

STANHOPE PARISH CONCIL

At a consultation meeting via email of the Council held on 7th October 2020

PRESENT:

CLr Mrs D Sutcliff, CLr Miss F Graham, CLr M Brewin, CLr Mrs A Humble, CLr D Ellwood,
CLr W Wearmouth, CLr L Blackett, CLr B Thompson, CLr Mrs H Maddison, CLr Miss J Carrick,
CLr Mrs S Thompson, CLr Mrs A Hawkes,
CLr D Craig – Chairman
Susan Anderson – Clerk

10362

Apologies for Absence

Not applicable

10363

To receive any declarations of Interest from Members

None

10364

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2020

Minutes were moved as a true and correct record by CLr Mrs Humble, CLr Miss Carrick and will be signed by the chairman when a meeting can be held.

10365

Police and the Community

Police in the Community

What's new for Stanhope Neighbourhood Police Team?

- PCSO Gilding joined Weardale NPT at the start of lockdown in April.
- PC Ellis Hutchinson retired from the service in June.
- PCSO Craig Dowson moved to Weardale in July from Crook NPT
- PC Jonathan Ruddick moved to Weardale in July from Crook NPT
- New Tri Responder Joshua Roberts joined the force in September
- Weardale NPT received funding for a Dot Peen machine from AAP which the team received in August and launched in September.

Headlines for Weardale

Operation Edward 19 & 20th September over Weardale and Teesdale

44: caught speeding Community Speed Watch, letters of advice sent.

6: fatal 4 traffic offence tickets given, this includes seatbelt, mobile phone, inappropriate speeding & drink driving.

2 vehicles seized

1 arrested for Taking without consent & drug offences

Operation Cobra

Reactive to jobs, NPT targeted recent victims of crime

Proactive, now targeting farms around the entrances to the dales

Highly visible singe being given out upon this conducted

Media campaign through NFU to promote dot peen & operation Cobra is being planned

Caravan thefts in June= 1 arrested & charged with multiple offences and remanded in custody where he remains.

Operation Checkpoint

Over 100 members in the Rural watch Whatsapp group

During the operation held 30th September

85 year old male missing male found in Teesdale area

1 arrested for a robbery and offences relating to the Northumbria

3 vehicles stopped on suspicion of poaching

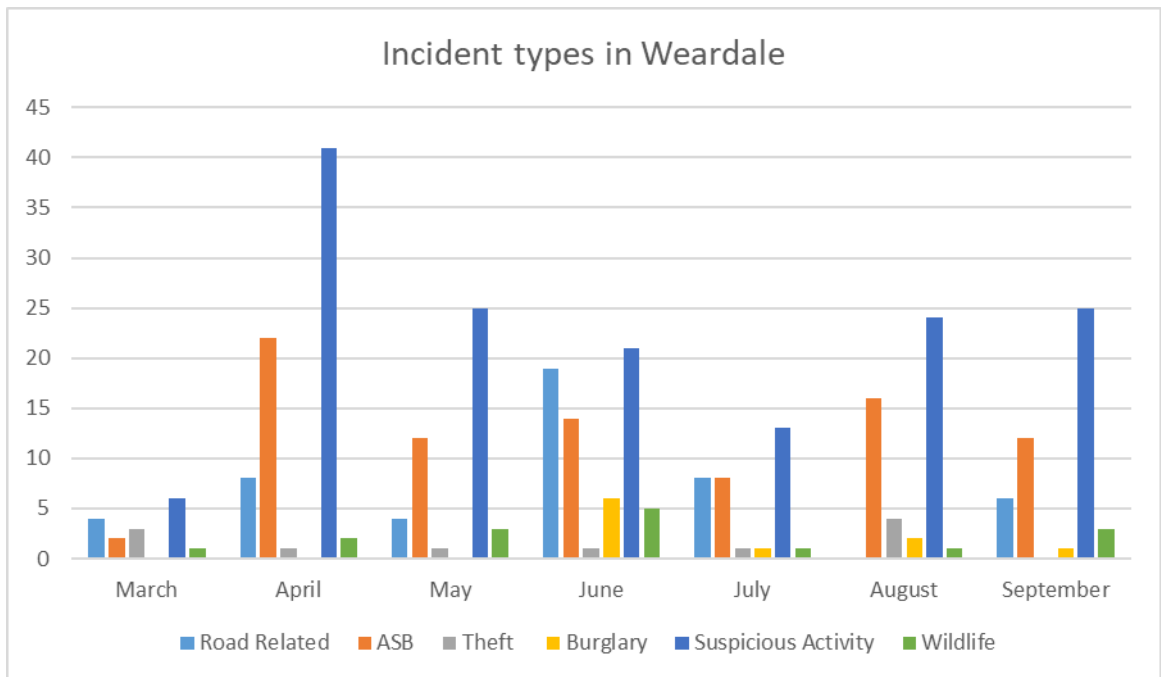
NPT officers are continuing to work varied shifts to conduct later patrols throughout the Dales.

