

# *Stannington Parish Council*

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## **Minutes of Meeting** **25<sup>th</sup> January 2017** **Stannington 1<sup>st</sup> School**

Attendance:

Cllr K Carins – in the chair  
Cllr H Brown  
Cllr S Wilson  
Cllr P Smith,  
Cllr B Smiles  
Cllr R Philipson  
D Hall – Clerk

**Declarations of interest in matters on the agenda:** None declared.

### **50. Apologies**

Cllr D Strachan, Cllr S Dickinson, Cllr Armstrong – Northumberland County Council

### **51. Public session**

No members of the public were present

### **52. Minutes of the previous meeting**

**Resolved that: the minutes be agreed as a true record.**

### **53. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

Clr Smith reported on discussions with ISOS and Northumberland County Council regarding grass cutting on Beechlea. There is now clarity on who is responsible for cutting each area and this will be monitored at the beginning of the grass cutting season. There is a seat on the grassed area on the left of the entrance road which needs looked at.

It was note chippings and picnic tables would be fitted to the play area once it was dry enough to access the play area with a 20 tonne waggon.

It was also noted that there was a proliferation of signs at Clifton relating to developments and this would be reported to Northumberland County Council.

### **54. Reports from around the parish/outside bodies**

Minutes of the Brenkley Liaison Committee were circulated for information.

At the Brenkley Liaison Funding Meeting Cllr Carins enquired whether Banks Mining may consider the purchase of a refurbished red phone box for the parish. Their response was encouraging so the Show Group will consider applying for a grant for the phone box. The cost is around £3000.

### **Council Commission Round table**

Cllr Carins attended the Council Commission in the Town Hall arranged by Northumberland Association of Local Councils (NALC). The commission wished to know what Cllrs felt about their roles, how they were perceived and what, if anything, could be done to improve their lot. Seven Parish and Town Council representatives attended along with the NALC Chief Officer, Stephen Rickitt. The meeting was conducted by Cllr Mike Evans from the National Association of Local Councils and Rachel Ward (PHD graduate and researcher from De Montfort University)

Seven points were picked up by NALC:

1. Consider how NALC can assist Councils to work together
2. Consider asking Councils how many vacancies they have at present, and then do the same following the May 2017 elections.
3. Consider how we can provide Councils with a draft information sheet for Councils to use to explain what they do (and perhaps more importantly don't do)
4. Consider how NALC can work with Northumberland County Council Officers to ensure all levels "Think Parish"
5. Extend the Enews to include details of training which is open to Cllrs from other organisations
6. Enhance the degree of training on Freedom of Information
7. Emphasis the clear wish for more training to be available

These key points were raised by all the councilors.

What was encouraging was the degree of help that is available to Parish and Town councilors.

### **Stannington Station**

Station Road has now got a footpath along its whole length. The lack of a footpath has been a frequent complaint from residents and the Parish Council.

### **Local Services Liaison Meeting**

Cllr Carins attended a Local Services Liaison Meeting in Whalton along with other Parish Council representatives. Cllr Carins passed on Stannington Parish Council's condolences for the sudden death of Cllr Penny Norton, Chair of Whalton Parish Council. Penny was a great friend to Stannington Parish.

### **The NCC Highways Strategic Planners**

Cllr Carins attended a meeting in the Town Hall hosted by Morpeth Town Council. The NCC Highways Strategic Planners gave a presentation on the saved routes throughout Northumberland and those saved routes that would be removed from the Core Strategy. One of the saved routes that NCC intend to remove is the proposed link road between Loansdean and Stobhill. The removal of this could cause major problems for Stannington Parish as more and more houses are built in Morpeth and the area around Stobhill (land has been saved here to use for retail and employment). Station Road would become the unofficial Southern bypass to the A1. The Highways Officers listened to the arguments and concerns from Morpeth Town Council and Coucillor Carins was allowed to put Stannington Parish's case. The officers listened and took away some of the very real issues the parish have about the removal of some of these proposed routes.

### **Stannington First School Christmas Lunch**

Cllr Carins attended Stannington First School Christmas lunch served by the school children. Cllr Carins thanked the School cooks and the staff and children for a delicious lunch.

### **Northumberlandia**

There has been no meeting

### **Stannington Village**

A resident reported an accident in December with a bus on the road from the village to St. Mary's. The road is not gritted. It was reported that there have been several accidents on the road this winter. The volume of traffic has increased significantly on a road. Church Road from the junction up to the Old Vicarage has been reported as hazardous during icy conditions. Request that Northumberland County Council grit the roads.

### **Handy Man**

The handyman reported a leak near the fountain which is being addressed. The area opposite the turning point at the school is in a very bad state. This will be on the agenda at the next Parish Council meeting. Other concerns from residents have related to the new lighting in the village, the cemetery car park, speeding traffic and the building work that is currently underway.

