

# NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

### Councillors

- Glenys Bailey (Chair), Margaret Goddard (Vice-Chair), Ian Alston, David Bryant, Dawn Levine, Steve Taylor and Steve Tordoff have served as Councillors throughout the year.
- It has recently been announced that as a result of two members not standing for re-election there are going to be 2 vacancies on the Council with effect from May 2016.

### Meetings

- The Parish Council has met 11 times since the 2015 annual meetings.
- 6 of these meetings were ordinary ones when a full agenda of business was considered.
- 5 of these meetings were 'planning' meetings, convened to consider consultations on new applications or other urgent business.

### Planning and Development

- The Council has continued to monitor any progress with the proposals for further development in North Stainley, although there has been little to report over the past year.  
The Parish Council has agreed that it remains neutral on these proposals until it obtains a mandate from the parish public on how it wishes to be represented. It will obtain this mandate by carrying out a survey of residents once a planning application is submitted to Harrogate Borough Council.
- The Parish Council has monitored developments with Harrogate Borough Council's Local Plan carefully. It has responded to consultations carried out by the Borough Council and has kept residents informed by way of its regular newsletter.
- The Council has responded to consultations carried out by North Yorkshire County Council on the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan.
- The Council submitted applications to have a number of areas of land in North Stainley designated as Local Green Spaces. The applications are being considered by Harrogate Borough Council as part of their preparation of the new Local Plan.
- The Parish Council has considered 11 other planning applications during the year. Proposals ranged from an agricultural storage building, to banks of solar panels, extensions to houses and to gardens and M.O.D. training facilities.

### General

- The Council is pleased to be in a position to progress with the allotment project. The working group has been re-formed and is working to provide allotments on a new site located off the Ripon Rowel walk, approximately 500m out of the village towards Ripon. It is hoped that the plots will be available to rent out later this year.
- The Council has met the requirements of the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities which came in to force on 1st April 2015. This means that lots more information about the work of the Council is routinely uploaded to its website.
- The Council has continued to operate the parish caretaker scheme, whereby DTMS Ltd from Fellbeck near Pateley Bridge are contracted to carry out 8 hours of work each month. Significant maintenance works have been carried out on the ponds over the winter period.
- The Parish Council has adopted a tree maintenance and inspection policy. It has had all the trees that it owns inspected and will now begin a programme of planned maintenance works. At the request of nearby residents two trees were recently removed along Watermill Lane.
- The Council continues to operate and maintain the children's playground on Watermill Lane.
- The Council objected to proposals to put forward to change the level of service provided from Ripon Fire Station, which were subsequently approved by North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority.
- The Council has responded to several consultations about changes to bus services through the parish.
- The Council has considered an initial consultation on proposals for devolution in the Harrogate District and will continue to monitor this developing situation.
- The Parish Council has reviewed a number of its standard documents and policies, including an updated Code of Conduct. These are published on its website at <http://www.northstainleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/Information/Documents> or copies can be requested from the Clerk.