

## STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

### PRESENT:

Cllr D Craig

Cllr M Brewin, Cllr Mrs A Humble, Cllr L Blackett, Cllr W Wearmouth, Cllr B Thompson,

Cllr D Ellwood, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes, Cllr Miss F Graham, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Miss J Carrick

S Anderson Clerk

### Also Present:

Dr Neil O'Brien Accountable Officer

Sarah Burns Director of Commissioning Strategy and Delivery –  
NHS Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield CCG

Members of the public

### 10134

#### Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs H Maddison, Cllr Mrs S Thompson

### 10135

#### To Receive any declarations of Interest from Members

Cllr D Ellwood and Cllr Miss J Carrick

### 10136

#### Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019

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

### 10137

#### Dr Neil O'Brien and Sarah Burns CCG

Cllr Craig welcomed the CCG to the meeting. Four years ago there was a review into urgent care centres as there was three at Easington and one at Bishop Auckland. Extended services were then introduced as Hubs at Bishop Auckland, Stanhope and Barnard Castle. If in the case of an injury then Bishop Auckland, if unwell think GP first, if surgery closed ring 111 and you will be directed to the right place. The use of 111 doubled in 2017. Some Hubs were used more than others with only 20% utilisation at Stanhope and Barnard Castle which has led to the closure of these Hubs. Even if the call handlers had sent people to Stanhope the numbers still wouldn't have been viable, some were sent to Stanhope but in some cases, it was human error that they were sent elsewhere. Transport access has been made easier with the removal of criteria. This is being provided by the NEAS and taxi service which will take you to the appointment, wait then bring you back home. Leaflets are available to get out to the villages to explain what to do if you're not well. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff commented on her experience that she was sent to Shotley Bridge and not offered Stanhope. Cllr

Thompson commented that not many people were aware of the consultation. If leaflets had been sent to everyone at first to let people know the Hub was available at Stanhope then it would have been a different story as it would have been well used. Cllr Brewin agreed with Cllr Thompson he knew nothing about the consultation and does keep up to date with things. Cllr Ellwood commented that being in a rural area he would ring 999 and would never ring 111.

Cllr Mrs Hawkes enquired what are the CCG doing pro-actively to encourage services in our rural area. Primary care networks were mentioned where groups of practices work together. Cllr Wearmouth mentioned that there is a lot of confusion. If the GP surgery was full then an overflow system exists at Bishop Auckland where you will be booked into. Cllr Miss Graham would like to see all the school children sent home with a leaflet to get the information out there. Cllr Ellwood mentioned the consultation on Ward6 and that there are no meetings in Weardale. It was mentioned that it took 3 hours for an ambulance to arrive after a riding accident had happened. Cllr Craig mentioned the changes to the repeat prescription ordering system and not everyone does email or can get to the surgery. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff is very concerned about the closure of St Johns Chapel on certain days. Residents are walking up to the surgery with samples and prescriptions to find it closed. A member of the public spoke with some very good points the CCG did agree to do an audit on the last six weeks as the Stanhope Hub has been used a lot more. Cllr Craig thanked everyone for attending and the CCG gave assurances that a review would take place and a reply would be sent concerning St Johns Chapel.

#### **10138**

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

No Police were in attendance

#### **10139**

##### **Matters Arising**

- 1. WOLSINGHAM SCHOOL & LIFESTYLE FITNESS** – Under the Freedom of Information Act DCC have established that the information on who signed the contract between Wolsingham School and Lifestyle Fitness is not held by DCC. This is because the agreement is between Wolsingham School and Lifestyle Fitness, with some involvement from Crook Community Leisure. We have been advised to direct our request to Wolsingham School. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask for the information under a FOI request
- 2. RIVERSIDE WALK TREES OVERHANGING SWIMMING POOL** - The trees have been inspected and DCC policy is that overhanging branches can be cut back to the boundary but not by DCC. If the branches are cut off DCC would take them away.
- 3. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** - The chairman of Allendale is involved in the folk festival so cannot make a September meeting. He is then on holiday until the middle of October. Once he is back then we can arrange a meeting for him to attend **Resolved:** Clerk to arrange a meeting
- 4. TUBS AT ST JOHNS CHAPEL** – The planters haven't been planted as they are not on the schedule to plant. No-one seems to know who put the planters there or who has planted them in the past. J Bennett has arranged to have the planters planted
- 5. WHITE LINES AT ST JOHNS CHAPEL** - The Strategic Traffic Team have confirmed that an order has been placed with the lining contractor for the keep clear markings. Due to the remote location it generally takes a little longer
- 6. ST JOHN'S CHAPEL SURGERY** – A spreadsheet has been sent with the information on that we asked for regarding how many sessions have been cancelled at St Johns Chapel, Wolsingham and Stanhope since 1<sup>st</sup> January. The practice provides medical services at four sites in total, Weardale Community Hospital is a GP led unit and has a clinical session provided each day. Clinic cancellation happens on rare occasions when GP's are sick leave/attending meetings

off site where attendance is mandatory. The closure at the branches are planned in advance, notices are visible at each site to show dates when there will be no provision there. It is very important to the practice that medical care is available easily to all patients across the large geographical area. Medical care is always available during opening hours at Stanhope Surgery. To ensure continuity of this it may be necessary to temporarily vary the services provide across the other sites that are operated. These variations do not reflect any future strategic plans. Cllr Mrs Humble sent an email to all councillors regarding job adverts in September for Practice Nurse and Advanced Nurse Practitioner or Emergency Care Practitioner but no GP adverts.

