

## STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

### PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr L Blackett, Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr M Brewin, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Miss J Carrick,  
Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr Miss F Graham

Susan Anderson Clerk

Also Present

Mr Ferstenberg Head Teacher Wolsingham School

Graham Blakey Planning Officer, Carole Dillon Spatial Policy

**9977**

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs K Hutchinson, Cllr B Thompson

**9978**

#### **To Receive any Declarations of Interest from Members**

Cllr Mrs Maddison planning application , Cllr Ellwood

**9979**

#### **Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

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

**9980**

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

No Police were in attendance

**9981**

#### **Mr Ferstenberg Head Teacher of Wolsingham School**

Cllr Craig welcomed Mr Ferstenberg to the meeting who in the past has been a director for school improvement. He is very committed to the school which has enormous potential and will go from strength to strength. Mr Ferstenberg has a vision for Academic Excellence - through teaching and a revision programme for pupils. Extra-Curricular activities - with an outstanding programme to choose from. Character and Citizenship - with the aim for teachers and pupils to consider each other. The police cadets, fire cadets, combined cadet force where pupils are involved in, along with charitable fund-raising events, food bank and senior citizen Christmas parcels. Future growth - a recruiting programme to expand the school in various ways through arts and crafts, workshops, themed afternoon teas and annual events. Sixth Form – possibility of a shared sixth form, a pared down cost-effective academic offering with maybe seven or eight courses or post 16 apprenticeships. Questions were taken from the councillors regarding travelling, the numbers of pupils travelling to Alston School, how was the Teasdale School still running a sixth form, the

timescale to reduce the deficit, information provided to parents, Hartwell Foundation grant money application. Mr Ferstenberg answered the questions and was going to look into the question on the Teasdale School. Cllr Craig thanked Mr Ferstenberg for attending which the councillors had found very informative and all had been given hope.

**9982**

**Graham Blakey Planning Officer and Carole Dillon Spatial Policy**

Cllr Craig welcomed Graham Blakey and Carole Dillon to the meeting. Mr Blakey gave all the councillors a leaflet explaining the Material Planning Considerations. In the leaflet it also explained matters that are not material planning considerations. A councillor mentioned the number of caravans in the dale and that the services could not cope with anymore caravan sites. The old policies have now changed and its county wide, its easier to get an eleven-month visitor accommodation passed than a domestic dwelling. The occupancy restrictions are self-regulated. A councillor mentioned about if an application goes to Committee and a representative from the Parish Council having to attend the meeting. Most of the councillor's work and its not always possible to attend. Mr Blakey would pass on the concerns to the development council. Other issues were raised regarding wind turbine applications, new materials now being used, retrospective applications and housing estate applications for new windows, Mine Adits and Smiddyburn Bridge. Carole Dillon asked to be put on the agenda at a later date to discuss Neighbourhood Planning. After discussing this with the chairman February next year was agreed. Cllr Craig thanked them both for attending **Resolved:** Clerk to invite Carole Dillon to the February meeting next year

**9983**

**Matters Arising**

1. **LAYBY WEST OF KILLHOPE WHEEL** – The layby is to be levelled out by the firm who left all the spoil behind. DCC will make sure that this is done within the next few weeks
2. **A689 at BRIAR HILL, IRESHOPEBURN** – The road has been inspected and it is the water board that needs to reinstate the road. DCC will report this to the company for them to do the repair
3. **FROSTERLEY MAIN ROAD A689** - The road has been inspected and will be given a score as to when the road will be re-surfaced.
4. **EMPTY FLOWER TUBS UP THE DALE** - Even though it has been a good year for the flowers the tubs have to be emptied around the same time every year as the winter bedding plants are now in. The councillors feel this is too early as it has been a month since they were taken out and still not re-planted **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
5. **DCC HQ PLANNING APPLICATION** – The application for the HQ (albeit the applicant is technically Kier) is being handled by DCC and will be determined at an upcoming planning committee. As will all applications there is the potential in some circumstances for the Sec of State to “call the application in “for their determination but at the moment it is the Council who will determine the application
6. **HEIGHTS QUARRY APPLICATION** – An email has been received from a concerned resident that we should be supporting the residents who live on the main roads in Stanhope, Crawleyside and Frosterley regarding the noise/vibration situation which must not be allowed up until 2043. The extended area of the Quarry is not a problem. The councillors discussed this and they have had no other complaints to the Parish Council. Receive and note
7. **SMIDDYBURN BRIDGE** - The Planning Inspectorate has acknowledge receipt of our letter and will reply within twenty days
8. **STREET LIGHTING AT ST JOHNS CHAPEL** - The street light has been investigated and identified that DCC are unable to take further action as it does not fall under there

management or ownership. A website address has been provided to identify the responsible owner so we can make a report to them, Land Registry

