

Stannington Parish Council

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

2 Monmouth Court – Widdrington – Morpeth –Northumberland
NE61 5QS – Tel/Fax 01670 791622 Email: Stanningtonpc@Aol.Com

Minutes of Annual Meeting

12 May 2021 – 6.30pm

Attendance: Councillor K Carins – in the chair
Councillor M Scott
Councillor R Tolson
Councillor H Brown
Councillor R Nixon
Councillor S Dickinson
D Hall – Clerk

Prior to the meeting the clerk confirmed that all councillors had signed their acceptance of office and agreed to abide by the code of conduct.

Public Session

None

1. Election of Chairman – item taken by the Clerk

Councillor Dickinson proposed that Councillor Carins be elected for the ensuing year and Councillor Tolson seconded this proposal.

Resolved that Councillor Carins be elected chairman of the Council for the year 2021/22

2. Election of Vice Chairman

Councillor Carins proposed that Councillor Dickinson be elected for the ensuing year and Councillor Scott seconded this proposal.

Resolved that Councillor Dickinson be elected vice chairman of the Council for the year 2021/22

3. To receive any apologies

Councillor Brown
Councillor R Philipson

4. To receive any declarations of interest in the agenda

None

5. To receive and note the minutes of the previous meeting

Approved at the last ordinary meeting following the annual meeting in 2020

6. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

No Matters arising not already covered on the agenda.

7. Chairman's annual report

2021, so far, has been another very different year for all of us, we are now experts at remote meetings within our work life and with our family and friends. Our children, their parents and carers have worked exceptionally hard with remote learning, they should be congratulated. We now understand how hard our teachers work and how dedicated they are to our children, specially in such difficult circumstances. Many of us will have been unable to spend Christmas with our loved ones, missed special birthdays and anniversaries and, sadly, been unable to attend funerals. Weddings and holidays have been postponed, sporting and social events have been cancelled.

However, from the 17th May, things will hopefully improve for everyone as we start to get back to a more normal way of life. Many of us have had our first and second vaccines and with this our confidence in meeting up and attending meetings and events will improve.

Another big thank you must go to all our hard working, dedicated and supportive residents who have helped their friends, neighbours and families during this Pandemic. Thanks go to our Parish Councillors who have also given their time to volunteer for all the different roles that have been asked of them. Another thank you to all our businesses who went above and beyond their continued support of all things Stannington. The farm shops and food outlets which have helped so much during this difficult time. Having access to fresh produce, a takeaway pizza and a curry made the lockdown more bearable. Thank goodness for our lovely walkways too, we have all got to know our fellow residents better.

Our Parish Councillors' have many duties and these have continued during lockdown. One of these duties involve consulting on planning applications; We have commented, on behalf of the Parish, at remote 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. We are still waiting for the adoption of the Local Plan. This has been delayed due to the pandemic. Stannington Parish Neighbourhood Plan has proved invaluable in informing Northumberland County Council on all things relating to the Parish. It has helped in deciding planning applications.

St Mary Park residents are waiting for the reopening of St Mary's Inn which is under new management. Our village halls will reopen shortly for all our clubs and local groups.

Events like the Village Show and the WW2 Event have been postponed until next year. All participants have honoured their commitments and will be supporting these events next year.

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is an initiative that will begin in May 2021 in the United Kingdom in honour of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2022. To increase and protect the native tree cover, people will be urged to create this 'special gift' for the Queen, to mark her 70 years on the throne. With this in mind we decided to postpone the planting of our replacement and new trees to coincide with this initiative.

Other duties around the Parish have included; Supporting various groups within the parish. The Parish Council will continue to support our red squirrels and we are, again, most grateful for all the hard work Mark Legard puts into the preservation of these beautiful creatures. We support, maintain and improve the grounds across the Parish. We report potholes, fly tipping and any other issues that affect our

Parish. We continue to work with the County Council to reduce speed limits and put in parking restriction measures to safeguard our residents and our school children. We work 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, this has been achieved by the new developments which have come about during this last few years.

The various Liaison Committee meetings we attend help maintain the good relationships that the Parish Council has with all outside bodies.

We maintain the children's playground and playing field.

The council has continued to hold meetings remotely.

