State. The remainder of the surface of the footpath (either side of the bridge) will be reinstated for public use the same as it was before. The public footpath will be temporarily prohibited during this period. The construction period will be kept to a minimum but must allow for the bridge stones to be marked and stored on site ready for re-construction. The works will be of such a short duration that they do not impede access.
9. **PARISH BOUNDARIES** – As requested DCC have sent us the Parish Boundaries for the Ward Councillors
10. **WEARDALE PRACTICE** – Due to other commitments the Practice are unable to attend the July meeting but are happy to attend the September meeting
11. **STREET LIGHTING, ROOKHOPE** – The light pole that has just been renewed is waiting for connection date from Northern Powergrid. Two lights have been removed and waiting a Final Determination letter. The single lamp column is not considered to have any significant road safety value but a councillor has asked for costings to retain this light.
12. **GRASS CUTTING AT COWSHILL** – The team leader has spoken to the crew who cut this area and informed them the verge is to be cut at every cycle
13. **KENNETHS BRIDGE, FROSTERLEY** – Cllr Brewin mentioned that the work has now started on the bridge
14. **LIME TREES, FROSTERLEY** – The suckers need cutting off the Lime Trees **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
15. **ROOKHOPE LIGHTS** – Cllr Thompson is concerned about the removal of the two street lights in Rookhope. From Rookhope School to Burnside there will be no lights with no footpath and the bus stops by the pub. In the dark evenings children will be walking from school to Burnside in the dark. As it is now there is one light at the church, one new one at Stots bend, looking up to Chapel Terrace there are six lights. At the nursery end there are two new lights plus the old ones that are still there. Cllr Thompson would like a site meeting with DCC **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC to arrange a meeting
16. **ROOKHOPE VILLAGE HALL** – Cllr Thompson will be attending the next Committee meeting

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CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. The WAAP are setting up task groups on what projects and schemes what local residents would like. The meetings are Children, Young People and Families Thursday 21st June 2018 10.00 in the Dales Centre. Culture, Tourism and Heritage Thursday 21st June 2018 2.00pm in the Dales Centre.
2. The final phase of Universal Credit Full Service Roll-Out has started in County Durham. Information can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/universalcredit and DCC customer services team 03000 260 000, Universal Credit helpline 0800 328 5644
3. The next Smaller Councils Forum meeting is at Great Aycliffe Town Council on Thursday 26th July at 2pm
4. The County Durham Plan consultation will begin on the 22nd June and will last for six weeks until Friday 3rd August. The document we need to examine is the Preferred Option stage of the plan, which sets out potential development across the county until 2035. There are a series of consultation sessions across the County, 18th July 4.00 – 7.00pm Wolsingham Town Hall. Once the current consultation is completed, the responses will be used to create the next draft of the plan, known as the Pre-Submission Draft. Further consultation will then be held before that plan, and any further comments, are submitted to an independent examiner who will decide whether the plan can be adopted.
5. DCC have written that Newlandside Quarry, Stanhope is potentially surplus. This asset has not been in existing service delivery for some time and is no longer required for this purpose. If we have any comments or observations regarding the potential disposal of the asset then they have to be received by Thursday 5th July 2018 **Resolved:** The councillors have no interest in it
6. Durham Community Action are letting people know about the Building Better Opportunity project for County Durham. They would like to promote ROAD and would like to know if there are any events happening in our area or any groups which they could link with.
7. DCC are consulting on the proposed changes to public paths on Wolsingham South Moor (including Wolsingham, Frosterley, Stanhope, Egglestone, South Bedburn Lands Common to Hamsterey. The Moor is crossed by some historic routes known as Middleton and Pikestone Lanes. These are not recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement, but it is accepted that they are restricted byways. The widths of the routes vary along different sections. It is proposed to alter the routes of the restricted byways so that they follow more suitable routes while not diverging too drastically from the historic routes. They are proposing to define all the routes as 5 metres wide. We can send comments within one month from 26th June. If there are no objections the application may be determined by senior officer of the Council, if there are any objections then it will be determined by the Councils Highways Committee. The councillors concerns are that if the route is widened and made better will that encourage off road vehicles **Resolved:** Clerk to express concerns to DCC
8. NALCs Annual Conference will be taking place on 30/31 October at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Milton Keynes
9. ON Sunday 30th September, Hardwick Park in Durham will be holding the seventh Annual Muddy Mayhem obstacle course. The course is a 5km circuit featuring over 40 obstacles. Entry for the 5km race is £43 per person and to go around the course twice is £48
10. A Teasdale resident has found some plans relating to the building of Rookhope School and some cottages at Holme Field, Frosterley 1870. We are to be sent them and we can decide the best place for them to go with been of historic value either Weardale Museum or DCC Archives **Resolved:** At the moment the Parish Council will keep them
11. NWG Business will be joining with Anglian Water Business in September 2018 and will be called Wave

