

Stannington Parish Council

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Minutes of Meeting

8th July 2015

Stannington First School – 6.30pm

Attendance:

Clr K Carins – in the chair

Clr P Smith

Clr B Smiles

Clr H Brown

Clr D Strachan

Clr S Dickinson

D Hall – Clerk

Clr Armstrong – Northumberland County Council

Mr King – Northumberland County Council

Mr Rumney – Northumberland County Council

PC Andrea Teasdale – Northumbria Police

Residents from Station Road and Dovecote

Mr Legard and Mr Tolson

The chair asked members of the council and the public to observe a minutes silence in respect to the sad death of Mrs Stanger-Leathes who had so tragically died in a road traffic accident on Beechlea.

19. Apologies

Clr R Philipson

20. Public session

Mr King from Northumberland County Council attended the meeting after having undertaken a site visit to Glororum with Clr Brown. He gave the following update on outstanding actions:

- 2 30mph signs to be erected on the old A1 W/C 20th July
- Footpath to the AI – gate to be repaired with new spring
- Flooding at the fountain and vicarages – gullies to be cleared out and pipework to be checked
- Traffic issues outside the first school – to let the clerk know what scheme is proposed
- Parking at Green Close – to follow up with residents
- Footpath to the Vale – undermining/potholes to be resolved
- Drainage on the Clifton underpass to be addressed

Mr Rumney from Northumberland County Council attended the meeting to discuss Glororum as follows:

- Propose a resurfacing scheme from 14 October 2015
- Intention is to do the whole route over two financial years
- Money has been allocated from the local transport plan - £150,000
- Pursuing a claim against Hargreaves opencast operators
- Dilapidations survey undertaken
- Photographic survey and technical assessment undertaken
- Gateway features have been ordered for traffic calming purposes
- Bellway contributing £50,000 to the scheme

Other issues:

- 20mph limit is proposed for traffic calming for area outside the school
- Station Road potholes and general deterioration of the road surface is to be looked at

PC Teasdale attended the meeting to discuss general crime and disorder issues as follows:

- Crime and disorder at very low levels
- Some vehicle crime in Hepscoth and Stobhill, both adjacent to the parish
- Netherton Park open units now empty so disorder from these has ceased
- Radar for speeding can only be used on 30mph roads so will not be available outside the school when the limit changes

Mr Legard and Mr Tolson briefed the council on a proposal to create a WW1 memorial book to commemorate the 227 men from the parish who served:

- Proposed to create a book of 400-500 pages
- Lord Ridley is supporting the project
- An article is proposed for the parish magazine
- Costs for the project are being sought and will be sent through once available
- The council gave their in principle support to the project

Mr Legard also described the Red Squirrel project he is undertaking in the parish. It is believed that a population of 20-30 still exist in woodland around the village. 64 greys have been destroyed recently. Mr Legard is working with Red Squirrels England and will send through some sample costs.

Mr Hopkins of Dovecote attended the meeting to raise ongoing concerns about the junction off the A1 leading to Dovecote and the through traffic using the road to St Mary's. The concerns were as follows:

- No deceleration lane off the A1
- The route is used as a short cut to St Mary's and often heavy 40t wagons which cannot pass on this narrow track
- The route should be restricted to residents only
- Request to follow this up with AOne

A significant number of residents from Station Road attended the meeting to express concern at the number and scale of planning applications for Station Road in recent weeks and the impact this may have.

The concerns expressed were as follows:

