

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 3rd November 2021

PRESENT:

Cllr Miss J Carrick Chairman

Cllr M Brewin, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr L Blackett, Cllr Mrs S Thompson,

Cllr W Wearmouth, Cllr J Shuttleworth, Cllr R Lawrie, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes

S Anderson Clerk

Also Present:

Inspector E Turner and PCSO J Mulligan

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr D Craig, Cllr P Turton

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To Receive Any Declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2021

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

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Police and the Community

Cllr Miss Carrick welcomed Inspector Turner and PCSO J Mulligan to the meeting.

PCSO Mulligan began by answering the questions that had been sent by email before the meeting.

1. Cllr Craig has three questions for Insp Turner. Is there any progress on the A689 50mph speed limit? A speed analysis has been done in twenty-three locations in Weardale and 85% are compliant. The speed limit is not going to be reduced to 50mph. There are different types of speeding from deliberate or accidental and perception of speeding. Insp Turner mentioned Community Speed Watch that there are teams in Weardale which helps the Police gauge the speed problems.
2. A motor cyclist was speeding past Heights Quarry entrance at 66mph. He then returned to ask what speed he was doing with an excuse that his speedo was not working. Why was he not prosecuted for both offences instead of being told to go back home to South Shields? The speed was under the enforcement rate and suitable advice was given regarding the speedo.

3. Nothing seems to have been done about the small number plates on motor bikes. These are the ones that are doing excessive speeds. Is it so no one can read the registration plate? There is a £100 fixed penalty but only the bike section can issue these.
4. Cllr Mrs Thompson and Cllr Mrs Sutcliff sent an email concerning parked cars in Hood Street, St Johns Chapel and Westgate Village. Traffic Management are looking into this problem at St John's Chapel.
5. Cllr Turton mentioned issues with noisy motorcycles and what steps are the police taking to tackle the use of after-market parts that are not road legal and raise the engine sound levels over the legal decibel limit. This is difficult for the road policing unit, VOSA can do this but will not deploy and there are not the resources.
6. Cllr Mrs Humble would like to know how many crimes the ANPR cameras have helped solve with a couple of case studies to give an idea of what has been happening in the Dale. A good success rate has been achieved with the ANPR which has a variety of uses.

PCSO Mulligan went to explain Operation Reboot, Young Heroes, Keep in the Know, Community Engagement and Operation Lyric. Cllr Miss Carrick thanked Insp Turner and PCSO Mulligan for attending the meeting.

10540

Matters Arising

1. **Kerb by the Castle Park** – The kerbs have been inspected but they are not badly damaged so not actionable. These will be monitored by the highway's inspector.
2. **Poppies** – The poppy wreaths were given to the councillors that attended the meeting.
3. **Northumbrian water Frosterley** – Northumbrian Water attended the area and identified a leak from the external boundary connection which has been repaired. The issue was with the fresh water connection and not linked to any sewerage asset/drains. The problem had nothing to do with Durham County Council at all.
4. **Speed Limit Hill End to Frosterley** - This section of the road has been the subject of much debate over recent years. The speed limit review process takes into consideration various criteria and factors to be considered and evaluated. The setting of speed limits can be quite an emotive issue with residents generally demanding lower speed limits on roads. As is often the case a speed limit which lacks credibility results in a significant proportion of motorists ignoring the limit and driving at even higher speeds, and can also lead to greater risk taking. The imposition of non-credible lower limits can raise residents' expectations that the speeds of vehicles will suddenly reduce but this is seldom being achieved in practice, creating further annoyance for both residents and motorists, and unfair criticism of the police who have to enforce the speed limits. DCC cannot offer support for a change in speed limit at the present time. Cllr Brewin would like an officer from DCC to visit Hill End and the school in the morning and afternoon to see the problems. There have been no accidents but you shouldn't have to wait until there is an accident. **Resolved:** Clerk to write for a site meeting.
5. **Garden Waste Collection** – The reply from DCC is that unfortunately there are currently no plans to review.
6. **Eastgate Flower Bed** – DCC are reducing the number of flower beds across the County due to funding so they cannot supply anymore new beds. That's not to say that the Parish Council could provide one but we would have to maintain it.
7. **Statistics on Permanent Homes on the Holiday Parks** – As yet no reply has been received

8. **Crosshill Allotment Plot** – The tenant is unable to trim the plot before giving it up but has repaired the fencing. She would like to point out that she has been defeated by bindweed.
9. **D Hunt update** – S Lewis is back at work doing three half days and gradually increasing. Darren is keeping the other lad up the dale until Simon is back to work normally. Darren is really pleased with the standard of work that the replacement lad has been doing. The centotaphs will be tidied now ready for Remembrance Sunday. There has been damage done to the toilets at the Riverside in Stanhope and in Ashcroft Play Park there has been a lot of broken bottles and graffiti done. By reports it is fourteen- and fifteen-year-olds that are drinking up at the play park and then smashing the bottles. This has been reported to the Police. The logo on S Lewis's van is DCC and if the Parish agree he would like to add working in partnership with Stanhope Parish Council. **Resolved:** The councillors agreed to the logo

