

Stannington Parish Council

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

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Minutes of meeting held

11 November 2020

Via Zoom Call

Attendance:

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

44. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Armstrong of Northumberland County Council

The Chair welcomed Cllr Nixon to the Council as the newly co-opted Councillor

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

Remaining WW1 merchandise – Cllr Carins, Cllr Scott, Cllr Tolson
Grant to Stannington 1st School – Cllr Carins and Cllr Brown

46. To receive the minutes of the previous meetings held 28 Septemebr and 13 October 2020

Minutes agreed as a true record

47. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings not covered in the agenda for the meeting

- Letter of thanks to be send to Mr Common of Bart Endean for providing a new plaque for the fountain in advance of Remembrance Sunday, free of charge following recent damage
- Footpath works had now been completed at Blagdon although Northumberland County Council consider this not to be a footpath but instead to be verge strengthening
- Issues continue with the southern slip road into Stannington Village – cars are turning down the slip road towards the A1 into oncoming traffic, this matter is now in the hands of Northumberland County Council and is being dealt with by Neil Snowdon and Martin King from Highways
- There will be no formal Remembrance Sunday event due to the ongoing pandemic and as a result, wreaths will be laid independently by Lord Ridley, St Mary's Parochial Church Council/Vicar and the Parish Council

48. To consider any written reports from councillors or representatives on outside bodies

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Author: Cllr. Karen Carins

Date: 11th November 2020

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

Minutes for Brenkley OCCS liaison and Community Benefit Fund circulated.

Stannington Village

Commentary:

Road repairs at The Glebe have been completed to a very good standard.

Councillor Carins attended a meeting at the playing field with a representative of Playdale. The addition of a trailer to the tractor has been requested. The tractor will be green and the number plate will read "Andy 1". Councillor Robson will report, at the Parish Council meeting, the amount of money that will be donated from Andy Crewdson's estate and from his business partners. The equipment will need to be ordered before Christmas to enable the work to begin around March.

Notices regarding the removal of unauthorised equipment from the playing field were put up. The football net which has appeared on the playing field is still there.

Councillor Carins has received complaints from residents about the state of the cemetery car park, the flooding on Church Road and the grass verge. A resident has also asked if the lane running from The Fountain be tidied as the hedge is causing problems for pedestrians/cars conflict.

Councillor Carins had a meeting with PC Darren Stapleton in October to discuss various issues around the Parish. PC Stapleton will liaise with Councillor Carins in order to keep the Parish Council aware of any issues that may concern residents or businesses in the area.

Blagdon Estates are to repair the potholes in the hairdresser's car park and the lane opposite. The work will take place on Monday.

The War Memorial has been repaired by stonemason who made the original plaque. The new plaque is much thicker than the previous one.

Freeman Ridley has been litter picking and has tidied the Fountain area in readiness for the Remembrance Sunday wreaths. The wreaths will be laid privately to observe the current restrictions.

Pedestrians are still having issues with cyclists riding on footpaths in the Parish. Signage is needed at the southern slip road from the A1 as visitors are still driving up the slip road the wrong way. A no access sign is needed.

Actions requested:

The Council to order the new play equipment from Playdale. The Council to look at clear cyclist signage and signage on the southern slip road. The net to be removed in the playing field. The

hedging be tidied by the Fountain. The Council to instigate the work needed for the cemetery car park.

The Coronavirus Pandemic

Volunteers have continued to assist residents in the Parish. The SPNP Facebook page has advertised the support flier again, during the 2nd lockdown. Councillor Carins has been offered Christmas packs from Age Concern to help our residents during lockdown

Actions requested:

To continue to support the residents and businesses in our Parish.

Saint Marys and Stannington Station Road

There have been no reports from residents.

Commentary:

The council to continue to work with residents.

WW1 FUND

Commentary:

A cheque for the remaining funds of £6,618.40 has been handed to the Parish council for the benefit of the community.

The plinth for the plaques to commemorate the fallen will come out of this fund.

