

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 5th February 2020

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr L Blackett, Cllr M Brewin, Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr W Wearmouth

Cllr B Thompson, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Mrs S Thompson, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff,

Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Miss J Carrick, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes

S Anderson Clerk

ALSO PRESENT:

Tri-responder Jamie Clarkson

County Councillor Mrs A Savory

10180

Apologies for Absence

All councillors present

10181

To receive any declarations of Interest from Members

Cllr Wearmouth page 2 Scottish Woodlands 4th Dec 2019 if mentioned

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Minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2019

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

10183

Police and the Community

Cllr Craig welcomed J Clarkson to the meeting who read the stats from 1st Jan. There were no thefts and one vehicle crime where a quad bike was stolen and the day after two cars were set alight. Anti Social behaviour had been reported at Garden Close, Stanhope. There has been a problem with off road vehicles at St Johns Chapel and drones will be used soon. Concerns were raised about the thefts of recent quad bikes and the lack of police protection in the dale. Arrests have been made with recent poaching in Rookhope and residents are encouraged to ring the police. Young Heros need nominations and in July an event will be held. Rural Watch is going out soon and vehicles will be stopped. Cllr Brewin mentioned the parking of cars by a car trader but this is already been looked into. Cllr Miss Graham mentioned the problem with cars at Stanhope School and that she had had a meeting with DCC Highways. There is no need for cars to be reversing into the school car park

gateway with the risk of a child being hit. A Police presence is needed at 8.45 – 9.00am to 3.05pm – 3.20pm. Tri- responder J Clarkson agreed this was necessary and the police would go to the school. Cllr Craig thanked the police for their update

10184

Matters Arising

1. **NHS LEAFLETS** – Hard copies have been sent directly to all the Weardale Schools along with other schools as well. DDES CCG ran a competition in the Teasdale Mercury newspaper inviting primary school children to design a poster to let the public know what to do if they feel unwell after 6pm as part of the Seven Day Access to Services campaign. 1st (2nd and 3rd) place went to children from Wearhead Primary School.
2. **STANHOPE SCHOOL HEDGE** – The hedge is to be cut the week commencing 13th January 2020 on Crawleyside and Cowgarth Hill. The hedge has been cut back and Cllr Miss Carrick asked the clerk to get S. Lewis to tidy the roadside twigs up. The twigs have not been cleared up. The roadside hedge has been cut back but not on Cowgarth Hill. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the school and D Hunt
3. **DURHAM DALES CENTRE** – From 1st April 2020 the Dales Centre is unavailable for meetings to be held on an evening. The meeting room is booked for the March meeting. Cllr Shuttleworth has sorted this out and everything is fine for future meetings
4. **SALT BINS** – All the salt bins are refilled on a rolling programme which will be done as quickly as possible.
5. **LED LIGHTING** – There are no works programmed for the lights on Crawley Edge, Stanhope. They may be changed to LED in the future, but that is subject to funding becoming available and will not be 20/21 financial year.
6. **BRIDLEWAY DEFINITIVE MAP APPLICATIONS** – The chairman asked the clerk to write to DCC rights of way officer concerning letters from the British Horse Society requesting Bridle Ways. A letter was sent with concerns about 4x4 vehicles using the tracks and also the fact that many paths and tracks were just short cuts by the old miners.
DCC replied that the applications received are just part of over 100 for Public Bridleways that have been received by DCC since 2017, prompted by the proposed cut-off date for historical documentary evidence-based applications to modify the Definitive Map on 1st Jan2026. When DCC proceed with these applications the Parish Council will be consulted as part of the statutory consultation process although it is unlikely that DCC will be moving forward with applications in the Stanhope Parish for some time.
7. **PRESCRIPTION ORDERING FROM JAN 2020** - The article that was in the December Weardale Gazette has been sent to us explaining how to order your prescription. The surgery has been contacted by a small number of patients who are genuinely unable to use any of the methods suggested in the article. Alternative arrangements have been tailored to suit them so if any of the councillors are aware of any patients with difficulties then they should contact the practice directly and speak to Deb Graham the Practice Manager
8. **RECENT TREE WORKS BETWEEN BRIDGE END AND HUNTSHILDFORD** – DCC have not done any tree works on that road. There has been further developments as to who did the tree works
9. **POT HOLES AT BONDISLE** – The pot holes have been added to the ongoing work programme
10. **POT HOLES BY METHODIST CHAPEL** – The pot holes have been added to the ongoing work programme
11. **WESTGATE PLAY PARK ENTRANCE** - The resident who reported the gateway into the play park has commented that the tarmac has improved the gateway. The resident has mentioned that the gap does not allow access for a double buggy and a wheelchair would struggle. A suggestion of a collapsible post is worth considering to overcome the problem.

Cllr Craig mentioned that the gate had to be locked as it keeps out vehicles and 4x4 vehicles that was the reason that the gate had to be locked years ago.

