



Next deadline 29th December 2020

email: [stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com](mailto:stamfordhamcommunicator@gmail.com)

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**Dates: Friday 4th December Frosts Fish and Chips 4.30 – 7.00pm**  
**Thursday 21st January 2021—electronic Parish Council Meeting**

THE POST OFFICE WILL BE OPERATING ON THURSDAYS AND MONDAYS 11.30AM – 2.30PM

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**Last Post Office dates before Christmas: Thursday 17th December**  
**Monday 21st December**

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## Virtual Exercise Class

### Mondays and Fridays at 10am

Why not spend some of those lockdown hours doing something beneficial?

Each Monday and Friday 'Karate' Steve runs an exercise class using the Zoom platform, each class lasts about 45 minutes (including a warm up and warm down).

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He has also said that you don't have to be super fit to join this class, just willing to work at improving your fitness.

Each class costs £2.50 is open to both adults and children, will improve your stamina and core strength as well as working your arms and legs.

Why not give it a go...you have nothing to lose (apart maybe from some excess Covid weight!)

Just download the Zoom app from Apple store or Google Play store, install it on your device and you're good to go!

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7680272536?pwd=Z3pmOFNWSktXK0tTZFNHeXFhMWh6Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 768 027 2536**

**Passcode: karate**



## Stamfordham Brownies needs a new leader!

Stamfordham Brownies, started by Pat Nichols, has been providing fun and engaging experiences for girls aged 7-11 since 1974. It offers opportunities to make friends, have new experiences and explore the world around them. Every meeting teaches new skills and encourages the Brownies to challenge themselves as they work out what, and who, they want to be in the future - all while having a heap of fun!

Pip Forsyth, the current leader, is retiring in the New Year after 17 years as Brown Owl which means that Stamfordham Brownies are looking for a new leader to run meetings alongside our team of assistant leaders.

### Can you help?

There is a comprehensive training programme (mainly on the job) and Pip would be very happy to stay on and support a new leader through their training.

If you are even slightly curious about what this might involve and think it's something you might like to do – please contact Pip on: [pip@theforsyths.plus.com](mailto:pip@theforsyths.plus.com) or telephone 01661886431 and she would be delighted to tell you more about what is involved.

**Please help keep Stamfordham Brownies running! - If COVID has taught us anything, it is about the importance of our community and the opportunities that it provides!**

The next electronic meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council will be held on

Thursday 21st January 2021 commencing 730pm.

The minutes of the last meeting are towards the end of this edition. Please note the

Parish Council website can be found at:

<https://www.stamfordhamparishcouncil.org/>

## **Stamfordham Oil Buying Group**

### **\*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT CHANGE \*\*\*\*\***

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## ***Ponteland U3A***

*Due to the current situation we cannot meet on the first Wednesday of the month at St Mary's Church Hall until it's safe to do so.*

*However, thanks to Zoom we are able to give our monthly talks which will commence at 1400 on the first Wednesday of each month. These talks are available for members and non-members alike as long as they have access to the internet.*

*Apologies to those members who do not have internet access but we can only hope that the situation changes before too long.*

*For more general information on U3A please visit [u3asites.org.uk/Ponteland](http://u3asites.org.uk/Ponteland) or contact (01661) 824953 for membership information.*

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**Seasons greetings and very many thanks, Anne Williams**

**Thank you again** to those who made donations to the Stamfordham Communicator. This has allowed us to print a few copies and deliver to those who don't receive a copy via email.

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# Graham Herford

## DIY/HANDYMAN & Gardening Services

### Coronavirus

I would like to let everyone know that I am still able to offer a reduced Gardening service & carry out certain DIY jobs during these very difficult times.

I take my own & everyone else's safety extremely seriously and would only consider carrying out work if I can meet stringent conditions set out by myself and the UK Government.

Last updated on 29th March 2020 this is the statement on Gov.Uk website (I will be checking daily for any updates)

*"Work carried out in people's homes, for example by tradespeople carrying out repairs and maintenance, can continue, provided that the tradesperson is well and has no symptoms. Again, it will be important to ensure that Public Health England guidelines, including maintaining a 2 metre distance from any household occupants, are followed to ensure everyone's safety"*

Therefore if you would like to discuss possible work please contact me and we can talk about your needs.

Also if you are planning jobs for the future please let me know and I will provisionally take the details ready for when things get back to normal....let's hope that is not too far away!

I would like to wish everyone well in our community and further afield.

Thank you and stay safe.

Graham Herford, Fenwick Lodge

Stamfordham, NE18 0QR

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### Dorothy Turner

#### To the lovely caring people of the village and the local area.

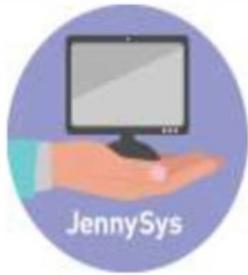
I wanted to say thank you on behalf of all the Turner family for giving up your time to keep an eye on our mam Dorothy.

