

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 7th July 2021

PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig Chairman

Cllr M Brewin, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr W Wearmouth,

Cllr J Shuttleworth, Cllr Miss J Carrick

S Anderson Clerk

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs A Hawkes, Cllr L Blackett

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To Receive Any Declarations of Interest from Members

None Received

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Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd June 2021

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. **Westgate Allotment Site** – Two letters have been received regarding the request to reduce the numbers gradually on the site. One has concerns about the decision to reduce the hens. A full inspection took place again on Monday 28th June 2021 where Cllr Brewin spoke to the tenant as he happened to be on the plot. A discussion took place and Cllr Shuttleworth proposed that it should be left alone. The other councillors did not agree and that the tenancy agreement applies to all six sites. The number of hens need reducing and the tenants have been asked to reduce them gradually. **Resolved:** It was agreed that the tenant

at Westgate could keep the number of hens that he has now but when they come to the end of their lives they are not to be replaced so that the number comes down gradually.

2. **Allotment Sites** – An inspection took place on Monday 28th June 2021 and letters are to be sent out where no work has taken place. A date of 30th Sept will be given for an improvement of the plot. At the Old Hall there is a piece of ground that could be tidied up and made into another plot. At Crosshill a sliding piece of wood would help access to the bath as it is difficult to get any water out. There are many self-seeding sycamore trees in a plot that need to be cut down. At Bondisle a tenant asked permission to move his shed but no decision was made at the last meeting. Cllr Mrs Hawkes sent an email that there was no horticultural reason to move the shed. **Resolved:** The councillors at the meeting agreed that the shed could be moved. There are some self-seeding trees that need to come down at Bondisle. At Willard Grove the bottom plot has a heap of wood and window frames which was disappointing as a skip had been organised to clear the plot from rubbish. Cllr Shuttleworth declared an interest and will speak to the tenant of the plot.
3. **Toilet Provision** – J Talbot is looking into the possibility of some extra toilets
4. **Trees at St John's Chapel** – D Gillett has been out and inspected the trees. He has spoken to the property owner directly.
5. **Accident at New Park** – Inspector Turner has arranged to speak to Cllr Craig regarding the accident and the problem of speeding motorcycles. The speed limit is going to be looked at from Frosterley to the top end of the dale.

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Correspondence Received

1. D Hunt has ordered some fly tipping £400 fine signs to be placed around Weardale. He also has some more fixed penalty signs as well. If any councillors would like them in certain places, then we can contact Darren. Someone has been fly tipping garden rubbish over the river bank side by the lay-by past Horn Hall.
2. A resident from Daddry Shield is concerned about the trees in Daddry Shield play park and the state of the play equipment. The trees are also overhanging onto the neighbouring property. The email has been sent to all of the councillors. The trees had been inspected last year and no work was required. They will be inspected again next year by Olivers Tree Services
3. Cllr Wearmouth has had a report that the footpath at the Rookhope Burn through the Cragside Caravan Park is in a state. The fence has fallen and is hanging over the riverside but is overgrown in places and people might step on it thinking it's the path and end up over the edge. This has been reported to M Murden.
4. We have received an email from DCC, Woodland Creation Officer, a project set up by DCC as one amongst many methods of trying to address the climate emergency. The schemes overall aim is to plant 140,000 trees across County Durham in the next 3 years. If we know of any areas then we can contact the officer.
5. We have received a complaint that the grass has not been cut this year in Ashcroft Playing field and is approaching knee height in places. After contacting the chairman, a letter has been sent to find out the reason why the grass has not been cut. The grass has now been cut.
6. The Community Highways Worker has broken his hip the chairman was informed. D Hunt has arranged for a temporary replacement. A card has been sent to S Lewis.
7. County Durham residents can have their say on proposals to change Parliamentary constituency boundaries before recommendations are made to Parliament. Cllr Wearmouth

replied to the email that we were sent. He thinks the Parish Council should oppose this.

Resolved: It was agreed to oppose the boundary changes and to write

8. A resident reported that the hedge at Ashcroft needs trimming back. This was reported to DCC but at the moment it could not be cut back due to the birds. Cllr Shuttleworth has dealt with this.
9. A resident from Westgate has reported that one of the swings in the play park has a squeak which needs some grease on it. S Makepeace will sort this out.
10. Parish and Town Councils across the country are being encouraged to get involved through the lighting of beacons on the 2nd June 2022 at 9.15pm to celebrate 70 years of service by the Queen for the country. This is something that the Parish Council should look into.

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Applications for Parish Council Vacancies

Richard Lawrie has applied for the vacancy for Stanhope Urban and Sandra Thompson would like to be considered for St Johns Chapel Ward.

Paul Turton would like to be councillor for Stanhope Rural. There will be a Notice of Election going out on the 8th July 2021 so if Mr Turton wants to put papers in and it isn't contested then there would not be an election and he would get on unopposed. Mr Turton knows the notice is going up

Resolved: Clerk to invite Richard Lawrie and Sandra Thompson to the next Parish Council meeting to be co-opted on.

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Adopt New Code of Conduct

The new code of conduct was moved and seconded to be adopted by Stanhope Parish Council.

