

WIDDRINGTON STATION & STOBWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 9th December 2019 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.

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

R A Smith Parish Clerk

Police Constable Andrea Teasdale
One member of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence

None

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)

Police Constable Teasdale provided a report as follows :-

There have been a few reports of poachers with reports from Ferneybeds and Stobswood. Scrap vans have also been going around the area and bikes have been taken. Please report any suspicious vehicles giving vehicle registration number or details of persons so that they can be checked.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th November, 2019 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

None

6. Reports from Outside Bodies

none

7. Correspondance Received

The Salvation Army Christmas Appeal, details of the Annual Appeal was considered. During the Christmas period the Salvation Army will be visiting older people who are housebound and lonely. Holding Christmas Lunches for people who would otherwise be spending a miserable Christmas alone. Giving shelter and support to homeless people and the chance of a fresh start in life. Helping families who are facing desperate hardship with gifts of food, warm winter clothes and modest toys. Providing shelter and emotional support for victims of human trafficking. Helping and supporting the emergency services when there is a major disaster, fire or accident.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed a donation of £100.00; Cllr Batson seconded the proposal which was carried.

8. Planning Applications

- a) Planning Ref 19/04320/FUL Replacement of wooden garage with brick garage at 7 Woodburn Street, Stobswood, Applicant Rodney Alder, Confirmation received from NCC advising Planning Approval Granted.
- b) Planning Ref 19/04572/FUL Proposed garage conversion to bedroom at 94 The Gables, Widdrington Station, NE61 5RB Applicant Rob Baker
- c) Planning Ref 19/04336/FELTPO Proposal T1 – Lime Tree (fell due to proximity to building and gas tank as well as damage to footpath) at Oak Tree Lodge, Grangewood Terrace to Stobswood Junction Applicant Steve Lloyd

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

9. Creation of new woodlands near Widdrington Station and Stobswood.

Applicants James Londale and John Wilson

Details of the proposed new woods to be planted to the west of Widdrington Station had been distributed to the Parish Councillors in November as comments were required by the 29th November. The Forestry Commission had given support to the applications. No objections had been raised and therefore support to the applications given.

10. Parish Council Events:-

- a) Over 60s Christmas Lunch Saturday 14th December, 2020

Cllr Mrs Willoughby confirmed that all places for the lunch had been taken and over a 100 would be provided.

The Clerk referred to the Panto "Jack & the Beanstalk" which had been held on Saturday 7th December. It had been very well attended. The Raffle raised £86.00 and refreshments sold at the Interval £98.00.

- b) New Year's Eve Event Tuesday 31st December, 2019 The Clerk advised the Temporary Event Notice had been received from the Northumberland County Council.
- c) The Village Display Christmas Tree was duly delivered and installed on Wednesday 27th November with a successful switch on event three days later. The Tree displayed very well.

11. Arrangements for dealing with payments and parish matters during the January 2020 recess.

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed that payments that are normally approved at the monthly Parish Council meeting are approved for payment and arrangements made for cheques to be issued and signed by two of the mandated Councillors. Other Expenditure to be reported to the Parish Council meeting held in February, 2020. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Batson and carried.

12. Finance

i) Parish Clerk's financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at 30.11.2019 £61,477.40 reconciled with Bank Account statement for November, 2019.
Receipts £173.00 from collection taken at public Firework Display for Guy Fawkes held on 03.11.19 together with the sale of glow sticks.

ii) Payments for Approval: -

Parish Clerk's November Salary £628.54

Parish Clerk's November Expenses £32.64 (Working from Home Allowance £10.00, Home Internet & Telephone £8.00, Postage £14.64)

A Henderson Parish Handy Person, November Invoice £395.75 (includes £175.45 for additional work and materials)

Chaplins Pantos £894.00 Balance for cost of performance of "Jack & The Beanstalk" Saturday 7th December, 2019.

Station Entertainments £150.00 cost of Entertainment for Over 60's Christmas Lunch Saturday 14th December, 2019.

Wansbeck Valley Food Bank £100.00 donation approved at Council Meeting 11th November, 2019.

Ken Arries £52.25 Ground Mtce work carried out during November, 2019.

Viking £48.91 Supply of Copy Paper, Pens and Plastic Files.

Widdrington Community Centre Account £3,000.00 towards day to day running costs.

In addition, purchasers were made in regard to the Christmas Lunch and other events as follows:-

Booker Wholesalers £143.14, 30 Dinner Plates, 24 Desert Bowls and 3 Glass Jugs.

Home Bargains £59.97 3 no Slow Cookers.

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

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.

Staffing Matter

The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.

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

