

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting via ZOOM of the Council held on 3rd March 2021

PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr L Blackett, Cllr B Thompson,
Cllr Miss J Carrick, Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes, Cllr Mrs S Thompson, Cllr W Wearmouth,
Cllr M Brewin

Cllr D Craig – Chairman

Susan Anderson – Clerk

10419

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs H Maddison

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To Receive Any Declarations of Interest from Members

None received.

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Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2021.

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.

10422

Police and the Community

No Police were in attendance.

10423

Matters Arising

1. **SPEEDING AFTER WORK FROM COOKS** - The Police have visited the Bondisle works the following day after the meeting and have spoken to the shift manager regarding the speeding of vehicles leaving work on an afternoon. Hopefully the cars will slow down on the road to Frosterley otherwise the Police will get the speed gun out. This was a brilliant response from the Police.
2. **EASTGATE BRIDGE** – The corner of the bridge has been damaged and in need of repair. This has been reported to DCC. A works order has been sent to highways, but they cannot envisage works commencing before 15th March 2021.
3. **ELECTIONS TRAINING EVENT** – The training event was helpful, and the presentation has been sent to all the councillors.

4. **SOCIAL MEDIA EVENT** – The training event went through the different social media platforms. There are pros and cons with Facebook as it must be monitored every day so that replies can be sent. Also, approval as to what is put on should be agreed by the council. The presentation will be sent from CDALC which will be sent to all the councillors. **Resolved:** It was decided against it now, but it could be revisited

10424

Correspondence Received

1. There was a burst pipe at the Westgate Allotment Site. A tenant kindly managed to turn off the water on Wednesday the day of the burst and the plumber has been out to repair the pipe.
2. CDALC information has been sent to the councillors and DCC updates.
3. A sympathy card and flowers were sent to Mrs Kathleen Hutchinson's family as she was a well-respected long serving councillor for Eastgate Ward on Stanhope Parish Council. The previous Community Highways Worker sadly lost his mam, so a sympathy card was sent to him.
4. An allotment tenant at Crosshill Allotment Site would like permission to build a small poly tunnel on his plot. The size and a plan have been sent and the email has been sent to all councillors. **Resolved:** This application was agreed
5. CDALC have sent information on the precept setting 2021/22. Most councils appear to have kept their increases very low with quite a few with no increase at all.
6. Cllr Miss Graham was concerned about an article in the Northern Echo regarding a Weardale house that had been abandoned many years ago. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff knew more information about this, and we reported it to the Police. The Police went and visited the property which is all boarded up. The photos that were in the newspaper were not recent ones.
7. The gate into the Play Park at Bondisle is laid on the ground and needs repairing. S Makepeace has been asked to put it back on its hinges.
8. Business and voluntary sector groups in County Durham can apply for free cycle parking stands and hangars after a deal has been agreed with Park that Bike.
9. Cllr Craig was concerned about a Toyota Landcruiser in the dale which was selling LED light bulbs. The vehicle had been seen in Northumberland, Blanchland, Alston, Teesdale, Swaledale and Brough. The Police were informed, and the vehicle was stopped but everything was in order. Cllr Craig asked the question had they been fined for travelling about under the Covid rules.
10. An allotment tenant from Bondisle Allotments would like permission to take down three old sheds and replace them with one brand new one equivalent to the size that is there, 18ft x 8ft. The sheds are rotten and need replacing this will improve the plot. **Resolved:** Application refused due to size
11. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff has had complaints that the toilets are closed at St Johns Chapel and D Hunt has been contacted. There has been a burst pipe so until the repair can take place the toilets have had to be closed. The toilets are now open.
12. A letter has been received regarding a public right of way in Ireshopeburn. A high gate with a sign saying Caution, Dogs running free has been put up and the dogs are very intimidating. Cllr Mrs Thompson has also received complaints from some local residents. The rights of way officer is going to check the gate out and give us an update after he has visited the footpath.
13. It has been brought to our attention that changes have taken place to a plot of land to the west end of the playing field at Bondisle. **Resolved:** To be referred to DCC

10425**Rural Services Network**

Cllr Ellwood had asked S Ragg about this group and some replies had been received from other Town/Parish Councils. Some had accepted the offer for a free few month's trial but would not be subscribing to it when the trial came to an end. It was felt it was aimed larger Town Councils.