12. **STANHOPE SCHOOL PARKING** - A meeting was arranged for Friday 17th January with Cllr Miss Graham, the Headteacher from the school and an officer from DCC Traffic section. The meeting was very successful and the officials agreed something needed to be done. There has been an accident at the school gates luckily no-one was injured. **Resolved:** Clerk to get an update
13. **TWO PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS FOR STROKE REHABILITATION AND WARD 6** - The consultations have resumed again on Tuesday 14th January 2020 details of the public events have been sent to all the councillors. The consultations will end on Tuesday 3rd March 2020. You can attend one of the events or complete the surveys or sign up to My NHS or follow on Facebook or Twitter. Due to unprecedented demand on inpatient hospital beds and taking into consideration patient, carer and stakeholder feedback the NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups in County Durham and Darlington have decided to stop the consultations on stroke rehabilitation and ward 6 at Bishop Auckland Hospital with immediate effect. The current level of demand for inpatient beds has far exceeded expectations and this needs to be taken into account.
14. **DOG BIN BONDISLE OTHER SIDE OF THE RAILWAY BRIDGE** – Our request has been turned down as there is already a bin on the Bondisle side of the bridge
15. **ASHCROFT PLAY PARK** – The play park needed inspecting urgently so S Makepeace was contacted. If there is a lot of work to be done then Cllr Shuttleworth has offered to help out. There is a flood light out, so the electrician has been contacted.
16. **REQUEST FOR BROWN TOURIST SIGNS** – Under the DCC’s Brown Tourist Sign Policy its unlikely the signs for Harthope and Killhope would qualify for this type of sign. DCC doesn’t hold a budget for Brown Tourist signs and the provision and maintenance of these signs must be funded by the owners of the attraction requesting the signs. In this instance it doesn’t appear there is an attraction/owner that would fund this application unless the Parish Council would be the applicant. **Resolved:** This was agreed and clerk to look into this further
17. **ROOKHOPE ROAD** – The road repairs have now been completed and are much improved this time
18. **WHITE KIRKLEY ROAD POTHOLES** – Cllr Mrs Maddison has taken photographs of the road in December and then again after the patching. The road needs inspecting by the highways inspector. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to DCC
19. **FROSTERLEY PLAY PARK** – The winter maintenance work has not been completed yet. Cllr Mrs Maddison has taken some photographs of the work that needs doing and the safety surface needs a good clean as moss is growing. There is a rotten flower tub and also in the seating area the tubs there are also rotten. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to DCC
20. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** – The councillors would like Carole Dillon from DCC to come out to another meeting to discuss the benefits of a Neighbourhood Plan **Resolved:** Clerk to invite C Dillon a meeting
21. **NORTHERN HEARTLANDS** – Cllr Mrs Hawkes and Cllr Miss Carrick had attended this event it was about the resources in the area and how to use them. It could be linked to the Town Hall and retain as a Community Asset.

10185

Correspondence Received

1. Land at Pryedale, Rookhope an application has been put forward to plant trees on some of their land. The email was sent to all the councillors for their comments before Christmas. Cllr Mrs Humble and Cllr Thompson sent in comments which were sent to the Woodland Trust

2. The money that was donated to Stanhope Club has been put to good use in providing an outdoor Christmas tree. The tree was a real one but next year a frame will be purchased. Cllr Miss Graham declared an interest
3. Cllr Brewin contacted the clerk to ask D Hunt to cut back an overhanging hedge on the green open space at Kirk Rise Frosterley if it belongs to DCC
4. A resident sent some photographs of the Weardale Way between Hill End and Stanhope where the footpath needs repairing and a locked gate and a gate propped up with boulders. These photographs were sent to the Rights of Way Officer at the beginning of January.
5. Cllr Mrs Hawkes has been approached by a Parishioner regarding the issue of dog poo bags lying on the ground at the start of the river side on Shittlehope Beck public footpath. The access is difficult from the road for emptying though unless there was a signpost to direct people to put them in a bin at the entrance from the road. Or a notice to people to take them away.
6. At a recent County Training Partnership meeting it was discussed the concept of providing an Event Management Day in September 2020. Progress is being made with this session and further details will be forthcoming in 2020. Reference was made to The Purple Guide for those who organise events so that they run safely. Access to the Purple Book is by subscription of £25 per year
7. A Variation of a Premises licence has been received from Wannasee Ltd for Land at Castle Park Stanhope. Application details are to change one of the current licensed 2 day events that takes place yearly on any Friday/Saturday between the months of May – August inclusive to a 3 day event to take place yearly on the late May Bank Holiday weekend Fri/Sat/Sun. Details have been sent to the councillors
8. A request has been received to purchase Weardale House Field Centre, Ireshopeburn. The prospective purchasers will continue to run the property as Weardale Adventure Centre Ltd as an outward bound centre. Comments to be received by 29th Jan email sent to all the councillors. Comments received were sent to DCC
9. We have been sent a Scams Poster which has been displayed in our Notice Board
10. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that a long standing councillor of Stanhope Parish Council Mr H Irwin passed away recently. A sympathy card was sent to the family
11. A drain was blocked on West Terrace, Stanhope which has been reported to DCC.
12. DCC are holding another planning training session on 24th February 2020 Cllr Mrs Humble and the clerk will attend this
13. A Community Led Local Development event is to be held on 12th February at Shildon Civic Hall. Email sent to all councillors
14. The Ministry of Defence offers grants of up to £10,000 to help Communities to organise Armed Forces Day events. Armed Forces Day will be on the 27th June 2020. The grant will pay for up to 50% of the cost of the event. The remainder will need to be raised by the community.
15. On Wednesday 12th Feb there will be a temporary road closure to enable street pole replacement works which will take up to three days to complete. The road is the C75 – C76 Mellbutts Bank in a westerly direction to Bucklerdale buildings
16. There is a free regional event by the County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership in Association with Streetscape, Cane and Company, Fields in Trust and Wellers Law Group LLP. This will be held on 21st April 2020 in the Glebe Centre, Murton, Seaham. Details sent to the councillors

