

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 3rd August 2022

PRESENT:

Cllr Miss J Carrick Chairman

Cllr D Craig, Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr Mrs S Thompson, County Cllr J Shuttleworth, Cllr M Brewin,
Cllr R Lawrie, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes

Also present: County Councillor Mrs A Savory

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Apologies for Absence

Cllr P Turton

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To Receive Any Declarations of Interest from Members

None received

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Minutes of the meeting held on 1st June 2022

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. Cllr Mrs Savory mentioned that PC G Moore is retiring and his last day is 14th September 2022. The PACT meetings are resuming. The councillors would like the Police to attend the September meeting for an update. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite the Police

10656

Gary Sams – Fusion for Business

Mr Sams has a vast experience of the energy business and has worked with Parish Councils before. His organisation has government funding and is regulated. He can assist in reducing consumption and look at maintenance, insulation, windows and solar panels. He can look at Village Hall bills that should be paying 5% vat but most will be paying 20% and he can reclaim the money back for them and he does not take any percentage out of this. Other projects he takes 10%. Every year a form should be filled in so that only 5% vat is charged but this rarely happens so that is why 20% is charged. Cllr Mrs Savory was interested as she felt there were business's in Wolsingham that he might be able to help reduce their bills and Cllr Brewin was also interested for Frosterley Village Hall. Cllr Miss Carrick thanked Mr Sams for attending.

10657

Matters Arising

1. **ALLOTMENT INSPECTIONS** – An inspection took place on 18th July 2022 at Willard Grove, Crosshill and the Old Hall. At Willard Grove there was one plot that was not cultivated so the councillors asked the clerk to write to the tenant. The councillors did not think that there was enough rubbish to warrant another skip at Willard Grove. At Crosshill there was also a plot that had been taken on and nothing has been done to it so the clerk was asked to write to the tenant. At the Old Hall there are two plots that need the nettles strimming down so the clerk was asked to write to the tenants.
2. **RIVERSIDE PLAY PARK** – An update was asked for on the piece of play equipment that was waiting for a part. All repairs to the disability equipment have now been repaired. The parts for the hurricane swing still have not arrived but will be installed as soon as they arrive.
3. **WARD COUNCILLOR VACANCY FOR FROSTERLEY** – We have had an application for Ward Councillor for Frosterley and an application to be a councillor from a resident of Stanhope. The councillors discussed the first application and agreed that the applicant would make a good councillor for Frosterley Ward. She is very community minded. It was suggested that the vacancies be sent to the WAAP to go into the e-bulletin. **Resolved:** Clerk to invite C Burdis to the September meeting for co-option as Councillor for Frosterley ward. As the vacancies are for Cowshill and Eastgate it was felt that the applicant should come from those areas. A letter will be sent to the resident from Stanhope.
4. **HARTWELL FOUNDATION** – Cllr Mrs Savory declared an interest. We need another representative from the Parish Council to go onto the Hartwell Foundation. **Resolved:** It was agreed that Cllr R Lawrie would be the second representative
5. **ENERGY BILLS REBATE** – Information regarding the Energy Bills Rebate can be found on the GOV.UK website. The Energy Bills Rebate will provide around 28million households with an upfront discount on their bills worth £200. Energy suppliers will apply the discount to domestic electricity customers from October, with the Government meeting the costs. This is an automatic grant and does not need to be paid back.
6. **CHRISTMAS TREE IN WETSGATE ALLOTMENTS** – A resident is very keen to help with the siting of the tree at Westgate. The tree will be removed as soon as a site is chosen.
7. **REPORTED VERMIN** – The reply from DCC was sent to Cllr Brewin. To open an investigation seven separate sightings or sightings over a 2-week period whichever comes first. Dates of the sightings, times of the sightings, movement and location of the rats, how many individual rats at each sightings. A template has been sent.
8. **CDALC REPRESENTATIVE** – Cllr Mrs Hawkes is the CDALC representative for the Weardale Area. CDALC will send her the agenda by email so it will be easy to distribute further and seek any feedback from these councils. The email addresses of the four Parish Councils have been sent.
9. **LIME TREES** – Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that the trees have been trimmed back.
10. **SIGN OPPOSITE THE GREY BULL** – The sign has not been repaired. **Resolved:** Clerk to report it again to DCC

10658

Correspondence Received

1. Cllr Brewin mentioned that there is sewer cover loose by the playing field in Frosterley. There were some cuttings thrown away at Cromer Lea and the bench at Cromer Lea has brambles growing over it. All these jobs have been reported to D Hunt.
2. We have been notified of a proposed diversion of public footpath no.43 Stanhope Parish. The diversion is requested by the owners of Greenhead Cottage to enable development to

take place, namely the construction of an extension. The proposed route will also rectify a long-standing anomaly between the used path line and the definitive map line. Any comments or objections to be received from 30 days from 11th July 2022

