

## STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

### PRESENT:

Cllr Miss J Carrick (Chairman)

Cllr B Thompson, Cllr L Blackett, Cllr M Brewin, Cllr D Ellwood,

Cllr W Wearmouth, Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes,

Cllr Mrs A Humble

S Anderson Clerk

Also Present:

Weardale Railway – Evan Green-Hughes

WAAP – Angelina Maddison

AONB – Simon Wilson

### 10090

#### Apologies for Absence

Cllr D Craig, Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr Mrs S Thompson

### 10091

#### To receive any declarations of Interest from Members

None received

### 10092

#### Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019

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

### 10093

#### Weardale Railway

Cllr Miss Carrick welcomed Mr Green-Hughes, A Maddison and Mr Wilson to the meeting.

Cllr Mrs Sutcliff commented that there are some lovely railway walks in Teasdale and Yorkshire and it would be a great asset for Weardale if we had one from Stanhope to Eastgate. It would benefit the caravan and chalet parks having somewhere nice to walk. Cllr Ellwood mentioned the Coast to Coast from Parkhead to Rookhope and that on certain days during the shooting season the track is closed. He is concerned that it is a matter of time before there is an accident on the main road from Eastgate with a cyclist. Cllr Wearmouth is not certain that a footpath/cycleway/bridleway would take the cyclists off the road. If the path is being used by walkers and families with pushchairs and dogs he feels the cyclists would use the main road. Also the walk is not circular is it linear. Cllr Thompson mentioned that many cyclists in Rookhope don't realise the short cut over Boltslaw.

He also asked who owns the railway line. Cllr Blackett asked if the bridge was unsafe and that some of the track had been lifted so that you cant get to Eastgate. Cllr Miss Graham asked what trains went up to Eastgate and how far can they get. It is engineering trains that use the track and it goes up to Hagg Bridge. S Wilson from the AONB mentioned that new signage has been agreed with the Estates. The AONB would like to see the track linked up into the AONB and improve access to the local community. The railway owner is split into three, seventy five percent USA, twelve and half percent DCC and twelve and half percent Weardale Railway Trust. The Weardale C.I.C owns all the land freehold plus certain liabilities. The Weardale Railway has a good relationship with the local farmers and neighbours. It is bringing employment to the dale by servicing trains at the Wolsingham Depot and have just started an apprentice. The track /bridge at Eastgate is unusable, apparently the DCC structure plan mentions that the line has to be maintained for future mineral traffic. You cant just abolish a line there are legal obligations and it would have to go to parliament. The cost would be millions even if permission was granted. The Frosterley scheme could be achievable going from the station to Kenneths Bridge. Cllr Brewin commented that it would be a waste of money as there is already a footpath there. Cllr Blackett mentioned was it a problem with the bridges that the polar express couldn't drop people at Eastgate where there would of been less congestion but apparently the Eastgate site was not owned and massive investment would have been needed. Everything was too ambitious so now the railway is building things up slowly and carefully. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff asked if there were any steam trains but there aren't any as they are expensive to run and diesel trains are just as popular. Cllr Miss Graham enquired why the railway does not use local businesses for the bread buns and burgers, a meeting should be organised with the shop owners. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff commented that it is a none starter for the footpath between Eastgate and Stanhope. Mr Green-Hughes would like the Parish Councils support that the railway line is not a footpath in Stanhope and it is a criminal offence to trespass on the line. It is for peoples own safety and they must refrain from this behaviour. Cllr Miss Carrick thanked Mr Green-Hughes for attending

#### **10094**

##### **Police and the Community**

No Police were in attendance **Resolved:** Clerk to invite to the next meeting

#### **10095**

##### **Matters Arising**

- 1. Trees at Bondisle near to the Play Park** – The trees have been inspected and the works order has been issued
- 2. Play Park Photo** – The school is happy for the Parish Council to put the photo of the play park with the children on onto the Parish Council website
- 3. Ashes Quarry, Footpath** – The privately owned footbridges in Ashes Quarry, Stanhope that carry public footpath no 14 are still unsafe and the temporary closure order has been extended to reflect this to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020, with Secretary of State consent **Resolved:** Clerk to find out when the bridges will be repaired
- 4. Obstructed footpath between Eastgate and Stanhope** – M Murden will look at the footpath
- 5. NHS Consultation – Hubs** – The messages around the service remain the same. During the week from 8am until 6pm you should call your GP surgery, between 6pm and 8am and over the weekend you should call NHS 111 who will direct you to the best service for your health care need. The service changes will be implemented in the autumn of this year but the

message is still the same. The CCG and currently working on a robust communications and engagement plan which will detail how they intend to promote this key message

