

Stannington Parish Council

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

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Minutes of Meeting held

29 November 2023

Stannington Village Hall

7.00pm

Attendance:

S Dickinson in the chair

M Scott

H Brown

R Philipson

R Nixon

D Hall – Clerk

D Bass – Netherton Park

C Bessant – Netherton Park

27. To receive apologies for absence

K Carins, R Tolson, Cllr Darwin – Northumberland County Council

28. To receive any declarations of interest

H Brown – payment to Stannington First School for a grant

29. Public session

DB Discussion re Netherton Park Green and possible license for the land

CB Road safety plan – tried to engage with Northumberland County Council re road safety plan. Arrangements for traffic from the old A1 and then on roads serving the current properties and the new development. Traffic is travelling at very high speed. Discussions have involved Cllr L Darwin, the Leader of the Council, and planners as well as Bellway. Also issues with buses picking up children. **Agreed that DH write to Northumberland County Council re road safety plan for the site into the future.**

30. To receive the minutes of the previous meeting

Received agreed as a true record.

31. To receive any matters arising

None to report

32. General update from the Clerk

- Installation of flagpole, new seats and relocation of seat

- Bus survey – 140 responses, closes 15 December 2023. Indication is that there is good demand for service improvements however the key is that this materialises into actual usage.
- Flooding adjacent to the Church needs attention and discussion with Northumberland County Council
- Flashing sign on Station Road is in need of repair and action underway

33. Members written reports

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Councillor Karen Carins

Date: 29/11/23

Purpose of report: Update for Council meeting

Stannington Village

Commentary:

The flag pole has been erected on Laburnum Way. It was placed in an area least likely to cause a nuisance and where it may be seen at the crossroad through the village. Councillor Carins holds the keys and the various flags.

The Christmas tree is up and lit. Branches behind the flagpole will need to be cut back. All the seats required around the Parish have been installed including the memorial seat for Shaun Scott. A plaque will be added at a later date.

Housekeeping was reported as being action by NCC but this is not correct, a further request has been put in as the drains are blocked with leaves throughout the village.

The repair to the pavement by the trees at Elizabeth Square has been arranged. The trees may have to be removed if the pavement cannot be repaired adequately. The Hearse House is coming up for rent and the PC have been asked to consider uses.

Action:

To move the plaque in memory of Connie Dungait to the new flagpole site. To discuss the Hearse House and possible uses. To consider the phone box library.

Station Road

Commentary:

New seats have been put in situ as requested. There was a cyclists/ pedestrian conflict. Two families were out on a bike ride, heading west along SS road when the level crossing barriers went down. They were down for about 10 minutes as 3 trains went by. When the barriers went up, 8 cyclists tried to cross the railway tracks to the path on the other side, but because there is so little footpath on the other side they were stuck on the crossing waiting for the line of cars behind them to clear, before they

could cross on to the north side of the road where the footpath continues. The alarm then started to sound again and the barriers went down and the cyclists were all nearly trapped on the crossing. Councillor Carins advised the residents to contact the Transport Police and NCC. This is not the first time that such an incident has occurred but the advice usually given is for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists must not attempt to cross the lines until the space is clear, however is a forward car is turning right or left after the crossing then a tailback may happen causing road users to enter the empty space only for the traffic to be stationary. The resident felt that the footpath on the west side of the crossing, on the south aspect of SS road, needs to be extended as it leaves very little room for more than a couple of pedestrians waiting to cross to the northern side of the road to carry on west. It puts pedestrians and young cyclists not fit for the road at huge risk of being left stationary on the level crossing. See photos.

34. To consider items pertaining to development control

Councillors considered the following applications lodged with the local planning authority and unless stated otherwise no comment or objection was made:

Entrance porch and study extension.