After 56 years living in the same house, she is now in Close House nursing home, Hexham, and will now be living there permanently. If anyone is able or would like to send a Christmas card, I'm sure she would be over the moon to receive one.

We as kids, and adults, have always loved Stamfordham. We have fantastic memories with dad, Brian, and mam as well as their 8 grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Sadly, dad was unable to see all of his grandchildren but he knew who they were before they spoke - 6th sense maybe? Mam looked after dad with all of her heart until the day he passed away. Sadly, she had a mental breakdown not long after dad died. We still to this day think she just fell into a hole after caring for him for so long.

It's now time for mam to be looked after and cared for in a beautiful place out in the countryside...she's happy ...which makes us happy. So thank you again to all who helped keep an eye, took her bits, popped in and cared.

Shirley, Andrew, Shawn.



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An Invitation to Join Carols on the Doorstep During the run up to Christmas many of us like to go to a Carol Service or Community Carol Singing event, this year we cannot do that but that does not have to stop us having a good sing with our neighbours and our community. On Sunday 20th December at 5:30pm the whole country has the chance to join in Carols on your Doorstep. All you need to do is be able to hear Premier Radio. The easiest way is to turn your TV on to channel 725. (There are alternatives with DAB, Internet and the Premier Radio phone app but be careful about sound lag between all these.) Premier Ra-

dio will play 3 or 4 carols for everyone to sing along to. You can download and print the Carol Sheet from [www.premierchristianradio.com](http://www.premierchristianradio.com) or [www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org](http://www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org) or the Uniting Church can deliver the carol sheets to you if you contact Philip and Helen Ballard on 825669. This is a good chance to dust off that festive jumper or your most festive headwear if you like. It will be family-friendly so children welcome to bring something to shake or rattle along too. At this challenging time for all of us let's try and bring a little joy to our community this Christmas.



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Neither Stamfordham Parish Council nor the editor endorses any advertisement in SC. No anonymous correspondence will be published or entered into. Any notices for the next edition should be sent to me by **28th December 2020** preferably using the SC email address, please.  
*Gill Blissett*

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After raising £2,000 for the Red Cross through selling copies of her recently published autobiography, 'In My End is My Beginning', Diana Jansen has a remainder of 40 – 50 books. She would like to donate the proceeds from these books to our churches, which are at the moment badly in need of funds. If as many people within our communities as possible could sell just one book (**£10 each**), we could raise between £400 and £500 towards our church funds. That would be a great help... You can collect a copy of the book from Diana Jansen, Meadowfield House, Dalton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE18 0AA. (Tel 01661 886200). Otherwise, if it is more convenient, from Mr and Mrs A Trevelyan, Low Cross House, 14, Southside, Stamfordham. (Tel 01661 886225)

We would be so grateful for any help you can give us.

[Reviewed in the United Kingdom on 10 May 2020 by Kathleen Kenny]

*'In her own inimitable voice, the author recounts many episodes from her rich and fascinating life. A very honest and heart-warming book, full of humanity. An intriguing read, I thoroughly recommend.'*

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## Great Northumberland Winter Festival programme announced

This year's Great Northumberland Winter Festival programme of events has been announced.

A total of 20 events have received funding through the Northumberland Cultural Fund (NCF), led by the county council, and will be part of the Great Northumberland Winter Festival.

Whilst the Coronavirus pandemic may have put a stop to many physical events taking place this year, the council was committed to continuing to support the cultural sector in helping to create online and socially distanced events.

The events will take place between November 2020 and March 2021.

As a result of Covid many of the events will focus on supporting isolated communities or bringing events into people's homes via video or online streaming.

The first of the events kicked off last week with the Amble Festival of Light. Individuals, groups, streets, care homes and schools in the town were invited to light up Amble and fill the windows of their homes with illuminated illustrations, installations and lanterns depicting their favourite myth or legend.

There are now more than 650 participants with everything from mermaids to dragons being displayed in windows as well as original myths written and illustrated by the community, including one which explores a personal experience of dementia via story telling. Organised by the Dry Water Arts Centre the event has also received funding from the Amble Events Team and Arts Council England.

Frances Anderson, of the Dry Water Arts Centre said; "Normally we would hold a Light Parade in the town, which attracts thousands of people every year but when we realised we wouldn't be able to do that we wanted to organise something which could still bring people together in a socially distanced way.

"We have held online workshops to help people with their designs and given people lantern kits so they can bring them to life. Our dementia positive group have put many of the kits together which have been delivered by community volunteers and street co-ordinators. The support has been phenomenal, and as ever the people of Amble have shown their true community spirit and have come together to spread joy and creativity to light up lockdown."