3. An allotment tenant from Crosshill would like permission to keep 15 hens and one cockerel and a hen house 8ft by 4ft. The couple have kept hens before and understand the rules on barring the cockerel in at night and securing the allotment. The plot is at the top right-hand corner and has hens on in the past. **Resolved:** This was agreed but the tenants must follow the rules on barring the cockerel in.
4. We have received an email on the proposed stopping up of the highway at 10 Burnfoot, St Johns Chapel. The email was sent to all of the councillors and we have until the 14th Sept to send any comments or objections in. Cllr Mrs Thompson mentioned that the public turn their cars around there. It's a single lane road that gets congested as people go down there as its parking for the school. Apparently, the paved drive is too far out. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC

10659

Social Media

Both County Councillors felt that a facebook page would invite problems and have a negative impact. Neither Wolsingham or Witton -le-Wear have their own facebook page. We have a website where the minutes are put on and other news items, this could be used more. It was proposed that we do not have a facebook page which was seconded. **Resolved:** A vote took place and the majority agreed with the proposal that we should not have a facebook page.

Cllr J Shuttleworth left the meeting at 7.30pm

10660

Crawleyside Memorial

In contact with our chairman the Pavilion on Stanhope Show field has been provisionally booked for the venue for the memorial service which will be held on Saturday 20th August 2022 at 2pm. We are allowed 120 standing in the Pavilion or 80 seated. The cost will be £50 which includes the use of the toilets. **Resolved:** Clerk to confirm the booking

Stanhope Silver Band is also provisionally booked but this will depend if band members are available on the day with it being holidays.

The chairman would like a planter at the memorial site with a rose called Linda (the name of the little girl that lost her life) and some plants.

Cllr Mrs Savory mentioned that Cornerstone make planters and that if we gave her the measurements then she would sort it out. **Resolved:** Clerk to go and measure where the planter will go and then contact Cllr Mrs A Savory.

10661

County Councillor Update

August is a quiet month with very little going on. A councillor asked about Newtown House in Stanhope but at the moment there is nothing to bring to the meeting.

10662

Planning Matters

DM/22/01644/FPA & DM/22/01872/LB

Change of use of land, erection of detached two storey garage/ workshop including removal of wall, Outbuilding and creation of vehicular access and hardstanding

Ludwell

Eastgate

DM/22/01823/FPA
Single storey extension
Newlandside Bungalow
Stanhope

DM/22/01958/PNT
The installation of a 20m high lattice tower supporting 6no. antennas, 6no transmission dishes, 6no equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto, including a GPS module, a generator and fuel tank, hardstanding and a fenced compound, for the Shared Rural Network project on behalf of Hutchinson 3G UK Ltd.
Land to the East of Fell House Cottage
Rookhope

DM/22/019351/FPA
Erection of polytunnel in paddock to rear
19-21 Hood Street
St Johns Chapel

DM/22/01788/VOC
Variation of condition 5 (working hours) and 8 vehicle numbers pursuant to planning permission No DM/14/00976/VOC MW
Newlandside Quarry
Stanhope

PRE42/22/01693
New 16.5 telecommunications mast, antennas, ground-based apparatus and ancillary development.
Telecommunications Mast Meadows Edge,
Stanhope Common

10663

Finance

1. The very top plot at Crosshill allotments the gate needs securing to stop fly-tipping. The whole area needs strimming down. Also, the plot near to the top is shoulder high in thistles and nettles and would need a new access gate putting on it. A plot has recently been let which needs a boundary gate putting in. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask S Makepeace to do the work
2. We have received a letter requesting grant aid from Durham Hospitals Radio to help continue the service. Funding is required to upgrade the technology at the University Hospital North Durham. **Resolved:** Clerk to send a donation of £50.00
3. The mandate change form needs signing by Cllr Miss Carrick and Cllr Craig and Cllr Mrs Hawkes to fill in her section.
4. Frosterley Village Hall would like to apply for the Annual Village Hall grant money of £500. **Resolved:** Clerk to send £500
5. A meeting took place on 26th July with Angelina and Tracy from the WAAP, B Lightburn, James Young, Cllr Miss Carrick, Cllr R Lawrie and J English. Cllr Mrs Savory, Cllr Mrs Hawkes and Cllr R Lawrie declared an interest. Highways are not in a position to do the MUGA.

