

**WIDDINGTON STATION & STOBWOOD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**ON MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> December, 2017 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.**

In attendance were Councillors Mrs S Willoughby (Chair), K Batson, G Tate

R A Smith (Parish Clerk).

Cllr George Brown of Ulgham Parish Council

Public - none

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr G Askew  
NCC Cllrs S Dickinson and D Towns  
Police Constable Paul Dent.

**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)**

Ulgham Parish Council Councillor George Brown had requested an opportunity to speak to the Parish Council in regard to repairs that are required to the War Memorial located at the St John the Baptist Churchyard, Ulgham. The memorial includes the names of 18 Servicemen some from the Parish of Widdrington Station & Stobswood who lost their lives in the 1914-1918 Great War. The Parish Council became responsible for the War Memorial in 2015. It has been leaning over for a number of years and a shaft needs to be provided inside the memorial to secure it. It is also an opportunity to turn it 180 degrees to face the church. The footpath leading to the Memorial and the church entrance will also be repaired. The Memorial is classed as a Grade II Listed Monument and Planning Permission for the repairs and turn round would be required. Preliminary costs in the region of £8,000 has been quoted by the appointed contractor. The Faculty of the Diocese support the proposals especially as improved access to the St John The Baptist Church will be included. A grant is available of up to 80% of the cost from the War Memorials Trust. Following Application the Memorial has been inspected by the Trust's Conservation Engineer. Unfortunately initially the application has not been approved because any movement of the Memorial would require the permission of relatives of the servicemen named on the Memorial.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby confirmed that the Parish Council can assist in trying to obtain information in regard to relatives and will start with circulation the names at the Elderberries Christmas Lunch to be held on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 Cllr Brown thanked the Parish Council for the assistance, he will have further discussions with the War Memorial Trust and report back in due course. The Support of the Northumberland County Council Ward Members for the Parishes would also be requested.

**4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 for approval and adoption**

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

**5. Matters arising on the Minutes**

(Minute 5 page 18) Cllr Batson reported that he had learnt that the appropriate plaque in recognition of the Victoria Cross awarded to James Johnson was in the possession of the Northumberland County Council. He would enquire in regard to the arrangements required for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the medal being awarded 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.

**6. Reports from Outside Bodies.**

- a) Meeting with Lambert Smith Hampton Consultants for proposed development of Land off Grange Road, Widdrington Station and Drop-in Event Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.  
Reference was made to the meeting with the Consultants held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 when Community Benefits to be included in the Section 106 Agreement for the scheme was discussed. Concern was also expressed at the lack of amenities, convenience outlets in the village to support the increase in the number of residents including school numbers and the demands on the GP Surgery.
- b) Councillors Batson and Mrs Willoughby had accepted an invitation to attend on behalf of the Parish Council the Annual Brave Children's Awards North East Region held at the Hilton Hotel, Gateshead. The event is supported by Banks Mining and had been a very emotional evening.
- c) Cllr Tate referred to the CPR training exercise that he recently provided at the ATAC Centre following installation of the Defibrillator at the Centre. He will provide further training in the summer of 2018.

**7. Correspondence received**

- a) Northumberland County Council Pharmacy Needs Assessment (PNA) Consultation.  
A letter dated the 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 had been received stating that the purpose of the PNA is to identify health needs which could be met by services commissioned from community pharmacies and to match these against the services currently provided, identifying any gaps. NHS England will use the PNA to determine whether applications for additional NHS pharmacy contracts would fill these gaps. The consultation period will run from Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 to Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2018 comments to [publichealth@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:publichealth@northumberland.gov.uk)
- b) Letter from Mrs V A Gray Widdrington Brownie Leader in regard to financial assistance in regard to the acquisition of a storage container to be located at Stobswood Welfare to keep larger items of Guiding equipment. The Parish Council considered that a Section 137 Grant Application should be completed by the applicant.

**8. Planning Applications**

P/A Ref 17/04191/CARYCO Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning permission 14/03004/FUL in order to allow a reduction in the scale of the scheme at Oaklands, Mile Road, Widdrington Station applicant Mr Fitzakerly. Approval recommended.