7. **BINS AT FROSTERLEY** – The Neighbourhood Warden will be investigating the problem with the bins
8. **WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE UNWELL** – We have been sent two posters for every councillor to put in their villages. We have to advise where the posters have been placed
9. **WATER ON THE ROAD, ROOKHOPE** – Cllr Thompson reported that the Highways Inspector has passed it on to the drainage team and it's in hand

#### 10140

##### Correspondence Received

1. Two copies have been sent of the Receipts and Payments form of the Stanhope Hartwell Educational Foundation for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019
2. Information has been received from the Durham Savers Scheme. The Scheme is a way of saving money on a regular basis and if required borrowing money without having to use Pay Day Lenders who charge exorbitant amounts of interest on their loans. This scheme is available to all parish council employees and councillors.
3. A resident from Westgate contacted Cllr Craig as some residents are using the pavement on the bridge in Westgate as a permanent parking area. Concerns are raised as the vehicles are obstructing the pavement for pedestrians, causing damage to the kerb, obstructing the use of a public bench. There is adequate parking less than 20 metres west of the bridge with dropped kerbs and asphalt surface. Cllr Craig asked the clerk to report this to the Police who are going to see what can be done to resolve the issue. The area has been looked at and the PCSO can see where the problem lies but is concerned that in trying to deal with it, will have a negative impact on other members of the community/passing traffic. At the time there were no vehicles obstructing the bench and there was enough space for buggies to get past on the occasions when the PCSO had been there. He would like to arrange a site meeting to look at the best way forward. **Resolved:** Clerk to arrange a meeting
4. An allotment tenant would like to apply for a 8x4 shed for his plot at Willard Grove, Stanhope **Resolved:** Councillors gave permission for a shed
5. Cllr Miss Carrick asked the clerk to report a blocked drain at Cross Street by the Town Hall, Stanhope and the fish and chip shop. The request was sent
6. There is a temporary road closure between Burtreeford Bridge and Burnhope House, Cowshill. This is to enable carriageway surfacing works which will probably take five days to complete.
7. CDALC have sent details of a Chairmanship Training Course which is being held in Peterlee Town Councils Banqueting Suites on 22<sup>nd</sup> October
8. The clerk from Middleton-in-Teesdale & Newbiggin Parish Council would like some information on our Community Highways Worker. She would like to know how much we pay towards the CHW each year and what this is a percentage of our precept. Do we have a Service Level Agreement and who is the contact at DCC. **Resolved:** Clerk to send the information

9. Anna Caygill from the Environment Agency would like the Parish Councils backing with regards to an emergency plan and how they can better protect the residents when there are sudden downpours. In Wolsingham they have the plan on the website so it's easy to access for community members **Resolved:** Information can be placed on our website
10. The Durham Dales Hockey Club are requesting a hockey plus (all sports full size pitch). The email has been sent to Wolsingham Parish Council to try and arrange a meeting. Two members of the public asked to speak. The hockey club has 110 members with an age range from 4 to 74. They need to identify a site for an all-weather pitch. Sport England have identified that there is a need and the club have their backing and funding is available. Cllr Miss Graham mentioned a field down Bondisle next to the football pitch which is owned by DCC. The ladies will make enquiries. **Resolved:** Clerk to write a letter of support to DCC
11. The VAT course notes have been sent from the recent training day at Shotton Hall.
12. Two public consultations will be launched next Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October for nine weeks. The first consultation is around Stroke Rehabilitation and the second Ward 6 at Bishop Auckland Hospital. Stroke rehabilitation will be held on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 10am-12pm at Bishop Auckland football club, Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 6-8pm at Durham Town Hall, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 10-12pm The Witham, Barnard Castle and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 1-3pm at St Augustine's Parish Centre, Darlington. The consultation dates for Ward 6 are Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 10-12pm at The Witham Barnard Castle, Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 1-3pm at St Augustine's Parish Centre, Darlington, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 6-8pm at Bishop Auckland Football Club and Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 10-12 at Durham Town Hall

#### **10141**

##### **Planning Matters**

DM/19/02869/FPA

Two storey side extension

Dyke House

Brotherlee

DM/19/02968/VOC

Variation of condition 7 pursuant to DM/16/03167/FPA

To allow the use of UPVC vertical sliding sash windows

Land to the East of

Westholme

19 Crosshill

Stanhope

DM/19/02979/FPA

Replacement of existing wood effect UPVC conservatory with glazed conservatory structure with warm roof construction and TAPCO slate roof covering

