

Stannington Parish Council

David Hall MA., PG.C., B.Eng (Hons), N. Dip. M., MCIPR, – Clerk to the Council

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Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting

9 May 2018 – 6.45pm

Stannington 1st School

Attendance:

Councillor K Carins – in the chair
Councillor H Brown
Councillor S Wilson
Councillor S Dickinson
Councillor M Scott
Councillor R Tolson
Councillor Armstrong – Northumberland County Council Councillor

D Hall – Clerk
Mr Neil Easton - Northumberland County Council

2 residents of the parish

1. Apologies

Councillor R Philipson
Councillor D Emery

Apologies were also received from Mr M King from Northumberland County Council highways team who was to attend the meeting but sadly was ill. The Clerk was asked to arrange a future meeting at various sites of concern around the parish.

2. To receive any declarations of interest in the agenda

None

3. To receive the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held 24 May 2017

Noted that these were approved at the normal meeting held on 12 July 2017 and that members noted the minutes.

4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting

No matters arising as all items dealt with at the council meeting held on 12 July 2017.

5. To receive the Annual report from the Chairman of the 124th APM

Stannington Parish Council has had another busy and productive year. Thanks to all our hard working, dedicated and committed Parish Councillors who keep watch over Stannington Parish. Thank you to all our residents and businesses who continue to support us. It is always a pleasure to serve in such a beautiful Parish.

Our eight Parish Councillors' duties involve their commitment to representing and working for the whole of the Parish area. A major part of those duties also involves consulting on planning applications;

- We have commented and spoken, on behalf of the Parish, at the various planning meetings at County Hall. We speak for and against planning applications that come before the council. Our comments are always based on planning facts and on our knowledge of the parish which is greatly aided by the residents who live here.
- Unfortunately, there is still no Local Plan in place so we remain vigilant to all large and small planning applications that are lodged within our Parish. We work with residents to mitigate against any issues or concerns they may have. Our Parish is growing and bucking the trend of other rural Parishes. New developments have grown up, in and around the Parish, in this last year, and we have welcomed many new residents. Many of these new residents are joining the village social groups and further enhancing the community spirit which is prevalent in Stannington.
- St Mary Park residents have taken control of their beautiful village hall and the opening was a well-coordinated and spectacular event. The St Mary Residents Association is thriving, and, along with the management committee for the new hall, they are making St Mary Park a very desirable place to live. We wish them good luck for all their ventures and events and we hope to be able to attend many in the future.
- The dreadful weather which plagued us until the late spring brought misery for many of our residents. Potholes were and are the biggest issue this year but we are slowly returning our roads to a better state of repair. We must thank the perseverance of our residents, County Councillor Eileen Armstrong and our Parish Councillors for working together and keeping the County Council informed of the problem and making sure that the situation was closely monitored.
- Meetings with the Planning Strategy team at Northumberland County Council has meant that the Stannington Parish Neighbourhood Plan has now been examined and after some minor modifications we will shortly be holding the referendum. This document has taken nearly 4 years to complete, including monthly meetings by a dedicated steering group which is no mean feat.

Other duties around the Parish have included;

- Supporting various groups within the parish. The Parish Council has continued to support our red squirrels and we are most grateful for all the hard work Mark Legard puts into the preservation of these beautiful creatures.

We continue to support our local Historian by enabling him to complete three books to commemorate the end of the Great War. The books are outstanding and we are duly proud of Richard Tolson's incredible work. The Parish Councillors are involved in the 2018 commemoration of the Great War as are the school and many other groups. The event will be truly memorable and something that will bring many visitors to the Parish. Mark Legard is leading us in the World War One Commemoration arrangements. He, along with other members of the History Group, have secured some amazing attractions for the event.

- We support, maintain and improve the grounds across the Parish with the help of our handyman, Maurice, and some external contractors. We report potholes, fly tipping and any other issues that affect our Parish. We continue to work with the County Council to reduce

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speed limits and put in parking restriction measures to safeguard our residents and our school children. The safety Scheme around the school will soon be realised. Working with the local authority we manage the grass cutting, refuse collections and the general housekeeping within the Parish. Our relationship with Northumberland County Council continues to be excellent and this is helped by the various training sessions and conferences which we attend every year.

- We set the precept for the year and, again, there is no increase in cost per household, in fact, there was a slight reduction which has been achieved by the new developments which have come about during this last year.
- The various Liaison Committee meetings we attend help maintain the good relationships that the Parish Council has with all outside bodies.
- We hope to erect a flagpole in the village, shortly, which will be dedicated to Connie Dungait, for all her notable work within the Parish and Morpeth, she was a much loved and admired resident of Stannington Parish.
- The council has continued to hold meetings in the new school room and we hope to hold a couple of meetings in the new village hall at St Mary Park this coming year.

