

Stannington Parish Council

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Minutes of Meeting
29th November 2017
Stannington 1st School

Attendance:

Councillor K Carins – in the chair
Councillor H Brown
Councillor S Wilson
Councillor S Dickinson
Councillor R Philipson
Councillor M Scott
D Hall – Clerk

14 residents and 7 children of Station Road and St Mary Park

46. Apologies

Councillor D Emery & Councillor Armstrong – Northumberland County Council Councillor

47 Public session

Seven children addressed the council having written to express their views relating to the provision of a shelter at St Mary Park. Their view was that the recently demolished shelter should be replaced in its original position rather than moving it into the development site itself. This view was also supported by parents who had accompanied the children. It was noted that the costs of a shelter varied considerably between £1800 and £8000 and the Council agreed that the clerk should progress costing for a shelter on the site with a budget estimate of £2500 and report back. The siting and positioning of the shelter were also discussed and it was felt that this should be done so as to minimise the impact of wind and rain on users and children.

Mt Irving from Station Road raised the wish to see draft minutes published before they were approved and the Council agreed to this. There was also a discussion about the Parish Magazine and it was noted that the Council were not the authors, editors or distributors and that the Council received no income from the magazine. The Chairman acknowledged that she does provide a regular blog which the St Mary's PCC kindly publish. It was agreed that a copy of this be placed on the council website. A question was also raised about possible consultations regarding a 30mph limit on Station Road and it was noted that the Parish Council would be consulted along with residents should the Northumberland County Council wish to proceed with this change in speed limits.

Mr Flemming, a developer of The Furrows provided the Council with information on the development and answered questions on matters of fact.

48. Declarations of interest in the agenda

Clr Carins declared an interest in any discussion which may take place relating to planning applications within the vicinity of her property.

49. Minutes of the previous meeting

Agreed

50. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

It was noted that the central reservation in Stannington Village had been repaired/shortened following representations made to Northumberland County Council.

51. Co-option of a Councillor

Following the public advertising of the vacancy for a councillor two formal expressions of interest were received from Mr R Tolson and Mrs S Willis. Biographies and letters of application were circulated to all councillors for consideration. Both applications were from candidates who had a wealth of skills and commitment to bring to the role. Members noted that there were no wards in the parish and so the co-option was for a councillor to serve the whole of Stannington Parish.

Resolved that:

Mr R Tolson be co-opted to serve as a councillor for the ensuing term

52. Reports from around the parish/outside bodies

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr. Carins

Date: November 2017

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

Stannington Village

Commentary:

The leaves around the village are causing problems as usual and the sweepers are working around the clock to try deal with this county wide problem. However, the unsightly kerbs will have to wait until the spring as all weed killing activity has now ceased until then. There has been a report of works being carried out on Church Road.

The new lights in the Cemetery car park have now been erected after a few technical hitches. There has been some minor vandalism (graffiti on the play equipment) in the village which is worrying so residents have been asked to report any suspicious activity to the police.

Actions requested:

To investigate the works on Church Rd.

Community Action Northumberland AGM

Commentary:

Councillor Carins attended the CAN (Community Action Northumberland) Annual General Meeting in Stannington Village Hall in November. The President of CAN, the Duke of Northumberland, resigned but took up the role of Patron which is to be applauded. Lord Curry of Kirkharle CBE is the new President.

CAN was set up to help Village Halls in 1951 and has gone on from strength to strength. It helps with all aspects of running a village hall, to setting up community hubs, liaising with community-led housing and has just partnered with 0800 Repair to combat fuel poverty. There is funding available to help people who may not be in a position to afford a new boiler or other fuel saving devices. CAN help to try and combat loneliness which is a sad symptom of many of our rural villages. Being lonely has the same effect on your wellbeing as smoking 15 cigarettes a day. So, community hubs, resident groups, coffee groups, interest groups etc. are vital to the whole community as they ward off loneliness and aid good health. Anyone interested in knowing more about CAN and their energy initiatives please visit www.ca-north.org.uk/energy or call 0800 019 9595.

Stannington Station

Commentary:

There is a problem with potholes on the western end of Station Road.

Actions requested:

To report this issue to NCC Highways

Northumberlandia

Commentary:

There has been no meeting

St Marys Park

Commentary:

There have been no reports to the council except the ongoing discussion between residents and NCC regarding light pollution.

Actions requested:

To report to the council any further developments.

Northumberland County Council (NCC) held a Northumberland Town & Parish Council Conference on the 5th October

Commentary:

Northumberland County Council (NCC) held a Northumberland Town & Parish Council Conference on the 5th October at County Hall in Morpeth. Councillor Wilson and Councillor Carins attended. Councillors visited the "Marketplace" in the Cafeteria to gather information and discuss issues with NCC Officers who had set up stalls for their speciality.

