**STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL**

**At a meeting of the Council held in the Dales Centre, Stanhope on 19th May 2021**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr D Craig Chairman

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

 Cllr Mrs D Sutcliff, Cllr J Shuttleworth,

Cllr Miss J Carrick, Cllr Mrs A Hawkes

S Anderson Clerk

**10449**

**Apologies for Absence**

None

**10450**

**To Receive and Declarations of Interest from Members**

None received

**10451**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2021 and 22nd April 2021**

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

**10452**

**Minutes for 2nd Sept 2020, 7th October 2020, 4th November 2020, 2nd December 2020,**

**3rd February 2021, 3rd March 2021**

All the minutes were signed by the chairman.

**10453**

**Police and the Community**

No Police were in attendance.

**Resolved:** Clerk to invite the Police to a meeting

**10454**

**Matters Arising**

1. **Killhope Lead Mining -**  Killhope is re-opening in 17th May 2021 but part of the site will be fenced off where the unsafe structures are. There is a feasibility study taking place where the cost is being looked at. There is no quick fix.
2. **Ashes Quarry Bridges –** Our email to DCC regarding the Ashes Quarry Bridges has been passed on to Strategic Highways Team who manage the repairs to DCC Structures. They will be responding shortly.
3. **Letter to all Allotment Tenants –** The letter was sent to all of the councillors for approval before it was sent to all of the Allotment Tenants on our six sites.
4. **FOI Request –** The reply email with all of the information on was sent to all of the councillors before it was sent. The information was sent by email on Thursday 29th April 2021.
5. **Notice Board, Eastgate-** The Notice Board still has not been repaired by DCC. Clerk has reported this again to DCC
6. **Dales Centre Meetings –** The booking form has been received but a maximum of twelve people are allowed in the room. We need to confirm the booking dates. **Resolved:** Clerk to book June and July. This will be re-visited after the decision in June by the Government
7. **Dog Bin at Cowgarth Hill –** The bin has approved and will be fitted soon
8. **Fence at Cowgarth Hill –** A works order is in to have the fence repaired
9. **Dog Bin at Huntshieldford –** The bin can be moved about 25 yards up from the seat but it would be on a single post. D Hunt is concerned it will look out of place but is willing to do it.
10. **Toilets by Garden Close, Stanhope -** The request had been acknowledged but no reply has been received yet. **Resolved:** Clerk to chase it up
11. **J Wesley Monument –** No reply has been received from Historic England.
12. **Bonny Moor Hen, Stanhope –** Cllr Miss Carrick commented how nice the new signage looks.
13. **Stanhope School –** Cllr Wearmouth mentioned that the children of the school have attended the activity centre. The Barrington Trust paid for twenty one children from Eastgate Parish.

**10455**

**Correspondence Received**

1. A Freedom of Information request has been received on the 8th April 2021 requesting information on correspondence relating to the complaints of cockerels, vermin and pheasants. Also, the consultations carried out on these topics, to determine the Parish Councils decision.
2. An email has been received from a mural artist from Durham City who would like to paint something about the mining history of Weardale. He has just completed a mural for Esh Parish Council.
3. A temporary Speed Restriction Order for C21 Rookhope, Allenheads, which will commence on Friday 30th April 2021 for a period of 9 weeks, for safety reasons so that Northern PowerGrid can undertake some works in the area.
4. Community Groups and organisations are invited to apply for funding from WAAP to deliver a Holiday Activity programme. A Funding Pot of over £40,000 is available for activities for children, young people and families during the school holidays in 2021-22. The scheme aims to support local families with school age children from reception age and above by working with community groups and organisations to deliver enriching holiday activities including healthy food.
5. Details have been received regarding a scheduled temporary footbridge/footpath closure and diversion for bridge refurbishment and deck renewal works from 26th April 2021 for around 2 weeks in the Dene, Stanhope.
6. CDALC have sent information on elections results and co-options after 10th May 2021.
7. A report has been received that the recent repairs to the surfacing in Ashcroft park have cracked and possibly been pulled up and broken. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask S Makepeace to repair the surface
8. An email has been received enquiring if anything came of the FOI request regarding Newtown House. It would be of interest as to what the situation is and why the present owners have not invested in re-opening the site as a care home. **Resolved:** Cllr Shuttleworth mentioned this is still on-going
9. CDALC have scheduled the Larger and Smaller Council Forum Meeting for 22nd July. Smaller Councils can appoint up to 2 representatives.
10. A resident from St Johns Chapel has contacted the Parish Council regarding some trees down from the mart. DCC have said they are not their trees but after contacting Cllr Mrs Sutcliff the trees are not the Jubilee trees that were planted in 1977. The concerning trees are much older and have been planted close to the wall. DCC regularly spray around these trees every year. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
11. A new tenant would like permission for a small 3ft x3ft hen house and a small 3ft x 3ft shed to put the hen feed in. This is on the Old Hall Site in Stanhope where Northern Power Grid inspected the plot which is only suitable for hens. **Resolved:** Permission was granted
12. Cllr Mrs Sutcliff reported to the clerk that a street light is out on a pole opposite Heckberry Cottage, East Blackdene. This has been reported to DCC.
13. An update has been sent regarding the Cambokeels mine water treatment scheme which has been sent to all councillors.
14. The Valuation Office Agency has requested some information to assess the rateable value of non-domestic property for the cemetery. They would like to know the total area of the cemetery. **Resolved:** Cllr Blackett to help the clerk with this
15. An email has been received concerning the riverside play park. The roundabout has seized up and the wheelchair friendly swing is out of order. Apparently, the parts are on order and will be fitted as soon as they arrive.
16. We have received notification that due to the fact that no nominations were received for the election on 6thMay, we have to hold another election within 35 days. The election if contested will take place on 24th June 2021. The Notice of Election for publication on Wednesday 19th May has been placed in the Notice Board. A Notice of vacancies for St Johns chapel, Stanhope and Frosterley has been put up in the Notice Board
17. D Hunt has mentioned that the toilets have been closed at the Riverside Play Park until the loft latch has been repaired.

