

## STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting via ZOOM of the Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020

### PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr W Wearmouth, Cllr L Blackett,

Cllr B Thompson, Cllr Miss J Carrick, Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Mrs H Maddison

Cllr D Craig – Chairman

Susan Anderson Clerk

### 10389

#### Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs A Hawkes, Cllr Mrs S Thompson, Cllr M Brewin

### 10390

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

Cllr Miss F Graham – Finance Small Grants – Stanhope Club FC

### 10391

#### Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Minutes were moved as a true and correct record and will be signed by the chairman when a face to face meeting can be held.

### 10392

#### Police and the Community

PCSO C Gilding has sent the monthly update for incident types in Stanhope and then in Weardale. Officers are continuing to offer high visibility patrols in problem areas of the Dale targeting potential poachers. Suspicious Vehicles submitted via the Rural Watch group continue to be checked and warning letters sent.

### 10393

#### Matters Arising

1. **CLERKS BROADBAND** – BT has been contacted and there is nothing they can do regarding the broadband speed. The problem is the distance from the exchange which is 4.6km which is double what they class as a long line.
2. **STREET LIGHT REPORTS** – Both reports of street lights being off have now been repaired and the cases have been closed.
3. **HILL END, LIGHTING** - Although this location is on the adopted highway and street lighting is justified under DCC's Street Lighting Policy, DCC are unable to provide additional lighting at the current time. This is similar to any other unlit areas across the county. DCC's limited street lighting maintenance budget is directed towards maintaining existing streetlights and

therefore DCC are unable to fund the installation of new additional lighting at the current time. If installation costs were funded from other sources, such as the Local Councillors Neighbourhood Budget, Area Action Partnerships and Town and Parish Councils, additional lighting would be maintained by DCC thereafter.

4. **BUS SHELTER, ROOKHOPE** – The new shelter has just been ordered, which will be similar to the existing structure that had to be demolished due to the vehicle collision. The hold-up has been due to sourcing stone and a structural design for the reinforced concrete roof.
5. **STANHOPE SCHOOL HEDGE** – The contractor is unable to physically get any machinery into the area to cut the hedge so the whole length will have to be cut by hand. This will be expensive and a quote has been asked for. The school would like to know if we are aware of any grants or funding opportunities that they might explore in order to get this work completed. **Resolved:** Clerk to refer to D Hunt

## 10394

### Correspondence Received

1. Cllr Brewin reported light number 15 is out at Front Street, Frosterley. Clerk reported it to DCC.
2. A resident reported to the clerk light numbers 172 to 177 are not working from Stanhopeburn Caravan Park entrance down to West Terrace, Stanhope. Clerk has reported this to DCC.
3. The cenotaph wall in Rookhope is in need of repair, this has been reported to DCC.
4. Cllr Wearmouth reported to the clerk that the drain by Eastgate House needs inspecting as the tarmac is starting to come away.
5. Cllr Miss Graham reported to the clerk a drain cover in Ashcroft, Stanhope that needs putting right. The photographs have been sent to DCC
6. We have received an email regarding Pennine Journey running events. The organiser is keen to hold a running event on the Pennine Journey Trail. The email was sent to all of the councillors for their thoughts. Most of the councillors welcomed this idea in principle as long as a map was sent of the route for approval. The route does not want to be going through farm yards.
7. A member of the public reported to DCC that there was a broken toilet at Daddry Shield. The toilets have been closed since Nov 6<sup>th</sup> for the winter and the water has been turned off. The door had been pushed open, so it now has been locked with a padlock.
8. Following the adoption of the County Durham Plan DCC are creating a new consultation database to consult on future policy documents. We are on the existing consultation database and if we wish to be added to the new database then we have to send out details to the Spatial Policy Team. All bodies and organisations that DCC are required to consult with will be automatically added to the database.
9. A resident reported that some youths could be in the old cemetery, Stanhope. This has been reported to the Police. The Police will conduct more patrols of the area but would encourage the resident to ring in via 101 at the time they hear anything happening.
10. A resident of Rookhope is concerned about CCTV, the police would encourage the public to contact the Information Commissioners Office 0303 123 1113
11. CDALC sent the response Planning for the future white paper and NALC response Planning for the future white paper.
12. This year due to Covid the electrical mains at Frosterley on The Green could not be upgraded so this year a battery-operated lights system will be used. The light will be low-voltage and the batteries will be locked in a waterproof box. Cllr Craig could not see a problem with using the battery lights system so agreed to the request.