6. **Crawleyside Bus Crash** – The fifty year memorial service is on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Blackwall. An invite has been received and also a resident has received an invite to attend. The resident is keen to donate something towards some flowers on the day. The invitation has arrived and it is for a councillor and the clerk. Cllr Miss Carrick and the clerk will attend **Resolved:** It was agreed to send a wreath
7. **Stanhope Dene** – The owner of the Dene has no plans to alter it, he is keen on conservation and tree management. The road will be locked to vehicles and gates will be put on for walkers to use.
8. **Skill Mill** – Mr Appleton would like to come out and see the stretch of road from Frosterley to Stanhope that we suggested. He did say that there is a labour charge of £225 per day plus vat and would like to know if we would be paying this. If we anticipate DCC and the respective landowners then it could prove to be problematic to reach any agreement. The Parish Council suggested the fence but not to pay for it. **Resolved** It was agreed to write to highways
9. **Neighbourhood Plan** – As an example all councillors were sent a copy of a Neighbourhood Plan. A separate meeting is needed to discuss this fully. A councillor commented that the plans are very time consuming. A link has been sent to Allendale's Plan. **Resolved:** Clerk to make contact with Allendale to see if anyone would attend a meeting
10. **St John's Chapel Surgery** – A reply has been received from the Weardale Practice. There was no GP on site on 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 and also the surgery had no clinician in attendance on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The practice has responded to an increase in patient demand, leading to a need to be able to offer increasing numbers of urgent same day appointments via a triage system. This has to be based at Stanhope to allow adequate support systems for the GP and other staff in the practice. The practice is trying to recruit a GP to work 3-4 days a week. It was mentioned by a councillor that residents should insist on an appointment at St Johns Chapel. This will be monitored
11. **School Hedge, Stanhope** – Cllr Miss Carrick had a report that the school hedge needs trimming back. The hedge cutting has been discussed with the gardener but at the moment there are birds nesting. They have scheduled the cutting back of the hedge in the Autumn
12. **Access Protection Markings** – The request for Access Protection Markings has been agreed and an order with the lining contractor to have a white advisory keep clear marking pit in place to identify the access route to a residence at St Johns Chapel will be placed
13. **Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station review-** The review commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 with several representations received. The Returning Officer will publish the representations received on 1<sup>st</sup> July for consultation. Comments will end on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019. Details can be found on the Councils website
14. **Eastgate Grass Verge** – The grass verge is not adopted by DCC so the highways inspector cannot do anything about the garden that has appeared. DCC do maintain it but unfortunately it is not theirs. We can appeal to strategic about it **Resolved:** Clerk to appeal to DCC
15. **Wolsingham School** – Mr Crane has acknowledged the email and his P.A will chase this up
16. **Velo North** – The event has been cancelled

## 10096

### Correspondence Received

1. S Ragg has sent details of the County Durham Environment Awards 2019 which have been running now for 30 years. A link has been sent
2. S Ragg sent details of a Rural Services Network NE Regional Seminar held at County Hall on 28<sup>th</sup> June
3. EE Emergency services network pre-consultation proposed base station installation at Bollihope Common, Stanhope. We have been consulted on this proposal before any planning submission is made. Several steps in the site identification process have already been undertaken. Our comments would be appreciated, and a meeting can be arranged if necessary. Cllr Mrs Humble commented that the one installed at Killhope has a stone wall around it and the one at the Bollihope Site should also have a stone wall around. This could be mentioned in the comments. Cllr Ellwood has concerns that it is too near the old roman road. The AONB would object due to landscape issues. **Resolved:** Clerk to arrange a site meeting
4. Following the approval by the Full Council on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 the County Durham Plan has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019. An independent examination of the County Durham Plan will take place by the Planning Inspectorate. Once confirmed, all details relating to the examination process will be advertised, made available online and sent to all respondents via the independent Programme Officer.
5. S Ragg has sent details of an Information Awareness Raising Session on 16<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00pm at County Hall. National guidance in relation to the protocols surround the death of a senior royal or prominent politician have recently been updated. The County Council has already made some arrangements and it would be good for parish councils to hear of the county wide arrangements they have put in place
6. A resident has complained about the access gate to Westgate Play Area. The main gate is permanently locked which leaves the small gap to the side. A double buggy cannot fit through the gap and even with a single buggy the ground is rough. He would like to see the gap made wider and the rough ground made better. Cllr Craig said that the main gate is locked to stop vehicles entering the play park. The ground does need levelling and suggests some tarmac **Resolved:** Clerk to ask S Makepeace for a quote
7. BT have asked DCC to collate any comments on the proposal to remove the telephone kiosk at Front Street, Frosterley. There has been a decline in payphone usage as a result of significant changes in communication in the UK. BT offers to Parish Councils and registered charities the facility to adopt a kiosk, taking ownership of the kiosk for £1 thereby protecting the heritage of the community **Resolved:** Cllr Brewin said that the Village Hall will adopt it
8. The Trustee Board wishes to announce that after ten years of service to Citizens Advice in the County, Neil Bradbury has now left the organisation

