

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 4th March 2020

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

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 A Hawkes Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Miss J Carrick

S Anderson clerk

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr L Blackett

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To receive any declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2020

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

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Police and the Community

No Police were in attendance

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Matters Arising

- 1. WHITE KIRKLEY ROAD, FROSTERLEY** - This road has been identified as poor and forwarded to Strategic Highways to assess for resurfacing. The same issues have also been highlighted by Cllr Shuttleworth. The assessment will include all roads in the county is carried out on a priority basis and will be completed by the end of the financial year so a program can be established for the year 2020-2021. Mr Hodges has listed several roads in the Weardale Area for assessment. In the meantime, White Kirkley road is due an inspection at the end of February and all "Actionable Defects" (potholes) will be identified and repaired. Cllr Mrs Maddison commented that the road is dreadful and questioned what is priority. Cllr Thompson mentioned that all roads put forward for resurfacing have to be approved
- 2. FROSTERLEY VILLAGE HALL** – The small area of land in question is unregistered at the Land Registry. The Assistant Deeds and Terrier Officer has requested the deeds from the Record Office to check that DCC's land is mapped correctly. The Deeds have been checked for the car park and surrounding land. There is no evidence of DCC owning the small strip of land adjacent to the Village Hall

3. **SEATING AREA AT FROSTERLEY AND PLAY PARK** – The photographs that Cllr Mrs Maddison had taken were sent to DCC. The reply received was this would be looked into about having the tubs replaced
4. **GULLIES ON CRAWLEYSIDE** – This matter has been referred to the gully maintenance team for their attention.
5. **WASTE BINS ON FRONT STREET, STANHOPE** - D Hunt will arrange for S Lewis to repaint the bins but it will be a spring/summer job when the weather improves
6. **CLEAN UP OF ROAD CHIPPINGS AT HORN HALL, STANHOPE** – The sweeper has been up and cleared the chippings away
7. **FOOTPATH THROUGH HEATHER VIEW PARK THEN THROUGH THE TREES** - fencing is the responsibility of the landowner but the path is a very well defined old farm cart track with a woodland between it and the drop to the river, which the footpath officer wouldn't consider a fence to be necessary.
8. **STONEHEAP STILE** – This has been reported to the footpath officer
9. **HOUSEHOLDER PLANNING ENQUIRY** – There are many different criteria's so it is advisable to submit a pre application enquiry with what is to be built, the fee is £30
10. **WESTCROFT KEEP CLEAR NEAR TO THE SCHOOL** - There is a strict process to follow to introduce legal restrictions which is costly and lengthy, it was proposed to introduce advisory keep clear markings. DCC would then look to consider replacing the markings with double yellow lines and extending the existing School Keep Clear markings to cover the school access when DCC come to do the next legal order for Stanhope
11. **FENCING AT THE NOOK, HUNTSHEILDFORD** - The fence is on private land so DCC are unable to do anything. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff has said that DCC have always repaired the fence so the clerk contacted DCC. The fencing has now been arranged to be done by D Hunt
12. **STANHOPE TOWN HALL** – The Town Hall is being remarketed with a closing date of 23rd March 2020. S Timmiss is not head of assets anymore
13. **SCHOOLS IN WEARDALE** – DCC have confirmed that the Governing Bodies of Rookhope, St. John's Chapel, Wearhead and Forest of Teesdale Primary Schools are currently consulting on a proposal to form a Federation from 1st September 2020. The consultation ends on 20th March 2020
14. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** – An officer will be attending the April meeting to explain more about the Neighbourhood Plan
15. **FROSTERLEY MAIN ROAD** – An investigation has been carried out and whilst the defect is not considered to be hazardous, dangerous or essential maintenance at the current time, it is acknowledge that maintenance is required and an order has been placed to undertake work as part of a programmed maintenance scheme
16. **BROWN TOURIST SIGNS** – We have been sent an application form which will be assessed when we return it. It is unlikely that the signs will qualify but our application will be given full consideration
17. **FOOTPATH BEHIND THE CHURCH AT FROSTERLEY** – The footpath officer is going out today and will assess the footpath
18. **CRAGSIDE SIGNAGE** – DCC officer has Cllr Wearmouth,s contact number
19. **ADVISORY SIGNS FOR NO HGV'S** – DCC has Cllr Craig,s contact number
20. **SCHOOL HEDGE** – The roadside hedge has been cut back but not the hedge on Cowgarth Hill.
Resolved: Clerk to contact the school
21. **FROSTERLEY PLAY PARK** – The bin has been removed but needs replacing and the climbing frame needs the boarding put back on from Wicksteads. The surface needs a good cleaning.
Resolved: Clerk to contact DCC
22. **ASHCROFT PLAY PARK** – The play park has been inspected and the surface just needs a good clean by hand brushing, this will be done when the weather improves