13. Insp E Turner sent an email regarding a Rural Community Speed Watch Van/ Mobile Police Station. Speeding complaints are one of the most frequent and consistent concerns raised by local communities. The use of a mobile van which can be deployed quickly and respond to a complaint, or where road traffic collisions regular occur where speed is a contributory factor will assist in assessing how severe the issue maybe and reduce the amount of complaints, road traffic collisions and ultimately save lives. This project proposal looks to develop the theme of the existing CSW van by using it as a multipurpose speedwatch and mobile police station for deployments, at agricultural shows/village events and community engagement/reassurance. The email was sent to all of the councillors so that any questions could be answered by Insp Turner. Wolsingham Parish Council has also been asked for a contribution as the van would be used for all of Weardale. The van would/could be deployed not only on the main arterial roads but also in villages/outside schools/accident hotspots/repeat locations where speeding is an issue. If Cllr Shuttleworth as not been asked to contribute, then he should be asked. The Inspector is willing to attend a Parish Council meeting. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite Insp Turner to the February meeting.
14. An allotment tenant from Willard Grove has asked to replace his old pigeon huts with a smarter smaller hut. As it is a replacement Cllr Craig agreed to this.
15. Stanhope School have sent information on the consultation on Admissions Policy. The policy has been sent to the councillors. Consultation ends on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Cllr Ellwood would like to know what the changes are to the policy so that it can be compared with the previous one. A list of the changes is required and clarification on twenty-four children is needed. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the school
16. As remedial works have not yet been completed on Footpath 25 St Johns Chapel Ward at Middle Blackdene to its junction with road C77 adjacent to High Barnes, Newhouse. The extended closure will be effective from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 for an anticipated period of up to twenty-four months. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff is not happy with the continued closure. We need feedback and is it ever going to reopen, is it on a list. This was and could be a useful footpath. Footpath 24 and 26 join/branch away from its route are also sterilized when footpath 25 remains closed. AONB should be contacted in case they could help. There is a similar problem in Ashes Quarry with the bridges. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC on all the issues mentioned

### **10395**

#### **Allotment Rules**

The following were suggested to be added into the rules. Number of poultry that is kept is for own use only. Once a cockerel dies then it must not be replaced. No bees allowed. No ponds.

### **10396**

#### **Amendments to Standing Orders**

The amendments were sent to all of the councillors for approval. **Resolved:** It was agreed to adopt the amendments which related to ZOOM meetings

**10397**

**Planning Matters**

DM/20/03115/FPA

Proposed telecommunication installation.  
Proposed 15m high Swann 30H lattice on  
New 4.0 x 4.0 x 1.0M deep concrete base  
And associated ancillary works, creation of  
Access track.

Juniper Banks

Frosterley

Cllr Ellwood mentioned this application to the AONB for their comments.

DM/20/02199/FPA

Restoration and re-modelling of museum and chapel to form  
A Heritage Centre. Single story visitor centre building. Creation  
Of car park to south.

Weardale Museum and High House Chapel

Ireshopeburn

This should be left to the planners to decide regarding the car parking

DM/20/03264/VOC

Variation of condition 2 of planning permission

DM/20/00879/FPA to amend design

Crawleyside

DM/20/03136/FPA

Replacement summerhouse

Eastdale

White Kirkley

Frosterley

DM/20/03380/VOC

Variation of condition 2 of planning permission DM/19/02687/FPA

To amend layout and appearance of dwellings

Land between 61 & 67 Hood Street

St Johns Chapel

**PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED**

DM/20/01521/FPA

Conversion of barn to dwelling

Land and Barn to the

North West of High View

Wearhead

DM/20/02647/FPA  
Agricultural storage building  
Eastgate House  
Eastgate

DM/20/02488/FPA  
Change of use from 5 touring pitches  
To 5 static pitches  
Greenfoot Holiday Home Park

DM/20/02646/VOC  
Variation of condition 2 (approved plans)  
9 (Highway Access Works) and 10 (highway boundaries)  
To allow revised site layout, discharge of condition 6 (tree protection)  
Of planning permission DM/18/00878/FPA

DM/20/02410/FPA  
Erection of aluminium greenhouse in garden  
Harelaw  
Stanhope