The chance to put faces to names and to find the most appropriate Officer and department to contact when there is an issue or query is vital to the smooth running of the Parish Council. Trees with TPO's on concerned Councillors as there are many in the Parish. The problem of keeping them trimmed and safe is an issue for the PC but Councillors located the officer responsible so the PC may contact him for his advice and any work will be actioned in the proper way. Councillors spoke to the Planning Officer who is guiding and supporting the PC through the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) process. He is organising a map of the parish which better describes our settlements and is easier to read. This map will support the NP.

The Highways Department are looking at a 30-mph speed limit for Station Road, Councillor Carins will inform the PC on when this will be actioned and in particular when they might consult the Parish Council and residents. The Highways Department has a Highways Laboratory which can analyse and check the depths of road repairs made by the utility companies. They check work carried out by the different companies to ensure that the repair is up to standard.

Officers informed councillors that residents may recycle aerosol cans in your recycling bins and NCC Refuse department will collect, for a fee, larger household items. Many items go on to be recycled and upcycled.

Mark Kettley, Chief Planning Officer at NCC briefed Councillors on the withdrawal of the Core Strategy. He explained that it had been withdrawn as the housing numbers were deemed too high, however a new Government paper has just been published which shows a new methodology on housing numbers which the Strategic planners must now adhere to. The old Core Strategy may only need around 10% alteration but that is the most difficult 10% of the plan as there is a lot of content, consultations and analysis which may need repeating. It is hoped that the first consultation of the Northumberland Draft Plan will be conducted in the spring with late 2019 being the predicted time the plan may be adopted. The plan will encompass everything including the Development Plan.

Councillor Sanderson talked about the site in Ashington that had been earmarked for a new County Hall but was rejected by the new council. Local people in Ashington were consulting with the council on possible uses such as retail, business etc. There is also a Financial review underway but we are assured that precepts would remain fixed for the time being. The council are looking at transport particularly school transport and the prohibitive cost of implementing one. Low GCSE results meant a closer working relationship with schools is implemented. Arch and Active Northumberland are also being reviewed and we can expect changes. Around 80 Parish and Town Council delegates attended.

Community Housing Meeting Stannington Village hall:

Commentary:

Councillor Carins attended a meeting on Community Housing in the Village hall. It was about projects around the country that assisted residents into acquiring suitable accommodation for their needs. Examples of redundant buildings that had been turned into single occupation flats and apartments for older residents were shown. There is a lot of funding available to help our older residents and young people attain accommodation that is fit for purpose and affordable. Different strategies were used, to rent and buy, buy or rent and some projects were community led or managed by Housing Associations. If residents or land lords are interested in viewing the workshops this is the link: <http://ca-north.org.uk/promoting-rural-issues/housing/community-approaches-to-delivery>.

Newcastle University Planning and Geography Students

Commentary:

Councillor Carins was invited, again, to give a lecture on Planning and the Neighbourhood Plan journey to 100 Planning and Geography Students. The students were interested in the making of the SPNP, the technical and professional support that was required, funding and the engagement and consultations. "What is Planning" was discussed at length.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author : Cllr Malcolm Scott

Date: 28th November 2017

Purpose of report : To update the Council on two issues raised

Commentary:

- a) Local resident has expressed concern about the parking of vehicles on the main road through the village adjacent to the newly built houses and bungalows. There have been times when up to six cars are parked. These seem to be persons either living at or visiting the houses and now two untidy pathways/ walkways has been worn through the verge area from the road by people at these properties. The fence is in a bad condition.
- b) Has any progress been made with the provision of a bus service to Cramlington shopping centre on a couple of days a week.

Actions requested:

- a) To ascertain if there is any way that the parking on the main road can be stopped or restricted and a suitable fence replaced.
- b) To contact the local bus service providers to explore the possible provision of this service.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author : Helen Brown

Date: 28th November 2017

Purpose of report : To update the Council on Glororum route

Commentary:

- a) There have been 2 accidents on the route in the last few weeks. The first one on 26th October when a transit van went straight ahead at the last bend heading east and travelled over a wide verge, a deep ditch, through the field fence and hedge. The van was not driveable and driver shocked.
- b) The second one was also heading east further up the route where again the driver missed the corner, travelling at speed and collided with a BT post – which broke in two and had to be replaced as the telephone line was brought down.
I have been asked where the Flashing 30 has gone? as it would normally be in place for Autumn/Winter.

Also the Bellway signage provided by NCC has lost the sand bags which help to keep them upright and have become damaged.