10186

Planning Matters

DM/19/03852/FPA

General purpose Agricultural Building

Weeds Farm

Westgate

Cllr Craig asked the clerk to send an observation on the siting of the proposed building as he felt it would be better sited closer to the existing buildings

DM/19/03849/TPO

Crown reduction by 5m and prune side branches to 3m + T1 Beech Tree

1 Fairfield Cottage

Stanhope

DM/19/03932/FPA

Erection of dwelling

Hillview

Wearhead

DM/20/00175/FPA

Construction of B1/B8 workshop units and new access to highway

Site of former builders yard south of

Shittlehopeburn Farm, Stanhope

DM/20/00109/FPA

Partial demolition of existing galley kitchen and erection of single storey rear extension

2 Belle Vue

Frosterley

DM/20/00121/FPA

Resubmission of planning permission DM/19/02483/FPA for single storey rear extension

Hill House Farm

Westgate

DM/20/00147/TPO

Crown reduction/pollarding of 1 no.beech tree by up to 70% and removal of broken branch to main stem

Bondisle

DM/20/00150/FPA

Erection of detached double garage and workshop

6 Allerton Court

Stanhope

Cllr Ellwood contacted the planning department as there was no application form, the applicant had been asked to resubmit a new form after clarification with the applicant

DM/20/00201/FPA

Change of use of land to allow the site of a shepherds hut including parking provision

Newlands Hall

Frosterley

10187

Parish Council Website

It was mentioned about putting community information on the website with the ending of the Weardale Gazette. A councillor mentioned that there are meetings being held about another community newspaper

10188

Finance

1. **ASHCROFT PLAY SURFACE** – The surface is not in bad condition but estimates that 2 square metres could be repaired but in the spring. S Makepeace has inspected the surface again and feels it only needs a good clean. Two picnic benches are due for replacement which should be some type of metal or heavy recycled plastic. **Resolved:** It was agreed to have the benches replaced clerk to contact S Makepeace for a price
2. **WESTGATE PLAYPARK FENCING**- Estimate for a post and four rail treated timber fence along the river bank 70 metres in total having a small wooden access gate with spring and latch, £2100.00 plus vat. Or a wooden fence with a galvanised kissing gate to allow access to the river £2300 plus vat. Alternatively, a steel bow top fence enclosing the play equipment installed for around £100 pounds per metre. S Makepeace has a Health and Safety Officer who does his Risk Assessments for him so we could use this person to do the risk assessment at a cost of £75.00. This person did think it would be best to fence the play park around rather than fence the river off. **Resolved:** It was agreed to have the Risk Assessment done and to get a quote for the steel bow top fence around the play park
3. **MEMORIAL PLAQUES FOR CRAWLEYSIDE** – Scott Memorials have sent a quote of £260.00 plus vat which includes delivery but not fitting. This includes the inscription on a hard wearing grey granite. It has been recommended that we use a local builder to set the plaque into the wall. NE Granite have sent a quote of £140.00 then it would cost £1.98 per letter. The wording received from Mr Gray is To the memory of the Blackhall Veterans Bowlers and Friends who lost their lives on Crawleyside Bank in the Stanhope Bus Disaster on 14th August 1969. Memorials on ebay would charge £59.99 which includes 70 letters ,Bishop Auckland memorials Mr Hopper said he would best any quote that we received **Resolved:** It was agreed for Scott Memorials to provide the Memorial Plaque
4. **BONDISLE WALL AND FENCE DAMAGE** – The photographs of the damage and the invoice from S Makepeace were emailed to the insurance company of the person who caused the damage. The company acknowledged receipt on the 16th Jan 2020 following a phone call and will arrange to send us a cheque in due course usually within four weeks. The cheque has been received and banked
5. **BANK RECONCILIATION FIGURES** – The bank reconciliation figures were sent to all the councillors – figures agreed
6. **WOLSINGHAM SCHOOL STUDENT SUPPORT FUND** – Cllr Mrs Savory brought a letter to the meeting which was discussed. The Student Support Fund is a new project to assist students who need essential things likes books, uniforms, university trips. There is a need for this for families in financial hardship. There are other trusts in the dale such as the Hartwell Society **Resolved:** It was agreed in principal to support this but the clerk to find out how much money Wolsingham Parish Council are to donate