**10456**

**Planning Matters**

DM/21/00764/FPA

Temporary siting of caravan, container and security fencing during dwelling construction

Stotsfieldburn Farm

Rookhope

DM/21/01302/FPA

DM/21/01303/LB

Extension to the south elevation

St Johns Church

Rookhope

DM/21/01327/FPA

Change of use of open space to residential, creation of vehicular access and boundary fence

44 Bondisle Way

Stanhope

DM/21/01357/FPA

Proposed demolition of existing single storey brick extension to rear elevation and construction of new single storey extension

1 Cross Street

Stanhope

DM/21/01634/FPA

Partial conversion of garage to habitable room and associated dwelling

Stanhope Grange

DM/21/01400/FPA

Field Shelter

Far Place

Sidehead

Westgate

DM/21/01621/FPA

Change of use of existing store area to 2no B&B Units

Fairfield House

Stanhope

DM/21/01214/FPA

Demolition of agricultural building and replacement with 1 no steel portal framed building

Middle Greenhead

Stanhope

DM/21/01631/LB

Replacement of all existing timber windows with soft wood casement windows finished in paint colour lime white

Snowdrop Barn

Cowshill

DM/20/03536/FPA

Temporary approval for events tipi and use of site/land for private events/functions; including ancillary storage units, guest parking, signage, lighting and security/CCTV (four events per annum fora period of 4 years)

Stanhope Castle

**10457**

**Financial Regulations from April Meeting**

Cllr Mrs Hawkes put together some draft principles to be added into the Financial Regulations. These were emailed to all of the councillors. A discussion took place and the Parish Council has always spent the money in all parts of the dale. The project with the AAP and the County Councillors at the Riverside Play Park benefited the whole dale and with it being near to the Ford tourists as well. Cllr Miss Carrick had been approached that the play park was in need of aged ten years and upwards equipment so we did listen to what people wanted. It was mentioned that once the clerk’s salary and the community highways worker salary had come out of the precept then there was not a great deal of money to deal with after donations to the church yards for maintenance and village halls. Neighbourhood Planning was mentioned and to think open to changes. This was a helpful discussion.

**10458**

**Finance**

1. Cllr Ronnie Tanner who was a long serving councillor for Frosterley Ward has sadly died. On consulting the chair a bunch of flowers was sent to Ronnie’s daughter. The funeral service was a grave side service and a floral tribute was sent from the Parish Council.
2. PCC from St Andrews Church Westgate would like to apply for the annual churchyard maintenance grant. **Resolved:** Clerk to send £300
3. Bank Reconciliation Figures for the end of March 2021 have been sent to all of the councillors.
4. We have three signatories on the bank account. The clerk, Cllr D Craig and Cllr Miss J Carrick. As Cllr Miss Graham did not stand again it would be advisable to have another signatory on the account. **Resolved:** It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Hawkes would be a signatory

**10459**

**AAP Report**

The WAAP need a representative from the Parish Council. The elected position previously held the CDALC representative is now held by Cllr Shuttleworth as County Councillor. **Resolved** by**:** It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Humble would be the representative for the WAAP.

