

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 5th June 2019

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig (Chairman)

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

S Anderson Clerk

Also Present:

Carole Dillon DCC – Neighbourhood Plan

10075

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs A Humble

10076

To Receive any Declarations of Interest from Members

None received

10077

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2019 and 1st May 2019

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

10078

Carole Dillon DCC Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Craig welcomed Carole to the meeting. Durham County Council is the Local Planning Authority which handles all Planning Applications. These are considered against the saved Policies from the Wear Valley District Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. The new Local Plan will be known as the County Durham Plan and it will set new policies to guide the type and location of future development. Neighbourhood Plans can supplement the Local Plan and together they will form the Development Plan for the area. There are seven key steps in the process, designating the Neighbourhood Area, preparing a draft neighbourhood plan, pre-submission publicity and consultation, submission to the Local Planning Authority, independent examination, referendum and local planning authority “makes” the plan. There are some can do’s and some can’t do’s and it has to be decided is a Neighbourhood Plan right for us. There is Government funding available and DCC will fund the examination and referendum costs. DCC can assist and support but cannot write the plan. Transparency is essential so regular open meetings must be held and plan activities for community engagement. The next step would be to consider why we want a Neighbourhood Plan, Understand the steps that will need to be undertaken, establish an organisational support structure and project plan and decide on the plans focus and content. Carole answered questions from the councillors. Cllr Craig thanked Carole for attending

10079

Police and the Community

No Police were in attendance

10080

Matters Arising

1. **Questions R Crane** – A reply has been received regarding the questions that Mr Crane took away with him after his visit to the Parish Council meeting. The reply was read out at the meeting. The councillors were not happy with the reply to certain questions. **Resolved:** Clerk to write again asking for a more detailed reply
2. **Town Hall, St John's Chapel** – The kerb stones have been inspected and our report is not considered to be hazardous, dangerous or essential maintenance. No immediate work is planned but the report will be kept on record to be included in a future scheme
3. **Smiddy Burn Bridge** – A letter has been received from the planning consultant and lawyer advising the Estate. They have assured us that the correct procedure has been followed.
4. **Weardale Railway** – The Head of Operations will attend the July meeting but wanted to point out that the line between Stanhope and Eastgate is not dis-used
5. **Notice Boards** - Mr Hogarth is very busy and is struggling to do the Notice Boards. We can wait or we could try a person that has been recommended by Mr Hogarth. **Resolved:** The councillors agreed to get a quote from Mr Nixon
6. **Playpark Photo** – The school has been contacted for permission to put the photograph that was taken onto the website.
7. **Cowshill War Memorial** – The Memorial Wall and fence has been damaged, and this has been reported to the Highways Inspector. We will be kept informed as to what is going to happen concerning the repair work
8. **Frosterley Layby** – The resident who reported this has asked the timescale of non-urgent work. The Highways Inspector has been contacted and apparently the ownership of the layby is questionable, so much will be highways and so much the landowner. The landowner uses the subbase to maintain the track and where the heap has been placed is more than likely the landowners. **Resolved:** Clerk to write and explain this to the resident
9. **Improving 7-day access briefing** – The final decision about proposed changes to GP hubs which provide additional appointments during weekdays, evening and weekends across Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield will be made on Tuesday 28th May 2019, 9.30am-12.30pm at Lanchester Community Centre. The CCG has carefully considered all of the patient, public and carer feedback as part of the overall review of the seven-day access to primary care service. The new model will be based at Bishop Auckland but will provide outreach services to patients who are frail or housebound. The model will also have the addition of booked appointments which will help those that are unable to attend a service during the usual GP opening hours. They have also considered the impact of travel and transport as it was an issue raised by many and as a result, they are proposing to modify the criteria for accessing transport to the extended access hub. Every household should be informed of the changes and how to contact the new model at Bishop Auckland. At present you dial 111 and they make the appointment if it's a Saturday or Sunday
10. **Crosshill Allotments** – The plot has been tidied up now and the nettles strimmed down. It can be let but with all the problems with the hens do we want to allow more hens on the site. What do the councillors think? **Resolved:** The councillors were in agreement to let the plot with hens if necessary
11. **Riverside Play Park** – The play park had been covered in graffiti on one piece of the new equipment. D Hunt arranged to have it cleaned off **Resolved:** Clerk to thank Mr Hunt