9. **MINE ADITS** – No application had gone into the planning department to fill in the mine adits. The Ecology Team has said that as the land and mines are in ownership of the Church Commissioners c/o Savills the matter is one which DCC has no authority over. All enquiries to go to the Church Commissioners or HM Principal Inspector of Mines
10. **OLIVERS TREE SERVICES** – Olivers have submitted a planning application for the tree works which will take up to 8 to 10 weeks for a tree preservation order. The work has been booked in for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018
11. **PARISH NOTICE BOARD** - The planning application has gone in but we need to do a Heritage Statement. The planning officer has sent some information on how to do this
12. **ROOKHOPE LIGHTS** - This has been discussed with the Street Lighting Team the possibility of re-instating street lights. The wooden poles are owned by BT and Street Lights cannot be installed
13. **PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY STANHOPE URBAN** – There is to be an election for the vacancy for Stanhope Urban
14. **GARDEN CLOSE, STANHOPE** - The wall next to the grit bin a self-seedling has been missed and needs pulling out **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
15. **COWSHILL WAR MEMORIAL** – Work on the war memorial has started at long last
16. **GULLY SUCKER, FROSTERLEY** – The drains are still blocked on Front Street, Frosterley as the gully sucker still has not been up **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC again
17. **ROTTEN POLE, IRESHOPEBURN** – Cllr Blackett would like to know when the rotten pole 743 at Briar Hill will be renewed **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

#### 9984

#### Correspondence Received

1. A tenant from Ireshopeburn Allotments has reported that the bottom fence is leaning and needs some new posts in. GF Whites have been contacted and the fence is our responsibility. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask S Makepeace to repair the fence
2. A tenant at Willard Grove Allotments is having trouble with a horse reaching over the fence and eating the gardeners produce. The fence has now been made secure
3. J Regan from the Coal Authority would like to attend a Parish Council meeting to give a short update on the progress on the Cambokeels project **Resolved:** Mr Regan to attend the November meeting
4. An enquiry via the website has come in. A motorist had stopped at Wearhead play ground just a football match was finishing on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September. He was wondering which teams were playing and also what is the elevation of Wearhead. **Resolved:** Cllr Blackett will find out what teams were playing and the elevation is 1116 and is highest football pitch in the country
5. The concrete stile on footpath 4 St Johns Chapel from Stone Heap to footpath 3. This stile is by the side of a slight embankment which was originally made for the railway. Some of the concrete steps are loose or have come away and it is dangerous to use. It dates back to the time of the railway and it is not worth repairing because it serves no purpose. It should be demolished and removed and the base graded. There are some tree roots on footpath3 from Huntsheildford to Daddry Shield Bridge just beyond the point where gravel chippings were laid last year near the junction with footpath 3 are some protruding tree roots which have become dangerous for walkers. This is a well-used path and they need to be removed and gravel extended. The route of the path towards Daddry Shield Bridge also needs to be inspected because there are other parts where the path is in danger of falling down the river

bank and it needs reinstatement and widening and there are further tree roots and stones which present a hazard **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the footpath officer

6. An allotment tenant at Crosshill has reported that the stone wall has been bumped by a car and has pushed the stones so they are bellying out into his plot. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact S Makepeace
7. An inspection has been carried out of the stability of the Grave Stones in the Old Cemetery, Stanhope. The overall condition of the Grave Stones is good there are no dangerous defects and nothing to cause concerns at this time
8. Stanhope Hartwell Educational Foundation have sent the Receipts and Payment Account for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018
9. The CDALC Annual General Meeting is being held on Saturday 20 October in the Council Chamber County Hall, Durham starting at 10.00am **Resolved:** Cllr Ellwood will be attending this meeting

## 9985

### Planning Matters

DM/18/02676/FPA

Proposed agricultural building to house an environmental sheep handling system

West Newlands Hall

Frosterley

Mr Watson

DM/18/02736/FPA

Change of use from residential (C3) to artists workshop (B1)

34 Front Street

Frosterley

Mrs H Maddison

DM/18/02879/TPO

Crown lift two rowan trees

Ireshopeburn Allotments

Stanhope Parish Council

DM/18/02880/TPO

Rowan Lift 2 Rowan Trees, crown lift two sycamore trees, crown lift apple tree

Old Hall Allotments

Stanhope Hall

Stanhope Parish Council

DM/18/02916/FPA

First floor rear extension

Moorlands

Hill End

Frosterley

Mr I Ferris

### PLANNING APPROVALS

DM/18/01905/LB

Listed building consent for conversion of attached building to habitable room

6 Longhorn Ends

Cowshill  
J Bowen

DM/18/02880/TPO  
Crown lift 2 rowan trees, crown lift apple tree, crown lift two sycamore trees  
Old Hall Allotments  
Stanhope  
Stanhope Parish Council

DM/18/02444/FPA  
Replace windows and doors upvc  
Kirk Rise  
Frosterley  
Mr & Mrs Barron

DM/18/01769/FPA  
detached double garage relocated from planning approval DM/14/03584/FPA  
Toll Cottage  
Stanhope  
M Ayre

DM/18/02045/FPA  
Infill bridge  
Road bridge over dismantled Stanhope & Waskerley Railway  
Crawleyside  
Highways England Historical Railways Estate

DM/18/02107/FPA  
Porch to front (retrospective)  
2 Briar Hill  
Ireshopeburn  
B Pippet

