

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 4th September 2019

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr M Brewin, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr W Wearmouth,

Cllr B Thompson, Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes, Cllr Miss J Carrick

S Anderson Clerk

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Mrs S Thompson

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To Receive any declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meeting held on 8th August 2019

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. **Stanhope Out of Hours** – A reply has been received from the CCG which has been sent to all the councillors. The decision to make changes to the extended access to primary care services was agreed by the County Durham Council Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th June 2019 and will come into effect on 1st October 2019. The Committee agreed that the consultation process was robust, lawful and approved by NHS England. A copy of the joint statement produced by Sue Jacques, Chief Executive at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust has been attached which when read relates to the Richardson Hospital at Barnard Castle and not to Stanhope. A list of points about the changes to provide clarity have been sent. An email has been received from a resident of Crawleyside concerning the campaign and the refusal of a request to speak to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee. Cllr Mrs Hawkes commented that we cannot challenge the review but it is not too late to challenge the change of provision. To understand the changes then the CCG need to attend a Parish Council meeting to explain these to the councillors. It was also mentioned that it had come to a councillor's attention that St John's Chapel Doctors Surgery will close at some point. There have been numerous

occasions when the surgery has been closed when it should have been open. Residents are walking to the surgery with prescriptions and samples to find it closed. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite the CCG to the October meeting and also to write to the Doctors to find out how many sessions have been cancelled since 1st Jan 2019 and also at Wolsingham and Stanhope and the reason why they were cancelled.

2. **Stanhope Dene** – A reply has been received regarding a councillors concern about the access for emergency vehicles if there was a climbing accident. Climbing has been prohibited to curtail the extensive drilling and bolting of the rock face and also trees and vegetation had been destroyed by the climbers. The full reply has been sent to the Stanhope councillors. The gate will soon be moved, and the fencing installed. DCC suggested leaving a gap or installing a stile at the end of the fencing but there is access further up the lane where there is parking. Also, Mr Kirk does not want the adders disturbed in that area.
3. **Update from A Caygill Environment Agency** – Anna has sent a follow up from her attendance at the recent meeting. She is enquiring if we knew anyone who would like to be a flood warden and become the environment agencies on the ground contact during an event. Anna is looking at getting an emergency plan for Stanhope area so that in a big scale flood event there would be a member of the community who the environment agency is able to check in with and have eyes and ears on the ground. The Cambokeels proposed Mine Water Treatment Scheme has identified a preferred site. This is a field adjacent to the mine site. A range of ground and treatment investigations are being undertaken from June 2019. Trials are taking place and the results will be used to inform a planning submission scheduled for spring 2020. With regards about the cement works the Environment Agency is not involved so no update is available
4. **Velo North-** Under the Freedom of Information Act there was no money spent on the event that was cancelled
5. **EE Emergency Mast Bollihope** – A meeting took place at the site of the proposed mast. Points were put forward by the attending councillors and by the AONB that had not been considered. The engineers and Savills are having to re-think the position of the mast. It was mentioned that at the Teas and Wear Valley Farm Watch they use radios and the police use satellite phones.
6. **Neighbourhood Plan meeting** – The chairman of Allendale Parish Council will attend a meeting and will be in touch after his holidays
7. **Frosterley Parking** – Cllr Mrs Maddison mentioned the letter from last meeting and why no comments had been mentioned. The issue is now 95% better after the Police had spoken to the car owners so no other action was necessary.
8. **Newtown House** – Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that someone came into the shop and enquired about Newtown House and was hoping for support so to gain funding to re-open it. No further contact has been made
9. **AONB** – Cllr Ellwood is waiting to hear back from the AONB regarding an event in Weardale as Teasdale has had two events

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Correspondence Received

1. A request has been received for a salt bin on the road up to the Weardale Ski Club. In previous years cars have been getting stuck and the occasional accident happens. The request has been sent to DCC
2. A blocked drain has been reported on West Terrace, Stanhope which has now been cleaned out
3. A request to pull out the roadside ragwort on the Cowshill to Allenheads road and Killhope Bank has been sent off.

