

Minutes of meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council held in the Village Hall at 730pm on Thursday 21st March 2019

Those Present Cllr Trevelyan, Chairman
Cllrs Scratcherd, Sharp, Boylan, Fitzpatrick, Bushby
C Miller (Clerk), County Cllr V Jones, twenty six members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

S Wilson

2. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th January 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th January 2019 were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes, not otherwise on the Agenda

There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

4. Planning Matters:

Applications received: 19/00392/FUL: Harlow Hill Chapel, erection of two storey double garage with gym above to replace previously approved chapel – no objections; **19/00125/FUL:** Stamfordham Hall, replacement existing perimeter fencing - supported.

19/00509/FUL: Land North of Heugh Mill Farm, proposed siting of a temporary dwelling house/chalet – It was noted those in favour of the proposal listed on County Council web-site are members of the public living outside of the parish. The temporary accommodation is being applied for to provide residency for the owner to provide holiday accommodation. The positioning for anticipated caravan/holiday lets is totally inappropriate due to the green belt and limited access, it is agricultural land, and when accessing from North down the lane there is a notice stating “unsuitable for motors,” it is a single track both ways and considering the amount of accommodation that will be applied for, this will be totally unsuitable for the scale of traffic, which could also include horses from a livery. There does not seem to be a detailed plan of where the hobbits and chalets are to be positioned, there is no water supply and nothing about sewage in the plans, with a possibility of radon gas in the area. Mr Horrocks stated the George White planning document is selective in terms of planning policies, there are no buildings being reused, it is not improvement of a heritage asset, there is no essential need for a rural worker and there is nothing of an exceptional quality by the definition of green belt planning requirements. The Castle Morpeth map is an area of high landscape value, and the planning submission has no information regarding ecology, and the corner of the land at the south east has wetlands. The application appears to be full of errors, for example, there is no actual access onto the field itself, but the unsurfaced highway. Any benefit to the economy has not been tested and being green belt, the application should be permanent. Mrs Horrocks commented the application is actually for the temporary dwelling and chalets and hobbits are at pre-application stage and permission is being sought on the premise there is a livery stable there. Mrs Lewis stated there is currently no application for change of use from agricultural to recreational or livery. It was agreed the Parish Council would oppose the application.

19/00448/FUL: Land North West of Stannerton House, North Side, 14 new homes: Cllr Scratcherd declared an interest. Access is inadequate and the site consists of grade 3 agricultural green belt, is outside the settlement and overlooks properties on the North side, and goes against the County Council Northumberland Local Plan. There is no need for further properties within the village for social or private housing. Mr Wilson confirmed he had submitted an objection. Mr Clark stated the fields are not in green belt, but are open fields but the overriding factor is to have regard to the Northumberland Local Plan and nothing stated in this overrides any development outside the boundary being approved. In the original application the applicant had said they had listened to residents views, however this appeared to count for very little, and Mr Clark had submitted a formal

objection. Mr Robinson confirmed he had submitted an objection on line. Mrs Blissett commented it states the application is north west of Stannerton House which is incorrect and the map used is not current as buildings extend much closer to the fence, being only 20m from existing dwellings which will take away light. Stamfordham is a ribbon village, which is developed along communication routes and this does not match in with the characteristic. The majority of houses have an open aspect, and neighbouring properties would have this taken away. At present there is a number of houses to rent or buy in the parish and there has been for a time. Pedestrian access would take away the privacy of nearby residents. Public transport is not adequate, and with an anticipated 30 extra vehicles minimum, the situation would be hazardous. Mr Redhead, resident of a listed building would be affected by the development, which would take place directly behind his hedge, and who currently has open views over farmland, which would turn into a view of a garage roof, and referred to the Heritage and Transport Statements published with the plans, and the retention of green open space to the rear of the properties at the north side would not avoid an urbanisation effect. There would be an impact on the church of St Mary which is Grade One listed, and the view between there and the other Grade 2 listed building is worthy of note. Although there is no proposal for any loss to listed heritage assets, building brand new houses would constitute a physical loss. The statement states the site is adequately serviced by public transport and in the context of the setting this is ambiguous - there would be an increase in traffic in the area which has a history of vehicular accidents and access would be an issue. The capacity for car parking for 14 residencies, based on County Council standards for residual parking, would be spaces for potentially 36 vehicles, not including visitor and occasional parking. The survey is allowing for a total of 8 vehicle movements between 8am and 5-6pm, and cycling and pedestrian is clearly not adequate for day to day transport. There is a footnote based on the Trics database which includes very few residential sites within village locations, therefore the edge of town category has been used as the closest comparison, ie. an area such as Kingston Park which clearly has a much superior public transport network. It was agreed the Parish Council would object to the application.