NFU reported that County Durham and Darlington had experienced a 23% reduction in rural crime in 2019, with rural crime costing £434,883 last year compared to £563,248 in 2018. Across the whole of the UK rural crime cost £54.3 million.

Relaunched Young Heroes in Weardale in August, if any councillors have any nominations please email chloe.gilding@durham.pnn.police.uk

COVID-19: police policy includes, Engagement, Encouragement, Education and finally Enforcement. Engagement has been made with all jobs relating to COVID and no fines have been given in Weardale.

The increase in ASB and Suspicious Activity jobs, shown in the graph below, link to COVID-19 as the job descriptions come in as ASB and Suspicious Activity. The increase is linked to the national lockdown and now the regional lockdown we are now in. This is a force wide increase.



Parking issue Frosterley:

CSR Jamie Clarkson has done 2 letter drops & door knocks regarding parking in the village.

A thank you to be sent to the Police for sending this report.

10366

Matters Arising

1. **CROSSHILL ALLOTMENT SITE** – Cllr Ellwood met with the tenant who discussed the problems of the plot. Advice was given and also all the weeds on the perimeter fence need cutting down and an area around the hen hut needs stock proofing. The tenant has agreed that the plot needs further cultivation and to cut the long grass. A reply has been sent to the resident who had concerns and Pest Control from DCC are to do a survey of the site to see if there is a rat problem. An email has been received from a resident who is concerned about the number of cockerels on the Crosshill Allotment Site and that they are not being barred in as

stated in the rules. All the tenants that are keeping poultry/ cockerels have had a reminder that the rules state the cockerels must be barred in from 11pm until 7am. A reply has been sent to the resident. An email has been received that the noise has lessened however the cockerels are still crowing which starts at 4am. It has been mentioned that the tenants need reminding what barring means. Cllr Mrs Maddison can see the need to send a polite reminder letter to tenants regarding the meaning of barring and why. Cllr Mrs Humble recommends the situation needs monitoring and Cllr Thompson, Cllr Mrs Sutcliff and Cllr Craig requests this be discussed fully at a council meeting.