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Correspondence Received

1. DCC updates were sent to all of the councillors.
2. Paul Darby has been appointed as the Corporate Director of Resources, DCC.
3. We have been contacted about the electric car point that is being installed in front of the MS Shop in Stanhope. At Stanhope Show there is always a ride allowed on that area and if the planned point goes in the middle then the ride will be unable to go. The concern also is that more electric points go up the main street without consultation which would affect the Stanhope Fair in September. There are plans for more points specifically for Stanhope.
4. AONB are holding their Annual Forum on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 between 2pm - 4.30pm online. Booking is essential
5. CDALC information has been sent to all of the councillors
6. Cllr Mrs Humble mentioned the email from CDALC regarding climate change. She wondered about the possibility of DCC planting some wild flowers on the grassed area by Horn Hall so it looks like a wild flower meadow. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

10542

Allotment Rules

A discussion took place on the reasoning for the update to the new tenancy agreement. It was felt that before the changes were implemented the draft Tenancy Agreement should be sent to all of the tenants giving them the opportunity for comments. **Resolved:** It was proposed and seconded that the clerk will send out the draft Tenancy Agreement to all of the allotment tenants. Any comments to be made in writing to the clerk by 1st February 2022.

10543

County Councillor Update

Things take time and the offices in Durham are moving. The Town Hall in Stanhope could be sold.

10544

Planning Matters

DM/21/03422/FPA

Replacement of all external doors and windows

9 Weardale House

Stanhope

DM/21/03438/FPA

Replace garage with single storey rear extension

Hillcrest

19 East Lane

Stanhope

DM/21/03512/VOC

Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission

DM/20/03380/VOC4 to add double garages with solar panels to

Both plots

Land between 61 & 67

Hood Street

St Johns Chapel

DM/21/03493/VOV

Variation of condition 2 of planning permission DM/20/00175/FPA

To revise site layout and reduce number of workshops to 6 no

Site of former Builders Yard South of

Shittlehopeburn Farm

Stanhope

DM/21/03344/FPA

Replace timber windows and door with UPVC equivalent

16 Kirk Rise

Frosterley

DM/21/03525/FPA

New access to serve proposed workshops

Site of former builders yard south of

Shittlehopeburn Farm

Stanhope

DM/21/03532/FPA

Retrospective change of use from residential (C3) to F1 (f)

Old Rectory

40 Front Street

Stanhope

DM/21/03609/FPA

Two storey extension to southern elevation

Single storey extension to western elevation

Spring House

East Lane

Stanhope

DM/21/03596/VOC

Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to ref: DM/21/02243/LB

Castle Lodge

Market Place

Stanhope

DM/21/03686/FPA

Extension of building to create a new wing to the rear of the property.

Creation of infill extension to the rear of the property. Formation of a new entrance to the front of the property.

Wear Lodge

Lanehead

10545

Finance

1. Bank reconciliation figures have been sent to all councillors.
2. December meeting, we will be setting the budget and precept.
3. The current fixed contract for Npower continuous public lighting ends on 20th Jan 2022. The current fixed-term contract is 17.898p/kWh, standing charge 0.723, annual consumption 5,711.6 kWh. Again 17.898p/kWh, 0.723 standing charge and 140.3 kWh. Waiting for a call from Npower to see if they can do anything.

10546

AAP Report

Nothing to report

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Accounts for Payment

DCC OCTOBER MEETING ROOM HIRE	£45.00
E-ON NEXT ASHCROFT PLAY PARK	£11.38
WARD BROS PLANT HIRE LTD	£504.00
BT CLEKS PHONE BILL	£86.91
PAUL IRWIN GRASS CUTTING	£180.00
WAVE PUBLIC CONV DADDRY SHIELD	£45.89
S ANDERSON SALARY	£791.66
HM REV	£7.54
S ANDERSON EXPENSES	£177.88
S ANDERSON HOME AS OFFICE	£35.00
WAVE ALLOTMENTS WILLARD GROVE	£57.84
WAVE OLD CEMETERY STANHOPE	£15.51
MAKEPEACE MOTORS PLAYGROUND REPAIRS, WELLS CROSSHILL	£1550.40
MAKEPEACE MOTORS GRASS CUTTING OLD CEMETERY	£1377.12
MAKEPEACE MOTORS FOOTPATH CLEARANCE	£1920.00
MAKEPEACE MOTORS DADDRY SHIELD TOILETS	£1302.00
S ANDERSON EXPENSES INK CARTRIDGE	£43.97

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	£108.00
CDALC CEMETERY TRAINING	£10.00
TOTAL	£8270.10

10548

New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff commented on the wonderful display of poppies at St John’s Chapel. All the villages have lovely displays. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to all of the organisers from the villages
2. Cllr Mrs Thompson has had some complaints concerning dog muck on the pavements at Westgate. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt for some signage
3. Cllr Mrs Humble would like some branches cutting off the trees between North Grain and Cowshill as they are catching high sided vehicles. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
4. Cllr Brewin would like to know has the caravan park had permission for lodge type caravans that have been put onto the site. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
5. Cllr Miss Carrick would like to report the cobbles outside Chatterbox as one is raised. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC

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Clerks Business

Nothing to report

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Date of next meeting is Wednesday 1st December 2021 at Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

-----Signed-----Date