12. **The Church of Saint Michael and All Angels** - The Parish Stanhope and Rookhope and the parish of Frosterley, being two of the parishes within the area of the benefice of Upper Weardale in the diocese of Durham, shall be united to create a new parish which shall be named The Parish of Stanhope, Frosterley and Rookhope
13. **Ambulance Car at St Johns Chapel** - £10.4 million is being invested in the ambulance service by NHS commissioners over five years. There will be no change to the ambulance provision in St John's Chapel, although County Durham will see the largest increase of any county in our region with 14 additional emergency ambulances by the end of the year, once staff have been recruited. As a result of this investment they do expect to see the ambulance at St Johns Chapel being tasked to respond to incidents outside the Dale on fewer occasions than occurs at the moment. The Ambulance Service are talking to GP practices to see if the rapid response paramedic could work more closely in conjunction with primary care to serve patients in the community and to develop their clinical skills. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to get assurances that the rapid response will remain in the immediate locality
14. **Flowers from the village tubs** - Dave has replied that we are welcome to have the flowers from the beds when they start to take them out. If we contact Dave, then he will advise when they take them out
15. **Tubs at St John's Chapel** – The tubs at St Johns Chapel are not owned by DCC so will not be planted unless we supply the plants and he would plant them
16. **Treeworks** – No more tree work will be done but it may be considered in the winter months. Cllr Miss Graham had a report that a large branch had come off one of the trees near to the Bondisle Play Park. It was close to the end house. It was reported to Cllr Shuttleworth who arranged to have everything tidied up. The trees need inspecting. **Resolved:** Clerk to request a tree inspection to DCC
17. **Velo North** – The event is going ahead, and vets will be given access on the day of the event. In Teasdale the road closure time has been shortened so there is no reason why the road closure in Weardale could be shortened as well. Concerns on how people are going to get to work have not been considered **Resolved:** Clerk to write with the Parish Councils concerns
18. **Frosterley Parking** – Cllr Brewin is still very concerned about the inconsiderate parking in Frosterley by a certain few. There had nearly been an accident the other day. The Police have walked down the street but if they fine one they would have to fine all of them. Cllr Brewin commented that he will be writing to the Chief Constable

10081

Correspondence Received

1. Owing to a collapsed culverted levy it has been necessary to temporarily close to vehicular traffic a 50-metre length of Front Street, Wearhead. It is anticipated the closure will be for 2 weeks
2. The Community Engagement Officer for Flood and Coastal Risk Management would like to attend a Parish Council meeting. The project works with schools and communities to identify risks and how to prepare whilst also looking at wider schemes such as the Natural Flood Management project happening in the area. The NFM project is the first and biggest of its time and will showcase for the rest of the UK that working with natural processes can help flood risk from the rivers and burns around the Wear. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite to the August meeting
3. A tenant at Ireshopeburn would like 3 rowan trees inspected as they are getting tall and blocking out the light. The trees were inspected last year they will be inspected again next year **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the tenant
1. A member of Blackhall bowls club has been in touch. It will be 50 years on 14th August 2019 that a bus crashed on Crawleyside Bank killing 18 people on board plus a young girl. A

fourteen-year-old boy scrambled from the bus and was taken in by a man and woman. The boy now is 64 years old and would like to thank the family or relatives of family for all the kindness shown. There is to be a memorial service at Blackhall Park. Any help that the Parish Council can do in finding the couple would be most appreciated. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the Weardale Gazette

4. Footpath 32 will be closed temporarily from 1st June for four months to allow works to repair the bank slip and arrest current erosion of the right riverbank leading to boundary to Kingfisher Leisure Park.
5. S Ragg has sent details of any clerk or councillor interested in obtaining the Certificate in Local Council Administration then the County Training Partnership is holding an event at Shildon Council Offices on 8th and 15th July cost £170.00
6. NALC are organising the Star Council Wards and entries have to be submitted by 28th June
7. S Ragg has sent details of Skill Mill which helps support land management projects whilst providing employment opportunities for local disadvantaged young people within County Durham. Skill Mill undertakes a range of environmental and horticultural projects, helping to reduce flood risks and improve the local environment. The Skill Mill Manager is happy to meet us to discuss if he could work in partnership. The councillors mentioned the footpath between Frosterley and Stanhope **Resolved:** Clerk to write
8. We have been sent details of a Traffic Sensitive Streets review consultation which ends on 31st May 2019. DCC are looking at introducing a single permit scheme for street works on roads and footpaths. As part of developing the scheme DCC must ensure that there is an up to date list of all streets in the county that are classed as traffic sensitive. The list identifies streets that are highly used by pedestrians or vehicles and helps DCC to understand the potential effects that any street works would have on pedestrians, businesses, organisations or major events in the area. This closes on 31st May 2019
9. A resident has reported to the clerk that street light numbers 105 and 108 at the top of East Lane are not working, these belong to the Parish Council and have been reported to DCC to have repaired.
10. S Ragg has sent details of funding available for Village Halls with oven ready projects for 20% of total project costs. More information available from DCA's Community Development Team
11. S Ragg has details of the level of council tax raised by Parish Councils nationally and the band D property charges.
12. The civic dignitaries and their consorts are: the town mayor for 2019/20 is Councillor Elizabeth Wood and her main consort will be her partner Mr Eric Rix. In the absence of her main consort she will be accompanied by her son Mr Nicholas Wood. The Deputy Mayor is Councillor Liz Maddison and her consort will be Councillor Clive Maddison
13. The Rifles are taking over Palace Green, by the Cathedral between 1-6pm on 15th June. There will be free activities for all the family along with music and the Army's new fitness tests. There is free parking at County Hall