## 10097

### Planning Matters

DM/19/0140/FPA

Change of use to garden and small holding

New access, gates and walls

Two storey extension to side and new shed

Bank Foot Cottage

25 High Town

Westgate

DM/19/0139/LB

External and internal alterations including replacement floor structure, remedial roof works and implementation of 4 no windows to refurbish on existing two storey apartment

Stanhope Castle

Stanhope

DM/19/01628/CEU

Certificate of lawfulness to establish lawfulness of siting of static caravan for short stay holiday accommodation on the land

The Byre

4 Stanhope Hall

Stanhope

DM/19/01737/FPA

Application for removal of condition 8 of 3/2003/0364 to allow permanent residence

Low Moss Cottage

Cowshill

DM/19/01780/FPA

Replace existing agricultural buildings with agricultural building for cattle

Bollihope Shield Farm

Frosterley

DM/19/01824/FPA

Change of use of part of dwelling (C3) to retail (A1)

2 Market Place

Stanhope

DM/19/01528/FPA

Porch to front and provision of new access gate to front

1 Anita's Way

Ireshopeburn

DM/19/01918/FPA

Resubmission of approval DM/19/00679/FPA

For repositioning of garage to the north west and associated steps to the north

Rose Cottage

2 East Lane

Stanhope

## PLANNING APPROVALS FOR JULY MEETING

DM/18/03833/VOC

Variation of condition 2 of DM/14/03382/FPA

To allow opening hours of 09.00 to 21.00 Mon to Thurs and 09.00 to 22.00 Fri – Sun

Horn Hall

Stanhope

DM/19/00694/FPA – DM/19/00695/LB

External security /safety lighting posts & External childrens play activity frame, external handrails, balustrades/guarding/fencing to stairs, ramps, changes in level & boundaries. External gates, laurel hedge and pin kerb to gravel path, canopy to external hot tub area, canopy to entrance doorway/steps

Land adjacent to

Stanhope Castle

Market Place

Stanhope

Arrandene

DM/19/010901/FPA

Change of use from funeral directors (A2) to dwelling (C3)

5 Market Place

Stanhope

DM/19/01091/LB

Works associated with change of use from funeral director's (A2) to dwelling (C3)

5 MARKET Place

Stanhope

DM/19/00679/FPA

Erection of new garage

Rose Cottage

2 East Lane

Stanhope

DM/19/01169/FPA

Porch and rear extension

6 Woodcroft Gardens

Stanhope

DM/19/01839/FPA

Erection of single storey extension to front (removal of porch) and alteration to opening treatments

Steward Shield Meadow

Meadows Edge

Stanhope

DM/18/03386/FPA

Erection of two storey extension to side and two storey extension to rear and discharge of conditions 3 & 4 pursuant to permission DM/18/01476/FPA

Crag Stile

Lanehead

DM/19/02044/FPA

Extension to barn (retrospective)