2. **DURHAM DALES CENTRE** – Further changes are coming to the government guidelines and Covid 19 , this will affect the hire of the function room facility.
3. **TRAFFIC CALMING THROUGH FROSTERLEY** - Under the Community Speed Watch all speeding complaints are directed towards Durham Constabulary and their Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings, enabling the appropriate level of intervention and action to be considered. An email has been sent to the Police. Cllr Mrs Maddison had a visit from two PCSO's to discuss the speeding problem. One of them ran a successful volunteers group in Crook who used the speed board and will be looking to set up something similar in Weardale. At the moment things are on hold with the restrictions. Cllr Mrs Maddison said she would help to try and recruit some volunteers.
4. **POLICE NON ATTENDANCE AT SEPT MEETING** - An apology has been received for not attending the last meeting. Due to the recent spates of thefts work was taking place at Bishop. The parking at Frosterley will be looked at again to see if a second letter drop is needed.
5. **FROSTERLEY PLAY PARK** – The parts are now with DCC and will be fitted shortly at Frosterley Play Park. The washing of the play park should be soon as D Hunt has started at the top of the dale and is working his way down.
6. **EASTGATE WORKS SITE** – Mark Tellwright has sent an update on the site. He is still dealing with requests from the planners at DCC. He is working through providing further reports.
7. **FLY TIP** – The Neighbourhood Warden has sent an update that although they are still investigating the frustrating side is all leads are drawing blanks. Cllr Maddison cannot understand this as DCC was given the name and address of the company who it belonged to as it was on the packaging along with an employees address.
8. **RIVERSIDE TOILETS** – The toilets are cleaned seven days a week at the Riverside Play Park
9. **WEARDALE MUSUEM** – A reply has been received from the Weardale Musuem. The Chairman has been in negotiation with the owners of the Weardale Adventure Centre. Discussions are continuing on the car park. In the near future the Musuem are to seek the guidance of the Highways Department on topics relating to the proposed car park and associated traffic calming actions. It will be interesting to see what DCC Highways department guidance will be.
10. **PLAY SURFACES** - D Hunt will arrange to have the surfaces in Burtreeford and Ireshopeburn power washed which have now been done.
11. **PARKING AT CROSSHILL** - The request for a new road marking has been reviewed and on this occasion it is not appropriate to install a new road marking. Following a site visit to the area it was established that any road markings installed on this section of road would have a negative impact on the nearby residents.
12. **STANHOPE BARRINGTON SCHOOL HEDGE** – The hedge has not been cut back yet. Clerk to contact the school again
13. **FLOWER TUBS, ST JOHNS CHAPEL** – The flower tubs still need planting. Clerk to contact DCC
14. **EXTRA TOILET PROVISION IN STANHOPE** – Cllr Miss Carrick would like extra toilet provision in Stanhope as there are not enough toilets. Clerk to contact DCC again

15. **PARKING IN FROSTERLEY** – Cllr Brewin is concerned that people are still parking inappropriately. The Police have done a second leaflet drop and spoken to people. Cllr Brewin would like a site meeting to discuss this problem with the Police
16. **ST MICHAELS CHURCH, FROSTERLEY** – The preliminary proposals were not very well displayed and a lot of people did not realise what was happening. Most people are concerned about the graves which some are in the plans for an enclosed garden, some of which are less than twenty years old and are still attended. Cllr M Brewin has put an objection in on behalf of the Parish Council.

10367

Correspondence Received

1. An urgent announcement has been made by DCC on 18th Sept that following rising cases of Covid -19 across the region restrictions have come into place to stop the spread of coronavirus.
2. CDALC have been asked to re-promote the Armed Forces Covenant to Parish and Town Councils to encourage more Councils to sign up to the Covenant. Details were sent to the councillors
3. CDALC have sent an email on Post Covid Recovery. The AAP's are dedicating their funding this year to Covid recovery. If a Parish is minded to develop a proposal for a recovery scheme they should contact their local AAP for information. Email sent to the councillors
4. An email has been received that three-quarters of libraries in County Durham to reopen for browsing.
5. Views are being sought on proposed changes to taxi policy. Email sent to the councillors
6. A temporary public/ footbridge closure has been received. The extended closure will be effective from 26th Sept for a period of 18 months, this has been approved by the Secretary of State for Transport.
7. A temporary road closure has been received for Cross Hill, Stanhope on 21st Sept. The closure is necessary to enable new water service connection works to be undertaken which will take some 5 days to complete.
8. DCC have sent an email on proposals to improve housing in County Durham. A scheme which aims to drive up standards in the private housing sector and improve communities across County Durham is being considered. The emails were sent to the councillors
9. Councillors from DCC will consider plans to support the transformation of a heritage railway line into a major visitor attraction, since then 2m has been agreed. Email sent to the councillors. Cllr Thompson is pleased to see that DCC have put some money into the railway and hopefully with the new owners it might succeed this time.
10. An email has been received from the Durham Dales Hockey Club who use the Wolsingham 3G football 5 a side pitch. This has been condemned due to the surface lifting and is not a priority to have it repaired. The email has been sent to many people in the hope that someone will help. The email has been sent to all of the councillors. Apparently, our MP is on the case.
11. The County Durham Plan – Publication of Inspectors Report is available on the DCC website. Email sent to the councillors
12. Thousands of jobs and new homes which would provide a boost to the County Durham economy are a step closer following the publication of an inspector's findings. Email was sent to all the councillors.
13. We have received notice of a Proposed Telecommunications Installation for EE UK Ltd at Juniper Banks, Frosterley. Email was sent to all the councillors and any comments on the site to be sent before 6th October 2020