10189**AAP Report**

There is to an appraisal meeting being held soon with a presentation from the CCG

10190**CDALC**

No meeting until March

10191**Accounts for Payment**

JANUARY 2020

S ANDERSON SALARY FOR DECEMBER	£725.43
HM REV AND CUSTOMS	£28.27
S ANDERSON EXPENSES FOR DECEMBER	£7.32
S ANDERSON HOME AS OFFICE DECEMBER	£35.00
TOTAL	£796.02

FEBRUARY 2020

DCC HIRE OF MEETING ROOM FOR DECEMBER	£55.00
JRB ENTERPRISE LTD DOG BAGS	£537.60
CLERKS PHONE BILL	£107.97
NPOWER – ASHCROFT PLAYPARK	£40.76
ANGLIAN WATER WILLARD GROVE ALLOTMENTS	£6.30
ANGLIAN WATER OLD CEMETERY,STANHOPE	£12.56
S ANDERSON SALARY FOR JANUARY	£725.23
HM REV PAYE	£28.47
S ANDERSON EXPENSES	£32.37
S ANDERSON HOME AS OFFICE	£35.00
A HUTCHINSON NOTICE BOARDS	£970.00
TOTAL	£2551.2

RECEIPTS

RSA INSURANCE BONDISLE ALLOTMENT WALL/FENCE	£493.20
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10192

New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Brewin mentioned that the tarmac is up at the back of the Church in Frosterley
Resolved: Clerk to contact DCC
2. There has been a no parking notice put up in Kirk Rise, Frosterley Cllr Brewin would like to know if this can be done **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
3. The Village Hall at Frosterley is duty bound to provide disabled parking . The area at the side of the building no-one knows who owns that strip of land. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC as the car park is owned by DCC
4. Cllr Wearmouth would like some kind of signage on the Rookhope road as it is an awful corner by Craggside. Past the caravan park there is no footpath and traffic is going too fast
Resolved: Clerk to contact DCC
5. Cllr Thompson mentioned that bridge repairs are taking place in Rookhope
6. Cllr Ellwood mentioned that on the footpath passed Heather View there is a 60 ft drop and the fence is down which is dangerous. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the footpath officer
7. At Swinhope Head a low loader has had the road blocked there needs to be an advisory sign putting up **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
8. The gullies are blocked on Crawleyside Bank and all need cleaning out **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
9. Cllr Mrs Thompson mentioned that she had reported to John Hodges the flags in Ireshopeburn were raised and she had fallen on them. Mr Hodges will inspect the whole path
10. A summer house / wood shed has been put up without planning permission **Resolved:** Clerk to find out the size before permission is needed
11. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff would like to report that there is some fencing down at The Nook to 4 Lane End. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
12. The footpath officer needs contacting as there is a dangerous stile near Stone Heap
Resolved: Clerk to contact DCC
13. There is a ditch needs digging out down from four lane ends **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
14. Cllr Miss Graham would like to know what is happening with Newtown House. Cllr Thompson will speak to S Timmiss if not then a F.O.I. request to be put in to find out more information. **Resolved:** Clerk to put a FOI request in and to invite S Timmiss to a meeting
15. Cllr Miss Carrick would like to know what is happening with the Town Hall as offers have now ended **Resolved:** Clerk to find out
16. The road by Horn Hall needs sweeping as there are loose chippings after the recent resurfacing was done. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
17. The litter bins on Front Street, Stanhope some of them have paint missing off them so they need painting **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
18. Cllr Craig mentioned the resurfacing of Frosterley, Cllr Mrs Maddison said that by Frosterley House the level of the road isn't right and the water lies on it. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
19. A litter pick has been done and Cllr Craig thanked D Hunt. Apparently there is dash cam evidence of rubbish being dropped but no prosecution took place
20. Cllr Mrs Thompson was wondering if the junior schools in the dale were going to become a federation **Resolved:** Clerk to find out

10193
Clerks business
Nothing to report

Meeting Closed at 9pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 4th March 2020 at the Dales Centre commencing at 7pm

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