12. S Ragg has sent a timetable of training events which was read out

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Planning Matters

DM/18/01452/FPA
Retention of storage unit
The Mews
Stanhope Castle
Stanhope

DM/18/01453/FPA
Maintenance Store
The Mews
Stanhope Castle

DM/18/01769/FPA
Detached double garage (relocated from planning approval DM/14/03584/FPA)
Toll Cottage
Stanhope

DM/18/01784/FPA
Single storey rear extension
2 Station Terrace
Frosterley

DM/18/01897/FPA
Erection of building for storage of plant, equipment and tools on former caravan pitch
Fineburn Caravan Park
Frosterley

Eastgate Works Ltd

We have received a letter regarding a Proposed Caravan Park on the former site of Eastgate Works, Eastgate. A planning application is to be submitted in the next few weeks where the first phase of the sites redevelopment involves 80 caravans. The letter was read out. The councillors would like more clarification on the commercial side and feel that the caravans could be upgraded to lodges with twelve-month residency. They feel that the services cannot cope now Doctors, fire service and Ambulance service without eighty caravans. Some councillors were in favour of the development bringing tourism to the dale and improving the site **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the owner to ask to see the Impact Assessment and the reports.

DM/18/01589/FPA
Single storey side extension privacy screen, excavate garden and install a retaining wall
21 Graham Street
Stanhope

PLANNING PERMISSION

DM/17/03859/FPA

Erection of porch, single storey extension to south and raising roof height of existing extension
Layfield Barn
Lanehead

DM/17/04088/FPA

Additional 14 lodges and associated works
Caravan Site
Horsley Lodges
Eastgate

DM/18/00906/FPA

Single and two story extensions, re cladding of existing building
Gardiners
Frosterley

DM/18/00931/FPA

Erection of stable
Farplace
Westgate

DM/18/01189/LB

Rebuild boundary walls
4 Stanhope Hall

DM/18/00078/FPA

Rear single storey extension
Coach House
Eastgate

DM/18/00689/FPA

Replace timber windows and doors with upvc
7 Kirk Rise
Frosterley

DM/18/01030/FPA

Replace windows and doors with upvc
15 Kirk Rise
Frosterley

PLANNING WITHDRAWALS

DM/18/01254/TPO

T2 Sycamore – fell tree protected by a TPO
Stanhope Castle

DM/18/01280/TPO

T10 Beech - fell tree protected by TPO
Land south of Stanhope Castle

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General Data Protection – GDPR

All councillors received a copy of the Appendix A – List of Documents for Retention or Disposal and also the policy. **Resolved:** It was agreed to adopt the policy and the Appendix A – List of Documents for Retention or Disposal

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Parish Council Website

Nothing to report

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Finance

1. Westgate Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** It was agreed to end £500
2. Two quotes have been received for the sign Beware Adders, both quotes are £20 plus vat. **Resolved:** It was agreed to go William Smith from Barnard Castle
3. The Dales Centre Tearoom has undergone a takeover by the Catering Team, still DCC but a different department. The complimentary refreshments will be no longer provided as the Dales Centre, Business Durham covered these costs previously. Tea and coffee is £2 per head and Tea, coffee and biscuits is £2.50 per head. We can state how many coffees we want or they can count the used cups and we will be charged for the amount used. **Resolved:** To be discussed as an agenda item
4. The quote has been received for the Parish Council notice boards, £650 each, supply only and without engraving. Total £1300 plus £100 for two oak posts for the standing notice boards. The engraving will cost roughly £50 plus vat which will be three inches high with three capital letters and the rest in lower case **Resolved:** The councillors agreed the quote and the lettering. Clerk to apply for planning permission
5. The Community Highways worker requested more dog bags so they have been ordered
6. Opus Energy have quoted a figure of 36.21918p per day (£28 per quarter) standing charge over two years and unit charges 15.57. Chairman agreed the go-head with the prices been held for 24 hours only. If we do not want to pay by direct debit then it will be 7% more with a paper bill **Resolved:** Clerk to arrange direct debit
7. Angelina has sent a quote for the playpark in Stanhope. The Hurrican Swing is £20,045.00, the Warrior Ant Hill Comber £12,678.00 and Pick Up sticks £17,258.00 this excludes vat, this totals £49,981.00. Three picnic tables £4443.00 with wheelchair access £1053.00. The AAP