4. Cllr Mrs Maddison sent photographs of the play park at Frosterley after two children had complained about it. This was forwarded to Barrie Alderson for attention who replied that the work was on the winter maintenance programme
5. The group from Frosterley who organised the Christmas tree/frame on The Green last year would like to do the same this year on the strip of land in front of the houses at Stockley Grove. They would like the permission from Stanhope Parish Council to do this if we own the land. The area concerned does not belong to the Parish Council but belongs to DCC. The lady needs to contact J Hodges **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the group
6. A tenant would like permission to keep 3 to 4 hens on her plot at Crosshill Allotments and has given assurances that they wont be a nuisance to others on the allotment site **Resolved:** Permission was granted but no cockerels are allowed
7. S Ragg has sent information on a VAT Information session on 24th Sept in Shotton Hall, Peterlee.
8. S Ragg has sent a link to The Village Survival Guide which can be read online or purchased. It was mentioned that this is a good little guide
9. There will be a temporary road closure on 14th September between 10.15 to 11.15 for Stanhope Silver Band to march down the street
10. The Environment Agency has sent some information regarding changes to Environment Agency Water Resource Licensing. This is the abstraction of water for residential and businesses that use bore holes, wells, lake, river and springs exceeding 20 cubic metres (20,000) per day. More details are available from the Environment Agency
11. A request has been received for more bins at Bollihope as the two bins that are there are full and overflowing. As the lady pointed out people should take their rubbish home with them, but they don't
12. The Weardale Natural Flood Management Demonstrator project has booked a stand at the Weardale Show on 31st Aug and community events will take place in Stanhope, Westgate and Cowshill.
13. The cycle event organisers have requested a temporary road closure and no vehicles to be parked on the roadside at West Terrace, Stanhope. This will be on 10th Sept and for a short period. S Galloway has been given very little notice on this but there are no parking signs in place.
14. NHS North of England Commissioning Support Unit are requesting our support in circulating information to groups and members of the public. What came out clear during the consultation was that people weren't sure what to do when they are unwell. The NHS would like our support in getting key health messages out to members of the public. If we can support then we have to acknowledge yes to the email. There is a lack of understanding and someone needs to come out to a Parish meeting

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Planning Matters

DM/19/02082/FPA

Two storey rear extension at number 6 Britton Hall and new access from existing highway from A689 for 5 & 6 Britton Hall
 5&6 Britton Hall
 Westgate

DM/19/02483/FPA
Single storey rear extension
Hill House Farm
Westgate

DM/19/01395/FPA
Conversion of barn outbuilding into single family dwelling house
Bushey Flat Farm
Stanhope

DM/19/02414/FPA
First floor extension to dwelling
Conversion of outbuilding to holiday let and replacement of gas\ and septic tank
High Rowantree Farm
Ireshopeburn

DM/19/02656/LB
Change of use of a redundant agricultural barn to residential use, the creation of a residential curtilage, demolition and partial demolition of redundant building and associated works and Infrastructure
Stotsfield Farm
Rookhope

DM/19/02709/FPA
Erection of wind turbine
Scutter Hill
Scutter Bank
Westgate

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Parish Council Website

Nothing to discuss

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Finance

1. A new Poop Bag Dispenser costs £79.00 plus vat. JRB Enterprise do a thinner economy bag which is 15 micron thick which would be £18.75 plus vat for 20 cases. The Standard bags that we have been getting are 22 micron thick and cost £21.50 plus vat. Wybone dispenser is £68.99 excluding delivery which is £10.60 the bags cost £37.75 plus vat for a box of 800. Cllr Craig will look where the nearest dog bin is and look for a location for a dispenser. **Resolved:** It was agreed to stay with JRB Enterprise
2. The cost of bench for the Riverside Walk near to the swimming pool would be £344 plus vat and installation £75, total cost £487.80. D Hunt will have a site meeting for the location if the councillors want to progress with the seat. The councillors thought it might be a good idea to ask the WAAP **Resolved:** Clerk to contact A Maddison from the WAAP
3. Finance figures to be discussed, all councillors have received a copy of the figures by email

4. Mazars have completed the audit for the year ending 31st March 2019. On the basis of the review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to the auditors attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. Minor scope for improvement was two boxes should have been ticked 'not covered' along with a missing web address. **Resolved:** The councillors agreed that £15 to be charged for anyone requesting a copy of the return
5. Last year the allotment prizes were £20 1st prize and £10 2nd prize **Resolved:** It was agreed to keep the prize money the same
6. S Makepeace has inspected the gateway at Westgate Play Park. He suggests resurfacing the whole area with tarmac and reset the kerb edge against the road as it is very uneven. The estimated cost would be £820.00 plus vat. If patching is required it would cost £160.00 plus vat **Resolved:** It was agreed to have the whole area tarmaced
7. Cllr Thompson mentioned the play park at Rookhope and that the cost of £25,000 could be split three ways. Parish Council £7500, WAAP £7500 and Cllr Shuttleworth the remainder of the balance. **Resolved:** The councillors agreed £7500 on the condition that the WAAP matched that figure

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AAP Report

Cllr Thompson mentioned that the Victorian Tea Tent at St Johns Chapel Show was a huge success.

