

WIDDRINGTON STATION & STOBWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 15TH January, 2018 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.

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

Northumberland County Councillor Scott Dickinson.

R A Smith (Parish Clerk).

Police Constable Paul Dent

Public - none

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr G Askew
NCC Cllr D Towns

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)

P C Dent reported that criminal activity in the Parish during the Christmas and New Year Festive period had thankfully been almost non-existent. There had been a theft from a garden in Grange Court and damage to a motor vehicle at Sanderson Terrace and a theft at The Gables. The situation in regard to Avala Park on the Mile Road continues to cause concern and enforcement matters with the owner is being pursued with the Northumberland County Council Public Protection Department. The Estate Agents in regard to the Sale of the Property are Rook Mathews Sayer, they have been informed of the serious concern in regard to the state of the property both internal and external. P C Dent had received a number of complaints in regard to the reopening of the premises known as the Sports Bar especially the problems experienced on New Year's Eve. He had been in contact with the NCC Public Protection Officer in regard to the later licensing hours. P C Dent was thanked for his report he then left the meeting.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th December, 2017 for approval and adoption

Cllr Mrs Willoughby 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 due to Christmas Break.

7. Correspondence received

Letter received from Mr and Mrs James thanking the Parish Council for once again arranging the Christmas Lunch for the Elderberry Residents of the Parish. They appreciate the efforts that are made by the Councillors and the volunteers in providing such a successful event which is much appreciated. Cllr Mrs Willoughby was pleased to receive the kind comments and stated that the cost of the Lunch was once again met by Banks Mining.

8. Planning Applications

- a) P/A Ref 17/03920/FUL – Proposed first floor side extension over existing study and kitchen; widen ground floor to incorporate storage areas; new first floor master bedroom and en suite and new study to the rear.
Location – 8 Ferneybeds Estate, Widdrington Station, NE61 5RD – Applicant Paul Keenlyside.
Letter received from NCC Planning Officer dated 21.12.17 confirming Planning Permission Granted.
- b) P/A Ref 17/04561/FUL – Proposed detached two storey residential dwelling with new highway access on Grangemoor Road. Location – Willow Grove Cottage, Grangemoor Road, Widdrington Station, Applicants Mr & Mrs T Marshall.
Recommended for Approval.
- c) P/A Ref 17/04653/VARYCO – Variation of condition 29 (Approved Plans) pursuant to planning permission CM/20090001 to allow re-design of the site and reduction in proposed numbers at The Old Brickworks, Stobswood, NE61 5PZ.
Reference was made to the Section 106 Draft Agreement for the development and it was considered appropriate to contact Geoff Horsman Senior Planning Officer at the Northumberland County Council, the case officer for the application to discuss the Section 106 Agreement, since the proposed covenants were agreed by the owner it was considered that circumstances have changed and certain proposals need to be reconsidered. The Clerk confirmed that arrangements would be made for the Officer to meet with Parish Councillors before the end of January.
- d) P/A Ref 17/04618/OUT – Outline Planning Permission for 165 Dwellings with associated infrastructure and areas of public open space (with some matters reserved) Land South of Grange Court, Grange Road, Widdrington Station.
The Agents for the Land Owner Harworth Estates had met with Parish Councillors and views of local residents were obtained as part of a community consultation event. The proposals for consideration by the landowner in regard to a Section 106 Agreement required discussion with the NCC case officer for the application Geoff Horsman. The Clerk confirmed that details of the Parish Council's request would be included at the meeting with the Senior Planning Officer.

9. Parish Council Events – To consider a Calendar of Community Events for 2018 to be arranged by the Parish Council.

The following details were agreed:-

- a) Village Gala at the Community Park – Saturday 17th June – provisional.
- b) Armed Forces Day at the Community Centre – Saturday 23rd June – provisional.
- c) Halloween Disco at the Community Centre – Saturday 27th October.
- d) Guy Fawkes Public Fireworks Display at Stobswood Welfare Ground – Saturday 3rd November.
- e) Parish Winter Warmer Social Evening at the Community Centre – Saturday 24th November.
- f) Parish Christmas Tree Lights Switch on – Friday 30th November.
- g) Annual Panto at the Community Centre – Saturday 8th December.
- h) Elderberries Christmas Lunch at the Community Centre – Friday 14th December.
- i) Children’s Christmas Party at the Community Centre – Sunday 16th December
- j) New Year’s Eve Event at the Community Centre – Monday 31st December.

In addition there will be a Ceremonial Event to be organised by the Northumberland County Council to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Victoria Cross awarded to James Johnson on the 14th October, 2018 who was born at Stobswood.

10. Finance

- i) Parish Clerk’s financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at 31.12.2017 - £48,380.14 reconciled with Bank Account monthly Statement for December, 2017
Receipts – Bank Account Monthly Interest £4.23. Parish Council Events Raffle Proceeds £178.50
The Clerk advised that the Annual Claim for Value Added Tax from HMRC was to be submitted amount to claim £2,852.49
- ii) Payments to be Approved:-
Parish Clerk’s December Salary £680.86 (5 weeks)
Parish Clerk’s December Expenses £24.72 (Working from Home Allowance £10.00, Home Internet and Telephone £8.00, Postage £6.72)
HMRC £577.51 Quarterly Payment of PAYE & NIC 3rd Quarter October, November and December, 2017.
The Salvation Army £200.00 – Donation from Raffles held at Parish Council Events.
Station Entertainments £300.00 – Sound System for Community Centre.

In addition £500.00 provided from Petty Cash in regard to the Elderberries Christmas Lunch 2017 and £100.00 in regard to the Annual Panto 2017.

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

- iii) Quarterly Statement 2017/18 – Budget against Expenditure as at 31.12.2017
The Clerk circulated a report showing the Council’s expenditure for the period 01.04 to 31.12.2017. The total Budget for the year was £47,670 and £38,736 had been spent. The report would be published on the Parish Council Website and Notice Boards to conform with the Governments requirement for the information to be available to the Parish Community.

11. 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.

Cllr Batson stated that he had arranged the acquisition of a number of planters from the Northumberland County Council, which were surplus to their requirements. They had been located at entrance points to Widdrington Station and Stobswood. It was agreed to request the Parish Handyman to paint the planters, they need to be filled ready for planting in March. Cllr Mrs Willoughby considered there maybe volunteers for the planting.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

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