The feedback from the children about the playground has been good. A contractor has caught 5 moles in the cemetery and seems to have solved the problem.

### **Hepscott Park**

Cllr Carins attended the recent December planning meeting to decide the application for 189 houses at Hepscott Park. Cllr Carins spoke, on behalf of Stannington Parish Council, against the development, it represented gross over development of the site and the housing proposed exceeded the original footprint of the hospital buildings. The style of development proposed was not in keeping with the more relaxed and less dense type of development that is currently in Hepscott Park. Instead, this proposal is a traditional urban design found in a town rather than the open countryside. The Parish Council understood that some development would take place on this site but had hoped for a scheme more suited to the area. The pressure on the parish highways and on the school, will be increased. Cllr Carins asked that if the planning committee were minded to approve the application that the PC's concerns would be considered. The application was approved, the education authority will receive £570,000 and planning Cllrs supported Stannington Parish Council's wish for roundabouts on Station Road although this type of change to the current infrastructure will take a considerable time. The parish council would like to ensure that the money approved for education was considered by Stannington First School.

### **Glororum**

The route from Glorum Farm heading West was resurfaced the week beginning 6th Dec 2016. This was completed as quickly as the team could manage despite many motorists trying to gain access (the road was clearly marked CLOSED) even though the top road surface was initially removed. The route is obviously smoother now, but unfortunately quicker and wider.

The residents of Glorum reported to NCC many wagons not following the agreed one-way-system to and from the Bellway development at St Mary's. These wagons ran 3 other vehicles off the route that we know of, caused much verge damage and were travelling at speed. Bellway were quick to act and after some initial confusion regarding which way the one-way-system was, new signage was put in place which has been mostly successful.

The Contractors still struggle to always follow the route and stick to the speed limit. The residents of Glorum are always vigilant and are good at reporting issues.

The raised curb heading out at the East junction has been hit repeatedly during the above situation which has resulted in much damage to the surrounding verge and obscuring a clear view of this curb making it even more dangerous.

Cllr Brown has received complaints from local residents regarding the amount of mud on the local road network and the lack of 'gritting' in icy conditions. The 'gritter' wagon goes up the Glorroum route, turns around and comes back down. This is a further worry as the School Bus uses the route to St Mary's and onto Stannington Village. For many years the Glororum route was not gritted unless the residents rang NCC repeatedly during the winter months. We have only been gritted on a regular basis for the last couple of years. It was agreed to report the dangerous curb, gritting issues and mud on road to Northumberland County Council.

## 55. Finance

The following income accounts were approved:

### Income

Interest: Nov £3.21, Dec £2.05

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1080	HMRC	PAYE	550.44
1081	D Hall	Salary & Exp	1273.66
1082	Stannington Church	Replacement for chq 1076 (accidently destroyed by the church)	10.00
1083	Moorhouse Farm	Hampers	180.00
1084	NWL	Water Bill	15.23
1085	K Clark	Repairs to tree guards	60.00
DD	BT	Line rental	63.07
1086	Carrs	Squirrel food	36.25
1087	M Stewart	Salary	160.00
DD	BT	Line rental	56.97

### Setting the precept:

Members considered the setting of the precept and agreed that there should be no increase in Band D equivalent precept as had been the case for the last five years.

Stannington Parish Council - budget 2017/18			
Name	Budget 16/17	Budget 17/18	
<b>Precept</b>	<b>-19800.00</b>	<b>-22950.00</b>	
Interest Rec'd	-10.00	-10.00	
Burial Fees, etc.	-1100.00	-1100.00	
<b>Sub total income</b>	<b>-20910.00</b>	<b>-24060.00</b>	
Salaries & Wages(Office)	4500.00	4500.00	
Handyman	2200.00	2200.00	
Travel (incl members £500)	750.00	750.00	
Telephone	200.00	200.00	
Stationery	200.00	200.00	
Postages	100.00	100.00	
Books and periodicals	100.00	100.00	
Insurances	1900.00	1900.00	
Sundries /admin	500.00	500.00	
Professional Fees	200.00	200.00	
Subscriptions	350.00	350.00	
Audit Fees	450.00	450.00	
Cemetery - Maintenance	2500.00	2500.00	
N Plan	300.00	300.00	
S.137 Expenditure	1500.00	1500.00	
Grounds and Open Space General	1500.00	1500.00	
Shelters seats and bins	2250.00	2250.00	
Equipment	500.00	500.00	
Furniture & Fittings	100.00	100.00	
Playing Field	5000.00	0.00	
Store Rental & fittings	550.00	550.00	
Environmental/traffic schemes	4000.00	2000.00	
Election		2000.00	
<b>Sub total net expenditure</b>	<b>29650.00</b>	<b>24650.00</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>8740.00</b>	<b>590.00</b>	
<b>Less grants</b>	<b>9000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
	<b>-260.00</b>	<b>590.00</b>	
<b>2016/17 precept</b>			21550
<b>Band D Equivalent last year</b>			34.78