WW1 ACCOUNTS				INCOME WW1					
				DATE					
BANK BALANCE	£ -	TRANSFER H/G	£6,302.83	BACCS	5.4.19	CASH HELD		£	40.96
		TRANSFER H/G	£1,000.00	BACCS	6.4.19	CHILDRENS BOOK		£	126.00
			£7,302.83		6.4.19	HISTORY	GROUP TRANSFER	£	7,302.83
					7.4.19	TEA TOWELS		£	14.00
					11.4.19	HISTORY BOOKS		£	40.00
					12.4.19	SCHOOL SALES AND CHEQUES HELD		£	247.96
		EXPENSES WW1			23.4.19	TEA TOWEL		£	7.00
		000001 D COURT	£ 81.40	Final payment C.B.	30.4.19	CHILDRENS BOOK - LIGHTNING SOURCE		£	4.55
		000002 Church	£ 400.00	GRANT	8.5.19	R. TOLSON VARIOUS		£	35.00
		000003 School	£ 200.00	GRANT	26.7.19	TEA TOWEL		£	7.00
		000005 Scouts	£ 200.00	GRANT		TOTAL FROM WW1 EVENT		£	7,825.30
		000007 Frame	£ 27.50	Lady Ridley picture		WW1 EXPENSES		£	1,206.90
		000006 Brownies	£ 200.00	GRANT		WW1 EVENT FINAL SUM*****		£	6,618.40
		Art Group	£ 98.00	Fund owed					
			£1,206.90						
		Plinth for discs		tbd					
PAID IN for WW1									
5.4.19	£ 40.96								
BACCS	£ 126.00								
BACCS	£ 260.00								
BACCS	£ 27.96								
BACCS	£ 14.00								
BACCS	£ 4.55								
BACCS	£ 7.00								
BACCS	£ 35.00								
BACCS	£ 7.00								
	£ 522.47								

WW2 FUND

Commentary:

The children's book is now being printed and 150 will be distributed to the children at Stannington First School. The lottery tickets are now on sale. A curry night has been organised at Char Mausum for some time in December as the September night had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.

49. To consider matters relating to The Church carpark, grass verge and drainage issues on Church Road

- Debmatt £14910 + £810 for lining, all plus Vat (60mm base and 30mm wearing)
- WL Straughan £15195 + £795 all plus Vat (70mm single course) or £10945 for 40mm single course across the whole area.

Resolved that: The Clerk seek costs for the installation of a single 70mm Base Course across the car park area only, excluding the area already tarmacked and that this be agreed for approval before Christmas.

Verge works along Church Road were not agreed as the Clerk advised that Northumberland County Council would be likely to want to carry out this work themselves at the expense of the Parish Council. The Clerk/Chair to investigate. The Council confirmed however that this was a matter of extreme priority given the road safety issues outside Stannington 1st School.

50. To consider matters relating to the village playground – Chair to report

The Chair updated the Council on progress with the play area and in particular the discussions with Playdale for the provision of a Tractor to be partly funded by donations from colleagues of the late Manager of Blagdon Estate and also from top up payments by the Parish Council. There was some uncertainty as to the funds available for the project and so it was agreed that Cllr Philipson seek written confirmation of funds for the next meeting and that the Clerk finalise costs for the moving of the fence line and installation of the tractor. Councillors confirmed a wish to install this facility as early as possible in 2021.

51. To consider options for dealing with remaining WW1 merchandise

Cllr Carins, Cllr Scott, Cllr Tolson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

The Clerk updated the Council remaining stocks of merchandise from the WW1 event:

Books:

Stannington for King and Country-Vol 1-110

Stannington for King and Country-Vol 2-7

Stannington for King and Country-Vol 1-72

Children's Book-6

Other:

Tea Towels-25

Percy Postcards-89

Tank Postcards-98

A discussion took place on how best to deal with the remaining stock and it was decided that the Battle of Britain event group should retain the items to be used for fund raising for the forthcoming event.

52. To consider a grant to Stannington 1st School for £2000 relating to the provision of a cycle track

Cllr Carins and Cllr Brown declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

The school were hoping to install a cycling/running track around the perimeter of the field. This is part of an initiative to increase daily activity for every pupil and also encourage pupils to walk, cycle or park and ride to and from school.

Aims are:

- To increase daily activity for every pupil and teach them the benefits of a healthy lifestyle
- To set up a school bike club
- To divert parking to the car park next to the village hall and encourage parents and pupils to Park and Ride or Stride from there
- To reduce congestion and improve air quality and safety around the school gates at busy times

The cycle track will cost between £20 - 25k and the school has the majority of this funding (approximately £18K) secured already through sport funding and other grants. The School also has an additional £3k for the purchase of bikes and a storage container.

The track would also be available to the After School club, the Brownies (when they restart) and school holiday clubs. A request for £2000 was submitted to the Parish Council.

Resolved that: this project be funded by the Parish Council to the value of £2000 and that the grant be paid immediately on completion of the work.

53.To approve the purchase of 5 speed signs £10540.62 + vat by single tender

Councillors considered a quote from Evolis for 5 speed signs including solar power facilities. This was a single tender as the units match the ones already deployed in Stannington Village. Councillors therefore agreed that consistent technology was important. It was noted that the signs could be programmed for any speed setting which was important given the impending speed limit change on Station Road.

Resolved that: the purchase of the signs be authorised and that they be located at Station Road (2), Glororum (2) and Clifton (1).

54.Stannington Parish festival of bloom 2021 – Clerk to report

The clerk presented a Powerpoint presentation (appended to the minutes) on a proposal for a Stannington Parish Festival of Bloom 2021 in the hope that this event could proceed in 2021 in support of the Battle of Britain Event and also to raise spirits in every corner of the Parish following the ongoing Covid 19 Pandemic.