would like to progress this project and if SPC are minded to offer any financial assistance towards the project. Angelina would like to know if we would like to nominate someone from the Parish Council so they can work up an Area Budget form with them and they can relay the information to the elected members. The AAP have ring fenced £20,000 and if the Parish Council contributed £20,000 then maybe we could write to Cllr Shuttleworth and Cllr Mrs Savory for a contribution. **Resolved:** The councillors would like to wait until three quotes have been received, in principal £20,000 was discussed. Cllr Joan Carrick and Cllr Mike Brewin will work with the WAAP

8. Cllr Mrs Humble suggested that a donation of £250 should be sent to the NE Air Ambulance as it would of cost both of the representatives to attend the meeting and it would be a nice gesture. **Resolved:** It was agreed to send £250

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AAP Report

A Board meeting is coming up at the end of the month

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CDALC Report

Nothing to report

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Accounts for Payment

Westgate Village Hall	£500.00
Ward Bros Plant Hire	£278.00
Paul Irwin Ashcroft Playing Area Grass Cutting 3 cuts	£150.00
DCC Hire of meeting room for May 3 hours	£60.00
S Anderson Salary	£708.07
S Anderson PAYE HM Rev	£16.20
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
S Anderson Expenses	£229.24
CDALC GDPR Training	£27.00
Great North East Air Ambulance	£250.00
TOTAL	£2253.51

ACCOUNTS FOR RECEIPTS

HM REV VAT REPAYMENT	£2545.40
ALLOTMENT RENT	£15.00

TOTAL
9943

£2560.40

New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Brewin would like the beck dredging at Frosterley down The Batts. The Community Highways Worker used to clean it out. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
2. Cllr Blackett mentioned the plans for Heights Quarry that are at Eastgate Village Hall and that the Parish Councillors are welcome to have a look around the quarry.
3. Cllr Mrs Humble would like the War Memorial and the seating area tidied up. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
4. It would be nice to see a bed of wild flowers planted on the grass by Horn Hall Farm where it used to be. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
5. Cllr Thompson will follow up the lighting in Rookhope and the Annual Rookhope in Bloom Auction took place raising £900-£1000
6. Cllr Miss Carrick would like to report that the fencing needs repairing in the Riverside Play Park next to the river **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
7. The litter bins in Garden Close and in front of the church in Stanhope need painting as it looks like someone has tried to set fire to them **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
8. The wall by Garden Close needs weeding and there is a huge crack in it that needs repairing **Resolved:** Clerk to report it to the Housing Association
9. The Street Signs in Stanhope have not been painted yet. **Resolved:** Clerk to chase up
10. The cut between Cowgarth Hill and West Terrace needs weeding **Resolved:** Clerk to report it to DCC
11. A few months ago it was mentioned that electric works would be carried out in the play park at the Riverside. **Resolved:** Clerk to find out when this will take place
12. The footpath between Frosterley and Stanhope needs weeding and tidying up **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
13. In the lay by up from Willow Green there are some dumpy bags that look as if they have been dumped there. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
14. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report that the plaque has gone off the bridge at Ireshopeburn, it was when the bridge was opened. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
15. Some of the kerbs have been repaired but not all of them but it looks like a jigsaw **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
16. The footpaths need sweeping in Ireshopeburn **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
17. As you come into Ireshopeburn on the left-hand side by the bridge there are some overhanging branches that need cutting back **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
18. Cllr Craig would like to report a very rusty electric pole at Waterside House that needs inspecting **Resolved:** Clerk to report
19. Cllr Miss Graham would like the new Head Teacher of Wolsingham School to be invited to a meeting to hear his future plans **Resolved:** Clerk to invite to the October meeting

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Clerks Business

1. Play Park Inspection needs doing by S Makepeace **Resolved:** Clerk to contact S Makepeace
2. The tree inspection is due this year as it is done bi-annually **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Olivers Tree Services
3. Allotments need inspecting and at the same time we can judge the best kept plots on each site. A plot at Westgate is overgrown and the tenant has been written to and given 28days to tidy it up

Meeting Closed at 10.20pm

Date of next meeting is Wednesday 2nd August 2018 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

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