To find out more and to see some of the window displays go to [www.drywaterarts.uk/amble-light-festival-2020](http://www.drywaterarts.uk/amble-light-festival-2020)

From December 11 children and young people's charity Leading Link will be hosting "Remotely Christmas," a full day of Christmas fun for everyone. The event will include a video montage of Christmas Light switch-ons around the county; storytelling sessions; live drawing workshops with children's author and illustrator Liz Million; short stories from local people and libraries sharing their favourite Christmas memories and there may even be a message from the Big man himself (via Zoom of course!).

The day will be hosted live on You Tube and the content will focus on three separate groups; School; Care Homes and Family at home.

Lyn Horton, of Leading Link said: "We have been doing a lot of work over the summer through our pop-up events with numerous partners in communities, but we wanted to do something which helped to unite the 4 corners of Northumberland and spread a bit of Christmas cheer.

"There will be something for everyone on the day and we hope that this can become an annual event and part of the Christmas calendar in the county."

To find out more and how to get involved go to [www.leadinglink.co.uk](http://www.leadinglink.co.uk)

Cllr Jeff Watson, cabinet member for culture at Northumberland County Council said: "In a normal year Northumberland's Christmas and winter events are a real highlight on the calendar, so it is very disappointing that so many of them are not able to go ahead.

"However, as ever our vibrant cultural sector, with help from our funding, have created some exciting and innovative events which allow residents to still experience the joy and magic of Christmas, as well as bringing them engaging events to enjoy through the dark winter months."

To find out more go to [www.greatnorthumberland.co.uk](http://www.greatnorthumberland.co.uk)

## Minutes of electronic meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### Those Present

Cllr E Trevelyan, Chairman  
Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Wilson, Boylan, Miller  
C Miller (Clerk), County Cllr V Jones, one member of the public

### Apologies for absence

Cllr Bushby, Cllr Scratcherd

### To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020

It was resolved the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 be accepted as a true record.

### Matters arising from the Minutes, not otherwise on the Agenda

There were no matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda.

### Planning Matters:

#### Applications received

20/03023/VARYCO Units 6,7,8,9 at Land and Barns at Harlow Hill Farm – Variation of Conditions 2 to 19/01818/VARYCO – no comments to make.

20/03364/LBC & 20/003363/FUL: 4 Grange Road, Listed Building Consent/repoint brickwork and replace damaged bricks on front wall – no comments to make.

#### Applications approved:

20/02325/VARYCO: Land North of Dalton Farm, Variation of Condition 2 to 19/00872/FUL to allow for amended roof design and materials

20/02691/LBC & 20/02690/FUL: Dalton House, removal of existing oil tank and installation of new tank in different location.

20/01665/FUL and 16/01666/LBC: St Marys House, Southside: New air source heat pump and screen to the north of the single storey kitchen/utility as supplemented/amended by details received 18/8/20 and by noise assessment received 15/9/20

It was reported there is a pre-application for conversion of a barn in Dark Lane, therefore a full planning application may need to be considered in the future.

### Notice of Appeal, Town and Country Planning Act 1980 Appeal under Section 78:

Land West of Brewery Close, construction of five new build two storey detached dwellings with three detached garages and associated access.

The Coop Eachwick, proposed alterations to site layout with parking changes, secure tool (and nursery materials) store position, hardstanding and size amended, new security gates and polytunnel amended.

### Parish Benches

Benches still require installation and it would be beneficial if a professional could be engaged. The old benches would also need disposed of, and it was resolved E Trevelyan would organise a contractor.

### Parish trees – tree in need of removal near to Village Hall

County Cllr reported tree at village hall is included in County Council programme for removal and should be actioned by the end of the year.

### Financial Matters:

#### Payments to authorise

Sport Tynedale - £50.00

MJ Knowles - £115.20

#### To consider request for grant from Great North Air Ambulance;

It was resolved to grant £125 to Great North Air Ambulance.

#### To consider grant to Stamfordham First School; to

The Headteacher of Stamfordham First School had requested a grant towards the ongoing costs associated with Covid safety, as no further funds had been allocated to schools to cover costs relating to PPE, additional cleaning and required infrastructure, eg outside taps and sinks for hand washing. It was therefore resolved to grant £100.

Email had been received from a parishioner who was willing to maintain the play park at the cost of £175.00 per annum, who had also removed leaves and apples from the area, and quoted £50 to remove further debris. (The current contractor charges £480 for ten cuts per annum). The Parish Council insurance policy would only cover a volunteer, and it was resolved to formally contact the parishioner to state the Parish Council would consider the quote, however insurance cover would be required.

#### **To consider budget and precept requirements 2021-2022**

It was resolved to approve the budget and precept requirements of £5,500 for 2021-2022.

