

WIDDRINGTON STATION & STOBWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 11TH November 2019 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.

In attendance were Councillors K Batson (In the Chair), D Baron, G Tate.

R A Smith (Parish Clerk).

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs A Carrier and Mrs M Willoughby
NCC Cllrs S Dickinson and D Towns
Police Constable A Teasdale

2. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Batson declared a non-pecuniary interest in regard to any matters relating to the Stobswood Welfare.

3. To receive questions and comments from members of the public (time limited to 20 minutes in total)

There were no members of the public in attendance

Police Constable Teasdale had provided a report as follows to be submitted to the meeting: -

There have been several serious accidents across the area recently. There was one at Linden Hall which involved a deer therefore unavoidable. However recently with the rain and the leaves on the road several vehicles have skidded and flipped into fields and laybys. All drivers are advised to take time when travelling in bad weather, much better to arrive late than not at all. There have been a few reports of poachers driving on fields, thankfully due to bad weather this has quietened down a bit as the fields are too muddy. Please report any suspicious vehicles or persons so that they can be checked.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th October, 2019 for approval and adoption.

Cllr Batson proposed to approve and adopt the minutes. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Baron and carried.

5. Matters arising on the Minutes

(Minute 11b page 12) Parish Council Event - Guy Fawkes Public Fireworks Display Sunday 3rd November, 2019 at the Stobswood Welfare Ground.

The Clerk stated that NCC Cllr Dickinson had requested that his thanks are passed on to the Parish Council for another great display which was thoroughly enjoyed by every one present despite the very wet conditions underfoot.

Cllr Batson thanked Stephen Gibbard and Michael Harmer for collecting cash donations on the night towards the cost of the fireworks.

6. Reports from Outside Bodies

none

7. Correspondance Received

- a) Miss Molly Muir Letter received thanking the Council again for the £100.00 donation towards the cost of her Guides Service Trip to Nepal in August, 2019. She would like to invite the Councillors to a short presentation of her trip to be shown on Tuesday 12th November at the Community Centre at 6.30 am.

8. Planning Applications

- a) Planning Application Ref No 19/04255/FUL Proposal – 6ft Fence and 6ft access gate at 57 Linton Burn Park, Widdrington Station, NE61 5DA (Retrospective) Applicant Luke Mercer.
- b) Planning Application Ref No 19/04 320/FUL Proposal – Replacement of Wooden Garage with brick garage at 7 Woodburn Street, Stobswood, NE61 5QD Applicant Rodney Alder.
- c) Planning Application Ref No 19/04316/FUL Proposal – Extension and internal alterations, construction of garden structure and refurbishment of existing detached garage at Hazeldene, Grange Road, Widdrington Station, NE61 5LZ Applicant Ms Kerrie- Anne McGregor

The Council considered the applications and had no objections to the proposals and therefore recommended approval of the applications.

9. Wansbeck Valley Food Bank

Letter received stating that due to a variety of issues impacting those in the locality the Food Bank is now experiencing an unprecedented level of demand for their service and there is no sign that this trend will abate in the near future. In the

last 12 months 147 person days of food valued at approximately £900.00 was referred to clients living within Widdrington Station and Stobswood Parish. Financial support was required to enable the service to remain sustainable and available to those in greatest need in the community. Cllr Batson proposed a donation of £100.00; seconded by Cllr Tate and carried. A drop off Wheely Bin would be located in the foyer of the Community Centre for donations for the Food Bank.

10. Parish Council Events:-

- a) The Clerk advised that the Display Christmas Tree would be delivered and installed on Wednesday 27th November, 2019 with the switch on event to be held on Saturday the 30th November.
- b) Panto Jack and The Beanstalk Saturday 7th December, 2019 commencing at 6.30 pm.
The Clerk confirmed Posters had been displayed on the Parish Council Notice Boards. Tickets would be available at the Community Centre on Thursday the 28th November from 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm.
- c) Over 60's Christmas Lunch Saturday the 14th December, 2019 commencing at 12 noon
Forms to Book a place were available for completion.
- d) Autism & Special Needs Christmas Party (Provisional- Sunday 15th December, 2019
No further details were available.
- e) New Year's Eve Event Tuesday 31st December, 2019
Posters had been prepared for display.

11. Finance

- i) Parish Clerk's financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at 31.10.2019 £66,764.74 reconciled with Bank Account statement for October, 2019 from Bank of Ireland includes NCC Precept half yearly payment £23,945.00. Receipts £544.00 recharge re Grainger Play Areas tidy and maintenance monitoring of play equipment.

ii) Payments for Approval: -

Parish Clerk's October Salary £628.54

Parish Clerk's October Expenses £25.32 (Working from Home Allowance £10.00, Home Internet & Telephone £8.00, Postage £7.32,)

A Henderson Parish Handy Person, October Invoice £260.00 (includes £40.00 for additional work and materials)

Ken Arries Seasonal Parish Grounds Maintenance Worker October Payment £314.91

PKF Littlejohn LLP £360.00 Professional services rendered in connection with the limited assurance review of Annual Governance & Accountability Return for year ended 31st March, 2019

Joseph Noblett, Chorley, Lancashire £1,320.00 Supply of Village Christmas Tree (To be delivered & installed Wednesday 27th November, 2019)

Kings Cater Hire £160.00 Bench Top Carvery Lamp & Hot Cupboard with Wet Well for over 60's Christmas Dinner Saturday 14th December, 2019

Washeteria £60.00 Tablecloths Round and Square delivered 11th and 23rd October, 2019

J B Electrical £1,640.00 supply and fitting 20 x 100 watt LED Flood lights externally to Community Centre & LED Panel light in Kitchen.

Stobswood Allotment Association £488.46 Supply of Gates by Moles of Alnwick (Re Section 137 Grant)

Cllr Batson proposed approval of the payments; the proposal was seconded by Cllr Tate.

14. To consider any urgent business which shall be limited to circumstances in which the Council's responsibilities cannot be met or the Council's interests are likely to be prejudiced, if the business is deferred to the next available meeting.

15. To be held in closed session

Councillors resolved that members of the public and press are excluded from the remainder of the meeting which is to be held in closed session due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Staff Matter

The meeting closed at 7.40 p.m.

Signed ----- Date-----