- 23. SHITTLEHOPE BECK** – People are leaving dog bags on the ground and a bin is needed and the dog warden should be contacted. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to the dog warden and to request a bin
- 24. NEWTOWN HOUSE, STANHOPE** – S Timmiss is no longer head of asset but now regeneration. The running costs are not being met by DCC. Newtown was purchased then leased out and DCC have said that things have not worked out as they had hoped. Newtown has to open as a care home otherwise DCC can take it back. The councillors would like to know what is happening as it cannot be left to go into disrepair **Resolved:** A FOI request to be sent

10199

Correspondence Received

1. Mazars are holding a one to one-and-a-half-hour session outlining the completion of the 2019/2020 Annual Governance and Accountability Return. This session will take place on the 7th April in Committee Room 1B, County Hall, Durham starting at 6pm
2. From Monday 2nd March the road at Moor House Cattle Grid, Stanhope will be closed for 3 weeks to allow works to be carried out on the cattle grid.
3. There is a proposal to remove the telephone box at Lime Tree Walk, Stanhope. It has been identified that a payphone in that area is no longer required due to low usage, 57 times in the last 12 months. BT offer to Parish Councils and registered charities the facility to adopt a kiosk, taking ownership of the kiosk for £1
4. The joint Parochial Church Council of Upper Weardale invites Stanhope Parish Council to the licensing of the Reverend Claire McClelland on 11th March 2020 at 6pm in St Thomas Church, Stanhope RSVP by 1st March 2020 A reply has been sent that some representatives will attend. If possible, we have to confirm numbers **Resolved:** Cllr Miss Carrick, Cllr Mrs Hawkes and the clerk will attend
5. An allotment tenant from Ireshopeburn would like to know what the rent pays for. A reply was sent
6. The Constituency Manager for Richard Holden MP has been in contact and would like to arrange a date for Richard Holden MP to attend one of our meetings. A list of our meeting dates has been sent to Mr Oliver
7. DCC is consulting on proposals to introduce selective licensing to parts of County Durham to help improve the standard of privately rented properties. Selective licensing was introduced and allows the local authority to designate an area for selective licensing providing certain criteria is met and evidenced. The introduction of a scheme would mean that private landlords renting out properties in specific areas would need to apply for a licence, demonstrate they are fit and proper person and have adequate management practices in place. DCC are carrying out formal consultation on the scheme from 17 Feb to 27th April 2020 .
8. We have received another update on the Pennine Journey – A Tribute to Alfred Wainwright.
9. The Youth Justice Service are holding an event on Wed 22nd April that runs from 9.30am until 12 noon at the Ferryhill Leisure Centre.
10. A resident has reported that the steppingstones at the Ford in Stanhope are unusable due to the recent storm. It has washed large stones down in between the steppingstones that are now wedged. These need removing to allow the water to flow past the stepping stone **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC

10200

Planning Matters

DM/20/00223/FPA

Replacement porch

1 Newfield Farm

Stanhope

DM/20/00253/FPA

Conversion and first floor extension of storage building/barn to 2 bedroom dwelling/ holiday let accommodation

Land to the south of

11 Market Place

St Johns Chapel

DM/20/00288FPA

Construction of new railway platform and access

Land to the east of the

Kingfisher County Park

Frosterley

DM/20/00320/FPA

Retrospective air source pump and proposed solar ponds

Whitfield House

8 Westfall

Wearhead

DM/20/00319/TPO

Crown reduction up to 1.5m from entire crown, leaving an average branch length of approx. 4.5m to T1 Ash tree

Burn View

School Close

St Johns 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

Amendments to this application have been received. Comments already sent will be considered and taken into account by the Council when a decision is made.