#### **9986**

##### **General Data Protection**

Nothing to discuss

#### **9987**

##### **Parish Council Website**

Nothing to discuss

#### **9988**

##### **Finance**

1. Mazars have completed the audit and have enclosed the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. There are no significant matters arising from the audit. There are two Minor Scope for Improvement in 2018/19 which are the name of the Parish Council and email address had been missed off and the wrong reconciliation had been submitted at first. The Notice of Conclusion has to be displayed and put onto the website
2. S Makepeace has sent the Play Park Inspection report and a quote for the works that are required. Bondisle and Crawleyside no work required. Ashcroft rubber safety edge to be refixed around the trampoline, replace one flag on steps, replace damaged areas of brick

work, repair broken picnic bench, replace missing bolts in bow top fence, tighten up bolts and remove broken plastic in spin round module, repair damaged areas in playtop surface £430.00. Westgate – replace two larger childrens swing seat bases, wash modules and surface £380.00. Daddry Shield – Repair gate next to toilet, repair seat £180. Burtreeford – Paint two bow top swings, replace basket ball net £110. Total £1100.00. Overall in not too bad condition all round. A few minor repairs, some paint work will bring everything up to standard. Work done in the past as greatly enhanced the appearance of all the areas.

**Resolved:** It was agreed to have the work done after Cllr Mrs Humble looks at the seat in Daddry Shield

3. The Great North Air Ambulance would like us to consider making a donation to the charity

**Resolved:** The councillors agreed to donate £500

4. Light Up the Dale have had a request from Frosterley for a donation to help with the tree and frame **Resolved:** It was agreed to send £1500

### 9989

#### AAP Report

Nothing to report

### 9990

#### CDALC Report

Nothing to report

### 9991

#### Accounts for Payment

Npower Playground Ashcroft	£21.56
MAZARS LLP	£408.00
Smith of Derby – Westgate Memorial Clock Service	£229.20
Smith of Derby – Wearhead Memorial Clock Service	£229.20
Smith of Derby – Frosterley Memorial Clock Service	£229.20
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
S Anderson Expenses	£53.00
S Anderson Salary	£708.07
HM Revenue	£16.20
Makepeace Motors grass cutting old cemetery	£1377.12
Makepeace Motors footpath clearance	£1920.00
Makepeace Motors various jobs, streetsigns, washing play surfaces,	£1152.00
Repair damage to toilets, pruning, fastening of dog dispensers	
JRB Enterprises Dog bags	£537.60
Great North Air Amb	£500.00
Light Up the Dale	£1500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£8916.15</b>

#### ACCOUNTS FOR RECEIPTS

HM Revenue	£1043.28
Northern Powergrid	£167.36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1210.64</b>

9992

**New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Brewin mentioned that the beck at Frosterley has not been cleaned out yet. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact S Makepeace again
2. Cllr Ellwood mentioned the bridges in the quarry are not safe and it is too costly for DCC to repair. The two land owners have been contacted so this is on-going
3. Cllr Ellwood mentioned that some parish councils are holding bonfires in remembrance of WW1
4. The AONB have requested a meeting with Savills concerning the Mine Adits in Stanhope Dene
5. Cllr Blackett would like to report that some of the iron railings at Stoneheap have rotted away and need repairing **Resolved** : Clerk to contact DCC
6. Cllr Blackett had seen that someone had commented that the grass around a headstone in the old cemetery had not been cut. The cemetery is well kept and the grass is always cut so this must have been an oversight when it was missed
7. In Slit Wood there is a health and safety problem where the spring bank level comes out and goes under the footpath someone could get their foot down a hole **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the footpath officer.
8. In Slit Wood there are two bridges that are rotten and need replacing **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
9. Cllr Mrs Humble would like a mole catcher in Burtreeford Cemetery **Resolved** Clerk to report to DCC
10. Cllr Mrs Humble commented on the non-attendance with no apologies sent to the clerk. When you agree to be a councillor then you should attend the meetings
11. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned the broken window at the Town Hall, Stanhope and was wondering what is going to happen to the Town Hall building **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
12. There has been a complaint that there are weeds growing through the tarmac at Station Road, Eastgate **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
13. The hedge opposite West Terrace, Stanhope needs cutting back **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the school
14. Light number 875 is permanently on along the Riverside Walk, Stanhope **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
15. There is a wobbly hand rail on the first wooden bridge in Stanhope Dene **Resolved:** Clerk to report it to DCC
16. The cobbles need weeding in front of the church before remembrance Sunday **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
17. Cllr Craig mentioned the out of hours service at Barnard Castle is closing and that there was possibility Stanhope could close as well. **Resolved:** Clerk to find out
18. The grass verge has been cut up the dale but part of Westgate has not been done **Resolved** Clerk to find out why
19. In the Teasdale Mercury Middleton Parish Council have put an article in on how much it costs them for dog bags. It was suggested that we should do the same **Resolved** Clerk to contact gazette
20. Cllr Craig sends his apologies for next month

9993

**Clerks Business**

Nothing to report

Meeting closed at 9.55pm  
Date of next meeting is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing  
at 7pm

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