All that has been achieved, this year, would not have been possible if we did not have a strong Parish Council. We are very grateful to Councillor Eileen Armstrong, who is stepping down this year, although she will continue to support Stannington Parish. She has become a very good friend to all of us and her advice and her attendance, on our behalf of all of us, at meetings at County Hall, has been invaluable. Her shoes will be very hard to fill.

We thank Alex Palmer, all her amazing staff and wonderful schoolchildren and for all their contributions to our Parish. We remain immensely proud of our school; we support them and look forward to seeing all them all once the restrictions are lifted.

We hope to bestow the title of Freeman of the Parish to Reverend Catherine and Councillor Eileen Armstrong for all their remarkable work within the Parish. Their dedication and support of the Parish is commendable.

Maurice still keeps me right on all things related to the village. He is, as ever, the eyes and ears of the Parish Council and a great ambassador for us. His hard work and dedication have been noticed and appreciated. We have planted a tree and erected a seat in the village to honour Maurice's retirement and dedication.

On behalf of all the Parish Councillors I would like to thank David Hall for his longstanding dedication as Clerk to the parish, we really appreciate his expertise. His advice during these difficult times has been crucial to the running of this council. He ensures that we maintain a professional and correct approach whilst we all go about our Parish duties. We are grateful for his diligence, support and friendship.

So this coming year we can look forward to our new tree planting ceremony, new equipment for the playground(delayed due to the pandemic) and new entrance signage. The cemetery car park has been re surfaced and many of our roads have had some improvements.

We can now look forward to better days to come, our WW2 event, our Village Show and all the various social events that have been put on hold.

We welcomed a new Parish Councillor, Robert Nixon, and sadly Councillor Sue Wilson has stood down. We will miss Sue but I know that she will still support and help the Parish in any way that she can.

As ever I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors for their hard work and commitment, they are unpaid volunteers who have a great love for our Parish and it shows. Thank you to all our residents

and businesses for, again, 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.

8. Questions from the public

None

Signed

Chairman

Date

Stannington Parish Council

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

3 Monmouth Court – Widdrington – Morpeth –Northumberland
NE61 5QS – Tel/Fax 01670 791622 Email: Stanningtonpc@Aol.Com

Minutes of Annual General Meeting **16 June 2021 – 3.00pm**

Attendance: Councillor K Carins – in the chair
Councillor M Scott
Councillor R Tolson
Councillor H Brown
Councillor S Dickinson
D Hall – Clerk

9. To receive any apologies

Councillor Brown
Councillor R Philipson

10. To note a casual vacancy arising from the election held earlier in the month

Councillors noted the vacancy and agreed to discuss this with a view to co-option in July

11. To receive any declarations of interest in the agenda

None

12. To receive and note the minutes of the previous meeting AGM

Approved at the last ordinary meeting following the annual meeting in 2020

13. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM

No Matters arising as these were dealt with at the last ordinary meeting following the AGM in 2020.

14. To approve the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting held 10.3.21

Approved

15. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held 10.3.21

- Concern regarding the ongoing deterioration of roads
 - Road to Catraw
 - Old A1 Through the village
 - 10-15 the Limes
- A range of flags to be purchased for the flagpole for saints days etc.

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

The following reports were taken as read and actions to be undertaken as recommended in so far as was reasonably practicable given the lockdown arrangements across Northumberland and the UK.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr Malcolm Scott

Date: 9th May 2021

Purpose of report: To update the Council on all issues raised by residents and others

Commentary:

- a) Resident complaint received regarding there still being no action by County Council on deep potholes on the Main Road through the Village.
- b) On the Bank Holiday on Monday May 3rd, 2021 there was very severe traffic congestion again at the entrance to Northumberlandia. Traffic entering Blagdon Lane from Cramlington was backed up a considerable distance along Blagdon Lane past the Snowy Owl Inn and across/along the A1068 (Fisher Lane) dual carriageway towards the roundabout to Cramlington. Cars were parked on the side verges of the main road. This was caused by the car park to Northumberlandia and the adjoining field being full. Signs stating that the car park was full were displayed with an attendant at the entrance making vehicles turn around in the entranceway. Many cars were still attempting entry and as this is a small entrance the turning vehicles were creating a huge backlog of traffic as were those parked on the roadside. This road is used by many vehicles in a day and the traffic congestion at Northumberlandia is becoming more of a problem and creating a road safety issue at the entry/exit point. This can only become worse whenever there is a dry day and when better weather arrives particularly at weekends and at holiday times.