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CDALC

Cllr Ellwood attended the meeting and mentioned the loss of budget for care by 38% in County Durham. Talks are being held with Cumbria and Northumberland.

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Accounts for Payment

Peters Private Hite – Blackhall Memorial	£190.00
DCC Hire of meeting room July/August 5.5 hours	£110.00
J Woodhall Memorial Wreath	£25.00
P Irwin Grass Cutting Ashcroft Play Park	£150.00
Mazars Audit	£360.00
St Thomas Church Hall April meeting	£26.00
S Anderson Expenses	£137.65
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
S Anderson Salary	£725.23
HM Rev	£28.47

Makepeace Motors footpaths, Crosshill path, Sign painting £2124.00

TOTAL £3911.35

Current Account Balance as at 15/8/2019 £4725.83

Scottish Widows £40,175.91

Scottish Widows Playpark/Community £29,479.62

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New Matters for discussion

1. Cllr Mrs Maddison mentioned that the drain was cleaned out on Front Street, Frosterley but in the gutter there is grass growing out of it **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
2. Residents have complained about the caravan in a field down at Kenneths Bridge. As it is on private land the councillors thought there would be very little that can be done
3. Cllr Brewin mentioned that on Tuesday after the bin men have been all the bins are taken back in apart from two which stay out all the time at Front Street, Frosterley **Resolved:** Clerk to write to DCC
4. Cllr Mrs Humble would like the areas at Cowshill Bus Stop, the Church and the Village Hall weeding **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
5. Cllr Thompson mentioned water on the road and a tree at Stots bend leaning into the road. He will contact Highways to see what can be done.
6. Some thieves stole some metal but were arrested when they stopped for fuel
7. Cllr Ellwood has had a request for the overhanging branches to be cut back on four trees as they are over the swimming pool. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
8. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff mentioned the white lines at Coppers Lodge that had been agreed a few months ago has not been done yet. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to DCC
9. Cllr Mrs Hawkes noticed that there was surface water on the road from Stanhopeburn Caravan entrance down to the school. **Resolved:** Clerk to report the drains to DCC
10. Cllr Miss Carrick reported that Mrs K Hutchinson was still receiving phone calls about Parish Council matters. The councillors agreed to put the contact details of the councillors in the gazette **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the gazette
11. Cllr Miss Carrick and the clerk attended the Blackhall Memorial Service and she thought it would be nice if there was a memorial plaque at Crawleyside. Also the speed limit was mentioned but Cllr Craig commented that we tried years ago to get it reduced but were unsuccessful.
12. There is a Digital Voices before 1970 recording peoples stories being held at the Community Centre
13. There is a sign at Osbourne Terrace that needs painting **Resolved:** Clerk to ask S Makepeace
14. The planters at St Johns Chapel outside the Town Hall are the same as the ones at the other end of the village and Cowshill and Ireshopeburn. These planters are planted by DCC and Cllr Miss Carrick feels that the two outside the Town Hall should be planted. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Gillett again

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Clerks Business

Following the recent judging and inspection of all the allotment sites in Stanhope Parish the prize winners are :

1. Ireshopeburn – 1st Mr Rigby and 2nd Mrs S Andrews
2. Westgate - 1st Mr Aldred and 2nd Mr T Nattrass
3. Stanhope Old Hall - 1st Mr T Craig and 2nd Mr R Mews
4. Crosshill - 1st Mr H Smith and 2nd Mr J Anstee
5. Willard Grove - 1st Mr C Smith and 2nd Mr S Tweddle
6. Bondisle - 1st Mr C Cassidy 2nd Mr D Hunt

Two tenants from Crosshill were given Highly Commended Mrs N Ramshaw and Dr S Lumb

The tenants that have not worked their plots have been written too and given 28days to tidy the plots up otherwise their tenancy will be terminated. Another inspection will take place

An allotment tenant from Willard Grove would like to apply for a poly tunnel size 6m x 3m x 2.1m in height. It would be situated at the back of the plot either length ways or width ways whichever the councillors approve **Resolved:** Councillors agreed to the polytunnel

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

-----Signed-----date