#### **County Councillor Report**

Applicant had won on appeal as regards Planning Application 19/04829/FUL, chalet on land north of Heugh Mill. This is of concern to the County Council as a precedent had now been set and they were considering whether they would appeal the decision, however it would be a financial decision as to whether this would go ahead. It was resolved the Parish Council would write to the County Council to confirm they would support them should they appeal.

Government wish to encourage people to visit care homes and advice had been circulated, however it would be each care homes decision, with building structures to be taken into account as a specialised room would be required for visitors. Covid infection figures are rising rapidly in Northumberland. It had been agreed County Cllrs could give money from their capital improvement budget to revenue funding to aid groups with Covid related food support schemes, with County Cllr donating a sum to the parish.

Traffic calming measures at Harlow Hill had been signed off without the speed indicating equipment at the present time, as the County Council ancient monument department were still looking into the proposals.

40mph signage had been placed on the wrong side at Lane House with County Cllr having attended a site meeting and County Council Officer to take advice in order for the signage to be moved. Dalton had asked for a 20mph limit, this may not be justified, however extra village gateway signs were to be located and a speed survey carried out. 20mph signage would need to be included in the Local Transport Plan database.

Speed restrictions at Stamfordham First School were now insitu and County Cllr said they should be enforceable. A post had been put up at the West end of the village, however there was no speed limit indicated on it. A time restricted sign would not be placed in the bus layby.

In the draft LTP 2021-2022 the road resurfacing from Stamfordham village to Heugh and from Stamfordham village to the military road is included, but would be dependent on unforeseen works coming in over the winter.

#### **Parish signposts – village signs at Bridge End, West end and by the Jail**

Nothing to report.

#### **10.Speeding traffic concerns through Harlow Hill/installation of interactive speed camera/speeding past Rose Cottage**

Discussed earlier.

#### **11.Cycling events**

Nothing to report.

#### **12.Parking restrictions, Stamfordham First School**

To be taken off agenda.

#### **13.Correspondence**

##### **Fighting Crime Preventing Crime – Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner survey**

The Commissioner was keen for as many individuals as possible to complete the on-line survey regarding fighting and preventing crime – Clerk to forward link to the survey to all Cllrs.

#### **14. To approve additional grasscutting 2021/22**

It was resolved to approve additional grasscutting for 2021/22.

#### **15. Play Area**

Discussed earlier.

#### **16.Other business admitted by the Chairman as urgent**

Remembrance Day church service had been held on the Wednesday before Remembrance Sunday and Parish Council wreath had been placed. Parishioner had asked if an area of grass in the parish could be left for wildflowers to grow and a habitat for insects etc. with the area over the road from Bells garage initially suggested. However it was resolved the verge at Bridge End, which could be cut so far in and the rest left to grow, would be more appropriate.

### 17.To confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council will be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 commencing 730pm

### PART II

**The Council is invited to consider the following resolution: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the agenda, as those items involve the discussion of personal information/contractual negotiations.**

It was resolved to hold private session.

### 18. To review Clerk Salary

*Discussed in private due to personal information.*

It was resolved to increase the clerk salary by £50 per annum.

The meeting closed at 810pm.

### Archives brought to life in virtual talks

Northumberland Archives will be brought to life in a series of FREE online talks. Staff from the archives and library teams will be hosting the talks once a month, starting on Thursday, November 26.

The virtual sessions have been made possible through funding from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund.

Archives received £48,100 from the fund which is part of the Government's £1.57 billion #HereforCulture package to protect the UK's culture and heritage sectors from the economic impacts of Covid-19.

The funding was intended for initiatives such as this to allow the service to engage with new audiences who would not usually use the archives service. It will also be used to create an online shop for those using the archives to be able to download high-quality imagery, investigate the possibilities of partnerships in relation to commercial services to reach a wider audience.

- ◆ Thursday 10 December 2020 – Stannington Sanatorium, England's First Children's TB Sanatorium – Sue Wood, Head of Archives
- ◆ Thursday 7 January 2021 – Evidence of Women and their Lives in the Berwick Archives - Linda Bankier, Berwick Archivist
- ◆ Thursday 21 January 2021 – The Butler Family of Ewart Park – Sarah Littlefear, Archivist.
- ◆ Thursday 11 February 2021 - An Introduction to Local Studies: Northumberland's Heritage at your Fingertips – Kate St. Clair Gibson, Local Studies Librarian
- ◆ Thursday 11 March 2021 –Hidden Histories: Tapping the archives for stories of Black Presence in Northumberland – Jo March, Senior Archivist

To book a place on the talks go to [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) and search for Northumberland Archives.

Media Contact: Media contact: Hayley Quarmby, communications officer, Northumberland County Council,