The residents are not happy it is an eyesore, there are parking problems and common land has been claimed

DM/20/00338/FPA
Conversion of apartment into 2no holiday lets
12 Stanhope Castle
Stanhope

DM/20/0039/LB
Listed building application for replacement windows and doors, general repair works and internal alterations to facilitate conversion if apartment into 2no holiday lets
12 Stanhope Castle
Stanhope

DM/20/00512/FPA
Installation of Air Source heat pump
South View
Daddry Shield

PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

DM/19/03852/FPA
General purpose agricultural building
Weeds Farm
Westgate

DM/19/03849/TPO
Reduction to the lateral growth by 2m to T1, Beech Tree
Fairfield Cottages
Stanhope

10201

Parish Council Website

Nothing to report

10202

Finance

1. Wolsingham Parish Council have agreed to donate £500 to the Student Support Fund.
Resolved: It was agreed to match fund the amount clerk to send £500
2. The order has been placed for the Crawleyside Memorial Plaque in dark grey granite 12 x 16 x 2 with the inscription that was sent by Mr S Grey from the Bowls Club of Blackhall. The total including VAT is £312.00. The plaque will take 8 – 10 weeks to be finished

10203

AAP Report

The Board meeting was held on 6th Feb. A pedestrian crossing was mentioned but this had been requested years ago and there wasn't enough traffic to warrant a crossing. Farm watch has been running now for 30 years which is now Rural watch. There is £8000 left in the Small Grants Fund .

10204

CDALC Report

NALC are to send two representatives to meet the new six MP's from County Durham. Questions have been set for the MP,s. County Durham lags behind the rest of the country so the Northern Branch will put their case forward through the new MP's.

10205

Accounts for Payment

WAVE – Daddry Shield Toilets	£56.40
DCC Street Lighting repairs East Lane, Stanhope	£92.71
David Coates Electrician Ashcroft Chairman was contacted	£450.00
DCC Room Hire Feb	£60.00
S Anderson Salary	£725.23
HM Rev	£28.47
S Anderson Expenses	£63.89
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
Microsoft Office S Anderson expenses	£59.95
TOTAL	£1571.65

Accounts agreed

10206

New Matters for Discussion

1. Frosterley Play Park as mentioned in matters arising
2. Cllr Mrs Humble and Cllr Thompson attended the planning event at County Hall
3. Cllr Blackett has reported that the No Stopping yellow sign at Wearhead School needs repairing as it has been hit. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
4. There is a blocked drain at Wearhead between Wear Villa and 6 Dargue .**Resolved:** Clerk to report D Hunt
5. There is a rotten plank on the footbridge up at Burnhope Reservoir **Resolved:** Clerk to report it to DCC

6. Cllr Mrs Humble was in contact with D Gillett regarding the hedge that needs cutting back in the cemetery at Burtreeford. He has said that there is no money to do the job but has suggested that we contact bereavement services. **Resolved:** Clerk to arrange a site meeting with Cllr Mrs Humble , Cllr L Blackett and an official from DCC
7. Cllr Ellwood would like to report that some of the contents of the Escape Lane on Crawleyside have gone down a path below Royal Oak Cottages. This has been reported but will be reported again. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC and to ask for the Escape Lane to be filled in
8. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report that a drain near to 50 Front Street, Stanhope is blocked. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
9. The road needs inspecting by the Highways Inspector at Hawkwellhead and just before the junction to Langdon Beck as it is flooding badly **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
10. Complaints have been received concerning the parking in Westgate. Vehicles are parking on the corner down from the butchers and also on the junction going down to the play park. **Resolved:** Clerk to report the problems to the police
11. Cllr Miss Graham would like to report some pot holes in the road at Bondisle **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
12. Cllr Miss Carrick would like to report some pot holes at West Terrace, Stanhope opposite number seven **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
13. There is a metal gully sticking up on the Main Street, Stanhope near to the butchers **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

10207

Clerks Business

Clerk is collecting the allotment rents on Monday 9th March 2020

Meeting closed at 8pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 1st April 2020 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

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