

Stannington Parish Council

David Hall, MA, B.Eng (Hons), MCIPR - Clerk to The Council

2 Monmouth Court – Widdrington – Morpeth – Northumberland – NE61 5QS E:
stanningtonpc@aol.com – T: 01670791622 – www.stanningtonpc.co.uk

Minutes of Meeting held

10 July 2024

Stannington Village Hall

7.00pm

Attendance:

S Dickinson – in the chair
M Scott
R Philipson
R Nixon
H Brown

D Hall – Clerk

22. To receive apologies for absence

R Tolson
L Darwin – Northumberland County Council

23. To receive any declarations of interest

None

24. To receive the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of meetings in May and June 2024 were received and approved.

25. To receive any matters arising

Noted that the annual accounts had been internally audited and no issues arising. The formal return and AGAR has now been submitted to Mazars.

26. General update

The clerk update member on the following:

- Ongoing issues with flooding at Hepscoth Park – Cllrs Darwin and Philipson in discussions with Belway & Northumberland County Council
- Ditto re 15mph speed limit on Hepscoth Park – Clerk in discussion with Northumberland County Council and Bellway (not yet adopted)
- Continued discussions with Northumbria Police and Northumberland County Council re speeding and jumping of the lights on Station Road

- Works requested to refurbish the play area
- Requested works for trimming of hedges in the cemetery in the autumn
- Requested works for repair of the two white shelters in Stannington Village
- New notice board to be provided at St Mary Park

27. Councillors updates

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Councillor Sandra Dickinson.

Date: July 2024

Purpose of report: To update the Council on matters affecting Stannington Parish

FOOTBALL FIELD.

Owners of dogs are letting them foul on the field where children are playing. They are cleaning up after their dog but there is a concern about residue being left could affect children's health.

BEECHLEA.

Speeding traffic have become a problem entering into Beechlea where children and parents cross to go to school this along with the limited visibility as cars park down towards church road causes a hazard.

MILLENIUM TREE.

Maurice Stewart has asked me to report the gate post is rotten on the entry gate to tree area.(corner of church car park)

FOOTPATHS.

Over the past years a lot more pedestrians are using our parish footpaths.

Footpath 1.

It has been brought to the parish council that the footpath along the Great North Road from Netherton Park road junction north to the garage at the top of Station Road is in need of some major repairs or in parts relaying the path completely. I have reported this in the past. Parishioners have asked if a bench could be placed on the side of this stretch of path.

Footpath2.

Walkers from Morpeth / Hepscoth Park, walking south to Station Road and beyond come to a path dead end approximately 200 metres from the junction at Hepscoth Park and then have to walk on an uneven grassy and in places muddy verge till they get to the bottom of Station Road when they can either go up Station Road footpath or cross the road and take the footpath to Nedderton and beyond.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr Malcolm Scott

Date: 09/07/2024

Purpose of report: To update the Council on items reported.

Commentary:

- a) Complaint received from Mr John and Mrs Margaret Richardson from St Mary's Church, Stannington, stating that the Beech Hedges in The Cemetery now require trimming back from the central pathway.
- b) Complaint received from resident Mr W. Stewart regarding an unsafe gate post leading into children's playground. The post is rotted at the base is very loose and requires replacement as a safety issue.
- c) Notice Board at St. Mary's Park is in a poor state of repair and is no longer water-tight. There is no working lock. Repairs or replacement required.
- d) A fatal road accident took place recently at the junction of Blagdon Lane and Old Great North Road. This follows another two bad collisions a week or so prior to this.

A couple of residents including myself have also had near misses at this junction recently. Can any pressure be put on to NCC for a study into the safety of this junction and whether improvements can be made. The recent building of large housing developments at the East end of Blagdon Lane on the A1068 (Arcot Manor and Foxton Mill) have undoubtedly created a larger traffic flow on this road and junction.

Very large trucks coming off the A1 to Cramlington (particularly to the Biomass Power Plant) have great difficulty in negotiating the junction should there be traffic attempting to turn right on to Old Great North Road to go to the A1 North. This can involve cars etc having to reverse back if they can to permit the truck to negotiate the turning. Furthermore the vegetation is constantly allowed to get out of hand again thus preventing traffic from seeing fast vehicles approaching from the South of Great Old North Road to travel North.

All items actioned by the clerk or reported to the relevant body.

Additional items:

- Speeding is an issue on Beechlee – Northumberland County Council to look at
- Footpaths on Beechlee are in a terrible state – Northumberland County Council to look at

28. To consider items pertaining to development control

Councillors considered the following applications lodged with the local planning authority, unless otherwise stated no comment or objection was made to Northumberland County Council:

No applications to consider

Note:

Notices of appeal – none

Notices of enquiry – none

Other notices – none

29. Finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income:

Fees £1125.00

Bank balance of BOI £44496.81 and Lloyds TSB £10350.00 as at 18 June 2024.

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
DD	BT	Line rental	6.78
Northumberland County Council	Rates	Store	NIL
DD	Wave	Water bill	24.89
DD	Wave	Water bill	27.53
DD	BT	Line rental	80.06
DD	Wave	Water bill	200.75
1410	D Hall	Salary/Exp/PAYE	1498.52
1411	Communicorp	Balance chq 1401	60.51
1412	J Douglass	Audit	200.00
1413	Clear View	Insurance (replace chq 1405)	2409.02

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

30. Correspondence

All correspondence noted unless indicated otherwise:

31. Other business

- Noted that Whitehouse Centre traffic survey done in closed period, make comment on Northumberland County Council portal
- Northumberland County Council local transport plan requests:
 - Traffic calming a speed signs on Station Road
 - New roundabouts at Station Road both ends
 - Blagdon lane/old A1 roundabout
 - Drainage on Glororum Slip road
 - Speeding calming in Beechlee and improved footpaths
 - Signage and road edge treatment Glororum
 - Hedge maintenance Station Road

- Hedges Church Road
- St Mary's Hall – greater collaboration
- R Nixon – EV charging – seek views of Blagdon Est
- Northumberland County Council – Removal of hedge on Church road not a planning issue
- Northumberland County Council – review of polling districts
- K Carins – Update on WW1/WW2 fund
 - The group has asked that 2 seats are positioned in the Parish (one commemorates WW1, the other WW2). Three sites were suggested. Two benches may be placed on Platinum Way (to replace the old current benches) with the proviso that the doggy bin is moved further from the seat position at the Northern bus stop. The other site could be for the WW1 bench on the embankment opposite the WW1 plaques (there is a seat there at the moment).
 - The WW2 Group has also agreed to give the Village Show Group the management of the marquee.
 - A hot composter will be purchased for Stannington First School to complement their Forest School scheme, the donated Air Raid shelters and this will also fit very well with the “Dig For Victory” slogan from WW2. The cost of the composter is £500.
 - A donation of £250 has been proposed for the upkeep of St Mary's Church and a similar donation has been proposed for Blyth Battery who continue to support Stannington Parish by attending the Village Show and who were crucial to both the WW events.
 - The remaining monies, approximately £4k, will be put aside to support Stannington Parish Council and the proposed plans to renovate the Hearse House.

The council agreed to purchase the new seats with a donation from the group and agreed to place them next to Howard end and the Vicarage. It was also agreed that a small village library be purchased for the school to manage.

32. Date of Next meeting

11 September 2024

Signed: _____ Chairman

Dated: _____