

Stannington Parish Council

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

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Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting

14th May 2014

Stannington Village Hall – 5.30pm

Attendance:

Clr K Carins – in the chair

Clr P Smith

Clr B Smiles

Clr H Brown

Clr D Strachan

Clr R Philipson

Clr S Dickinson

D Hall – Clerk

PC Andrea Teasdale – Northumbria Police

Residents of the parish

1. Apologies

Clr Rev A Gregory

Clr Armstrong – Northumberland County Council

2. Public session

Netherton Park

Residents from Netherton Park attended the meeting to express their concern at the proposals for the Netherton Park Trustees to seek planning permission for the development of the site following the closure of the childrens' open units.

Mr Haggie represented the residents and outlined their position:

- Preference for the status quo
- The need to protect the semi-rural nature of the site
- Pleased with the retention of the green spaces in the development
- Questions raised about the suitability of houses having a boundary with the secure unit which is a 20' high wall
- Concerned about the boundary of the development with North Bungalow
- The creation of 'The Boulevard' will impact on the residents of The Drive
- Concern that a proper environmental assessment has not been done to determine the impact on Bats and wildlife corridors
- The development proposed should match the current density
- There is a desire for more green space to match the current green space available

- Need for traffic calming and road markings
- Residents of The Drive would prefer a different access route for the development
- There needs to be appropriate footpaths to access the site from the Old A1
- Concern that there are a number of old drainage systems which may be impacted and cause flooding
- There should be an agreed timescale for completion
- The site and current houses should be served with fibre optic broadband
- Access arrangements for the current properties is not planned in the development and it should be

Stannington First School

Mr Hepton was present from the governors of the School. He described in some detail the proposals for a new community building at the school which could be used by both the school and the community. The scheme now involved a standalone building which would be fully accessible. £50K had been secured in grant funding and a gap of £10K now existed. As the building is mobile it can be moved if the site is redeveloped in the future. A number of funding applications were still awaiting response. The council indicated its support for the scheme and advised Mr Hepton to keep them informed on progress.

3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parish held 15th May 2013

Noted that these were approved at the meeting held in July 2013 and so these minutes were only received for information.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Chairman's report

Attached for information

Signed

Chairman

Date

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Minutes of Annual General Meeting

14th May 2014

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Attendance:

Clr K Carins – in the chair

Clr P Smith

Clr B Smiles

Clr H Brown

Clr D Strachan

Clr R Philipson

Clr S Dickinson

D Hall – Clerk

PC Andrea Teasdale – Northumbria Police

6. Apologies

Clr Rev A Gregory

Clr Armstrong – Northumberland County Council

7. Election of chairman

Proposed that Clr Carins be elected by Clr Strachan and seconded by Clr Smiles.

Resolved that Clr Carins be elected chairman

8. Election of vice-chairman

Proposed that Clr Strachan be elected by Clr Carins and seconded by Clr Brown.

Resolved that Clr Strachan be elected vice-chairman

9. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 15th May 2013

Noted that these were approved at the meeting held in July 2013 and so these minutes were only received for information.

9. Minutes of the previous meetings held 12th March and 8th April 2013

Agreed as a true record, noted however that Clrs Philipson, Smith and Dickinson had apologised only on the basis of having an interest.

10. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings held 12th March and 8th April 2013

Noted that the tree for commemorating the late Lord Ridley had been ordered for September - Sorbus Josephs Rock, one of his favourite trees.

A plan for redevelopment of the play area would be developed in the autumn.

11. Reports from across the parish

Village Hall

A cigarette bin has now been purchased and erected. The kitchen and bar are to be updated. A glass cleaner will be installed. The hall has had a fire and safety assessment and passed. The next fundraising event will take place at Char Mausum in October. Next meeting AGM Monday, 9th June 2014 at 7.00pm

Brenkley Liaison committee

Next meeting 24th June. Minutes of the last meeting are attached.