Again, all that has been achieved, this year, would not have been possible if we did not have a strong Parish Council. Our County Councillor Eileen Armstrong, continues to support Stannington Parish, her advice and her attendance, on our behalf of all of us, at meetings at County Hall, is invaluable. Eileen works incredibly hard for us and makes sure that each and every resident is represented. We thank her for her friendship and her commitment to our Parish.

This year we welcomed Richard Tolson on to the Parish Council, he brings a calm and considered approach to all our meetings for which we are grateful!

Reverend Catherine Pickford remains a good friend to the Parish Council and we are very grateful for her support and her care and commitment to the people of Stannington Parish. Her support in the Freeman of the Parish Ceremony meant that we were able to honour Eunice Ridley and Mark Wood in our beautiful church with all their friends and family around them. We hope to collaborate with her again for our next Freeman of the Parish Ceremony. Catherine supports every event in the Parish which is commendable, she's also great fun!

Maurice continues to maintain and care for the Village, he keeps me informed of all issues that relate to the Village and I look forward to our discussions on all things Stannington. We always put the world to rights! He is, as ever, the eyes and ears of the Parish Council and a great ambassador for us. His hard work and dedication are noticed and appreciated. He is much more than our handyman, he cares deeply for all things Parish related and he even has a fan club!

Tommy Pringle is still my right-hand man when it comes to the arrangements surrounding the Remembrance Sunday service. This last year he supported Councillor Robson Philipson, who laid the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council, as I was at a family celebration. This year he will be helping us all celebrate the end of the Great War.

On behalf of all the Parish Councillors I would like to thank David Hall for his longstanding dedication as Clerk to the parish. His advice and support are crucial to the running of this council. He makes sure that we maintain a professional and correct approach whilst we all go about our Parish duties. We are grateful for his diligence and friendship.

I thank everyone for all their support, for trusting the Parish Council to watch over this beautiful Parish and for allowing us the special privilege of safeguarding it for now and for the future.

6. Public session

Mr Neil Easton from Northumberland County Council attended to discuss the recent issues with the withdrawal of the X44 Arriva Service to and from Morpeth and Newcastle via Stannington Village and therefore restricting access from St Mary Park, Blagdon, Milkhope and Stannington Village without going via Morpeth or Clifton to travel to Newcastle.

It was noted that Arriva operated this service on a commercial basis and had decided to cease due to low demand. It was also noted that three years ago the service went from regular service to and off peak service. This impacted on the long term service. Northumberland County Council had previously paid for the home-school part of this service. The service has not been deregistered but instead has been terminated at Dinnington.

Northumberland County Council retendered the service with S1/S2 and as a result Hepscoth, also in the parish, now has a service. This service is more frequent and on the hour. Councillors pointed out that the service arrives to Morpeth Station some ten minutes after the train service and Mr Easton agreed to discuss this with the operator to see if a change could be made. It was also noted that there was a possible service from S1/S2 from Dinnington to Morpeth via Stannington mid-morning and afternoon and this is being investigated.

Taxi tokens can be obtained provided the bus pass user gives up their bus pass and then can obtain £50 tokens for £10 payment. Cllr Scott enquired about a service to Cramlington although there was concern that this may dilute the S1/S2 usage further. Mr Easton advised that discussions were underway about a service to the new care hospital and this may provide a solution. Finally councillors asked if a link service could be provided to St Mary Park on weekends and this is to be investigated further.

Mr Easton left the meeting.

Mr & Mrs Phail attended to tell the council about their growing alpaca venture at Duddo and the need for a shelter. They intended applying for planning permission and the council agreed to await this application before making any comment or forming a view. Concern was also expressed at the casual footpath from Maple Court to the old A1 and the chairman advised that this was in hand with the developer.

Mr & Mrs Phail left the meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

Stannington Parish Council

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Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting
9 May 2018 – 7.50pm
Stannington 1st School

Attendance:

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Councillor H Brown
Councillor S Wilson
Councillor S Dickinson
Councillor M Scott
Councillor R Tolson
Councillor Armstrong – Northumberland County Council Councillor

D Hall – Clerk
Mr Neil Easton - Northumberland County Council

2 residents of the parish

7. To receive any apologies

Councillor R Philipson
Councillor D Emery

8. To receive any declarations of interest in the agenda

None known at this stage

9. To conclude the election of chairman

Clr Dickinson and Clr Wilson seconded that Clr Carins be elected. There being no other nominations Clr Carins was elected for the ensuing year.

11. To conclude the election of vice-chairman

Cllr Carins proposed and Clr Brown seconded that Clr Dickinson be elected. There being no other nominations Clr Dickinson was elected for the ensuing year.

12. To receive the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 24 May 2017

Noted that these were approved at the normal meeting held on 12 July 2017 and that members noted the minutes.

13. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held 24 May 2017

No matters arising as all items dealt with at the council meeting held on 12 July 2017.

12. To receive the minutes of the previous meeting held 14 March 2018

Agreed.

13. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 March 2018

- Mr King of Northumberland County Council be asked to undertake a site visit to look at the condition of roads across the parish especially at Glororum, Betts Lane, St Mary's, Netherton Park and Station Road.
- The chairman updated members about discussions with Northumberland County Council on funding for the first school. £11k is needed for new toilets although Northumberland County Council have no budget for this. Numbers of students in the school continue to rise thus putting pressure on this old building.
- Significant waste at Glororum and Clifton, particularly takeaway cartons – report to Northumberland County Council
- Planters at Station Road, Clifton and The Limes all damaged by grass cutters and need repaired.
- Freeman even to be held in October 2018

14. To consider reports from around the parish/outside bodies

A full report of the chair was presented earlier at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Stannington Village Hall – Members noted that Cllr Wilson had resigned her position as representative of the council and thanked her hard work and commitment to this important resource.

Resolved that: Cllr Tolson be appointed to serve on the Village Hall Committee as the council's representative.

15. To consider items pertaining to development Control

Councillors considered the following applications as a consultee of Northumberland County Council noting that the power to approve or refuse applications lies solely with the local planning authority and that the parish council's comments would be taken into account along with all other statutory consultees and those of residents:

Applicant	Address	Detail	Decision
Mr Hart	17 Station Road	Holiday let	No objection
Mr Holbrook	33 Station Road	4 dwellings	No objection but request that all trade and construction traffic does not park on Station Road or damage footpaths and verges
Northern Power Grid	Whitehouse Farm	Sub station	No objection
Mr Richardson	24 Green Close	Extension	No objection

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Mrs Coltman	Birchwood Nurseries – Station Road	Equestrian area	No objection
Mrs Waddell	Aspen Hair & Beauty – Church Road	Signage	The Council does not object to signage per se but the entrance signs are industrial and unnecessary and the building signage is out of character and does not need illumination.

Note: Cllr Armstrong of Northumberland County Council took no part in any of the planning discussions.

Notices of appeal - none
Notices of enquiry – none

Other notices:

Application for dwellings at Tranwell Airfield to be heard at planning committee.
TPO on Land at St Mary Park
Northumberland Local Plan Spring Consultation

16. To consider an update on Stanington Parish Neighbourhood plan (SPNP)

Members discussed the proposed modifications to the plan as submitted by the reviewing inspector and agreed to adopt them in full. The plan is now with Northumberland County Council for the holding of a referendum.

17. To consider matters relating to finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income:**Interest**

March £2.32

April £2.70

Fees £525 plus precept of £1250

Bank balance of £42798.29 BOI and £10350.00 Lloyds – 11 April 2018

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1141	M Stewart	Handyman services	160.00
1142	Wave	Water bill	18.16
1143	St May's PCC	Donation	1080.00
1144	THC	Verge Work	210.00
1145	D Hall	Reimburse for paying chq 1134	146.22
1146	THC	Cemetery work	3360.00
1147	D Hall	Salary/exp	1430.48
1148	THC	Grass cutting and planting	840.00
1149	HMRC	PAYE/NI	1211.00
1150	History Group	Donation	1000.00
1151	D Hall	Salary/Exp	1037.91
1152	J Douglas	Audit	200.00
1153	M Stewart	Handman services	640.00

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

Members also reviewd the Annual Governance statement.

Resolved that: The the Annual Governance Statement be approved

Members further considered the Annual Statement of Accounts:

