

Stannington Parish Council

David Hall MA., PG.C., 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 meeting held
12 September 2018 – 6.45pm
Stannington 1st School

Attendance:

Councillor K Carins – in the chair
Councillor S Wilson
Councillor S Dickinson
Councillor M Scott
Councillor R Tolson
Councillor R Philipson

D Hall – Clerk
Councillor Armstrong – Northumberland County Council Councillor
Martin King Northumberland County Council

8 Residents of the parish
7 Young residents of the parish

33. Public session

Mr & Mrs Kerr from The Drive attended the meeting regarding traffic movements on The Drive at the Whitehouse Centre. Concern was expressed that vehicles were breaching the 10mph advisory limit and that nothing was being done to resolve this. The Clerk advised that this was not an adopted road and hence a civil matter but agreed to write to the owners of the site.

Mr King from Northumberland County Council attended the meeting. On a positive note members were very pleased with the resurfacing of Church Road. However the condition of Beechlea and Well Hill (leading to St Mary Park) is dire and needs urgent attention.

Mr King agreed to attempt to source some planings for the church car park and to look at the footpath from Netherton Park to Station Road.

Seven young residents approached the council regarding the ongoing need for a shelter at St Mary Park. The council explained the danger in siting a shelter in the old location at the bottom of Well Hill and the risk of damage to the shelter and occupants if a car were to leave the road. The council advised that permission would be sought from Bellway to site the shelter on the development adjacent to the Community Hall and once public transport at Northumberland County Council confirmed that it would be used by the school bus the shelter would be ordered.

34. To receive any apologies

Councillor D Emery

Councillor H Brown
All apologies were approved.

35. To receive any declarations of interest in the agenda

None known at this stage

36. To receive and agree the minutes of the previous meeting held 9 May 2018

Agreed

37. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 June 2018

- Noted that the school shelter was unusable as the contractors had smashed it up on removal

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

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr Sue Wilson

Date: 12th September 2018

Purpose of report: To update the Council on an issue of road signage

Commentary:

On 24 July 2018 a number of Northumberland County Council workmen were observed erecting road signage indicating cycle signs denoting directions to Stannington, St Mary's Park etc., on the roadsides. These signs are placed close to hedges along the road sides making it extremely difficult for agricultural workers to cut the hedges when this is required. Please note the work is carried out by mechanical hedge cutters on tractors. The cyclists are taking a risk riding on the pot rolled ridden roads. Road signs are necessary but some common sense and perhaps consultation could have been made.

Action requested:

Express concern to Northumberland County Council

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr Malcolm Scott

Date: 11th September 2018

Purpose of report: To update the Council on issues relating to severe traffic congestion and collision risks at the Blagdon Lane/Old Great North Road Junction. Stannington Village Bus Shelters condition.

Commentary:

1. As the Council will be aware, there is a large new housing development being currently built at the West of Cramlington on the A1068 Fisher Lane. It is noted and anticipated that the traffic using

Blagdon Lane will increase and cause severe congestion at the junction with The Old Great North Road at Shotton Edge Cottages.

There have over the years been many collisions at this junction which did result in some widening of the junction. However, drivers wishing to turn right at this junction to travel North to the A1 have severely obstructed vision if cars turning left to the South park alongside of them or if the vegetation to the left side is not kept cut back. There appear to be numerous near misses on a regular basis. At peak times the traffic is well backed up along Blagdon Lane well past the A1 bridge over the road.

It would appear that this junction is now becoming a major through way for traffic from the Cramlington Area and South of Northumberland to get on to the Northbound A1 or to travel South or South West. The addition of the huge new housing development to the West of Cramlington will no doubt increase the traffic even more.

Additionally, the excessive speed that some vehicles travel along Blagdon Lane and serious overtaking risks is becoming very dangerous. Is it possible for the County Council to conduct a traffic study at this junction and to explore the provision of a roundabout at this junction by taking away a corner or part of the left side field.

Action requested:

1. County Council to conduct a study of this junction relating to the dangers of traffic movement particularly in peak hours and the possible provision and construction of a suitable roundabout.
2. The South side Bus shelter in Stannington Village has paint peeling from the side and urgently requires decoration.
3. To request the Parish Council to explore the provision of getting the bus shelter/s repainted on the outside as a matter of urgency before the Winter weather.

