

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 1st August 2018

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr L Blackett, Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr M Brewin, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Miss J Carrick,
Cllr B Thompson, Cllr Mrs K Hutchinson

Susan Anderson Clerk

Also Present

PC B Crampsie

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs Humble, Cllr Miss Graham

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To Receive any Declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2018

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

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Police and the Community

Cllr Craig welcomed PC Crampsie to the meeting. A person had been detained and remanded in custody for burglary. The motor bikes were discussed, and every dale has the same problems. PC Crampsie had contacted DCC regarding the tables and chairs on the pavement in Stanhope, after having had some complaints. The shop keepers need to have a paper licence to allow them to put tables and chairs on the pavement. The Show meetings have taken place and there will be no reduction in the Police presence. All the licensed premises will be spoken to. Cllr Craig read out a letter from a resident concerning the motorbikes in the dale. He feels that more could be done by the Police. We could work with the resident and it was mentioned that in Penrith we may be able to learn something from them as they have more speed limits. We could find out how they managed to get the speed limit reduced and what influenced their decision. There is a box measuring the speed of vehicles near Heights and PC Crampsie would investigate this. Cllr Craig thanked PC Crampsie for attending

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Matters Arising

1. **Wall at Garden Close, Stanhope** – The wall has been inspected and at this moment in time does not require any repairs. The weeds have been sprayed and have now died back

2. **Stanhope Urban Councillor** - Due to work commitments Cllr A Fishburn is resigning as Ward Councillor for Stanhope Urban **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
3. **Fly Tipping in Layby at Frosterley** – DCC are aware of the fly tipping and the dumpy bags are being tested as they are unsure of the contents as they may contain hazardous waste. They will be removed once the nature of the material has been confirmed
4. **Mine Adits, Stanhope Dene** – A FOI request has been sent to DCC to see any reports and letters that would have to of been done last year when the Mine Adits were covered over. The reply that has been received is that DCC does not hold the information requested. A discussion took place and enquiries will be made
5. **Wolsingham South Moor** – The senior rights of way officer has replied saying that the width of 5 metres would be the legal width, rather that what would be visible on site. They might not necessarily do any works to the new route, or just something minimal like a one off cut of a much lesser width so the public have some chance of finding it
6. **Rookhope Lights** – Cllr Thompson has had a site meeting with DCC regarding the removal of some street lights. In the winter months the stretch of road from the nursery to Burnside will be in darkness which isn't acceptable. Cllr Thompson would like the Parish Council to consider taking on an agreement with DCC to keep the two lights. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC for some costings
7. **Station Road Head to Hagg Bridge** – The area will be assessed during the annual highway evaluation process which takes place during the autumn. In the meantime the highways inspector will continue to inspect the area and make safe any actionable defects
8. **Horn Hall, Stanhope Flower Bed** – The request for the wild flower area has been passed higher for approval
9. **Cowhill War Memorial** – An update has been received that an application for Listed Building Consent should be submitted within the next week. A contractor has been approached where the works provisionally could begin late- September to mid-October. The works would comprise, The creation of steps to the front, Consolidation of the retaining stone wall, Cleaning of the memorial cross itself and surrounds, Repairs to the surrounding stone walling. DCC will also enquire with the contractor about the installation of some form of railings across the front of the memorial and request a separate quotation for this.
10. **Heights Quarry Visit** – The visit is arranged for Wednesday 8th August at 10.00am and we need to wear walking boots and report to the site office
11. **Front Street, Frosterley** – The gully sucker is needed in Frosterley as the drains are full and also the gullies still need cleaning out down The Butts, Stanhope **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
12. **The Beck, Frosterley** – The Beck is in need of digging out urgently **Resolved:** Clerk to get a quote
13. **Street Signs** – The street name signs have been painted

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Correspondence Received

1. The next Smaller Councils Forum took place on 26th July at Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices
2. The Town Mayor, Councillor Clive Maddison has arranged for his Civic Service to be held on Sunday 16th September 2018 at 4.30pm in St Pauls Church, Whitworth Terrace, Spennymoor
3. An email has been received regarding the lack of provision at the Riverside Play Park. The email was read out **Resolved:** Clerk to pass email onto DCC
4. An allotment tenant at Willard Grove is concerned about the fence into the allotments that neighbouring horses are pushing the fence and eating the produce from the plot. All it needs

is another fence to stop the horses reaching into the plot **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the owner of the horses