10082

Planning Matters

DM/19/01318/FPA

Conversion of a barn into a two bedroom dwelling

Land and barn to the

North West of High View

Wearhead

DM/19/01420/FPA
Storage Building
The Paddock
Crawleyside

DM/19/01483/FPA
Walkers Shelter
Quarry Bank Cottage
Harehope Quarry
Frosterley

DM/19/01154/FPA
Dormer window to front
8 School Close
St John's Chapel

DM/19/01613/FPA
Change of use to amenity space, retention of 2no timber buildings to house hot tubs, with associated privacy fencing, proposed stone sheep fold style shelter
The Old Miners Hall
Burnside Cottages
Rookhope

Cllr Thompson to look into this application as there have been objections by the residents, if necessary, an objection will be sent from the Parish Council

DM/19/01586/VOC
Variation of condition 2 of planning application DM/17/01912/FPA for alterations to detached garage
Land to the rear of
Forest Lea
71 Front Street
Frosterley

10083
Parish Council Website
Nothing to report

10084
Finance

1. Wearhead Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
2. Cowshill Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
3. St John's Chapel Town Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
4. Rookhope Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500

5. St Johns Chapel PCC would like to apply for the Annual Church Yard Maintenance Grant of £300 **Resolved:** Clerk to send £300
6. Eastgate Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
7. All Saints Church, Eastgate would like to apply for the Church Yard Maintenance Grant of £300 **Resolved:** Clerk to send £300
8. St Thomas Heatherycleugh would like to apply for the annual churchyard maintenance grant £300 **Resolved:** Clerk to send £300
9. Frosterley Village Hall would like to apply for the village hall maintenance grant. **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500

10085

AAP Report

The next Board meeting will be held in July

10086

CDALC Report

The Parish Council has been made aware that there will be a 38% reduction in core funding for elderly care CDALC are to express their concerns. Cllr Ellwood reported that if you are a councillor then you always have your councillor hat on and can't give a personal opinion. The minutes from the CDALC meetings will be distributed to the other councils

10087

Accounts for Payment

Paul Irwin Ashcroft Grass Cutting	£150.00
Wave Old Cemetery Stanhope	£12.29
Npower Continuous Public Lighting	£248.47
Npower Continuous Public Lighting	£3.01
HM Rev – Nat Ins cont	£204.20
S Anderson Expenses	£210.75
S Anderson Salary	£725.23
HM Rev	£28.47
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
Makepeace Motors Westgate Allot + Crosshill Allot	£480.00
Wearhead Village Hall	£500.00
Cowshill Village Hall	£500.00
St Johns Chapel Town Hall	£500.00
Rookhope Village Hall	£500.00

St Johns Chapel PCC	£300.00
Eastgate Village Hall	£500.00
All Saints Church, Eastgate	£300.00
St Thomas Heatherycleugh	£300.00
Allen Sykes Ltd	£216.00
TOTAL	£5,713.42

Accounts for Receipts

Network Rail	£2.58
Allotment Rent	£45.00
TOTAL	£47.58

10088

New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Mrs Maddison would like to report the good response from the Police when an undesirable was lurking about the main street in Frosterley
2. The footpaths and the Weardale Way was mentioned that better waymarking signings would be an improvement. As DCC own the footpaths the first point of contact would be the footpath officer
3. The recent works on the road to Intake are excellent
4. Cllr Brewin would like to know how to find out the boundary of the car park next to the Village Hall in Frosterley. The councillors suggested the Land Registry
5. Cllr Blackett would like to report the faded 30mph signs in Wearhead and some of the triangular signs are twisted that are by Wearhead School and Westfall **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
6. The grass cutting was mentioned, and Cllr Craig reported that it has started, and it will be in the middle of the programme
7. Cllr Blackett and Cllr Mrs Humble would like it noted that Mr N Rutter has died who served on the Parish Council
8. Cllr Wearmouth would like to report that there is a garden appeared on the grass verge at South View opposite the Church entrance. This is council land and needs reporting to DCC **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
9. Cllr Thompson mentioned that there is a photography exhibition at Rookhope Village Hall
10. Cllr Ellwood mentioned that at Cowgarth Hill there is a rotten bench that needs repairing or replacing **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
11. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that at some point the Police are going to mention about Young Hero's
12. The Grey Bull have had to apply for permission for the seating outside of the pub
13. At a future meeting it would be nice to discuss the possibility of a History Board of Stanhope

14. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report that the toilets at St John's Chapel need a good clean
Resolved: Clerk to report to DCC
15. The telegraph pole that is in the middle of the footpath is causing problems and ideally it should be moved to allow pedestrians to walk on the footpath without having to go onto the road
Resolved: Clerk to write
16. The row of trees at Ireshopeburn had been planted by the school children Cllr Craig had a newspaper article
17. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff is concerned that the doctor's surgery at St Johns Chapel has not been open on a Friday and she would like to know the reason why
Resolved: Clerk to write
18. There is a parking problem at Coppers Lodge, St Johns Chapel and a solid white line is needed
Resolved: Clerk to contact DCC
19. Cllr Mrs Hawkes has had a report of an obstructed footpath between Harelaw and Eastgate
Resolved: clerk to report to the footpath officer

10089

Clerks Business

An allotment inspection is to take place this month

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Date of next meeting is Wednesday 3rd July 2019 at Durham Dales Centre, commencing at 7pm

-----signed-----date