Stannington Station

The T James wagons that are using Station Road are from the Well Hill opencast site. There have been numerous complaints from residents. A resident was pushed off the road by one lorry when it should have given way and when lorries turn into Station Road they take both sides of the road.

Northumberlandia

There are no meetings until later in 2014.

Netherton Park

An application has been lodged. Joe Nugent is the planning officer in charge of this development. He is aware of the road situation within Netherton Park.

St Marys Liaison committee

The Clerk and Chairman attended a meeting with Tracey Brady concerning the liaison committee. It was decided that the liaison committee had run its course and that a quarterly meeting between, Ronnie, the Clerk, Tracey and the PC Chair would be sufficient from now on. If the residents wished to form a residents committee then that would be encouraged.

Well Hill Liaison Committee

This meeting takes place 15th May.

Neighbourhood Plan – notes circulated

Handyman

- The Clerk has addressed all previous issues.
- Beachlea seat is beyond repair and dangerous.

- The people in the flats with the white handrails have repeatedly asked the housing association if they can have a different colour on the rails but been ignored. The Clerk read out a letter from ISOS explaining that this was a requirement of the Disability Act.
- The fences and hedges in that area also need to be addressed.
- Behind the garages at Beachlea there is a large amount of rubbish accumulating. Reported to NCC.
- Children's play area sign obscured by fallen tree branches. Resolved.
- The play area has flooded on top of the main drain. Maurice has asked if he can put a lateral drain in to alleviate this problem.
- Drain in opposite front of the old Vicarage is spouting water and backing up. Reported.
- The 30 mile an hour sign by Swan Farm has rotted away, can it be removed? Is a sign still necessary there? Reported.

Glororum

- Since the Fireclay application was granted the wagons should have been using a ONE-WAY route and therefore only coming 'down' (heading east) the Glorum route. Unfortunately a few are ignoring this and these have been reported to Hargreaves.
- Bellway have been asked to use the same route and some probably are but not most...we know this may take a while to filter through to drivers as they do use many different contractors. Some weeks deliveries to this site are low, but some weeks they are very busy with a wagon every 5mins.
- There are also new properties being built with Tranwell Woods and alterations/extensions, which generate many more wagons, cement lorries, delivery vehicles.
- So all in all residents are no better off....in fact the road is breaking down daily.....we have as much traffic as ever and still huge wagons trying to pass each other so the verges are getting even more narrow and some have disappeared completely and the roadside ditches are so heavily compacted with the verges which have been driven into them that they are no longer there.
- What makes this situation worse for the residence is that we knew this would happen and the Highway Department took no notice of our concerns. Now I would class the route as Dangerous and yet still nothing has been done. We know that Hargreaves have to restore the route once they are finished but they are only 10 months into a 3 year site! And why should they restore a route which the County Council have never maintained and which is also being used by another developer?
- A resident rang NCC last week and was told the potholes will be filled in this month! – Just the potholes?! The surface is cracking, lifting, crumbling, the road edges are flimsy and in some areas totally demolished, the verges are to be reinstated, signs have been hit and are lying in the road!, passing bays were to be upgraded. You have to 'weave' around holes (some over 12" deep) and uneven surface where you can see 3 levels of surface are demolished. An accident is going to happen.
- Clr Brown emailed Joe Nugent to ask what is happening but have received no reply as yet.
- Clr Brown also emailed local Policewoman Andrea Teasdale regarding the speeds we experience on this route but received no reply.

Clifton

The grass has been recently cut.

Rubbish is still a problem as it is thrown from cars driving through Clifton & either our Handyman or a Clifton resident on a weekly basis (or more often) collects a barrow full for the bin.

Speed tapes have been placed at the entrance & exit into Clifton & at other junctions on & off the A1. A black box was also attached to a telegraph pole outside Clifton Stables. Cllr Strachan contacted Sky High Technology who erected the box & their representative told her that the Highways Agency are collecting data from all junctions on & off the A1 from Seaton Burn to The Borders.