- A number of large applications for 20+ houses, why has this occurred?
 - The clerk explained that there was nothing that the council was aware of that had prompted these applications although it could be that ongoing discussions across the county had spurred landowners to act now to secure housing allocations in advance of the publication of the local development framework although this was simply conjecture.
- Concern at the development potential in the immediate area
 - A plan had been circulated with a number of development sites on. It was noted that this however included some live applications, SHLAA (strategic housing land availability assessment) and historic developments. Residents were advised that the SHLAA sites were simply land owners wishes/enquiries and that not all had been agreed as having potential, in addition they were not subject of planning applications and in some cases no potential had been identified.
- The view that not all residents had received the housing needs survey
 - The clerk and the chair explained that all residents in the parish had been posted a copy and over 40% had responded, the survey was posted out by a mail fulfillment company. Residents maintained the view that not everyone had received a copy and it was agreed that the Neighborhood Plan group would look into this.
- Requests for a copy of the housing needs survey
 - Agreed that this be supplied. It was noted that although initial indications were for a need for housing for local people/offspring as well as development of rural businesses (arising from public sessions in the village hall in 2014), the full detail of the analysis was yet to be received and as such no decisions could be made yet.
- Concern at the potential impact of nay INSET boundaries
 - The clerk explained that no settlement boundaries had been agreed and that determination of these was a matter for Northumberland County Council. The PC held the view that settlement boundaries could be beneficial in restricting development to a particular envelope and resisting creep of settlements whilst allowing for future growth. On the other hand the washing over of green belt could be beneficial in protecting the rural nature of the parish. The intention is to hold a public meeting in the parish in September to seek the views of residents on settlement boundaries and to share all of the findings of the Neighborhood Plan group so far.
- Concern in relation to increased traffic flows on Station Road resulting from any development
 - Noted and will be taken into account on any future planning applications
- Concern that site notices had not been displayed in good time
 - The clerk advised that the county council is responsible for the publishing of site notices and that the 21 days consultation would not start until site notices are erected even if neighbours have been notified.
- Concern that not all residents had been advised of the applications
 - The clerk advised that the county council will only notify direct neighbours of applications and that the site notices are assumed to notify all other residents.
- Request for clarity on the Neighborhood Plan process
 - The clerk explained that the Neighbourhood Plan group has a remit to manage the process of gathering information, consulting and assimilating it into a draft plan for discussion. Once a plan is prepared then the adoption of the plan requires a

referendum to be held. Neither the plan group nor the parish council have the power to make this decision. The role of the group is to steer and not to make decisions.

Residents also shared their view that two applications before the council were of too large a scale and not in keeping with the style of current developments on Station Road and were more a kin to residential developments of housing estates in major towns.

21. Minutes of the previous meeting

Noted that these were approved at the meeting held in July 2014 and so these minutes were only received for information.

22. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

None that are not included on the agenda.

23. Reports from around the parish/outside bodies

Clifton Report July 2015

The grass has been cut.

There has been a large amount of rubbish in Clifton which has been collected by residents despite assurances given by NCC to treat Glorum & Clifton as litter hotspots. Ali Henderson is no longer the Environmental contact for NCC rather it is now Anth Bell whom I will contact.

The planning application at land North of The Shires in Clifton for change of use from wasteland to residential by way of erecting 4 dwelling houses has been refused. The reason given is that it is deemed agricultural land with no previous buildings on the land.

Clr Strachan attended the Shotton Liaison meeting on 16.6.15.

- 5,311,108 tons of coal has been extracted together with 27,767 tons of fireclay of which only 4,500tons has been sold. 9,591 tons of Stone has also been extracted.
- The increase in carbon tax in March resulted in customers stock piling coal so not much is being sold at the moment.
- The void is 100mtrs deep but will eventually get to 109 mtrs.
- Work on the site is ahead of schedule at present.
- The next meeting is 15/09/15

Bellway St Marys Report

- Old hospital coming down within the next 4 months and BMV houses will be built
- Approx. 13 houses sold per year expected but BMV houses go quickly so figures vary
- Give Way hazard to be addressed, new signs to be put up although residents will have to be consulted as land outside their properties is owned by them (Royston House)
- Fence removal dispute with original St Marys residents – most are happy as there is a health and safety issue
- Chapel will be open later this year as residents' village hall to be paid for by management fee. Bellway will contact Stannington Village Hall Trustees for guidance re administration and fees

- Caroline Strugnell, Bellway Planning Consultant, will email exact wording for £40,000 traffic calming measures agreement
- Tracey Brady will email contact details for bus service re NCC officer. At present taxi vouchers are used as Arriva are not interested to date
- Speeding vehicles also a problem for St Marys- visitors to St Marys Inn responsible. Speed humps were erected but had to be removed as complaints about vehicle damage
- Cricket pitch will be used as part cricket and part football/ play area with changing facilities.

Northumberlandia

- Wild Life Trust in charge – Azure no longer involved
- Footprints on the Moon events held on site- everyday for 1 week in August
- Land Trust- Structure changes in funding are taking place.
- Wildlife garden soakaway to move from behind café to another site as it is not working
- Wild Life Trust- organising building, events, volunteers and café
- Café very busy during Bank holidays and weekends- new staff required to enable more events to be arranged
- Avery Dennison have organised a family day which gives £400 in revenue
- Wildlife Tots donate £3 each
- Wildlife Watch group 5-15 years old on Saturday mornings
- Till now installed- gift aid is now offered in the car park donations
- Volunteer wardens- litter pick and check wildlife- litter is specially bad at weekends with drug and sex paraphernalia, hard to police
- Wifi should be disabled at close of day and the tables will remain unfixed so that they may be stored to discourage out of hours use
- Break in- chocolate and crisps were taken but £1000 worth of damage was done to the café shutter. Cameras may need to be installed
- Sculpture- the lady has remained in good order with little vandalism
- Events around the Tall Ships and Capability Brown are to be arranged
- An interpretation board is being installed
- September Tour of Britain cycle race may be an opportunity to push Northumberlandia with events held on site i.e. Red Nose day type promotion but with red and yellow cycles (Northumberland flag colours.
- A cycle path is badly needed to connect Stannington to Cramlington via Northumberlandia We will lobby the council.
- Advertising with Northumberland Tourism costs £132 so a grant will be sought
- 8th July BBQ
- Picnic areas are successful and may be increased into meadow but balance will be made to keep wild meadows
- Promotion of pre-paid tours to be pursued

