

WIDDINGTON STATION & STOBWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 13TH MAY, 2019 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.

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

R A Smith (Parish Clerk).

Police Constable Andrea Teasdale

1. To receive apologies for absence

NCC Cllr David Towns and Scott Dickinson

2.To receive declarations of interest

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

3.Election of Chair and acceptance of Office

The Chair asked for nominations. Cllr Batson proposed Cllr Mrs Willoughby, the proposal was seconded by Cllr Tate and resolved.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby accepted the office.

4. Election of Vice Chair and acceptance of Office.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed Cllr Batson, the proposal was seconded by Cllr Tate and resolved. Cllr Batson accepted the Office.

5. To appoint representatives to outside bodies/working groups.

The following Councillors were appointed: -

Community Park Sub-Committee Cllrs Mrs S Willoughby, K Batson, vacancy

Community Centre (Sub-Committee) Cllrs Mrs S Willoughby, K Batson, vacancy

Amble & Coquet Children's Centre Advisory Board vacancy

National Association of Local Councils vacancy (Query if Clerk can represent Parish Council)

ATAC Cllr Mrs S Willoughby

Health Committee Cllr G Tate substitute rest of Parish Council

Contracts Working Group Cllrs K Batson, vacancy D Baron, Substitute the Chair Ex Officio

Finance Working Group Cllrs G Tate, K Batson, vacancy, Substitute the Chair Ex Officio

NCC Transport – Buses All Parish Councillors

Planning Matters Working Group Cllrs Mrs S Willoughby, K Batson, substitute vacancy.

Ventient Sisters North Steads Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Cllr G Tate

Director of HMP Northumberland meetings with Local Councils Cllrs K Batson and Mrs Willoughby.

Community Assistance Committee to be formed to deal with emergency assistance required in the area i.e. very bad weather conditions

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

Police Constable Andrea Teasdale was welcomed to the meeting. She had been appointed as the Community Police Officer for the Parish. Andrea has been based at Morpeth for 10 years. It was her intention to attend meetings of the Parish Council to carry on the liaison between the Police and the Community provided by P C Dent. Any incident can be reported to her by the Parish Council.

7. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th April, 2018 for approval and adoption

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

8. Matters arising on the Minutes

(Minute 5-page 26 refers) Cllr Mrs Willoughby confirmed that the Toddler Group to replace the Coquet Children's Group was up and running with sessions currently held on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

(Minute 11-page 27 refers) Cllr Mrs Willoughby referred to the proposed purchase of a Defibrillator for Stobswood and advised that BT were offering old red telephone boxes for £1.00. The box would be ideal for housing the Defibrillator Cabinet etc., Further information to be obtained

9. Reports from Outside Bodies.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby had recently met with NCC Cllr Scott Dickinson in regard to Police information sessions to be held at Hadston and Widdrington Station.

10. To receive the Calendar of Meetings for 2019/20

In accordance with the Standing Orders of the Council the Clerk had circulated a proposed Calendar of Council meetings for consideration which was agreed.

11. Correspondence Received

The Clerk referred to a letter received from Linden Dodds Northumberland County Council Senior Environmental Health Officer which had been sent under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 – Section 79 in regard to a report of alleged nuisance from loud music at the Widdrington Community Centre. The County Council have a legal obligation to investigate complaints to establish if they are nuisances in law under the Act. The Clerk confirmed that he had replied to the letter stating that the complaint would be in regard to the apparent occurrence of loud music from the Community Centre on Saturday evening the 23rd March, 2019. At about a 11.00 pm on the Saturday evening he had received two telephone calls from nearby residents complaining at the loudness of the event. I advised that the booking was until midnight and that the Caretaker would be contacted to go to the Centre and get the music turned down which he did. The problem was exacerbated by the opening of the Fire Doors and being in the main a sports hall, although the canopy marquee was being used the loud noise cannot be totally contained. The complainants stated they would contact the Police to go to the Centre, no confirmation that they did attend.

12. Planning Applications

Planning Ref: 19/01196/FUL – Proposal single storey extension to kitchen; two storey extension to rear of property forming lounge, shower room, bedroom, en-suite and kitchen; pitch of garage roof increased. Location Wooderfield, Grange Road, Widdrington Station Applicant Tam Barret. Recommended that the Application is approved.