The explanation is as follows:

There are a number of aspects to the survey as follows:

- Bluetooth detector survey: this involved placing Bluetooth detectors at 59 locations around the A1. These detectors pick up signals from any Bluetooth devices in passing vehicles (mobile phones, laptops, in-vehicle systems) and if the same device is picked up by a second detector this provides data on the distribution of travel around the area and how long each journey takes (note that for privacy reasons the Bluetooth reference number for each device is assigned a new unique reference by the system which we can't trace back to a specific device when we get the data).
- Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs): these are tubes placed across the road which count the number of vehicles passing that point. We located these in the same 59 locations as the Bluetooth detectors so that we know the total number of vehicles at each point (since not every vehicle will contain a Bluetooth device). There were also four other locations on the A1 itself that we surveyed with these ATCs.
- Manual Classified Counts (MCCs): these involve installing temporary video cameras which record videos of the location being surveyed. The data collected from these are the total number of vehicles of each type (e.g. motorbike, car, car with caravan, HGV, van etc.). This type of survey was carried out in 6 locations on the A1.

The Bluetooth detectors and ATCs were in place for two weeks and the MCCs were carried out on three days during this two week period. We are reaching the end of the survey period now so the survey company should be removing the equipment at some point this week.

The survey won't affect traffic movements or junctions. The data is to be used to develop a traffic model of this area of the A1, a traffic model is a computer simulation of the road network to represent traffic movements and enable the assessment of proposed changes to the road network..

Cllr Strachan will contact a James Finch at the Highways Agency for further news of any alterations to junctions within our Parish & also for the number of vehicles using the roads within our parish.

12. Finance

The following income accounts were approved:

Income

Interest:

March £1.31

April £1.38

Precept £9500

Burial fees £425

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount
918	T Foggerty	Mole work	370.00
919	M Stewart	Salary	180.00
920	HMRC	NI	376.63
921	Solagen	Warranty	594.00
922	THC	Annual grass cutting, grounds work	3984.00
923	D Hall	Salary	311.06
924	HMRC	Tax	515.98
925	M Stewart	Salary	160.00
926	NCC	Neighbourhood Plan prints	229.49
927	AON	Insurance	1882.80
928	VR Estate	Rent	340.00
929	VR 1965	Rent	50.00
930	Charlton Drainage	Drains top up work	1950.00
931	NWL	Water bill	186.76
932	NWL	Water bill	158.86
933	E Carins	Neighbourhood plan design work	50.00
934	Northumberland society	Membership	25.00
935	K Carins	Neighbourhood plan sundries	40.64

The annual accounts, statement of accounts and governance were approved:

Reconciliation 2013/14 - Lloyds Account	
Current acct balance as at 1 April 2013	20350.00
Less payments	
Opening Balance 1 April 2013	20350.00
Less payments	0.00
Less U/P chqs	0.00
Add income	0.00
Balance	20350.00
Bank statement 31 March 2014-Lloyds	20350.00

Bank reconciliation 2013/14 - Bank Ireland Account	
Bank balance as 1 April 2013	11543.98
Less up chqs from prior year	-8908.33
Add Vat claim income	2236.63
Opening Balance 1 April 2013	4872.28
Less payments in year	-23748.81
Add U/P chqs	8138.13
Add income	28172.16
Less unreconciled income	-2026.36
Balance	15407.40
Bank statement 31 March 2014 - Bank of Ireland	
Book Balance - Bank of Ireland	9295.63