Tax Base	660.83		2017						
Precept	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
	0.67	0.78	0.89	1.00	1.22	1.44	1.67	2.00	
1000.00	1.01	1.18	1.35	1.51	1.85	2.18	2.53	3.03	
15000.00	15.21	17.71	20.20	22.70	27.69	32.69	37.91	45.40	
15500.00	15.72	18.30	20.88	23.46	28.62	33.78	39.17	46.91	
16000.00	16.22	18.89	21.55	24.21	29.54	34.87	40.43	48.42	
16500.00	16.73	19.48	22.22	24.97	30.46	35.95	41.70	49.94	
17000.00	17.24	20.07	22.90	25.73	31.38	37.04	42.96	51.45	
17500.00	17.74	20.66	23.57	26.48	32.31	38.13	44.22	52.96	
18000.00	18.25	21.25	24.24	27.24	33.23	39.22	45.49	54.48	
18500.00	18.76	21.84	24.92	28.00	34.15	40.31	46.75	55.99	
19000.00	19.26	22.43	25.59	28.75	35.08	41.40	48.02	57.50	
19500.00	19.77	23.02	26.26	29.51	36.00	42.49	49.28	59.02	
20000.00	20.28	23.61	26.94	30.26	36.92	43.58	50.54	60.53	
20500.00	20.78	24.20	27.61	31.02	37.85	44.67	51.81	62.04	
21000.00	21.29	24.79	28.28	31.78	38.77	45.76	53.07	63.56	
21500.00	21.80	25.38	28.96	32.53	39.69	46.85	54.33	65.07	
22000.00	22.31	25.97	29.63	33.29	40.62	47.94	55.60	66.58	
22500.00	22.81	26.56	30.30	34.05	41.54	49.03	56.86	68.10	
22950.00	23.27	27.09	30.91	34.73	42.37	50.01	58.00	69.46	
23000.00	23.32	27.15	30.98	34.80	42.46	50.12	58.12	69.61	
23500.00	23.83	27.74	31.65	35.56	43.38	51.21	59.39	71.12	
24000.00	24.33	28.33	32.32	36.32	44.31	52.30	60.65	72.64	

**Resolved that a precept of £22950 be levied with a band D charge of £34.73**

### **56. Development Control**

Application	Address	Detail	Decision
17/00039	14 Eden Walk	Extension	No objection
16/04666	55 The Glebe	Extension and roof amendments	No objection
16/04405	South of Station /Road	Change of use of agricultural use to single dwelling	No objection

Notices of appeal  
Notices of enquiry

Concern was expressed at the use of containers to shelter horses next to the old A1 – report to Northumberland County Council.

A copy of the Northumberland Local Plan was received by the council.

### **57. Neighbourhood plan**

The Stannington Parish Neighbourhood Draft Plan will shortly be published so please check the noticeboards and website for details of the consultation. Northumberland County Council has just completed their Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Opinion which will be sent along with the draft plan to the three consultation bodies. The draft plan has taken more time than envisaged but it is very important, at this stage, that everything is correct before it goes to a public consultation. The planning consultant, who has been advising the steering group, is going over

the draft in fine detail and once she is happy with it can be released. The next meeting is on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Minutes of the most recent meeting of the group were circulated.

### **58. Correspondence**

Noted unless otherwise stated

- T Fail – information relating to forthcoming planning application
- Northumberland County Council – Numbering for Hepscoth Park
- Pensions regulator
- Archeology in Northumberland
- Northumberland County Council – TPO order 19 of 2016
- Northumberland County Council – Footpath diversion of footpath 28
- Northumberland County Council – braosband expected at West Duddo in 2018
- NALC – forthcoming elections
- Northumberland County Council – play areas audit for Sport England

### **59. Any Other Business**

- Elisabeth Sq signage – Northumberland County Council to be asked to remove
- Church Rd and Betts Lane not being gritted – report to Northumberland County Council
- Several potholes next to the church - report to Northumberland County Council
- Cllr Smiles asked if lighting could be provided for the car park adjacent to the church – the clerk outlined several options and agreed to seek costs
- Horses eating the hedge near the church – report to Blagdon Estate
- Honorary Freeman – it was reported that the council could not grant this honour. After much debate it was agreed to grant this honour to E Ridley and M Wood at a date in late April
- The chairman reported on the untimely death of Cllr Norton from Mitford PC
- Concerns expressed in relation to the condition of the roads in The Limes – report to Northumberland County Council
- There has been an issue with road signs in tranwell village – report to Northumberland County Council

**Signed**

**Chairman**

**Date**