

Stannington Parish Council

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

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Minutes of Meeting held

13 November 2024

Stannington Village Hall

7.00pm

Attendance:

R Tolson – in the chair
M Scott
R Philipson
R Nixon
H Brown

D Hall – Clerk

2 Residents of Stannington Village

Public session

Two residents of Stannington Village attended the meeting and raised concerns about antisocial behaviour in and around the village. Particular concerns relate to social housing and the involvement of Karbon Homes. Residents expressed their ongoing concerns about lack of action by the relevant bodies and sought the parish council's support. The council agreed to contact the relevant authorities and request that they meet with the residents to address the issue and restore public confidence.

44. To receive apologies for absence

S Dickinson, L Darwin – Northumberland County Council

45. receive any declarations of interest

None

46. To receive the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of meeting in September 2024 were received and approved.

47. To receive any matters arising

The clerk updated the council on an approach to Highways England for the erection of a bus stop on the A1 slip road next to Stannington Village to provide shelter for residents from the area who wished to board the new x16 bus heading to Newcastle. The Highways Agency indicated that to give such permission would require a lease and potentially substantial costs of

the order of £20,000 for survey works and groundworks. The council expressed their dissatisfaction at what is merely a very insignificant construction. The clerk agreed to continue dialogue.

48. General update

The clerk updated members on the following:

- The annual parish tea held in the village hall was a success with a number of residents and councillors/freemen attending. The event had been widely publicised on social media, whatsapp groups and via the school mail to parents, mail from the council to stakeholders as well as the council website. Councillors discussed the potential to hold this event annually after the Remembrance Service in November each year and agreed that this was a good idea for 2025.

48. Councillors updates

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr Malcolm Scott

Date: 13/11/2024

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

Commentary:

- a) Report from local resident. Another collision took place at Blagdon Road/Old Great North Road Junction on 11th November 2024. This resulted in a serious spillage. The CC attended and cleaned the road and spread absorbent at the junction. Is it not possible to have an enforceable 'STOP' sign at this dangerous junction with possibly camera observation.
- b) Three verbal complaints again received from residents regarding speeding vehicles through Platinum Way in the village.
- c) For information Only

The central reservation along Platinum Way was repaired earlier this year. The repair was obviously sub-standard and this has again broken up leaving uneven, loose and potentially dangerous kerbstones. I will report this matter on Fix My Street

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author : Helen Brown

Date: 13th November 2024

Purpose of report : To update the Council on Glororum route + any other Parish Issues.

Commentary:

Glororum:

All of the issues on the Glorum route including road surface / gravel run off and signage plus signage at Clifton have been uploaded to 'Fix My Street on June 8th 2023 by NCC but nothing further to report as nothing further has been done. Update – some of the corroded sign poles have been marked with a spray.

Footpath around the church: the footpath is impassable in places due to debris from the trees – leaves / twigs / branches. I report this nearly weekly and then the sweeper does attend and clean up/

Church carpark – could the maintenance team do a good clean up before the winter frosts as the areas of damp compacted leaves become increasingly dangerous.

Actions requested :

Ask NCC when / if the issues on the Glorum route and at Clifton are going to be repaired?
Church carpark / path – can maintenance team help with these issues?

WHF planning applications:

The application recently heard at County Hall for the Holiday Lodges / Chalets was refused on grounds of unacceptable building in green belt and ecology. There were also concerns raised on the 'permanent' nature of the structures.

Many residents and neighbours attended.

The application was unanimously refused. Although this could be passed on appeal.

All of the Councillors present asked many questions to the Highways Dept. The gentleman when questioned:

- admitted that he had sanctioned the vehicle count on the entrance when he knew the Centre was closed.
- He had not checked any of the data comparisons with a site in Amble put forward by the applicant, which is not a suitable comparison as it is larger with permanent lodges / caravans and has very many amenities within walking distance inc the beach.
- He had no concerns whatsoever with the access.
- He seemed confused that the residents there have a right of way and showed no understanding for the difficulties they face around access / safety.
- He quoted the National Framework with no local application or understanding.