14. The Accessibility Statement is now on the website.
15. Owing to an unsafe cattle grid it has been necessary to temporarily close to all vehicular traffic a 6.4km length of C20 Meadows Edge.
16. Cllr Mrs Humble asked to clerk to report to DCC that water is coming out under the Vicarage wall and running down Burtree Bank until it finds a drain. This will create a problem in the cold weather when it freezes. Water is also seeping out from a patch of broken tarmac in the middle of the bank further up than the Vicarage leak.
17. A new tenant at Crosshill has uncovered rubbish that needs taking away if possible. Clerk has asked S Makepeace to collect the rubbish.
18. Cllr Ellwood reported to the clerk a rotten gate post into Ashes Quarry, the stile has collapsed, and it is all tied up. This has been reported to DCC and the footpath officer has put a referral in for the contractor to replace the rotten post. There are no timescales though. This need doing asap clerk will contact DCC
19. We have received an email from a resident from Hill End. There is no streetlight at the top of the houses, and they are feeling vulnerable in the dark. After a recent robbery, the residents feel that a light would be beneficial to help with security. Speeding through the village is also a problem and another 30mph sign is needed. The email has been sent to all the councillors. Cllr Mrs Humble suggests that the speeding issue is passed to the Police and the lighting issue to DCC. Cllr Miss Graham suggests a 30 mph be painted on the road at the top and bottom. Cllr Mrs Maddison has spoken to the resident regarding the lack of lighting and the speeding. The 30mph sign has been knocked round again, this needs reporting to DCC to have it put straight again.
20. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff reported to the clerk that she has received complaints regarding the black bin next to the seat at Huntshieldford. People are using it as a dog bin, so a red dog waste bin is needed. This has been reported to DCC. The black bins are now multipurpose bins for both dog waste and rubbish. Cllr Thompson inspected the bins in Rookhope which are looking tired, it would be nice to have some new ones.
21. CDALC have arranged for DCC's Planners to give an overview of the Panning White Paper and have organised an hour session with them on 14th October 2020 starting at 7pm. A Zoom link will be forwarded nearer the date to enable anyone interested to attend and hear more about this White Paper. There is no need to register just use the Zoom link on the date and time. The White Paper is an 84-page document and responses should be received by 29th October 2020 directly to the govt. Cllr Mrs Humble will be joining the meeting
22. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff has reported a problem on Footpath 12 at St Johns Chapel. On the lower section of the 59 steps one of the stone steps has cracked in half and wobbles and needs repair. This is known locally as Jacobs Ladder
23. On Footpath 4 at St Johns Chapel there is a dangerous stile between the river and Stoneheap. This has been reported before and nothing has happened. The stile is from the days off the railway and is made of concrete slabs which are now corroded and loose. To avoid climbing over it people are going round the side of it, which is awkward and dangerous.
24. DCC will consider plans to prioritise regeneration projects across County Durham based on which communities are most in need. Email sent to all the councillors
25. The Asbestos Officer at DCC has advised about the proposed demolition of 23 garages at Ashcroft, Stanhope. He also asked about a metal box containing an electric meter which is attached to the lights in the play park. He asked if the meter is still used so a reply was sent that it is still in use.
26. CDALC have sent information on planning for Remembrance Day. Events are being scaled back and with proposals to use social media live streaming/recorded ceremonies. There is an awareness of needing to be flexible if any last-minute changes to govt guidance.

10368

Planning Matters

DM/20/01682/FPA

Single storey rear and side extensions

Old Coach House

Cowhill

DM/20/02488/FPA

Change of use from 5 touring pitches to 5 static pitches

Greenfoot Caravan Park

Stanhope

DM/20/02520/FPA

1 dwelling

Glebe Cottage

Market Place

St Johns Chapel

DM/20/02336/FPA

Single storey rear extension

Bonny Moor Cottage

Harthope Road

St Johns Chapel

DM/20/01728/FPA

Conversion of redundant barn to create 1 no residential dwelling

Ludwell

Eastgate

Cllr Wearmouth supports this application as it will see two magnificent buildings restored and brought back to life.