Actions requested :

Flashing 30 speed signage reinstated

Mention to highways again about the Construction Traffic signage informing of one-way system.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author : Cllr Sue Wilson

Date: 27 November 2017

Purpose of report:

To update the Council on fly tipping

Commentary:

There have been various items of garden waste dumped on the side of the roads in the area. Cllr Wilson has reported these both on the NCC website and also by email to Paul Turnbull Environmental Enforcement Officer (West and Central). The main problem area for seems to be the lay-bys either side of the Bellasis Bridge, there have been at least 2 microwaves and on 12 November 2017 there were 2 oil type drums and a vehicle tyre. A specialist company had to uplift the drums and Paul's team also found the remains of fireworks and other debris.

Actions requested:

To note the report.

53. 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:

Application	Address	Detail	Decision
17/04162	The Furrows – Stn Rd	6 bungalows	The Parish Council notes that the proposed development lies within possible INSET lines and that the land subject to the application is likely to be developed at some point. Whilst the Council would have wished to see open views across the countryside retained at the end of this development we do not wish to raise objection to this development as it seeks to tidy up a piece of land that has been derelict for many years and has been a nuisance to reside
17/03459/DISCON	St Mary Park	Discharge of highways condition requiring repairs to the road network	The Parish Council strongly objects to the discharge of this condition and supports the view of the NCC Highways team that the repairs and making good of all roads

			leading to the site including Glororum and Briery Hill Lane should be included. As such the discharge of this condition should not be allowed until such times as the while to the developments at St Marys are completed.
17/04116/DISCON	St Mary Park	Topsoil conditions	No objection
17/03840/HPA	Redesdale House – St Mary Lane	Orangery	No objection
17/03776/NONMAT	PRU unit at Hepscott Park	Bars on windows omitted	No objection
17/03798/FUL	The lodge, The Drive, Netherton Park	Split to form 2 dwellings	No objection
17/03657/VaryCo	Land North West of Granary Cottage- Stn Rd	Variation of planning application granted in 2016 to increase the floor area and change in materials	K Carins left the room during this item. Object on the basis of too high a density and materials not in keeping with the local surroundings

Notices of appeal
Notices of enquiry

54. Stannington Parish Neighbourhood plan (SPNP)

The Stannington Parish Neighbourhood Plan has now been submitted to NCC (Northumberland County Council). NCC will now publish the plan for consultation so residents may have another chance to comment on the SPNP. Please check on www.spnp.co.uk for all the documents relating to the plan or alternatively our Facebook page - Stannington Neighbourhood Plan @Stanningtonpcnp

Neighbourhood Plans will assist Planning Officers when they are making decisions relating to new developments in our area. Neighbourhood Plans or Parish Councils cannot determine strategic matters, such as green belt boundaries, or insets. These are matters for the County Council.

Actions requested:

To keep the Parish Council up to date with the NCC consultation

55. Finance

The following income accounts were approved:

Income:

Interest

September £2.06
October £2.74
November £3.08

Fees: £250

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1125	Stannington Village show	Donation	400.00
1126	Jans Art Studio	Neighbourhood Plan Website	378.11
1127	Ludman Planning	NP fees	2567.50
1128	Fenland Leisure	Play area replacement net for play frame	498.00
1129	BDO	External Audit Fee	240.00
1130	Carrs Bilington	Squirell Food	43.73
1131	NWG Business	Water bill	30.72
1132	K Clark	Lighting and wall repairs	220.00
1133	Northumberland County Council	Annual room hire fee	180.00
1134	NWG Business	Water Rates	146.22
1135	M Stewart	Monthly invoice	160.00
1136	St Mary's PCC	Donation to Chruch Magazine	200.00
1137	K Carins	Reimburse for hampers	175.00
1138	Air Ambulance	Donation	100.00

Resolved that:

The payments and income listed be approved

56. Correspondence

Noted unless otherwise stated:

- Northumberland County Council – enforcing unauthorised obstructions
- Northumberland County Council – street lighting project
- Notification of Auditor appointment
- CPRE Newsletter

57. Any other business at the descretion of the chairman

- Agreed to move the notice board from the southbound shelter in the village to the northbound shelter
- Bellasis bridge fly tipping now monitored with cameras
- Flagpole to be erected in the spring and the clerk to enquire about commemorating this
- Clerk to seek costs for a lummiere at the church
- WWI event – agreed to support with donation towards the WW1 tank
- Oak tree at Clifton to be reset
- St Mary's Inn sign needs removed – Northumberland County Council

58. Date of next meeting

10 January 2018.

Signed

Chairman

Date