5. S Ragg would like to know if any council would like to order some hard copies of the Good Councillor Guides 2018. If S Ragg orders 100 copies they work out at around £3.33 per copy plus any postage and packing from County Hall
6. The County Council is looking for any comments on the Draft County Durham Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan 2018-2023. Comments by Friday 7th September. If the Railway Line between Stanhope and Eastgate could be used as a cycle route it would be ideal **Resolved** Clerk to send comments
7. Cllr Shuttleworth has sent us an email concerning the County Durham preferred options and he feels the Parish Council should put in objections/observations by Friday 3rd August. The email was read out . A discussion took place and it would be a good idea to ask a representative from the Planning Department to attend a meeting. The Parish Council agreed that Heights Quarry and planning in the villages needed to be in the Plan **Resolved:** Clerk to send an objection to DCC regarding the Plan

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Durham Dales Centre – Meetings

The Dales Centre is central and has good parking facilities along with powerpoint for speakers.

Resolved:

It was agreed to stay at the Dales Centre

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Planning Matters

Eastgate Works Site

The proposals for the site are not of a scale and form that require an Environmental Impact Assessment to be done. The documents listed have been agreed with DCC though pre-application discussions. Planning Application forms, Plans, Masterplans, Planning Statement, Design and Access Statement, Flood Risk and Drainage Assessment, Heritage Statement, Lighting Strategy Report, Air Quality Screening Report, Phase 1 Contamination Report, Ecological Assessment and Bat Report, Tree Survey, Construction Management Plan

DM/18/02040/FPA

Change of use of land to caravan park site and associated works

Site of former Weardale Works Quarry

Eastgate

Eastgate Works Ltd

Cllr Mrs Hutchinson declared an interest

A discussion took place and a vote was taken Cllr Thompson voted for the application, Two abstained and four were against, motion carried to object to the application **Resolved:** Clerk to send objection on the grounds of overload of caravans in Eastgate, can the services cope doctors, ambulance service. Infrastructure

DM/18/01303/FPA

Conversion of barn to dwelling and porch extension

Land East of

Front Street

Rookhope

Paul Bell

DM/18/01852/FPA
Retention of 5 bar timber gate
The Byre
4 Stanhope Hall
Stanhope
G Ward

DM/18/02062/FPA
Detached garage
Holbeck
Stanhope
Mr Macdonald

DM/18/01853/LB
Partial demolition rebuilding and repair of stone walls
Erection of 5 bar timbergate
The Byre
4 Stanhope Hall
Stanhope
G Ward

DM/18/01905/LB
Listed building consent for conversion of attached building to habitable room
6 Longhorn Ends
Cowshill
J Bowen

DM/18/02107/FPA
Retention of porch to front
2 Briar Hill
Ireshopeburn
B Pippet

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General Data Protection – Adopt Policies

Policy still being worked on

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Parish Council Website

It was noticed that there were two spelling mistakes **Resolved:** Clerk to amend

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Finance

1. Zurich have sent the renewal premium which is £1263.51 the policy has been updated with the new laptop and printer
2. The Allotment Judging has taken place and 1st and 2nd places have been decided. **Resolved:** It was agreed £20 for first prize and £10 for second

3. A letter has been received from the Friends of High House Chapel who are trying to raise £10,000 by 31st March 2019 and would like the Parish Council to consider making a donation. So far £600 has been raised and many projects are in the pipe line
4. A meeting took place on Wednesday 25th August with the WAAP regarding the Riverside Play Park, the WAAP have in place £20,000. DCC need confirmation on the amount from the Parish Council before any quotes can be done. They will receive between 3 and 5 quotes and we will be able to see the three designs and three quotes sent in. The designs after agreement will then go into the public domain for the children to decide where an event can be arranged. The WAAP will ask Cllr Shuttleworth and Cllr Mrs A Savory to see if they are willing to put any funding in. The quote from Wickstead was around £50,000 so there is a short fall of £10,000. The first step is for the Parish Council to agree. The councillors would like to be involved in the selection of the equipment. **Resolved:** The councillors agreed to £20,000 for the play equipment but must be involved in the selection of the equipment and the design
5. Bank reconciliation figures for the end of June 2018 were discussed and agreed
6. The Council has updated its Tax Base modelling and calculated our provisional Tax Base and provisional Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme grant payable to us for 2019/20, £287.00