Surfacing Standards are a specialised company that would oversee the project. You could be talking £12,000 to £17,000 to resurface with tarmac, £15,000 for some new lights, surfacing standards £6400, the quote of £5280.00 has stayed the same and is valid until 28th October 2022. Stanhope Parish Council agreed £10,000 at a Parish Council meeting. Cllr Mrs Hawkes mentioned that the project has to be taken to the Board meeting but should be looked on favourably. Clerk will work with B Lightburn on the grant application which is done on-line. The play parks are inspected and maintained and have public liability. DCC do regular checks three routine and one operational totalling £800. There should be a check sheet when these are completed. Clerk to check that this is being done for our play parks. Angelina mentioned that the MUGA will be phase one which will be this year and the play equipment will be phase two next year. A meeting will be arranged with surfacing standards at the playpark. Our contractor's certificate has lapsed for inspections but is happy to renew it there is a possibility that the AAP can pay for the training. **Resolved:** Clerk to liaise with A Maddison

6. The Bank Reconciliation figures and the quarterly budget figures had been sent to the councillors which were agreed.

10664

AAP Report

Cllr Mrs Hawkes gave the AAP update. There had been an interesting presentation on the Weardale Railway looking at the possibility of a service from Darlington to the Dales in 2023. A recent open meeting had been held but it was not well advertised. The Auckland project is very ambitious with plans of 2m investment. Muggleswick church have applied through the Towns and Villages grant money to remove half of the pews and turn the area into accommodation with a kitchen and toilet facilities put in as well. Maybe this could be replicated in the dale. The County Councillors have to spend all of their money. Cllr Mrs Savory commented that the WAAP does an absolute fantastic amount of unseen work which is broad and diverse from nursery to senior citizens. The small grants sustain fold work for Weardale.

10665

Accounts for Payment

| | |
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| E-ON NEXT ASHCROFT PLAYPARK – PAID 18/7/22 | £15.52 |
| BT CLERKS PHONE BILL – PAID 21/7/22 | £85.28 |
| PAUL IRWIN GRASS CUTTING ASHCROFT PLAYPARK | £180.00 |
| WAVE PUBLIC CONV, DADDY SHIELD | £49.80 |
| DCC HIRE OF MEETING ROOM JULY | £50.63 |
| ANGLIAN WATER -OLD CEMENTERY | £14.95 |
| ANGLIAN WATER – WILLARD GROVE ALLOTMENTS | £41.33 |
| FROSTERLEY VILLAGE HALL | £500.00 |
| S ANDERSON SALARY | £815.36 |
| HM REV | £8.63 |
| S ANDERSON HOME AS OFFICE | £35.00 |

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|------------------------|----------|
| S ANDERSON EXPENSES | £6.85 |
| DURHAM HOSPITALS RADIO | £50.00 |
| TOTAL | £1853.35 |

10666

New Matters for Discussion

1. Cllr Lawrie had attended a meeting at Westgate Village Hall regarding the disaster plan. He will work with A Maddison on an overall plan for the dale. Cllr Craig said that he had lived through black outs and you just got on with it. He felt that the storm has done some good as powergrid had been taking money and doing no maintenance. He is confident it will never happen again; it was a north gale and the poles were rotten. Maintenance is now being done.
2. Cllr Craig mentioned that the Lithium at Ludwell is going well.
3. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report the Riverside at Anita's Way has been washed out over the bridge where Weardale House do the canoeing. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to the environment agency and ask for an inspection.
4. The small garden down from 31 Front Street, Ireshopeburn needs weeding. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
5. Cllr Mrs Thompson commented on the state of the weed killing on the footpaths and the roadside up at Ireshopeburn.
6. There are over-hanging bushes from a resident's house onto the footpath which needs trimming back. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
7. Cllr Mrs Thompson mentioned the Weardale Museum newsletter that had been sent. Apparently, they cannot use the car park so cars will have to park on the roadside and Anita's Way which she feels is going to cause problems.
8. Crosshill Nursing Home are deregistering their nursing beds but still committed to retaining a caring compassionate care home.
9. The Weardale Adventure Centre has been sold as a going concern.
10. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like to report the safety surface at Ireshopeburn Play Park and also the fence needs repairing. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to DCC
11. Cllr Mrs Thompson would like a letter to go to NEAS to make sure that St Johns Chapel Ambulance Station has the required cover. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to NEAS
12. Cllr Mrs Hawkes mentioned that there is a meeting of the Weardale Practice Patient Participation Group in September. If the councillors would like anything bringing up at that meeting, then they can bring it to the next Parish Council meeting.
13. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff mentioned that the dog bins are empty again. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact D Hunt
14. Cllr Miss Carrick mentioned that there is a seat that needs painting at St Johns Chapel. **Resolved:** Clerk to report to D Hunt
15. D Woodhall was raising money for the road closure on the morning of Stanhope Show to allow the Silver Band to march up the street. Jamie Clark from the fair has paid the £400. A donation of £100 that Diane had received will be donated to the Silver Band.

10667

Clerks Business

Clerk asked if we were judging the best kept allotment this year. The councillors decided against it but next year Cllr Brewin would come up with some ideas.

Cllr Mrs Savory mentioned that W H Clark brought the generator to Crosshill when there was no electricity and his brother paid the £400 to allow the band to continue to march. They both said that families have supported them for many years so they have helped now in return.

Wolsingham School has a full intake this year.

Cllr Miss Carrick thanked Cllr Mrs Savory for attending the meeting.

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.15PM

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2020 AT THE DALES CENTRE, STANHOPE
COMMENCING AT 7PM.**

.....SIGNED.....DATE