Steels Cottage Barn

Daddry Shield

### **10098**

#### **Parish Council Website**

Nothing to report

### **10099**

#### **Finance**

1. St Thomas Church would like to apply for the Annual Churchyard Maintenance Grant of £300  
**Resolved:** Clerk to send £300
2. St Thomas Church Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
3. The Barrington Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
4. Mazars have acknowledged receipt of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19
5. DCC are changing the way they invoice us for the Community Highways Worker, instead of waiting until the end of the year we will be issued an invoice shortly
6. DCC replaced some play equipment in Rookhope play park which is for older children and some residents would like to see some equipment for the younger children. Cllr Shuttleworth would like the Parish Council to contribute £10,000 along with £10,000 from the WAAP and the rest from his Neighbourhood Budget. The residents are going to raise some money for picnic tables. A discussion took place on the request **Resolved:** Clerk to ask for written confirmation of the amounts being donated before the Parish Council donates anything
7. The path through the allotments at Crosshill needs levelling out by the side of one of the plots. It needs stones to raise the side up so its level **Resolved:** Clerk to ask S Makepeace
8. Stanhope Police Station are currently rolling out a new scheme called the Young Hero Awards for the Weardale rea. The scheme is aimed at giving recognition where deserved to children and teenager up to the age of 18. This could be to award their greatest achievements, commendable actions and those who go out of their way to help others in our area. Prizes will be awarded at the end of every month. **Resolved:** The councillors agreed to donate £300 and to review again in six months' time

### **10100**

#### **AAP Report**

A Maddison gave the AAP report. Work is starting on a Haynes Manual fit for farmers. There is a project holiday hunger which will run all through the summer. A booklet will be produced for

visitors regarding the Weardale Way from top to bottom. The AAP will be St Johns Chapel Show. Cllr Miss Carrick suggested a History of the Village Board for Stanhope and other villages that the Parish Council could work with the AAP on. Also the possibility of free WiFi in Stanhope

**10101**

**CDALC Report**

Nothing to report

**10102**

**Accounts for Payment**

Paul Irwin grass cutting	£150.00
P.I.J. Plumbing	£60.00
DCC April meeting	£55.00
DCC May meeting	£60.00
DCC June meeting	£60.00
S Anderson Expenses	£225.18
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
S Anderson Salary	£725.23
HM Rev	£28.47
St Thomas Church PCC	£300.00
St Thomas Church Hall	£500.00
Barrington Hall	£500.00
TOTAL	£2698.88

**10103**

**New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Mrs Humble would like the gully sucker on the A689 between Cowshill to Killhope Top. Also the drain is blocked between Road Head Cottage and Cowshill Bridge. All drains in Burtreeford as they are smelling with the hot weather. There is a drain blocked opposite Burtreeford Cemetery. On the road between Cowshill to Allenheads there is a drain blocked between Dales Farm and Coglea Road end. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
2. The car park sign next to Cowshill Bridge needs new lettering **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
3. The sign in the seating area at Cowshill Car Park needs a clean **Resolved:** Clerk to report to D Hunt
4. Cllr Blackett mentioned the signs that were reported at Wearhead have not been replaced **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
5. Cllr Thompson mentioned that the annual Rookhope in Bloom will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> July
6. Cllr Wearmouth mentioned the Eastgate Beer Festival on 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> July

7. Cllr Ellwood would like the grass edges strimming in the Play Park at Crawleyside **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
8. Cllr Ellwood suggested that another tap is needed in Crosshill Allotments, further up the site **Resolved:** Clerk to get a quote
9. Cllr Miss Graham mentioned there should be a speed limit through Eastgate **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
10. The Keep Clear sign has not been painted on the road yet at Ashcroft that had been agreed to do **Resolved:** Clerk to chase up with DCC
11. There is a drain blocked with stones and gravel at the bottom of Paragon Street **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
12. We need a list of all the businesses that may be interested in a meeting with the Railway **Resolved:** Clerk to do
13. Cllr Miss Graham personally thanked A Maddison for her help with the Play Park in Stanhope.
14. Cllr Miss Carrick reported that the Lime Tree suckers on the trees on The Green at Frosterley need cutting off **Resolved:** Clerk to report to D Hunt
15. The sign on The Green, Frosterley needs repainting **Resolved:** Clerk to contact S Makepeace
16. A request for some seating outside the Play Park for people with children and dogs near the swimming pool wall. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

**10104**

**Clerks business**

An allotment inspection has taken place recently of all the Parish Council sites.

Letters have been sent to plot holders that have not started to plant their allotment plots yet.

Another inspection will take place at the end of July / beginning of August to make sure they have started on the plots.

**Meeting closed at 9.30pm**

**Date of next meeting is Wednesday August 7<sup>th</sup> at the Durham Dales Centre, commencing at 7pm**

.....**signed**.....**date**