Follow on complaint from a resident of Elizabeth Square. Despite a new fence being erected adjacent to the main road through the village it is still noted that some residents are parking close to the chicane and are now just climbing the new fence to go to their residencies. This causes narrowing of the roadway at the chicane approach and is a safety issue.

Action Requested:

Councillor Scott to raise this issue again to explore if any further action via the parish Council relating to a site meeting has taken place relating to this.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr. Karen Carins

Date: 12th September 2018

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

Brenkley meeting report

Commentary:

Next meeting Tuesday 25th September 2018

Actions requested:

To report to the Parish Council following all Brenkley meetings

Stannington Village

Commentary: The resurfacing of Church Road has been completed and further works in the Parish are due in September. Residents feedback has been positive. The road planings were contaminated so could not be used on the cemetery car park. Highways officers will contact the Parish Council when suitable chippings become available. The WW1 commemorative mugs have now been delivered and will be boxed in readiness for their presentation to the school children in November.

Actions Requested:

To report back to the Parish Council any feedback regarding the cemetery carpark and future road works.

St Mary Park

Residents have asked for an update on the proposed bus shelter for the schoolchildren.

Actions requested:

Residents from St Mary Park have been invited to the Parish Council meeting 12th September to discuss the shelter and road markings to the entrance of St Mary Park.

Stannington Station**Commentary:**

There has been no reports from residents on Station Road at the time of this report.

Actions requested:

To remain vigilant of any issues that may arise from the various developments that are currently in progress.

39. 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:

Ref	Applicant	Address	Detail	Decision
18/00754/ful	L Coltman	Birchwood Nurseries	Relocate equestrian arena	No objection
18/02819varyco	Bellway	Redesdale House	Roof detail	No objection
18/02828/ful	E Common	53 Stn Road	Riding Arena	No objection
18/03172/ful	D Simpson	55 The Glebe	Rear extension	No objection

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:

40. To consider arrangements for a passenger shelter at St Mary Park

As per the public session members noted that permission was being sought from Bellway and that Northumberland County Council public transport to confirm that buses would stop in the proposed location. The costs were estimated at c. £3000 for the shelter and a further £1500 for the base and fitting.

41. To consider an update on Stannington Parish Neighbourhood plan (SPNP)

Members noted that the Neighbourhood plan was now adopted following a referendum when it was supported by a significant majority and subsequently approved by Northumberland County Council cabinet. The plan will now be used on all future planning applications and the completion of the plan marks 4 years of hard work by the steering group. Members agreed therefore to close down the website.

42. To consider matters relating to finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income:

Interest

July £2.54

August £2.26

Bank balance of £25382.22 BOI and £10350.00 Lloyds – 6August 2018

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1165	HMRC	PAYE/NI	452.80
1166	D Hall	Salary/Exp	679.25
1167	K A Carins	Mug boxes and Hamper	84.56
1168	Carrs	Squirell food	41.25
1169	Blinkin Imp	Mugs for WW1 Centenary	540.00
1170	M Leggard	Wreaths	60.00
DD	BT	Line	56.97

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

43. Correspondence

Noted unless otherwise stated:

- Age UK funding request – declines
- Northumberland County Council – Neighbourhood plan approval
- Queensberry design – play area consultation 58 Stn Road – awaiting a meeting
- D Flounders – roads around St Mary Park
- Northumberland County Council – local transport plan
- CAN – Newsletter
- Northumberland County Council road traffic scheme next to Stannington Primary School – council support acknowledged

44. Any other business at the discretion of the Chairman

- Shotton opencast delayed by 12 months due to weather and complications
- Defibrillator to be deployed to South Shelter

- Awaiting dates for Freeman ceremony for Lord Ridley
- Awaiting permission for flagpole site and once received will be erected

45. Date of next meeting

14 November 2018 – 6.45pm Stannington 1st School

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

Stannington Parish Council

2 Monmouth Ct – Widdrington – Morpeth – Northumberland – NE61 5QS
Tel/Fax 01670 791622 – Email – Stanningtonpc@aol.com

Minutes of Extra Ordinary Meeting
Stannington Parish Church
26th October 2018
6.00pm