Actions Required

- a) To contact the County Council again to make a stronger case and ask for the potholes in the Village to be filled as soon as possible to the required Standard.
- b) To look at the traffic problems being caused on Blagdon Lane by the Northumberlandia entrance/exit point and investigate the possibility of a roundabout being constructed here or additional parking space or an in and out gateway for the attraction.

Councillor M. Scott – 9th May 2021

17. 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:

- **Discharge of condition 7(surface water drainage) on approved application 18/02266/FUL.**

1 Shepherds Cote Drive Hepscoth Park Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6QA

Ref. No: 21/01830/DISCON | Received: Wed 05 May 2021 | Validated: Wed 05 May 2021 |

- **Prior Notification for a general purpose agricultural building**

Land North East Of Ivangill Station Road Stannington Northumberland

Ref. No: 21/01702/AGRGDO | Received: Tue 27 Apr 2021 | Validated: Tue 27 Apr 2021 |

- **Extension to Existing Agricultural Building**

Land South Of 69 Station Road Station Road, Stannington Northumberland

Ref. No: 21/01568/FUL | Received: Fri 16 Apr 2021 | Validated: Mon 24 May 2021 |

- **Prior notification for a steel portal frame building for the storage of farm goods and machinery**

Land North West Of Netherton Park Steads Stannington Northumberland

Ref. No: 21/01500/AGRGDO | Received: Tue 13 Apr 2021 | Validated: Wed 21 Apr 2021 |

- **Dropped kerb and permeable hardstanding for off road parking**

26 Beechlea Stannington NE61 6HN

Ref. No: 21/01212/FUL | Received: Wed 24 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 24 Mar 2021 |

- **Dropped kerb and permeable hardstanding for off road parking**

28 Beechlea Stannington NE61 6HN

Ref. No: 21/01213/FUL | Received: Wed 24 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 24 Mar 2021 |

- **Discharge of Condition 8b(Arboreal Impact Assessment) on approved application 19/01241/VARYCO.**

Land North East Of Netherton Park Netherton Park Stannington Northumberland

Ref. No: 21/01222/DISCON | Received: Wed 24 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 24 Mar 2021 |

- **Installation of cycle track on edge of school playing field**

Land At North Of Stannington First School Grounds Church Road Stannington Northumberland

Ref. No: 21/01146/FUL | Received: Mon 22 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 21 Apr 2021 |

- **Proposed porch and rear single storey extension**

29 Green Close Stannington NE61 6PE

Ref. No: 21/01077/FUL | Received: Wed 17 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 17 Mar 2021 |

- **Discharge of Conditions 7 (samples of the materials), 11(No street lighting shall be installed), 25(detailed scheme for the provision of a Multi-Use Games Area), and 29(scheme for the installation of any permanent and temporary lighting) on approved application 19/01241/VARYCO.**

Land North East Of Netherton Park Netherton Park Stannington Northumberland

Ref. No: 21/01082/DISCON | Received: Wed 17 Mar 2021 | Validated: Wed 17 Mar 2021 |

- **Certificate of Lawful Development for proposed conversion of existing ancillary outbuilding to an office space and granny annexe ancillary to 15, Station Road, Stannington, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 6DX**

15 Station Road Stannington Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6DX

Ref. No: 21/01035/CLPROP | Received: Mon 15 Mar 2021 | Validated: Fri 09 Apr 2021 |

- **Change of use from agricultural land to residential use for the proposed access track/hardstanding/turning area for additional & existing garaging/storage (as amended 28.05.2021)**

Land North Of 1 Low Middle Moor House Stannington Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6EJ

Ref. No: 21/00961/FUL | Received: Thu 11 Mar 2021 | Validated: Thu 11 Mar 2021 |

Note: Cllr Dickinson took no part in discussions relating to application 21/01500/AGRGDO and Cllr Carins took no part in discussions relating to application 21/01146/FUL.

There were no objections raised to any applications except 21/01082/DISCON where previous objections on the grounds of destruction of The Drive and access were reiterated.