Other minutes circulated for Stannington 1st School, Brenley OCCS Liaison, Well Hill Trust Fund.

24. Finance

The following income accounts were approved:

Income

Interest:

May £1.23

June £1.63

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount
1001	M Stewart	Salary	480.00
1002	Village show	Donation	40.00
1003	NWL	Water rates	13.87
1004	J Ludman	Planning fees	975.00
1005	K Carins	Mileage	90.00
DD	BT	Line rental	51.53

25. Development Control

Application	Address	Detail	Decision
15/01760/OUT	Stannington Nurseries 58 Station Road	Outline planning for 27 dwellings	Clr Carins and Dickinson declared an interest and left the meeting for consideration of this application. The council wishes to object to this application on the grounds that: the scale of the development and semi urban style is not in keeping with Station Road which is a very linear development. The council is concerned that if permitted this will set a dangerous precedent for similar developments and thus turn Station Road into a small village. The development proposed is greater in footprint than current buildings on the site and densities are considered to be far too high. The development will place considerable additional traffic on Station Road which already suffers from high speed vehicles.
15/01814/OUT	Land at Moor Farm Estate, Station Road, Stannington	Outline planning for 20 Houses	Clr Carins and Dickinson declared an interest and left the meeting for consideration of this application. The parish council acknowledges that, from time to time, modest development may take place on Station Road. However, given the density of the development, proposed built area compared to the footprint of current buildings and the increase in traffic/proposed entry near to Stannington level xing the council wishes to object to this application. The council believes that in allowing a semi urban style of development, 3 properties deep, that this sets a precedent for further developments of this type which would turn Station Road into a small village.

15/01815	Land east of Nurseray Gardens, The Gardens, Stannington	2 dwellings in large garden plot	The parish council wishes to object to this application as the site is currently in open countryside and as such greenbelt.
15/01551/OUT	Land north west of 75 Station Road	Dwelling	No objection
15/01751	5 Horton Park Offices, Berwick Hill	Open up doorway in wall	No objection

Notices of appeal

Notices of enquiry

26. Neighbourhood Plan

The council discussed the process for the plan and noted the following:

- Outcome of housing needs and transport surveys awaited
- Terms of reference to be made available to all councillors and placed on the website for the plan group
- Public session to be held in September to discuss the outcome of the group's work so far and to seek the views of the residents of the parish and in particular on settlement boundaries and the sharing of the 'key topics'
- Draft plan and policies anticipated in 2016 followed by referendum
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27. Correspondence

Noted unless otherwise indicated:

- Northumberland County Council – Love Northumberland Awards
- Northumberland County Council – Local transport plan – nominate resurfacing of The Glebe, Limes and Beechlea
- Northumberland County Council – Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan
- HJ Banks – Community fund return
- CPRE – Newsletter
- The pensions regulator – autoenrolment
- Community Action – Newsletter
- LGR – Magazines
- Mr McConnel – Beechlea planning issues
- Ian Haggie – Changes to the Netherton Park Residents
- Northumberland County Council – wish to remove bus stop at High Clifton Farm

28. Any Other Business

- The chair advised the council that she had expressed concern about the decision of the opencast liaison committee to not grant additional funds to the council for the play area
- Cllr Smiles advised that £1200 had been raised so far for the fireworks display
- The clerk agreed to circulate PC Teasedale's contact details to all members
- The shoe collection box at the recycling centre in the village requires attention
- Car sales still taking place in the village hall car park

- Cllr Smiles enquired about issues raised on maintenance and car parking issues that had not been minuted. The clerk explained a misunderstanding that this had been an exchange of information rather than a report to the council. Agreed that the clerk circulate a proforma to the members for completion on reports from outside bodies and councillors walk abouts etc.

29. Date of next meeting

Members agreed that the next meeting be held on 9th September 2015 at 6.30pm in Stannington Village Hall

Signed

Chairman

Date

DRAFT