## **10398**

### **Finance**

1. Oliver's Tree Services inspected the trees in the Old Cemetery during July 2020 and the trees were found to require no action from a health and safety point of view. Following the site meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 the owner of the adjacent property has requested that tree no's 18,19 & 22-23 are to be crown lifted to a height of 4.8m on their side. This work is for cosmetic reasons due to encroachment and light issues and not for any health & safety implications. The quote for the work is £310.00. Following a discussion this was refused as the report stated it was cosmetic reasons only. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the resident regarding the refusal and to suggest that they use Oliver's Tree Services
2. We have received the Precept Request form for 2021/22 and this year the LCTRS grant payable will be £238.00. The request form has to be returned by 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. **Resolved:** It was agreed for the vice chair to sign the form
3. Northgate Systems have sent some information on sim deals. Both are on a 12 month plan, Vodafone is £14 per month and ID Mobile is £17.50 per month. Both have unlimited data and a maximum of 10 Mbps download. The cost of a router is £130 exc. Vat and the setup cost would be £100 exc. Vat. **Resolved:** It was agreed to go with Vodafone and the Parish Council to pay for the monthly cost and the set-up charges
4. Ireshopeburn Institute would like to apply for the £500 grant money. **Resolved:** This was agreed
5. Mazars have completed the audit and the Notice of Conclusion has been put onto the website. The charge for any copies is £5.00 the same as previous years. Section 1 and Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to the auditors attention giving cause for concern and that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.
6. Applications for Grant Funding – Cllr Miss Graham declared an interest on the Stanhope Club FC application
  - Weardale Flower Club – **Resolved:** It was agreed to donate £100

- Stanhope Scouts - **Resolved:** It was agreed to donate £500
- Stanhope Comm Assoc- **Resolved:** It was agreed to donate £500
- J Bainbridge - **Resolved:** It was agreed to donate £250
- Stanhope FC - **Resolved:** This was refused as the club received money from Cllr Shuttleworths Neighbourhood Budget

The donations will be sent next year after the year end.

#### **10399**

##### **Clerks Salary**

After an email consultation on the clerks salary an increase was agreed. **Resolved:** An increase of £250 back dated to 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020. Cheques to be signed so that the clerk can receive her December salary in January.

#### **10400**

##### **AAP Report**

Cllr Thompson reported that a Teams meeting had been held. He sent all the councillors the draft minutes.

#### **10401**

##### **CDALC Report**

The meeting that was due to be held was cancelled

#### **10402**

##### **Accounts for Payment**

Makepeace Motors Play Park, removal of Allotment rubbish, Memorial Plaque Crawleyside	£684.00
Makepeace Motors grass cutting Old Cemetery	£1377.12
Makepeace Motors Daddry Shield Toilets	£2220.00
Northgate Systems repair files	£48.00
S Anderson Salary	£720.49
HM REV	£31.41
S Anderson Expenses	£6.70
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
Ireshopeburn Institute	£500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£5622.72</b>

#### **10403**

##### **New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Miss Graham commented on how amazing all the Christmas Lights are, well done Light Up the Dale.

2. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff would like to report the ponding of water that gathers on the road at Coronation Crossing, Ireshopeburn. It happens every year and drainage work is needed to take it away to the river. **Resolved:** Clerk to report it to DCC
3. The footpath repairs have not been done which have been reported to DCC. The broken stone step on the lower section/ near the gat of Jacobs Ladder footpath 12 and then there is the old concrete railway stile on footpath4 at Stoneheap which needs removing. These have been reported several times over the past several years. We need feedback from DCC to see if they are on a list of outstanding work to be done/ when is it anticipated it will be done.  
**Received:** Clerk to contact DCC
4. Cllr Mrs Humble also mentioned how nice the dale looks with the Christmas Lights. It would nice if the Parish Council sent a thank you letter to the committee of Light Up the Dale.  
**Resolved:** Clerk to send a thank you letter
5. Cllr Thompson mentioned that the ladies from Rookhope in Bloom thanked the Parish Council for the letter of thanks regarding the poppy displays, it was very much appreciated.
6. Cllr Miss Carrick commented that the organisers of the poppy display at St Johns Chapel are to receive an award.
7. Cllr Mrs Maddison also commented on the poppy displays and that they were special to see.
8. Cllr Blackett commented that the new lighting in the estate at Wearhead is dingy, but it is to National Standard.
9. Cllr Craig wished everyone all the best for Christmas.

**10404**

**Clerks Business**

Nothing to report

**Meeting closed at 8.50pm**

**Date of next meeting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021**

.....Signed.....date