Weardale Community Hospital

DM/19/03009/FPA

Creation of opening alterations to existing openings and conservatory to southern elevation

Hodgson House

Front Street

Wearhead

DM/19/03034/FPA

Detached garage and timber framed sunroom  
High Shittlehopeburn Farm  
Stanhope

DM/19/02687/FPA

Erection of 2 no detached dwellings and associated parking  
Land between 61-67 Hood Street  
St Johns Chapel

DM/19/02873/FPA

Replacement shooting hut extension of parking areas  
Burnhope Shooting Lodge  
Grasshill Causeway  
Coldberry  
Ireshopemoor

Cllr Thompson enquired have we had any communication about the hot tub application at Rookhope  
**Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

#### **10142**

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

Nothing to report

#### **10143**

##### **Finance**

1. The Great North Air Ambulance would like us to consider donating to the charity **Resolved:** It was agreed to donate £500
2. A Maddison has suggested that the Parish Council uses the Small Grants Fund for the bench along the Riverside Walk. We have to let her know if we want to proceed. **Resolved:** councillors agreed to go ahead
3. Last year the Parish Council gave permission to the Frosterley Christmas Lights Group to plant a holly tree. The switch on event was a great success and the group are planning to do the same this year. They have been advised that the mains electrical connection on the Village Green needs upgrading to meet modern safety practices. A local electrical company checks the connection every year. The WAAP have indicated that the group would be eligible to apply for funding. They are asking permission to get this work undertaken **Resolved;** Councillors gave their permission
4. A Maddison sends her thanks to the Parish Councillors regarding Rookhope Play Park. Angelina will keep Cllr Thompson up to speed with developments. Angelina would like to attend a meeting to show the councillors the equipment the community feel is needed to enhance the play area. The current understanding is Stanhope Parish Council £7500 and WAAP £7500 (yet to be approved by Board). Money from Barrie Alderson- Oliver Sherratt £2,500. Cllr Mrs Savory £3250.00, Cllr Shuttleworth £3250.00 Current quotation £24,000. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite A Maddison to the November meeting

5. We have received a quote for the two noticeboards with a total of £1895.00. If the councillors wish to proceed then a 45% non-refundable deposit to cover material costs with the balance payable on completion is required **Resolved:** councillors agreed the quote
6. A letter was read out from Light Up the Dale, Cllr Miss Carrick and Cllr D Ellwood declared an interest. **Resolved:** It was agreed to send £1500 to each of the villages Wearhead and Westgate

#### **10144**

##### **AAP Report**

Cllr Thompson mentioned the Northern Heartlands and Rural Policing with ten voluntary P.S.C. V's being recruited, one will be based at Crook. The Police have Drones and Farm watch is now called Rural Watch.

#### **10145**

##### **CDALC**

Cllr Ellwood will be attending the next meeting

#### **10146**

##### **Accounts for Payment**

S Anderson Expenses	£43.88
S Anderson Home as Office	£35.00
S Anderson Salary	£725.23
HM Rev	£28.47
Great North Ambulance	£500.00
Light Up The Dale – Westgate & Wearhead	£3000.00
TOTAL	£4,332.58

#### **10147**

##### **New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Blackett mentioned that work has started at Burnhope Reservoir. The road has been resurfaced, guttering has been cleaned out and wires restrung. There are about one hundred curbs that need replacing and also there is masses of Rose Bay Willow Herb and Ragwort.
2. A point of interest was mentioned that as a guide line where there are telegraph poles then it will be a 30mph, it could be a slow ride up the dale between Westgate and Cowshill
3. Cllr Mrs Humble would like to know when the War Memorial will be repaired that was bumped in June **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
4. Cllr Wearmouth mentioned as a point of interest that Eastgate Christmas Lights will be switched on, on 30<sup>th</sup> November along with a firework display
5. Cllr Thompson mentioned that he had visited SmiddyBurn Bridge and that it is a grand job that has been done. The end result is smashing by local labour

6. A resident reported that the footpath needs strimming and the bushes cut back on the footpath behind Ashcroft. Part of the footpath has been strimmed but the path behind Ashcroft still needs attention **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
7. Cllr Ellwood mentioned the kissing gate again at the cattle grid at the top of Crawleyside Bank. At the last visit DCC said it was still useable. **Resolved:** Clerk to report it again to DCC as it is dangerous
8. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that the Town Hall in Stanhope is up for sale
9. Cllr Craig mentioned that the grass verges need a litter pick now. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
10. The Parish Council were sorry to here that Mrs A Ward had passed away, she had served on the Parish Council for many years as Ward Councillor for Frosterley

**10148**

**Clerks Business**

An inspection is needed of the plots that have had no work done to them this year

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Date of next meeting is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7pm

.....Signed.....Date