County Council had confirmed Brewery Close planning application still pending at County Council

19/00863/FUL: 25 The Oval, proposed single storey extension and internal refurbishment – no objection.

Applications approved: 18/04142/VARYCO: Mill Lodge, Dalton Variation of Condition 2 18/01605/FUL, to amend siting of proposed dwelling, alteration of footprint, increase in roof height and inclusion of additional fenestration; 18/04271/FUL: Land North of Heugh Farm Mill Lane, proposed construction of 2 No barns

5. Benches

Family wish to replace bench engraved with parents names.

6. Village green trees – to report on progress with registering TPO's

Correspondence has been received to state the Village Hall does not own a tree damaging the hall wall and which should be reported to County Council. There is also a tree on the path from Stamfordham to Hawkwell which has been leaning for several years with the wall also damaged. Clerk to report tree issues to County Council and enquire of progress with registering trees with TPO's.

7. Parking proposals for Stamfordham school: County Council had requested confirmation of where the Parish Council wish yellow lines to be on opposite side of the road, with map marked up.

8. Financial Matters: Invoices to authorise; Northumberland County Council, additional grasscutting 2019-202 £934.64; C Miller, six monthly salary/expense - £505.49; HMRC – PAYE - £107.20; Stamfordham Village Hall - £12.50; M J Knowles, leave clearance, play park - £54.00.

9. Grant request received from North East War Memorials Project

Project were raising funds to pay for a new web-site at a cost of £45,000 – no grant to be given.

10. County Councillor's Report

County Council planning the building of new council houses, the first for many years; Openreach had caused problems with broadband - the Dissington, Eachwick, Dalton scheme to be finalised December 2019 and County Council now introducing a voucher scheme which would entail alternative provision for broadband.

11. Correspondence: Grant acknowledgement Great North Air Ambulance

13.Speeding traffic concerns through Harlow Hill/installation of interactive speed camera

Ponteland Town Council had kindly provided information and who in 2016 had installed 4 signs in various locations, with the total cost for supply and installation of one sign at that time being £4603 which included a payment to the County Council for opening up the highway. A maintenance contract could be entered into at an approximate cost of £110/sign/year which the Parish Council would have to finance. Clerk to obtain further information from supplier and forward to County Cllr who was prepared to finance the purchase and installation.

14. Review of Internal Controls and Internal Auditor for year ending 31/3/19

It was agreed the system of internal controls was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council, with two signatories required to authorise each payment. Internal auditor had agreed to carry out the audit for year ending 31/3/19.

15. Review of Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment was agreed as sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

16. Review of Asset Register

No assets had been added or removed during the year, therefore document approved.

17. Review of Insurance Policy

Bus shelter/bins/seats and play area included in policy, along with standard cover for Parish Council's including public/employers/fidelity, and which was agreed as acceptable for the current needs of the Parish Council

18.Other business admitted by the Chairman as urgent

Member of the public reported there had been an attempted metal theft in the vicinity on 13/3/19.
Invitation to VCS Network event.

19.To confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council will be held on Thursday 16th May commencing at 730pm, with the Annual Parish meeting commencing 7pm.

The meeting close at 840pm.