Pinewood 2 Rivergreen Gardens St Mary Park Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6FY
Ref. No: 23/04286/FUL | Received: Mon 20 Nov 2023 | Validated: Wed 22 Nov 2023

Discharge of condition 4 (Construction Method Statement) pursuant to planning permission 23/01469/FUL

Land North Of 37 To 43 Station Road Stannington Northumberland
Ref. No: 23/04200/DISCON | Received: Mon 13 Nov 2023 | Validated: Mon 13 Nov 2023

Construction of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, single storey porch extension and installation of three new window openings to provide additional accommodation

Low Horton Grange Farm Green Lane Seaton Burn Newcastle Upon Tyne Northumberland NE13 6BZ
Ref. No: 23/03620/FUL | Received: Wed 27 Sep 2023 | Validated: Thu 05 Oct 2023

Change of use storage building to dog hotel

Netherton Park Stables Ltd Netherton Park Stannington Northumberland NE61 6EF
Ref. No: 23/03505/FUL | Received: Wed 20 Sep 2023 | Validated: Mon 02 Oct 2023

Strongly object on a range of issues including noise. See Northumberland County Council planning portal

Garage extension

4 Bevan Court Hepscott Park Northumberland NE61 6FH
Ref. No: 23/03410/FUL | Received: Wed 13 Sep 2023 | Validated: Mon 18 Sep 2023

Object on grounds of commercial use

Note:

Notices of appeal – none

Notices of enquiry – none

Other notices – none

35. Finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income:

Fees £850.00

Bank balance of BOI £49,875.42 and Lloyds TSB £10,350.00

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1387	Mazars	Audit	252.00
1388	Stannington School	Grant	2060.00
1389	Northern Services	Install seats, flagpole, repair fencing and install Christmas Tree lighting	1826.00
DD	Wave	Water bill	184.35
DD	BT	Line rental	82.91
DD	Wave	Water Bill	23.62
1390	R Philipson	Reimburse for Christmas Tree	60.00

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

Members noted that Mazars had completed the annual audit and given an unqualified opinion and that this was a clean audit with no issues for action.

36. Correspondence

All correspondence noted unless indicated otherwise:

- D Bass – Netherton Park Green, information relating to possible land lease/transfer
- R Leonard – Speed Sign Station Road is not working and needs attention. Concerns re speeding on station road in excess of 50mph, dangerous overtaking and jumping of the lights and barriers at the rail crossing – seek support of police and crime commissioner and Northumberland County Council
- E Kerr – Planning at Whitehouse Centre – information relating to ongoing major challenges with enforcement, blocked rights of way, lack of provision of alternative access and poor planning response
- Church – Support for Annual Luncheon via hall hire costs – agreed
- D Hayes – Highways Agency re slip roads – further information expected regarding the danger of vehicles going in the wrong direction onto the A1
- L Moore – Bus Services – seeking wider exposure to the ongoing survey for bus services – widely promoted on social media, in notice boards, parish magazine, paper copies in the church, Ridley Arms and Farm Shop
- R Elliot Nuisance complaint to Northumberland County Council
- K Carins – Dog Bin at Hepscott Park – noted this is a private estate and the clerk to discuss with Northumberland County Council
- K Carins – update on parish and Northumberland County Council event – Parish Council to look at Policy implementation and Star Council Awards in 2024
- A Scott, Arriva – Bus Services – open to discussion and future meeting to be arranged once the survey is completed

37. Other business

- Snaiths Bus service for school children needs to be smaller as it is churning up private land and verges and is unsafe
- Hearse House – agree to move forward on an options appraisal
- Fountain grading as a war memorial
- Potholes in the village and Clifton and Glororum all done but re-opened
- Power supply next to school needs attention – northern power grid
- Water opposite school is now resolved
- Report water on entrance to church car park
- A1 – when will this be resurfaced with silent tarmac
- State of Notice Board at St Mary Park – new one to be provided
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38. Date of next ordinary meeting

17 January 2024

Signed: _____ Chairman

Dated: _____