The second application for the Playbarn has also subsequently been refused as the barn would be in greenbelt and cause obstruction to a public footpath. Also many residents had objected due to an expected increase of visitors in bad weather to use the dry barn. After reading through these I did feel the Parish Council should support these residents and write in commenting on increase in traffic to be consistent. Before that letter went in the decision was made. WHF had already started on this building before they put the application in – again. Highways traffic has been used by NCC as a main reason for refusal and the report is worth reading and quoting in any future planning applications.

50. 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:

- 1) Non-material amendment (front facade of the property to apply cladding) on approved planning application 24/00687/FUL - Oak Cottage 15 Park Drive Hepscott Park Northumberland NE61 6QA Ref. No: 24/03721/NONMAT
- 2) Proposed two storey front side and rear extensions. Clifton Ridge 17 Great North Road Clifton Northumberland NE61 6DQ. Ref. No: 24/03634/FUL
- 3) Demolition of stone outbuildings and replace with single storey extension to dwelling works also a new timber frame workshop and car port. West School Cottage Church Road Stannington Northumberland NE61 6HF. Ref. No: 24/03359/FUL

Council comment: The property is a significant part of the village character and history, being the former hall of the original school building for Stannington Village. The Adopted Stannington Neighbourhood plan states that development should recognise the unique historical design features of the settlement and it is believed that the proposals do this.

What is of significant concern to the council and residents is how this development will be undertaken and achieved. Some of the development is on the boundary of the highway and also connected to the adjacent property, the historic school house. Planning conditions need to be in place to protect the safety and amenity of the adjacent property and also users of the highway including mess and disturbance. In addition the flow of traffic on this busy route to school and other facilities needs careful consideration.

Working hours and methods of working are critical and should be restricted to 9-5 Monday to Friday.

Another area of concern is the listed Water Fountain which is also a war memorial and is within a matter of 3m of the development on the old road past Town Farm. The road is narrow in both directions and there is a very significant risk that the fountain becomes damaged and this will be irrecoverable. Protection measures must be in place and as the owners of this asset we require dialogue on the proposals. Finally there road verges and footpaths are likely to be damaged and again measures need to be in place to ensure this is avoided.

- 4) Notification of Prior Approval to install solar PV equipment on non domestic building: install a PV array and battery storage. Stannington Village Hall Stannington Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6EL Ref. No: 24/03238/SOLAR (Councillor Scott & Tolson declared an interest in this item and took no part in any discussions)

Note:

Notices of appeal – none

Notices of enquiry – none

Other notices – none

51. Finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income:

Fees

Bank balance of BOI £59143.15 and Lloyds TSB £10350.00 as at 30 September 2024.

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1417	J Sayers	Leaflet delivery	200.00
1418	Northern Services	Bus shelter repair	800.00
DD	Wave	Water	199.61
1419	Northern Services	Play area repairs, fencing, gates and seat installation	3395.00
1420	Village Hall	Hiore	66.00

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

Members noted that the Annual Audit was completed and Mazars had given the coucl a completely clean audit report with no actions required.

52. Correspondence

All correspondence noted and actioned unless indicated otherwise:

- PC Brierly – meeting request
- R Leonard – speeding signs Station Road – less operational in winter, assumed solar issue but to be checked out
- Northumberland County Council – local area committee dates
- E Ridley (Freeman) – moving of a litter bin, tree work, cemetery moles
- K Carins (Freeman) – thanks for parish tea, antisocial behaviour

53. Other business

- R Nixon - hotton Edge Junction remains extremely dangerous, this is especially the case because of more traffic from housing developments to the west of Cramlington – can Northumberland County Council make any junction improvements?
- R Philipson – Could discussions be held on the subject of building a new school – contact Northumberland County Council

54. Date of Next meeting

8 January 2025

Signed: _____ Chairman

Dated: _____