**9. Widdrington Station Community Centre – Cladding & Gutter Replacement**

A quotation in the sum of £3,746.00 plus VAT had been received from Northern Structures Ltd of Amble in regard to the removal and replacement of fascia and gutter to the South side of the Community Centre (16.8m long) the fascia and guttering will be replaced with 0.55mm thick box profile plastisol coated steel sheets together with plastisol coated steel Streamline gutter with fittings and matching square downpipes. It was anticipated the work would take 2 days and temporary safety fencing would be erected costing £198.00 plus VAT.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed acceptance of the quotation; Cllr Batson in seconding the motion suggested that the work does not commence until the 2018/2019 financial year. The proposal was carried.

**10. Notes of the Widdrington Station Community Centre Management Sub-Committee meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

The Minutes of the meeting were distributed for information. The following User Group were represented:-

1<sup>st</sup> Widdrington Brownies, Guides and Rainbows, Widdrington Methodist Church. The Financial Report was provided by the Clerk showing a statement of financial accounts for the period 01.06.2017 to 20.11.2017 and the five previous years was also shown for comparison. The Income showed a sum of £6,391.71 which included £1,399.21 Electricity Feed-in-Tariff payments. It was noted that the sum of hire fees was similar to the previous year. Expenditure for the period was £7,333.03.

The balance in regard to the bank accounts was as follows:- Opening Balance at 01/06/17 £6,382.54

Bank Balances at 03.11.2017 Lloyds £378.08, HSBC £5,491.83 Total £5,869.91.

Reports from User Group – no problems and happy with all aspects of the running of the Community Centre.

Community Centre Maintenance and Improvements – The Fascia of part of the exterior of the Centre requires replacement. New external LED lighting is to be installed. The purchase of an Industrial Washing Machine for the laundry of table cloths and chair covers following events was being looked at together with the provision of a suitable storage area. A contract for providing and collecting Sanitation Bins was being looked at.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby referred to the events during the Christmas Season including the recently arranged Christmas Gift Fair held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Cllr Batson stated that he was making enquiries in regard to a new sign for the Community Centre to be displayed on the building at the entrance.

**11. Parish Council Events – Financial Statements in regard to the following events:-**

Halloween Disco Saturday 28.10.17 - Expenditure £214.29 (Hire of Entertainment £175.00, Refreshments £39.29)

Income £93.65 (Free Entry, Sale of Refreshments, Value of stock retained £25.00)

Guy Fawkes Fireworks Display Saturday 04.11.17 at Stobswood Welfare Ground – Expenditure Jordans Fireworks £1,193.00 (incl VAT)\_ 50% proceeds from raffle at Stobswood Welfare £78.50.

**Arrangements for:-**

a) Elderberries Christmas Lunch at the Community Centre on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

The Lunch is free and admission forms were available for residents to complete. Entertainment had been booked

Cllr Mrs Willoughby stated that she was trying to hire a Bench Top Carvery and Hot Cupboard with Wet Well for the lunch.

b) Children’s Christmas Party at the Community Centre - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2017

Posters produced. Entertainment Booked.

c) New Year’s Eve Event at the Community Centre – Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017. Entertainment Booked, Posters produced. Tickets at £10.00 available.

**12. Finance**

i) Parish Clerk’s financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at 30.11.2017 - £52,331.67 reconciled with Bank Account monthly Statement for November, 2017

Receipts – Bank Account Monthly Interest £5.13.

ii) Payments to be Approved:-

Parish Clerk’s November Salary £561.19

Parish Clerk’s November Expenses £24.72 (Working from Home Allowance £10.00, Home Internet and Telephone £8.00, Postage £6.72)

A Henderson Parish Handy Person –November Invoice £289.35 (includes additional work and materials £91.35)

Chaplins Entertainment Ltd £625.00 Balance of Fee for Panto ‘Goldilocks & the Three Bears’

Widdrington PCC £17.00 – wreath for Remembrance Service at the Holy Trinity Parish Church, Widdrington Village Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

Station Entertainments £735.00 (New Year’s Eve £550.00 & Christmas Lunch £185.00)

Elveden Farms Ltd £1,182.00 Village Christmas Tree.

Great North Air Ambulance Service £100.00 donation approved at last Parish Council Meeting.

In addition £90.00 Petty Cash allocated for refreshments etc for Parish Winter Warmer Country & Western ‘Ho Down’

Saturday 25.11.17 together with £200.00 to Station Entertainments.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed approval of the payments; the proposal was seconded by Cllr Tate and carried.

**13. 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 in order to allow for inclusion on the relevant agenda. None**

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

Signed..... Date.....