DM/20/01806/LB

Proposed refurbishment and alterations to farmhouse

Ludwell

Eastgate

Cllr Wearmouth supports this application

DM/20/02646/VOC

Variation of conditions 2 (Approved plans), & Highway Access works) & 10 (highway boundaries) to allow revised site layout. Discharge of condition 6 (tree protection) of planning permission

DM/18/00878/FPA

White House & Hagg

Bridge Caravan Park

Eastgate

DM/20/02647/FPA
Agricultural Storage Building
Eastgate House
Eastgate

DM/20/02778/FPA
Conversion of redundant building into dwelling
Agricultural Building to
The South of Chapel House
Wearhead

Cllr Blackett supports this application as it will improve a redundant and dangerous building

DM/20/01729/LB
Conversion of barn to dwelling
Ludwell
Eastgate

10369 **Finance**

1. With the rat problem at Crosshill Cllr Craig authorised the clerk to get Pest Control from DCC to come and visit the site. A quote has been received which is £968.46 for the year with twenty rat boxes put down and includes one visit a month and a report will be sent to the Parish Council after each visit. There is a tenant who is catching the rats on a regular basis, but the complaints have come from the residents of the near-by houses who have seen rats coming out of the gardens. This needs a discussion at a council meeting
2. Stanhope Hartwell Educational Foundation have sent the Receipts and Payment Account for the year ended 31st March 2020
3. Great North Air Ambulance would like us to consider a donation to help them to save lives. Cllr Blackett, Cllr Mrs Humble, Cllr Miss Carrick, Cllr Mrs Hawkes, Cllr W Wearmouth, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Miss Graham, Cllr Mrs Maddison, Cllr Craig agreed a donation the same as last year. A donation of £500 to be sent to the Great North Air Ambulance.
4. WE have received an application for the Grant Money from Weardale Flower and Garden Club. The application has been filed until the closing date of 31st October 2020
5. A request has been received from Light Up the Dale for Daddry Shield for a permanent electric supply/tree structure. The councillors that replied agreed to the £1500 that the villages have received.

10370 **Microsoft Teams / Zoom**

The November meeting will be held either by Teams or Zoom. All the councillors that sent comments agreed to this

10371**AAP Report**

Meeting was attended by Cllr Thompson and Cllr Ellwood via Microsoft teams. Cllr Thompson was sent the draft notes which were sent to all the councillors. A full list of the projects supported for covid recovery were included.

10372**CDALC**

Nothing to report

10373**Accounts for Payment**

Northgate Systems IT Support	£48.00
S Anderson Expenses	£119.25
S Anderson Salary	£720.49
HM Rev	£31.41
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
Makepeace Motors Foot path clearance June/September	£1920.00
Makepeace Motors play park & Daddry Shield Toilets Risk Assessment	£1692.00
Makepeace Motors Play Park fencing Westgate/Bondisle The new fencing has been inspected	£5280.00
Paul Irwin Grass Cutting Ashcroft	£150.00
JRB Enterprise Ltd	£537.60
Northgate Systems Accessibility Compliance	£120.00
Light Up the Dale	£1500.00
Great North Air Ambulance	£500.00
TOTAL	£12,653.75

10374**New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Mrs Hawkes would like the Parish Council to think about traffic calming/slowing on Crawleyside Bank or perhaps reducing the speed limit to 30 mph. The speed limit is 30mph at the bottom, national for about 400 metres, then back to 30mph at the top of the bank.

Walkers have commented it is dangerous to cross which Cllr Mrs Hawkes has seen for herself. She does declare an interest.

2. Cllr Miss Graham has noticed that the bins on the Front Street and the railing opposite the Bonny Moor Hen have been painted along with the bollards in the Market Place/ church. A thank you to be sent to who organised to have this work done
3. Is it possible to have all the salt bins in the dale filled so that we are prepared for winter.
4. Cllr Craig will contact D Hunt to have the quarry entrance grass tidied up.
5. Cllr Thompson would like a letter of thanks to go to Mr Roddam for the use of Rookhope Club.

10375

Clerks Business

Nothing to report

Next meeting 4th November 2020 via Zoom or Microsoft Teams commencing at 7pm

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