46 Welcome from the Chairman

Chairman – Lord Ridley, Freemen, Reverend Ferguson, Councillors, Clerk, invitees and distinguished guests and members of the public, may I welcome you to this meeting of the Council to mark the conferment of the role of Honorary Freeman. Thank you for coming along and helping us to residents of the parish of Stannington, Richard Llewelyn Philipson, Philip Allen Smith, Joan Manners, Maurice Stewart and Tommy Pringle. We are here to celebrate this occasion and to mark the meritorious service of these five people over many years in this parish. May I now ask Reverend Fergusson to say prayers?

47 Reverend Fergusson conducted prayers

48 Apologies for absence

Chairman – We now move to the formal business. Council, please note and approve the apologies of Councillors Philipson and Emery.

49 Conferment of the role of Honorary Freeman

Chairman - Clerk will you please explain the statute relating to the awarding of the Honorary of Freemen of this parish.

Clerk - Madam Chairman, Lord Ridley, Freeman, Reverend Fergusson, Councillors, invitees and distinguished guests and members of the public - A Freeman was a man who had served his apprenticeship and was free to conduct his trade in his own town. 'Free men' enjoyed a special status, the details of which varied according to special charters, but usually included the exclusive right of trading and of voting at elections for (and sitting upon) the Council. The power to vote at parliamentary elections was usually confined to freemen.

This title has long since disappeared and it has been replaced by the title 'Honorary Freeman' which is bestowed upon certain individuals, or past Members, who have, in the opinion of the Parish Council, rendered eminent service to the Council, or conducted exceptional work, service or other worthy undertakings that benefit the community in the Civil Parish of Stannington in Northumberland, formed in England under the Reforming Local Government Act 1894.

From a point of law, a local council is permitted by legislation (Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the 2009 Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act) to admit, further to a council resolution, the title of honorary freemen or freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority. It may confer this honour to (a) persons of distinction,

and (b) persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area. Indeed, contrary to popular belief this honour does not grant them rights to graze their sheep or pigs on the parish field, nor does it allow them to bear arms or control law and order, not least of which because society has moved on over the years and in any respects we wouldn't have enough acorns to feed all their animals.

The honorary freeman title confers no powers on the individual. It is entirely ceremonial. The Parish Council officially thanks people who conduct exceptional work, service or other worthy undertakings that benefit their community by presenting them with a Freedom Scroll as a timeless thank you. The scrolls are highly regarded by recipients. A sealed and illuminated certificate of the grant of Honorary Freedom, containing a copy of the formal resolution, is presented to the newly appointed Honorary Freeman by the Chairman, with an opportunity being given for the recipient to reply.

Chairman – We now move to the business of conferring the title of Honorary Freeman of this Parish.

Councillor Brown, I invite you to address the meeting in proposing that Richard Llewelyn Philipson be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Brown – Richard was chairman of Tritlington Young Farmers Committee in his early years and went on to be Northumberland Young Farmers Committee County president. In his spare time he also enjoyed auto crossing with his famous mid-engine mounted Ford Anglia and enjoyed a lot of success in this sport. He has armed at Shotton his whole life in the early days with brother Robson and then latterly solo. He loved being part of the local drama group and regularly took lead roles in their productions. Richard Married Rosie Manners in 1978 and has two daughter Lucy and Rebecca and two grandchildren Marley and Grace whom he loves so very much. He has been a part of the landscape and character of this parish over many decades, always there to lend a hand, create some fun and lift spirits when things got low. There is no doubt that Richard's commitment to this parish has been immense and that he is a worthy candidate for the role of Honorary Freeman.

Chairman – I would personally like to address the meeting in seconding that Richard Llewelyn Philipson be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish. I concur with Councillor Brown and in seconding her comments I wish to propose that: We the council grant the highest honour we can bestow for valuable and devoted services rendered to the Parish of Stannington. Over many years you served in the high office of Councillor and Chairman of the Council. You championed the creation of Stannington grade separated junction to provide a safe crossing on the A1 for so many people and served on many outside bodies on behalf of the residents of Stannington. We loudly applaud your sterling service whilst thanking you most sincerely.