13. Section 137 Grant Application – Stobswood Welfare Cricket Club- New Scoreboard £979.34

(Details were included with the Agenda)

Cllr Batson left the meeting during discussion and voting on the application.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed that the application should be supported with a grant for the full amount. Cllr Baron seconded the proposal stating that the Scoreboard should be purchased by the Parish Council to enable the 20% VAT amount to be reclaimed which was carried. Cllr Batson returned to take part in the meeting.

14. Finance

i) Parish Clerk's financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at 30.04.2019 £43,289.44 reconciled with Bank Account Statement.

Account monthly interest £4.34, Bank of Ireland Charge £6.00 re unsupported cheque.

NCC Precept half yearly payment £23,945.00 due.

ii) Payments to be Approved: -

Parish Clerk's April Salary £591.36

Parish Clerk's April Expenses £66.30 (Working from Home Allowance £10.00, Home internet & Telephone £8.00, postage £18.30, storage units for office files £30.00)

A Henderson Parish Handy Person April Invoice £465.06 (includes additional work and materials £208.56

K Arries Parish Grounds Seasonal Maintenance Worker April Payment £602.92

Zurich Municipal £1,604.37 Parish Council Insurance Premium for 2019/20 (3 year agreement until 2021)

Norris & Fisher £1,131.18 Widdrington Station Community Centre Insurance Premium for 2019/20

(3 year agreement until 2022)

Northumberland Association of Local Councils 2019/20 Subscription £412.43

Greenlay (Grass Machinery) Ltd £645.06 Service of Lawn Tractor and mower problem with rear collection switch.

Fish Electrical Services Ltd £474.00 Community Centre Heating System/boiler maintenance Annual Service, Gas Safety Certificate issued and Appliance Testing Portable and Fixed Register supplied.

S & B Roller Shutters £828.00 Service of 9 Community Centre Shutters including repairs to Lounge Shutter.

ADT Fire and Security plc £195.60 Fault on Community Centre Intruder Alarm System – repaired.

Washeteria £134.00 Laundry of Table Linens and Chair Covers.

MorpethNet £100.00 Provision of Webmaster Services 2019/20

In addition £70.00 allocated to K Arries for purchase of original Lamb Ametak 1100w Flow Motor for Hall Floor Cleaner.

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

iii) Change of method of payments from Widdrington Station Community Centre HSBC Account from cheque payments to on line. The Clerk explained that on line payments would be quicker and more efficient.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed that arrangements are made for online transactions in regard to the HSBC Widdrington Community Centre Account to be carried out and The Clerk currently Richard Smith is the authorised representative of the Council to carry out the online transactions. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Batson and the Resolution Carried.

iv) Annual Review of Risk Assessment & Annual Review of Audit Control

To receive the recommendations of the Finance Working Group Meeting held on the 24th April, 2019

Meeting attended by Cllrs D Barron, K Batson and the Clerk.

From Parish Handy Person's Annual Inspection Report

Bus Shelters: -

Whinney Crook The floor of the shelter is uneven and requires attention recommend Contractor appointed to repair.

Grangemoor Road Wooden Shelter recommend that the shelter is replace when Finance is allocated.

Litter Bins:-

Four replacement bins required recommend six are acquired.

Seats:-

New Seat on Grange Road and the Queen's Jubilee Seat to be oiled. The Seat at the junction of Milr Road/Old Ferneybeds Road to be removed and replaced.

Notice Boards Replacement Perspex required for Board at the entrance to the Community Centre and next to the Railway Crossing as well as the Board next to the Mile Road Bus Shelter.

Community Park Youth Shelters, Swing and Climbing Frame require painting for 2019 Summer.

The Play Parks in the Housing Estates and the Woodburn Play Area at Stobswood are inspected every week and the owners Grainger are notified when repairs are required.

The Annual Risk Assessment Document was recommended for approval.

Cllr Batson proposed approval of the recommendations, the proposal was seconded by Cllr Baron and carried.

15. 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.

16. 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.

Application to be co-opted as a Member of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

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

