

Minutes of meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council held in the Village Hall at 730pm on Thursday 19th September 2019

Those Present Cllr E Trevelyan, Chairman
Cllrs Boylan, Wilson, Fitzpatrick, Scratcherd
C Miller (Clerk), S Tunmore, A Cosgrove (British Cycling), two Community Support Officers

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Bushby

2. Meeting with British Cycling

Steve Tunmore, Chairman of Board of British Cycling North East, and Andy Cosgrove, Regional Events Officer present along with two police community support officers. BCNE have responsibility for co-ordinating and making events happening with 8 disciplines, including BMX and mountain biking, with the primary focus being road racing. S Tunmore controls regional races ensuring fairness and safety, and works with the race organisers, which doesn't always work as smoothly as required. Accredited marshals have the power to stop traffic on race days with the use of a stop sign for up to five minutes, but preferably only for two or three minutes, and are deployed at all road junctions requiring controlling. Confusion had occurred last year due to some drivers being irate, however failure to obey is a fixed penalty offence, and it was agreed this information should be included when publicising events. The individual urinating at a recent event had been identified, dealt with, fined and sanctioned by BCNE, the incident had occurred due to a portaloos having been locked, but this did not excuse the behavior. Regarding the Cyclone event, organiser P Harrison had managed to inform all persons resident in the village and surrounding farms in previous years of the event, but this had not occurred for 2019 event, and there had been no contact with him prior to the event. From a BCNE point of view, for national championships a meeting had been held with County Council where it was agreed an open evening would be held in Stamfordham with BCNE incorrectly believing this had been organised. Cllr Trevelyan said on the whole the village supports the Cyclone event, however there would always be some people who would not be in favour. Cllr Wilson had previously been informed he would be notified by BCNE of any event, and that forthcoming events would be discussed for the following year, however this had not occurred. It was suggested notice of events be displayed in Newcastle Journal or Hexham Courant, the Stamfordham newsletter which is available on-line, or circulated on Farmwatch email. Last year there had been only two events held in the parish, and the time trials that take place are due to a separate organisation which BCNE has no jurisdiction over. All courses have to be risk assessed prior to the event, and further to events held in 2018 it had been planned not to hold events during 2019 in the parish, however time trials were unable to be persuaded of this and P Harrison had continued organising events. In terms of regional road racing, it is envisaged not to hold more than two or three events in one area annually. Cllr Boylan explained through the heavy farming workload in Summer months, problems are encountered when cycling events held, and ideally a calendar of events is required, which should be agreed with the Parish Council – however S Tunmore replied this could be difficult due to County Council issuing permits. A big problem with the Cyclone event is the field given over to spectator parking which leads to cars being gridlocked in the village, and which would be an ideal area for the competitors, with spectators parking at the other end of the village. There is no rule stopping a gathering of cyclists organising a race, the amount of cyclists can be horrendous on the roads, and drivers do get frustrated when attempting to pass cyclists. BCNE acknowledged there doesn't seem to be anywhere to turn for problems occurring during, prior and after an event, and a meeting should be held prior with a mobile number available for the person managing

the village, with issues benefiting from being resolved at the time, and a meeting to debrief would also be useful. BCNE reported the Cyclone event is in transition with numbers down due to lack of sponsorship. A further complaint at the previous event had been the parking of Bradley Wiggins wagon, which had damaged the village green, bad behavior should not be tolerated by the village, and a police presence would be a tremendous help. There had been complaints about litter, with A Cosgrove walking around the parish and picking up 7 items of cycling litter but filling several bags with unrelated refuse. S Tunmore advised bicycles are not subject to speed limits. Two community support officers present who are based in Ponteland, who had been informed of graffiti and litter problems in the village, had investigated the problems, with offenders unknown. A bench had also been damaged by an unknown vehicle.

3. Co-option vacancy

Two applicants had applied for the position and after reviewing the applications, Cllr Fitzpatrick proposed and Cllr Boylan seconded Simon Miller be co-opted on to the council, all in agreement.

4. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th July 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th July 2019 were accepted as a true record.

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

- Cllr Fitzpatrick had attended an informative visit to County Council recycling plant, and reported the following: In 2001/2, 5% of waste had been recycled; with 21.8% recycled 2017. **Contents for Blue Bin:** Cans (aluminum, steel), food tins, aerosol sprays, tins of sweets/biscuits, envelopes, yellow pages, magazines, catalogues, waste paper (not that which can't be flattened), junk mail, newspapers, egg boxes, cardboard, cereal boxes, however NO shredded paper; plastic bottles (shampoo, kitchen drinks). **Contents for Black Bin:** Plastic bags (carrier, compost type), plastic food trays, yoghurt type containers, plant pots, videos and CDs/DVDs, pet litter/animal bedding, aluminum foil/trays. **Waste for Household Waste Recovery Centres –** Tetrapaks, hard plastic toys, garden furniture, shredded paper, light bulbs, car batteries, household batteries, electrical items, glass bottles/jars, textiles and clothing.
- Weeds still prevalent in the village, with Clerk to report problems throughout the parish to County Council, and which were believed to be due to the wet, warm and windy season. The requirement for gully cleaning in the parish to also be reported.