Chairman – Councillors, I put it to the vote: all those in favour....

Clerk – Chairman that motion is carried unanimously.

Chairman – I call upon Lord Ridley to present this illuminated scroll and therefore to bestow this honour on behalf of the Council and I also call upon Richard Llewelyn Philipson to receive it.

Clerk – Chairman as the proper officer of the council I will formally record this resolution in the minutes of the council.

Lord Ridley presented the honour on the Council's behalf.

Chairman – Councillor Wilson, I invite you to address the meeting in proposing that Philip Allen Smith be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Wilson – Philip Allen Smith has lived in this parish all of his life and during that time has played a full and active role in the affairs of the parish, especially Stannington village. A keen supporter of village services he gave great support to the village school, supported many residents with their problems and issues and championed their cause with the Borough and County Council. Most notably Philip was known for his fastidious focus on grass cutting, indeed many a council grass cutter or manager came to know and love his challenge but also his praise. Philip played a significant part in ensuring that opencast works were managed well and that benefits provided were put to good effect. There is no doubt that Philip's commitment to this parish has been immense and that he is a worthy candidate for the role of Honorary Freeman.

Chairman – I would like to call upon Councillor Brown to address the meeting in seconding that Philip Allen Smith be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Philipson - I concur with Councillor Wilson and in seconding her comments I wish to propose that: We the council grant the highest honour we can bestow for valuable and devoted services rendered to the Parish of Stannington. Over the many years you served in the high office of Councillor and Chairman of the Council, you championed the creation of Stannington play area and playing field and served on many outside bodies on behalf of the residents of Stannington. We loudly applaud your sterling service whilst thanking you most sincerely.

Chairman – Councillors, I put it to the vote: all those in favour....

Clerk – Chairman that motion is carried unanimously.

Chairman – I call upon Lord Ridley to present this illuminated scroll and therefore to bestow this honour on behalf of the Council and I also call upon Philip Allen Smith to receive it.

Clerk – Chairman as the proper officer of the council I will formally record this resolution in the minutes of the council.

Chairman – Councillor Dickinson, I invite you to address the meeting in proposing that Joan Manners be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Dickinson – Joan was brought up in the small village of Craythorne, North Yorkshire, then after marrying Geoff Manners in 1980 she came north to Clifton. Over the years Joan has taken part in most events held in the parish, she worked at the village school playgroup and in the classrooms. She is a founder member of our Stannington Make-bakegrow & Show an expert at making the teas, she is one of the organisers of the flower festival here in church in November. Joan has a daughter Sally son in law Christopher and is a very proud grandma of Emma and Joseph. Joan's home, especially the Garden Room is renowned as a venue for fund raising for all charities.

Chairman – I would like to call upon Councillor Scott to address the meeting in seconding that Joan Manners be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Scott - I concur with Councillor Dickinson and in seconding her comments I wish to propose that: We the council grant the highest honour we can bestow for valuable and devoted services rendered to the Parish of Stannington. Over many years she has served in the office of Church Warden and worked tirelessly for a number of charitable causes, most notably the RNLI. We loudly applaud her sterling service whilst thanking her most sincerely.

Chairman – Councillors, I put it to the vote: all those in favour....

Clerk – Chairman that motion is carried unanimously.

Chairman – Sadly Joan is unable to be with us this evening and so we will invite her to the next meeting of the council to receive it.

Clerk – Chairman as the proper officer of the council I will formally record this resolution in the minutes of the council.

Chairman – Councillor Tolson, I invite you to address the meeting in proposing that Maurice Stewart be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Tolson – Maurice Stewart began his life at Marlish Farm near Mitford, he was the youngest of five children. His father Robert was a Farm Horseman. Farm workers moved around quite often in those days and Maurice and his family moved at least twice before arriving at Blagdon Estate on the 13th of May 1944. Maurice began his working life on the estate in 1953 aged 15. He worked his way up from menial tasks to the position of tractor driver and eventually the driver of a combine harvester. Maurice's only spell away from Blagdon came in 1956 when he left to do his National Service in the RAF. After three years' service Maurice returned to Blagdon. Maurice met Sheila at a dance in Stannington Village Hall and they married in 1964. They went on to have two daughters Judith and Carol. Maurice was interested in working with metal and he broadened his skills by working with the estate engineer. This led to him becoming more involved with the estate and farm maintenance of machinery and the manufacture of metal objects such as gates. Maurice moved into Stannington village after 45 years' service to the estate when he retired in 1998 due to Sheila's failing health. There is no doubt that Maurice's commitment to this parish has been immense and that he is a worthy candidate for the role of Honorary Freeman.