Resolved: The councillors decided against joining the network.

10426**Approval of three Policies**

Protocol between Councillors & Council Employees – **Resolved:** Agreed

Delegation Scheme – **Resolved:** Agreed

Information for newly elected Parish Councillors May 2021 – **Resolved:** Agreed

10427**Planning Matters**

DM/21/00264/FPA

Demolition of cow byre,

Conversion of barn to a dwelling

New window in gable end of adjoining cottage

Sunny Bank Farm

St Johns Chapel

DM/21/00050/FPA

3 hard standing static caravan pitches and associated drainage works

High Bishopley Caravan Site

Frosterley

Cllr Brewin is concerned that work has started before planning permission has been granted

DM/21/00454/FPA

Change of use from garage to holiday cottage

Sidehead Farm

Sidehead

Westgate

DM/21/00444/FPA

Replace existing detached garage with 2 storey extension with attached garage

7 Hood Street

St Johns Chapel

10428**Finance**

Nothing to discuss.

10429**AAP Report**

A meeting is due to be held in March and the Neighbourhood Budget allocations will be discussed.

10430**CDALC Report**

Cllr Ellwood attended the meeting, and the elections were discussed. He voiced his concerns of over 1500 having to hand their nomination forms in at County Hall.

On the 6th May the legalisation ends for ZOOM meetings so face to face meetings should commence. CDALC would still like to see ZOOM meetings. Homes for England are buying up areas of land in the north. A Street furniture count is taking place on the lengths of footpath, grit bins and streetlights. A meeting with the 6 MPs via zoom will hopefully take place to discuss the police, NHS and Education.

10431**Accounts for Payment**

County Durham & Cleveland County Training Partnership Elections Training 9 th Feb 2021	£20.00
E-ON Ashcroft Play Park	£12.15
J Woodhall Flowers for Hutchinson family	£40.00
S Anderson salary	£737.63
HM REV	£38.56
S Anderson Expenses	£106.29
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
TOTAL	£989.63

10432**New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Miss Carrick would like to report a pothole near to the entrance of the old Barrington School, Stanhope. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
2. Cllr Brewin mentioned that the church at Frosterley has got planning permission for a residential dwelling. The first notice was up for three weeks but there was no second notice put up. The planning permission now will stop families visiting the graves of their relatives. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
3. Cllr Brewin mentioned the caravan sites that people are staying there now as there are lights on at night-time. He has concerns whether they should be there and will this bring more people to the sites. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Insp Turner
4. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report the bridge at Low Burn on the public footpath needs repairing as the wooden slats are rotten. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
5. Just over the bridge at Ireshopeburn there are roots of a tree growing through a house garden wall onto the footpath. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC

- 6. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report some potholes up Newhouse. They are on the roadside by Well Bank Cottage and an another one further up the road. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
- 7. The guttering needs to be cleaned out up Newhouse Cllr Mrs Thompson suggests that Simon does it. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
- 8. Cllr Miss Graham reported that the gate into Bondisle Playing field has now been put back onto its hinges.
- 9. Cllr Miss Graham noticed that vehicles have been going into the Bondisle Allotment Site despite a notice on the gate.
- 10. Cllr Miss Graham would like to thank Cllr Mrs Sutcliff for her support in the recent photographs that had been published in the newspaper.
- 11. Cllr Mrs Humble would like some dog fouling notices up in her ward. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
- 12. A litter pick is needed from Lanehead up to Killhope Top. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
- 13. It is good news about the decision that Darlington has been chosen for the new treasury. It should bring economic benefits which would filter through the North East.
- 14. Cllr Blackett was pleased to see that some proper jobs could well be on the way at the Eastgate site. Electric vehicles are the way forward it is something positive.
- 15. Cllr Mrs Hawkes has had a complaint about some tyres being burnt at Stanhopeburn which was also left unattended. There had also been a fire at the entrance to the dene on the left handside.
- 16. Cllr Wearmouth commented that a fridge freezer had been dumped at Cambo which is going to be removed.

10433

Clerks Business

The judging of best allotment and most improved allotment has run its course and it would be nice to try something different. A tallest sunflower competition is worth trying. **Resolved:** This was agreed to try this year

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Date of next meeting is Wednesday 7th April 2021 via ZOOM commencing at 7pm

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