Notices of appeal – none
 Notices of enquiry – none

Other notices:

18. To consider matters relating to finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income: £16275.00 precept

Bank balance of £32,307.94 BOI and £10350.00 Lloyds – 28.2.21

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1276	BHIB	Insurance	1882.03
1277	Northern Services	Stain wooden bench	74.00
1278	Northumberland Association of Local Councils	Subs	518.32
DD	Wave	Water bill	185.93

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

19. Correspondence

Noted unless otherwise stated:

- Northumberland County Council – acknowledgement of errors in consultation on planning matters at Clifton
- G Wiseman – Rubbish collection and gate repairs – actioned
- S Ross/S Edwards – Request for speed signs at Stannington Park – private road so not possible
- M Luscombe – parking in The Glebe – refer to Northumberland County Council
- M Warr – parking in The Glebe – as above
- C Bessant – planning matters Netherton Park – ongoing

20. Any other business at the discretion of the Chairman

- Councillors agreed a small retirement gift for S Wilson
- Agreed to investigate options for the Hearse House

21. Date of next meeting

14 July 2021 – Covid restrictions permitting

The meeting closed at 20.15

Signed

Chairman

Date

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
28 June 2021
St Mary's Church Stannington
5.00pm

Attendance:

K Carins – in the chair
 S Dickinson
 R Tolson
 D Hall – Clerk

22. To receive apologies for absence

Councillors Brown, Nixon, Philipson and Scott

23. To receive any declarations in any part of the agenda as known prior to the meeting

None declared at this point

24. To review the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2020/21.

The Clerk presented the return for approval. In particular members approved the Annual Governance Statement and approved the Accounting Statements, the IAR and Bank Reconciliation:

Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/21:			
Bank of Ireland			33,753.17
Lloyds TSB			10,350.00
			44,103.17
Petty cash float (if applicable)			-
Less: any un-presented cheques as at 31/3/21 (normally only current account)			
Cheque number	1263		(43.41)
	1269		(502.69)
	1271		(10,540.62)
	1272		(630.00)
	1273		(6,732.00)
	1274		(478.40)
	1275		(831.26)
			(19,758.38)
Add: any un-banked cash as at 31/3/21 e.g Allotment rents banked 30/3/xx (but not credited until 2 April)			-
			-
Net balances as at 31/3/21 (Box 8)			24,344.79

The Chairman reconciled the bank balances to the presented statements. Annual accounts were also approved which formed the basis for the Accounting Statements of the AGAR part 3:

Stannington Parish Council

2019-20	Financial year ended 31 March 2021		2020-21		2020-21
	Balance as at 31 March 2020				
20585	Bank of Ireland		26202.34		26202
10350	Lloyds TSB		10350.00		10350
0	No petty cash account held		0.00		0
30935			36552.34		36552
	U/P cheques at 31 March 2021				
			Chq		
9	Bank or Ireland		1263	43.41	43
80			1269	502.69	503
150			1271	10540.62	10541
254			1272	630.00	630
5404			1273	6732.00	6732
			1274	478.40	478
933			1275	831.26	831
6831			19758.38		19758
	Lloyds	None			
	Unbanked income at 31 March 2021				
0			0.00		0
0					0
0			0.00		0
	Cash Book				
30935	Opening Balance		36552.34		36552
32280	Add receipts in the year		40599.40		40599
-26663	Less Payments in the year		-52806.95		-52807
36552			24344.79		24345
	Receipts				
27880	Precept		30730.00		30730
5	Interest		0.00		0
1675	Burial fees		675.00		675
2513	Vat		1576.00		1576
207	Grants and other income		7618.40		7618
32280	Total receipts		40599.40		40599
	Payments				
4471	Salaries office	4973	4785.53		4786
0	Salaries handyman		0.00		227
227	Travel		227.15		378
275	Telephone	4973	378.43		0
194	Stationery		0.00		0
0	Postage		0.00		0
0	Books and periodicals		0.00		0
1921	Insurances		1861.66		1862
1496	Sundries/ admin		425.00		425
0	Professional Fees		400.00		400
466	Subscriptions		584.41		584
240	Audit Fees		200.00		200
3837	Cemetery		4154.54		4155
333	S.137		5781.60		5782
6149	Grounds and Open Space General		12274.55		12275
4330	Shelters seats and bins		0.00		0
-19	Equipment		0.00		0
9	Furniture & Fittings		0.00		0
50	Playing Field		2925.92		2926
669	Store Rental & fittings		497.50		498
440	Environmental /traffic schemes		13255.99		13256
0	Neighbourhood Plan		0.00		0
1576	Vat		5054.67		5055
26663	Total payments taking into account inter bank transfers		52806.95		52807
	Annual Return				
		Box			
30935	Balances BF	1	36552.34		36552
27880	Precept	2	30730.00		30730
4400	Other receipts	3	9869.40		9869
-4973	Staff	4	-5391.11		-5391
0	Loan	5	0.00		0
-21690	Total other costs	6	-47415.84		-47415
36552	Balances fwd	7 and 8	24344.79		24345
36552	Total cash and short term investments		24344.79		24345