6. Planning Matters:

Applications received

- 19/02264/FUL: land West of Pens Close, agricultural barn – no objections.
- 19/02332/FUL: St Quentin, Grange Avenue, single-storey flat roof rear extension, existing porch to be extended with new hipped roof - no objections.
- 19/02119/FUL: 12 Grange Road, change of use to residential dwelling, second floor extension over existing single storey rooms and internal alterations – no objections.
- 19/02335/LBC: 2 North Side, Listed Building Consent for replacement of 9 No 12 pane wooden sash windows to front of property with double glazed panes – no objections.

Applications approved

- 19/00392/FUL: Harlow Hill Chapel, two storey double garage with gym above
- 19/00509/FUL: Land; North of Heugh Mill Farm, proposed siting of a temporary dwelling house/chalet

- 19/01816/VARYCO: land at Harlow Hill, variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of 18/01106/VARYCO, change of design of units 3 and 4
- 19/01980/FUL: The Plough, Eachwick, Change of use from dwelling house and restaurant to single dwelling house, internal alterations only.
- 19/02332/FUL: St Quentin, Grange Avenue, single-storey flat roof rear extension, existing porch to be extended with new hipped roof

Chairman had enquired with County Cllr the position on several outstanding planning applications whose decisions were still awaited, with County Cllr to look into the matter.

7. Benches

New bench had been placed by Bankhouse with commemorative plaque to be refixed. Clerk had circulated details of recyclable structures with two seats in the parish requiring repair. It was agreed Cllrs Wilson and Boylan would advise on the most suitable recyclable structure and report back at the next meeting.

8. Village green trees – to report on progress with registering TPO’s; tree inspection requested

County Council officer had visited the trees at Hawkwell and identified a large beech tree growing from a field, over the footpath and slightly resting on the stone wall. There is no evidence that the rootplate has moved or shifted, however there is a lot of growth with the weight growing over the path into the adjoining field, which is believed owned by the same landowner as the field from which the tree is growing. As it is a Public Right of Way and not an adopted highway, nothing can be done from a highways perspective, and the manner would be passed to the Public Right of Way Officer, however there does not appear to be any immediate danger and the Public Right of Way is not obstructed. Permission has been requested from the Area Highways Manager regarding removing the ash tree next to the village hall. Regarding registering trees with TPO’s, a significant majority of the trees are within the Stamfordham Conservation Area and therefore already protected, which requires a planning application for any works and approval by the County Council. It was therefore agreed to request the trees not within the conservation area on Grange Road South and B6309, be registered with TPO’s.

9. Financial Matters: Invoices to authorise - it was resolved to authorise the payments below.

261	G Blissett	126.75
262	ROSPA	17.90
263	G Blissett	58.70
264	G K Knowles	108.00
265	C Miller	509.42
266	HMRC	109.00

Request for grant – Sport Tynedale – not discussed.

10. County Councillor’s Report

County Cllr not present.

- Correspondence – CPRE, newsletter;
- Northumberland Age UK – funding events
- Northumberland County Council – Waste leaflets & stickers;

- Email from parishioner regarding red telephone box and signpost – expressing concern over the state of the phone box which requires repair and reglazing, and the poor state of the old fashioned metal road direction signs, particularly the one on the corner of Bridge End, which requires painting – after discussion it was agreed to reply the Parish Council had attempted to get the box fixed by British Telecom to no avail, and the Parish Council do not believe the road signs are in an unacceptable state.
- Northumberland County Council – notice of 6th Annual Town & Parish Council Conference;

11. Request received funding for spring bulbs at Dalton and footpaths in need of urgent repairs

A parishioner from Dalton village had asked if the Parish Council could contribute funds for planting of bulbs, however after discussion it was resolved the Parish Council do not have the resources to provide such funding in the parish. Parishioner had also requested urgent footpath repairs in Dalton – with Clerk having reported the area to County Council.

12. Northumberland County Council – proposed closure of BT phone box, North Side

County Council were carrying out consultation on British Telecom’s proposal to remove the phone box at North Side Stamfordham, and it was resolved to request the box be retained due to the poor mobile telephone coverage in the parish, and should be brought up to standard, which would be conveyed to the parishioner whose concerns about the state of the box had previously been discussed.

13. Local Transport Plan Programme 2020-21

Requests for 2019-2020 had been school keep clear markings and bus stop markings which had both been included in 2019-2020 Local Transport Plan. Resurfacing of pedestrian pathway over bridge on River Pont had been recorded as a maintenance issue and would be considered when developing future planned maintenance programmes. In the meantime the Area Maintenance teams would continue to monitor and carry out any minor works required to maintain in a safe condition, it was agreed the area was uneven and dangerous to elderly and young, and improvements were imperative. No LTP requests to be placed 2020-2021.

14. Speeding traffic concerns through Harlow Hill/installation of interactive speed camera; traffic concerns past Cheesburn; cycling events

Nothing to report.

15. To report on item regarding seesaw further to play inspection report

Kompan had confirmed there are no direct requirements in EN1176 regarding the “unbalanced” beam which they do not see as non compliance and state there is not a risk according to EN1176. It was agreed a Parish Councillor would attend site with the contractor for the 2020 play area inspection.

16. Other business admitted by the Chairman as urgent

Bridge works had been carried out at Cheesburn, which is a listed structure, and new materials not felt to be appropriate, with Cllr Trevelyan having contacted County Council to complain about this.

17. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council will be held on Thursday 21st November 2019 commencing at 730pm in Stamfordham Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

DRAFT