This gives a total balances forward of £29645.63

Stannington Parish Council

Bank Reconciliation				
2012-13	Financial year ended 31 March 2014		2013-14	
Balance as per bank statement 31 March 2014				
11544	Bank of Ireland		15407.40	
20350	Lloyds TSB		20350.00	
0	No petty cash account held		0.00	
31894				35757.40
Less U/P cheques at 31 March 2013				
144	Bank of Ireland	912	643.97	
140		913	186.76	
98		914	381.00	
167		915	74.73	
280		916	320.00	
5		917	200.00	
23		918	370.00	
1194		919	180.00	
1000		920	376.63	
5436		921	594.00	
420		922	3984.00	
		923	311.06	
		924	515.98	
8908				8138.13
Lloyds None				
Unbanked income at 31 March 2014				
2237		VAT Fees	1601.36	
			425.00	
25222	Book balance			29645.63
Cash Book				
	Opening Balance		4872.27	
	Add receipts in the year		28172.16	
	Less Payments in the year		-23748.81	
				9295.62
Receipts				
-19000	Precept		-19000.00	
-24	Interest		-17.80	
-2725	Burial fees		-1300.00	
-2237	Vat		-1601.36	
	Grants		-6253.00	
-23985	Total receipts taking into account inter bank transfers (5000)			-28172.16
Payments				
4483	Salaries office		4385.65	
1380	Salaries handyman		2360.00	
440	Travel		368.16	
221	Telephone		233.57	
32	Stationery		0.00	
60	Postage		0.00	
0	Books and periodicals		0.00	
1903	Insurances		1842.86	
1883	Sundries/ admin		539.40	
0	Professional Fees		0.00	
269	Subscriptions		349.58	
362	Audit Fees		440.00	
4904	Cemetery		2784.25	
0	Electricity		0.00	
0	S.137		500.00	
5882	Grounds and Open Space General		2964.17	
500	Shelters seats and bins		400.00	
1000	Equipment		536.64	
0	Furniture & Fittings		0.00	
50	Playing Field		1820.00	
642	Store Rental & fittings		693.18	
0	Environmental /traffic schemes		1930.00	
2237	Vat		1601.36	
26247	Total payments taking into account inter bank transfers			23748.81
Annual Return				
		Box		
27484	Balances BF	1	25222.28	25222
19000	Precept	2	19000.00	19000
4985	Other receipts	3	9172.16	9172
-6524	Staff	4	-7347.38	-7347
0	Loan	5		
-19723	Total other costs	6	-16401.44	-16401
25222	Balances fwd	7 and 8	29645.63	29646
25222	Total cash and short term investments		29645.63	29646

No changes to charges were agreed and the council agreed the financial regulations and risk assessment as published previously.

13. Development Control

Application	Address	Detail	Decision
14/01060	Trefoil	Garage repositioned	No objection but noted that the drive may clash with new road to Netherton Park
Netherton Park	Redevelopment of the site	84 dwellings	<p>Object</p> <p>The residents preference for the status quo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to protect the semi-rural nature of the site • We are pleased with the retention of the green spaces in the development • We do not believe that it is appropriate to have houses having a boundary with the secure unit which is a 20' high wall • Concerned about the boundary of the development with North Bungalow • The creation of 'The Boulevard' will impact on the residents of The Drive in an unfavourable way • Concern that a proper environmental assessment has not been done to determine the impact on Bats on properties to be demolished and wildlife corridors • The development proposed should match the current density • There is a desire for more green space to match the current green space available • Need for traffic calming and road markings not included in the scheme • Residents of The Drive would prefer a different access route for the development • There needs to be appropriate footpaths to access the site from the Old A1 • Concern that there are a number of old drainage systems which may be impacted and cause flooding and this has not been addressed • There should be an agreed timescale for completion

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site and current houses should be served with fibre optic broadband • Access arrangements for the current properties is not planned in the development and it should be. ie the current back lanes will be left un made and this is not acceptable.
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Notices of appeal
Notices of enquiry

14. Correspondence

Noted unless otherwise indicated:

- Community Action Northumberland news
- Parish and Community News

15. Any Other Business

- Concern was expressed at the state of grass cutting on Beachlea and this has been reported to ISOS
- NCC be asked to consider marking the edge of the Village Hal/Ridley Arms car park
- Clrs Carins and Smiles will attend a meeting on community funds and public transport

16. Date of next meeting

Members agreed to change the date to the 16th July at 5.30pm in Stannington Village Hall

Signed

Chairman

Date