Members also received and approved the Explanation of Significant Variances:

Explanation of variances						
Name of smaller authority: Stannington Parish Council						
County area (local councils and parish meetings only): Northumberland						
Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all Blue highlighted boxes						
Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:						
• variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);						
• New from 2020/21: variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;						
• a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).						
	2019/20	2020/21	Variance	Variance	Explanation	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input. DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES
	£	£	£	%	Required?	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	30,935	36,552				variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	27,880	30,730	2,850	10.22%	NO	
3 Total Other Receipts	4,400	9,869	5,469	124.30%	YES	In the year the Parish Council received a donation of £6618.40 from the Stannington WW1 Group which was given to the Parish Council to support community projects.
4 Staff Costs	4,973	5,391	418	8.41%	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	
6 All Other Payments	21,690	47,415	25,725	118.60%	YES	In the year the Parish Council invested in two major projects which were unplanned. Firstly the resurfacing of a car park which had become unusable at a cost of £12740.40 and secondly the installation of five illuminated speed signs at a cost of £10540.62
7 Balances Carried Forward	36,552	24,345			NO	EXPLANATION
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	36,552	24,345				EXPLANATION
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	151,186	153,697	2,511	1.66%	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	

Members also received and approved the Annual supporting Statement:

Stannington Parish Council			
Supporting Statement			
for Year Ended 31 March 2021			
Assets			
<i>Movements during the year</i>			
a)	The following Assets were purchased:		
	New speed signs	10540	
			10540
b)	The following assets were disposed of:		
	None	0	
			0
c)	At 31 March 2020 the following assets were held:		
COMMUNITY ASSETS			
	Cemetery & Car Park	1	
	Play Equipment	42239	
	Additions as above	10540	
BUILDINGS			
	Village Hall	1	Custodian Trustee only (Reg charity 522140)
	Fountain	15000	
OTHER FIXED ASSETS			
	Bus shelters	45706	
	Seats/Bins/planters	8951	
	Gates & Fences	11700	
	Grounds equipment	17638	
	Furniture	1922	
	TOTAL ASSETS	153697	
<i>The basis of valuation is replacement value.</i>			
<i>Community land is valued at £1.00</i>			
Leases			
	Lessor	Blagdon estates	
	Purpose	Playing field	
	Rent	50	
	Expiry	2021.00	
Borrowings			
	Debts outstanding as at 31 March 2015	Nil	
Earmarked Reserves			
Tenancies			
	Council as tenant	360	
	Councilist landlord	Nil	
Other			
	Agency work	Nil	
	Advertising	Nil	
	Pensions	Nil	
Payments made under section 137			
	Stannington village show	1000.00	
	British Legion	200.00	
	Air Ambulance	500.00	
	Battle of Britain Event	4081.60	
			4582

Resolved that: the Annual governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 be fully approved and the clerk and chairman be authorised to sign the requisite assurances and statements and that the accounts be submitted for external audit.

25. Finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income: Fees £250

Bank balance of BOI £40,667.89 and Lloyds TSB £10,350 as at 21 May 2021

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1279	Elan City	Replaces Chq 1271	10540.40
1280	Carrs Billington	Squirrel food	43.41
1281	S Dickinson	Reimburse for retirement gift	39.27
1282	Northumberland Soc	Subs	35.00
1283	Northern Services	Playing field fence alterations and repairs	1460.00
1284	Northern Services	Bus shelter rebuild and repair following vandalism	1641.52
DD	Wave	Water bill	19.15
DD	BT	Line rental	69.66

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

26. Date of Next meeting

14 July 2021 – arrangements subject to Covid 19 Regulations and Guidance.

Signed: _____ Chairman

Dated: _____