**10460**

**Accounts for Payment**

E-ON Ashcroft Play Park £12.23 PAID

1st Stanhope Scout Group £500.00

Frosterley Exhibition Foundation £250.00

Weardale Flower and Garden Club £100.00

Stanhope Community Association £500.00

JRB Enterprise Dog Bags £537.60

BT Due 25/4/21 £117.90 PAID

WAVE Public Conv Daddry Shield £44.73

Northgate Systems SIM Router/ set up £276.00

Northgate Systems laptop/Microsoft office £2124.00

J Woodhall flowers R Tanner’s daughter £25.00

WAVE Old Cemetery Stanhope £12.83

WAVE Allotments Willard Grove £112.50

S Anderson Salary April £770.83

HM Rev PAYE £4.67

S Anderson expenses £348.86

S Anderson Home as Office £35.00

Daisy Chain Wreath £40.00

Paul Irwin Grass cutting Ashcroft Playpark £180.00

St Andrews Church PCC £300.00

CDALC Subscription charges £655.86

E-On Ashcroft Playpark £11.34

CASA Safety Training £120.00

TOTAL £7079.35

Scottish Widows £45,000.00

**ACCOUNTS FOR RECEIPTS**

Precept £48,238.00

S136 £2,700.00

Additional LCTRS Grant £6.02

Allotment Rent £369.00

Allotment Rent £101.00

Allotment Rent £243.00

TOTAL £51,657.02

**Resolved:** All agreed

**10461**

**New Matters for Discussion**

1. Cllr Brewin mentioned the Frosterley Play Park fence and that a gate has been put in and there is dog muck in that area. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
2. The parking problems are ongoing.
3. Cllr Brewin attended Ronnie Tanners funeral as did the clerk and R Mews a past member. Anita Atkinson read the eulogy and she did a wonderful job.
4. Cllr Blackett commented on the amount of paper that was printed off.
5. Cllr Wearmouth mentioned that Eastgate Church has a new PCC which are fund raising to keep the church open. He thinks it might become a Festival Church, firstly with the sad funeral of D Wards burial but on a happy note there are two weddings booked. Cooks Defence have a one-year extension.
6. The play park at St Johns Chapel has had two pieces of play equipment removed. Cllr Shuttleworth commented that it is in hand.
7. The toilets at Daddry Shield need painting inside and out **Resolved:** It was agreed to have the toilets painted by S Makepeace
8. A resident of St Johns Chapel would like some traffic calming in Hood Street. The cars parked either side usually slow the traffic down but some cars are going too fast. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
9. Cllr Mrs Humble would like a dog waste bin on the A689 at Cornriggs, between Cowshill and Lanehead. If possible, this should be sited by the bins. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact DCC
10. As we now have a County Councillor on the Parish Council, Cllr Mrs Humble would like an agenda item every month of the changes going on at the County Council
11. Cllr Mrs Humble wanted an explanation as to why the venue was changed for the Parish Council meeting. The Dales Centre is £15 per hour with a maximum of 12 people, the previous venue was provided free of charge with a maximum of 20 people Some time ago it had been agreed that the Parish Council had the use of the meeting room for evening meetings and all the presentation equipment is available at the Dales Centre. Hopefully the limit on numbers will be dropped.
12. Cllr Miss Carrick would like a letter of thanks to go to Cllrs D Ellwood, H Maddison, B Thompson and F Graham. **Resolved:** Clerk to write letters of thanks
13. Cllr Craig would like the footpath officer to put an extra step in on a footpath down by the riverside. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact the footpath officer
14. Cllr Craig mentioned the time that it takes to get through to the doctor’s surgery. Cllr Shuttleworth said that he had received numerous complaints. There are concerns about the surgeries at Wolsingham and St Johns Chapel and that these must be re-opened. It was felt that it would be more beneficial to have someone at a Parish Council meeting. **Resolved:** Clerk to write to the doctors’ surgery
15. Cllr Blackett has some information on the Lithium Company at Eastgate. He will send it to all of the councillors.

**10462**

**Clerks Business**

Two councillors are needed to do the allotment inspections. **Resolved:** It was agreed that Cllr Brewin and Cllr Mrs Humble would do the inspections

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Date of the next meeting is Wednesday 2nd June 2021 at the Dales Centre, Stanhope commencing at 7.00pm

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