Chairman – I would like to address the meeting in seconding that Maurice Stewart be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish. Maurice took on a new role in his retirement and became the village handyman keeping the place tidy and in good repair. He soon became the "eyes and ears" of the parish council and a great asset to the village. He continues in this role to this day. Maurice is what you might call a village treasure, a cheerful, kind, hardworking man, blessed with a dry sense of humour and always a pleasure to talk to. I concur with Councillor Tolson and in seconding his comments I wish to propose that: We the council grant the highest honour we can bestow for valuable and devoted services rendered to the Parish of Stannington. Over many years you have served the Parish as our handyman, in all weather, on all occasions and always going beyond your office to deliver a service to the community that is widely admired and appreciated by everyone. We loudly applaud your sterling service whilst thanking you most sincerely.

Chairman – Councillors, I put it to the vote: all those in favour....

Clerk – Chairman that motion is carried unanimously.

Chairman – I call upon Lord Ridley to present this illuminated scroll and therefore to bestow this honour on behalf of the Council and I also call upon Maurice Stewart to receive it.

Clerk – Chairman as the proper officer of the council I will formally record this resolution in the minutes of the council.

Lord Ridley presented the honour on the Council's behalf.

Chairman – Councillor Scott, I invite you to address the meeting in proposing that Tommy Pringle be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Scott – Tommy Pringle in 1970, having decided to look for opportunities outside the community he had been brought up in and took up employment at Blagdon Estate as a Woodman. Interestingly Tommy and Dorothy moved into 3 Milkhope Cottages, a property being vacated by Maurice Stewart. By 1978 Tommy was Head Woodman and made many changes to the department including the setting up of a very successful Christmas Tree growing enterprise. Over the years Tommy developed a close relationship with the current Lord Ridley's father which led to Tommy planting many rare trees collected by Lord Ridley and being given the job of felling an oak of his choice to send for use in the restoration of Windsor Castle after a fire. Tommy retired in 2004 after 34 and a half years' service. Outside of his working life, one of Tommy's passions was dancing, and he and Dorothy always took the opportunity to indulge this hobby. Tommy has also been heavily involved with the British Legion Poppy Appeal being organiser for Stannington Parish for 35 years and still involved despite standing down from that role. Those who know Tommy hold him in high regard as a knowledgeable, kind hearted and generous man and another village treasure. There is no doubt that Tommy's commitment to this parish has been immense and that he is a worthy candidate for the role of Honorary Freeman.

Chairman – I would like to call upon Councillor Tolson to address the meeting in seconding that Tommy Pringle be granted Honorary Freedom of this parish.

Councillor Tolson – I concur with Councillor Scott and in seconding his comments I wish to propose that: We the council grant the highest honour we can bestow for valuable and devoted services rendered to the Parish of Stannington. Over many years you have championed the cause of the Royal British Legion for the Stannington Parish so we never forget our heroes contribution to the freedom of our Country and our Parish of Stannington. We loudly applaud your sterling service whilst thanking you most sincerely.

Chairman – Councillors, I put it to the vote: all those in favour....

Clerk – Chairman that motion is carried unanimously.

Chairman – I call upon Lord Ridley to present this illuminated scroll and therefore to bestow this honour on behalf of the Council and I also call upon Tommy Pringle to receive it.

Clerk – Chairman as the proper officer of the council I will formally record this resolution in the minutes of the council.

Lord Ridley presented the honour on the Council's behalf.

50 Blessing

Chairman - Reverend Fergusson may I ask you to give a blessing to these proceedings and to all those present?

Reverend Fergusson blessed the proceedings.

51 Conclusion of business

Chairman – That now concludes the business of the council on this prestigious occasion. Thank you all for attending this momentous and historical meeting of the council. I wish you all a safe and onward journey.

Meeting ended at 18:45