The event would involve businesses, residents, settlements, community groups, the school and St Mary's Church. A range of prizes would be given for specific categories and it is hoped to gain some sponsorship.

Indicative budget costs:

Prizes	Number	Value of garden vouchers	Total
Best kept garden - residential			
Bronze	8	£20	£160
Silver	8	£30	£240
Gold	8	£50	£400
Best Planter	8	£30	£240
Best Hanging Basket	8	£30	£240
Best Community			
Bronze	1	£50	£50
Silver	1	£75	£75
Gold	1	£100	£100
Best Community Group display			
Bronze	1	£50	£50
Silver	1	£75	£75
Gold	1	£100	£100
School			
Best vegetable	1	£30	£30
Best Sunflower	1	£50	£50
Best Scarecrow			
Bronze	5	£50	£250
Silver	5	£75	£375
Gold	5	£100	£500
Costs			
200 Vouchers for residents	200	£5	£1,000
Trees	50	£25	£1,250
Trophies	20	£20	£400
Certificates	1000	£0	£150
Income			
Sponsorship from businesses			-£2,000
HJ Banks Fund			-£1,000
			£2,735

Resolved that: this project be given approval to proceed in January 2021 subject to Covid 19 pandemic issues.

55. 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:

Application	Address	Detail	Decision
20/03672/NONMAT	Land North East of Netherton Park Netherton Park Stannington Northumberland	Non-material amendment relating to approved planning application 19/01241/VARYCO to vary the wording of conditions 4 - approved plans/documents and 26 - bat mitigation.	No objection
20/03471/FUL	2 Rivergreen Gardens St Mary Park Morpeth NE61 6FY	Single storey front extension, front wall and gates	No objection
20/03279/DISCON	Land South Of 33 Station Road Station Road Stannington Northumberland	Discharge of Conditions 10 (Contamination) and 12 (Validation Report) on approved planning application 19/02409/FUL	No objection
20/03259	The Spinney Station Road End Stannington NE61 6DJ	Certificate of existing lawful development for erection of a single storey garage building within the residential curtilage	No objection

Mr Holbrook submitted details of a proposal for development on Station Road Stannington on a site previously refused permission. The Parish Council declined to make any comment in advance of a formal application so as not to fetter their discretion by making any predetermined decisions.

Note:

Notices of appeal – none

Notices of enquiry – none

Other notices - none

56. Finance

The following income accounts were noted and approved:

Income: £6,618.40 from Stannington Parish WW1 fund as a donation to be used only for the purposes of funding grants to community projects and for the provision of a memorial to the 39 'Fallen' soldiers, airmen, navy and forces of the parish in WW1.

Bank balance of £48,088.90 BOI and £10350.00 Lloyds – 23 October 2020

The following payments were approved:

Chq	Payee	Details	Amount £
1260	Stannington WW2 Battle of Britain project	Grant funding in support of the project	4081.60
1261	St Mary's PCC	Hire of hall	40.00
1262	British Legion	Wreaths	80.00
1263	Carrs Billington	Squirrel food	43.41

Note: Cllr Carins, Cllr Scott and Cllr Tolson declared an interest in Chq 1260 and took no part in the decision.

Resolved that: The payments and income listed be approved

It was also noted that the Parish Council Annual Accounts were now with the External Auditor KPF Littlejohn for audit.

57. Ongoing update on COVID19 Pandemic

Councillors noted that the ongoing Covid 19 Pandemic continued to have a profound impact on the UK and as a result many of the elderly and Clinically Extremely Vulnerable continued to shield. The spread of Covid 19 was expected to increase across the winter with further lockdown arrangements very likely. As a result the Parish Council would continue to hold virtual meetings only.

58. Correspondence

All correspondence noted unless indicated otherwise

- Email from Mrs Heneghan – regarding co-option process – Chair to respond
- C Bessant – thanks for support for planning at Netherton Park
- SBA – receipt of Audit return
- Northumberland Healthwatch AGM
- Northumberland Association of Local Councils – rebuilding communities
- Northumberland County Council – Precept due January 2021
- Northumberland County Council – Clarification on cycle path constructed in the 1990s – not a PC project
- Age Concern – request for grant - declined

59. Any other urgent business

- Footpath from Ridley Cottages to Elisabeth Square is in need of repair – this is a path which belongs to Blagdon Estate and so this will be raised with them

- Christmas tree to be erected at the beginning of December and that Mr Wox be asked for a tree by way of donation
- Noted that North county Tree Surgeons are looking at options for trees and hedging next to the new bungalows on Beechlea
- A children's book is being prepared for the Battle of Britain Event in 2021 for each child in Stannington 1st School
- The Chair reported on a positive meeting with the police regarding anti-social behaviour

60. Date of Next meeting

13th January 2021 – Covid 19 issues permitting

Signed: _____ Chairman

Dated: _____