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AAP Report

Cllr Shuttleworth has been removed from the Board for not attending the meetings.

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CDALC Report

Cllr Ellwood has been approached to go onto the AAP

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Accounts for Payment

Zurich Municipal	£1263.51
DCC June Meeting 7-9.30pm	£50.00
JRB Enterprise Ltd	£537.60
BT Clerks phone bill	£153.11
William Smith	£34.50
Npower Ashcroft Play Park	£61.59
Susan Anderson Salary	£1749.27
HM Rev PAYE	£16.20
Susan Anderson Expenses	£51.04
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
C Cassidy	£20.00

D Hunt	£10.00
S Tweddle	£20.00
K Walton	£10.00
W Hogarth	£20.00
J Anstee	£10.00
T Craig	£20.00
R Mews	£10.00
T Natrass	£20.00
P Hayes	£10.00
R Rigby	£20.00
S Andrews	£10.00
TOTAL	£4131.82

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New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Mrs Maddison mentioned that the mound in the cemetery in Frosterley still has not been removed and we have been asking for months to have it removed. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC and to arrange a site meeting
2. The wild flower bed was mentioned and that on the Bishop Auckland by-pass this year there are no flowers. Some of the councillors thought that the wild flower beds still need planting every year
3. After visiting every village in the parish there is no consistency and the gateway to the villages could be a lot nicer and prettier. It would a good project to improve the entrances and the exits. The road signage is all different colours and could be moved, we would have to work with highways. **Resolved:** Councillors to look at their own villages at this stage
4. Cllr Blackett mentioned the road between Blackdene to Briar Hill when the water board tapped into the water main the trench in the road was reinstated but it is now sinking and needs inspecting **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
5. At the same place on the A689 between Blackdene and Briar Hill the new house that was built the electricity cable looks very close to the metal flu chimney on the house wall. This needs inspecting **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Northern Powergrid
6. Cllr Mrs Hutchinson mentioned that a long standing councillor Mr Ivan Jones from Wearhead has past away
7. Cllr Miss Carrick would like the grass verge reinstating as the work to the fire station are now completed. The small strip along the side of the wall needs weeding and some gravel down **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
8. There used to a seat opposite Barclays Bank in Front Street, Stanhope that was taken away and it was never replaced. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC for a new seat

9. The toilets at the Riverside Play Park are a disgrace and need cleaning **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
10. There used to be a basket ball net in the Riverside Play Park which was taken down many years ago when the park was re-vamped. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask DCC
11. In the seating area at Crosshill there are seedlings growing that need pulling out. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
12. Cllr Craig mentioned that the tree on the roadside by the first entrance into Coronation Avenue needs its suckers cutting off **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

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Clerks Business

1. The allotments were inspected on 20th July 2018 and letters were written to the tenants of the plots that needed attention. They have been given 28 days to sort the plots out and after that will be asked to give the plots up if they have not improved to the required standard.
2. There is a rail off the fencing at Willard Grove, Stanhope that needs repairing **Resolved;** Clerk to get the rail repaired
3. The winners of the allotment prizes are:
 - Old Hall Stanhope – 1st T Craig 2nd R Mews
 - Ireshopeburn - 1st R Rigby 2nd S Andrews
 - Westgate - 1st P Hayes 2nd T Natrass
 - Willard Grove - 1st S Tweddle 2nd K Walton
 - Crosshill - 1st W Hogarth 2nd J Anstee
 - Bondisle - 1st C Cassidy 2nd D Hunt

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 5th September 2018 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

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