Stannington Parish Council							
2016-17	Financial year ended 31 March 2018						2017-18
	Balance as at 31 March 2016						
6579	Bank of Ireland			24678.79			24679
20350	Lloyds TSB			10350.00			10350
0	No petty cash account held			0.00			0
26929						35028.79	35029
	U/P cheques at 31 March 2017						
				Chq			
10	Bank or Ireland			1140	1722.00		1722
180				1141	160.00		160
15				1142	18.16		18
60				1143	1080.00		1080
36				1144	210.00		210
160				1145	146.22		146
425				1146	3360.00		3360
4260				1147	1430.48		1430
44				1148	840.00		840
28				1149	1211.00		1211
94				1150	1000.00		1000
15				1151	1037.91		1038
68				1152	200.00		200
133				1153	640.00		640
807							
1207							
127							
200							
7870						13055.77	13056
	Lloyds		None				
	Unbanked income at 31 March 2018						
2709			VAT		1609.70		1610
			Fees		525.00		525
2709						2134.70	2135
	Cash Book						
26929	Opening Balance				35028.79		35029
38193	Add receipts in the year				25753.25		25753
-30094	Less Payments in the year				-28077.36		-28077
35029						32704.68	32705
	Receipts						
-21550	Precept				-22950.00		-22950
-23	Interest				-32.55		-33
-1200	Burial fees				-1161.00		-1161
-2709	Vat				-1609.70		-1610
-12712	Grants and other income				0.00		0
-38193	Total receipts					-25753.25	-25753
	Payments						
4475	Salaries office				4249.58		4250
640	Salaries handyman				1280.00		1280
552	Travel				214.17		214
199	Telephone				221.24		221
0	Stationery				239.37		239
0	Postage				0.00		0
0	Books and periodicals				0.00		0
1945	Insurances				1989.38		1989
643	Sundries/ admin				1090.80		1091
0	Professional Fees				0.00		0
361	Subscriptions				378.25		378
440	Audit Fees				440.00		440
2786	Cemetery				3068.88		3069
375	S. 137				3032.60		3033
1624	Grounds and Open Space General				2593.73		2594
0	Shelters seats and bins				0.00		0
0	Equipment				0.00		0
0	Furniture & Fittings				0.00		0
7860	Playing Field				2355.00		2355
583	Store Rental & fittings				633.25		633
1310	Environmental /traffic schemes				1735.80		1736
3594	Neighbourhood Plan				2945.61		2946
2709	Vat				1609.70		1610
30094	Total payments taking into account inter bank transfers					28077.36	28077
	Annual Return						
			Box				
26929	Balances BF		1		35028.79		35029
21550	Precept		2		22950.00		22950
16643	Other receipts		3		2803.25		2803
-5866	Staff		4		-5964.99		-5965
	Loan		5				
-24227	Total other costs		6		-22112.37		-22112
35029	Balances fwd		7 and 8		32704.68		32705
35029	Total cash and short term investments					32704.68	32705

Bank reconciliation 2017/18 - Bank Ireland Account			
Opening Balance 1 April 2017			24678.79
Less payments in year			-15021.59
Add income			23618.55
Bank Balance March 31 2018	Month End Balance		33275.75
Add Un banked income			525.00
Add VAT claim			1609.70
Less U/P Cheques			-13055.77
Closing Balance			22354.68
Bank reconciliation 2017/18 - Bank Ireland Account			
Lloyds TSB at 31/3/17			10350.00
Lloyds TSB at 31/3/18			10350.00
	Balance		32704.68

Resolved that: The the Annual Statement of Accounts be approved

18. Correspondence

Noted unless otherwise stated:

- NALC – Neighbourhood planning course
- NALC – Enews
- Northumberland County Council – local area council meeting notice
- Calor – community grants
- Resident – request for recycling area at Sta Mary Park – Refer to Northumberland County Council
- Resident – damage to planter on The Limes – repair
- Resident – damage to planters at Clifton - repair
- Solagen – repair to LEDs on speed sign needed – agreed
- Northumberland County Council – weed control
- NALC – standing orders – consider at next meeting
- Residents – support and objections to fencing at Maple Court – refer to Karbon Homes
- PKF Little John – Annual Audit
- Resident of St Mary Park – request for the Council to consider the co-option of a councillor for St Mary Park. Correspondence from the resident was circulated to members for review, the main concerns being raised: unfair democratic representation and that the council could co-opt councillors to fill this gap. The clerk had sought advice from NALC Solicitor. The number of councillors was set in the 1950s, there is no power to co-opt unless there is a vacancy, there is no guarantee in an election that a councillor will be elected from St Mary Park because of democracy, only Northumberland County Council can form wards in the parish however the election in 2017 was uncontested with a vacancy filled by R Tolson on co-option. Members agreed that the Clerk and Chair should meet the resident to discuss how to work together so that residents of St Mary Park would feel represented. Discussion topics already offered to include: attending St Mary Park Residents Meetings, PC meetings held at St Mary Park, residents of St Mary Park to attend PC meetings as do residents of other areas. It was noted that all councillors serve the whole of Stannington Parish.

19. Any other business at the discretion of the Chairman

- Planning permission is being sought for the new flagpole in the village
- 3 defibrilators to be deployed across the parish – St Mary Park, Stration Road and Stannington Village
- Bus shelter at St Mary Park – discussions about a suitable and safe site taking place with Northumberland County Council highways
- Cllr Dickinson enquired whether the council would fund WW1 commemorative mugs for children as Stannington First School at a cost of £540, to bear the name of the council. The council agreed to this
- Cllr Dickinson enquired whether the council would fund the insurance for the villager show at a cost of £252 and the council agreed
- The Stannington WW1 Centenary book will be available in late May for purchase at a cost of £20 and it is has excellent coverage of the life of Stannington Parish at the time of the First World War.

20. Date of next meeting

11 July 2018 – 6.45pm Stannington 1st School

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed

Chairman

Date