

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 18th May 2017 commencing at 730pm

Those Present Cllr Trevelyan, Chairman
Cllrs Boylan, Fitzpatrick, Sharp and Wilson
C Miller (Clerk), County Cllr V Jones, two members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Guy Green gave his apologies.

2. Election of Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing Municipal Year

Cllr Fitzpatrick proposed Cllr Trevelyan as Chairman, Cllr Sharp seconded, all in agreement

3. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing Municipal Year

Cllr Trevelyan proposed Cllr Fitzpatrick as Vice Chairman, Cllr Boylan seconded, all in agreement

4. Co-Option Vacancies

There were currently three Co-option vacancies, Stuart Wilson had applied to re-join the council and it was agreed he would be co-opted.

5. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th March 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes, not otherwise on the agenda

- Clerk had contacted County Council who had stated licensing authorities are only obliged to consult on premises licence applications with responsible authorities within the scope of the Licensing Act 2003, and Parish Council's are not a responsible authority but would fall within the description of an interested party. Highways are also not a responsible authority but all applicants of events of this scale and nature are asked to attend a Safety Advisory Group where Highways are in attendance to discuss any queries or issues they may have, however music festival had now been cancelled.
- Peter Harrison present to talk about the 11th annual Cyclone weekend, which is not a commercially run event, and does not have a sponsor this year. Northumbria Tourism had calculated the event brings in 1 million to 1.5 million pounds into the economy, with an estimated 3-4 million pounds raised for charity, however, it does lead to an increase in cycle traffic within the parish. Newcastle City and Northumberland County Council had been involved this year, however if sponsorship is not received, it may not continue next year. Saturday format remains as usual, with team wishing to erect gantry early Sunday morning and it is hoped some infrastructure will be brought up on the Saturday afternoon and partial assembling carried out then for the Sunday. Northumbria Police do not want anything to do with the event this year and a road closure order is not reliant on them. Last year an incident occurred whereby a driver was told not to drive through the village, did so, and which could of resulted in a death, and it is important members of the public are made aware of such dangers. As usual, there will be residents only parking signage, with some big team trucks to be parked down by the Bay Horse and others on the Heugh, and village green used for parking for women's event. Comment made if adverse weather conditions, village green could be damaged, however this had not been known before. County Cllr reported receiving numerous complaints last year regarding the attitude of marshals, and the Saturday race causing road dangers. There is also concern regarding cyclists and events at other times of the year, with a recent event advertised in the Communicator. British cycling events can tell the organisers to let villagers know, however with a time trial they do not have to inform the police. As this is a working community, farmers need clear access to carry out their tasks, and if anything dangerous or inappropriate is witnessed, police can be contacted but proof would be required. Cyclingevents.co.uk are running the Angel of the North cycling event, and various cycling groups do cause concern to parishioners throughout the year. Concern expressed with event team drivers speeding – it was confirmed they need accreditation to work on races.

7. Planning Matters.

Applications: 17/01094/FUL: Mr & Mrs Blacker, Manesty, Bridge End, Stamfordham – removal of conservatory to create garden room; **GRANTED**

17/00274/PREAPP, affordable housing development for 25 dwellings on a 1.3ha site, comprising 19 terraced affordable properties and 6 open market dwellings in the form of 2 detached and 4 semi-detached properties, land at Cheeseburn Estate – if possible, the full application for this, together with the Mainsbank application, should be considered at the same Parish Council meeting.

17/01507/FUL: Mr Walton, The Granary, Dalton – single storey rear stone/slate extension to replace inappropriate conservatory

8. Expenditure Authorisation: Komplan £7598.04, play area equipment; D Stanley, Communicator 177 £54.79; Stamfordham Village Hall £12.50; Names Co £71.88; D Stanley, Communicator 178 £79.79; MorpethNet – webmaster services until 31/8/18 - £100; NALC annual subscription - £195.75; Zurich Municipal – annual insurance premium - £492.02

9. Unaudited accounts 2016-2017 and fixed asset register: The unaudited accounts for 2016-2017 were adopted and the audit date noted as 25th July 2017. Fixed assets valued as in insurance policy, being 2 bus shelters - £18,316.68; 2 litter bins - £368.21; 3 dog waste bins - £1050.37; and 3 seats - £2197.75.

10. Annual Return: Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Accounts 2016-2017: Section 1 Annual Governance Statement: all points agreed with; Section 2 Accounting Statements: Figures agreed as a true record, year end financial figures had previously been circulated to all Councillor's.

11. County Councillor's Report

Change of administration at County Hall, who will officially take over next Wednesday, with move to Ashington no longer taking place; statutory notices had been restored instantly to Hexham Courant; restructuring of council committees would result in reduction of several scrutiny committees and working groups, thus lowering additional Cllr expenses. Officers currently looking into some areas where changes can be made, ie Dissington proposals. Heugh road to be resurfaced. Ponteland schools looking to acadamise, which would go out to consultation.

12. To consider any matters raised at the Annual Parish Meeting

There were no matters to consider from the Annual Parish Meeting.

13. Correspondence not otherwise on the Agenda

No correspondence received.

14. Other business admitted by the Chairman as urgent

- Grassed bank opposite garage along main road at end of bridge not being maintained by County Council, V Jones to look into this.
- The whole of Northumberland is undergoing street lighting upgrades, which are much more efficient and less harsh for Dark Sky status. If additional lighting requested, County do have a special deal on at the present time, if Parish Council wished to fund.
- Cllr Trevelyan had attended to Japanese knotweed in the parish.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council will be held on Thursday 20th July 2017 commencing 730pm in Stamfordham Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 830pm.