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County Councillor Update

Cllr Mrs Sutcliff asked if the new building was still going ahead which it is as it is 90% built.

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Planning Matters

DM/21/00757/FPA

New entrance door to front, first floor rear extension and replacement roof terrace

4A Market Place

St Johns Chapel

DM/21/01229/FPA

Installation of ground mounted solar panels and single wind turbine on a 11m tower

Low Moss Cottage

Cowhill

DM/21/01485/FPA

Replace roof, installation of roof lights and replace roof to

Outbuilding

12 Hylton Terrace

Rookhope

DM/21/01505/FPA

Remove part of wall and creation of vehicular access and hardstanding
Land adjacent 1-3 South View
Eastgate

DM/21/01825/VOC

Variation of condition 2
Approved plans of planning permission 3/2011/0449
Erection of dwelling to allow design changes and
Erection of detached garage
Land to the east of 5
Weardale House
Stanhope

10487

Finance

1. It was in the minutes of December 2015 that the precept be increased by £7000 for the village halls. As in other years the Village Halls will have to apply for the grant money. If any do not apply then the money will have to be kept separate specifically for the village halls.
2. Rookhope Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 Village Hall Grant Money. **Resolved:** Agreed
3. Westgate Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 Village Hall Grant Money. **Resolved:** Agreed
4. A site visit to Bondisle Allotments took place with the clerk and Complete Weed Control. The report has been received and sent to all of the councillors. A fence needs to be erected around the area where the knotweed is. **Resolved:** It was agreed for Complete Weed Control to do the five-year plan. Clerk to seek legal advice as recommended in the report.
5. Crosshill Nursing Home Activities Fund are asking if we would be able to provide a raffle prize for the summer raffle. The nursing home has managed to raise funds through some raffles which have been wonderful for buying craft items, jigsaws puzzles, prizes for bingo and other games and entertainment. **Resolved:** It was agreed to donate a £25.00 hamper
6. St Johns Chapel Town Hall would like to apply for the £500 Village Hall Grant money **Resolved:** Agreed
7. A site meeting took place at Ashcroft play park with S Makepeace, Cllr Miss Carrick and Cllr Mrs Hawkes. There had been some damage done to the safety surface which Simon repaired straight away. Simon will price for repairs to the rope swing, trampoline, replacement of tubes and mushroom tops. There is also some fencing that needs replacing. The grass in the play park has not been cut and we have received a complaint from a resident concerning this.
8. Cowshill Village Hall would like to apply for the £500 grant money. **Resolved:** Agreed
9. S Makepeace has sent the playground inspection report which has been sent to all of the councillors. **Resolved:** It was agreed to have the work done that was mentioned in the report.
10. Wearhead Village Hall would like to apply for the annual village hall grant money of £500. **Resolved:** Agreed
11. The Barrington Hall, St John's Chapel would like to apply for the £500 Village Hall Grant money. **Resolved:** Agreed

12. The long-term agreement is due for renewal on 9th September 2021 with Zurich. The following options have been offered: 5-year premium of £1294.03, 3-year premium of £1357.78- and 1-year premium of £1423.35. We have to let the insurance company know which option we decide. Previous years we have gone for the long-term option. **Resolved:** The 5-year long term agreement was agreed
13. The clerks printer needs a new imagining unit **Resolved:** It was agreed to purchase a new printer

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AAP Report

The first Board meeting will be held via teams on 8th July 2021

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Accounts for Payment

E-ON Playground Ashcroft	£11.36
Ward Bros Plant Hire Skip Bondisle Allotments	£216.00
Cllr D Craig Chairman's Allowance	£250.00
Smith Of Derby Westgate Memorial Clock	£250.80
Smith of Derby Wearhead Memorial Clock	£250.80
Smith of Derby Frosterley Memorial Clock	£250.80
Dales Centre Hire June Meeting	£30.00
S Anderson salary	£791.66
HM Rev	£7.54
S Anderson expenses	£45.66
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
TOTAL	£2139.62

ACCOUNTS FOR RECEIPTS

NETWORK RAIL	£2.58
HMRC VAT	£2697.03
ALLOTMENT RENT	£99.00

10490

New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that another councillor is needed to be a representative on the Hartwell Society. **Resolved:** It was agreed to wait until the new councillors were at the meeting
2. A complaint has been received that horses are being ridden along the riverside walk and leaving horse muck behind them. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
3. The school hedge at the bottom of Crawleyside needs trimming back and also the hedge at the back of Cowgarth Hill. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
4. Cllr Mrs Humble mentioned that a dog bin is needed on the A689 at Cornriggs and also Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that the dog bin at Cross Street has not been put up yet. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
5. Cllr Brewin has heard some rumours that the road down from Hill End is to have a speed limit of 40mph on it. Cllr Brewin has taken the speed gun. There is still an ongoing issue with parking.
6. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff mentioned that the drain by Barrington Hall and Coppers Lodge is full and needs cleaning out. **Resolved:** Cllr Shuttleworth to deal with this
7. Cllr Craig mentioned that the people from the Lithium project would like to come to the Parish Council meeting in September to do a presentation.

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Clerks Business

Nothing to report

Meeting Closed at 7.55pm

Date of next meeting is Wednesday 4th August 2021 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

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