

NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

The Parish Council has met 11 times since the 2011 annual meetings. These comprised of 6 'ordinary' meetings and a further 5 to consider consultations on planning applications and other urgent items of business.

Councillors are currently Glenys Bailey (Chair), Margaret Goddard (Vice-Chair), Ian Alston, David Bryant, Jackie Donaldson (until May 2012), James Stuart-Mills and Steve Tordoff.

The vacancy created by Jackie Donaldson's decision not to stand for re-election is likely to be filled at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May.

Highlights of the year:

- A reduced number (12) of planning applications were considered during the year. These ranged from proposals for a building to house vintage cars in, to a wind turbine, to lights on the village hall to alterations to properties.
- The Parish Council has continued to press Highways North Yorkshire for additional traffic calming on the A6108 through the village. It now seems that the best of hope of additional measures will be a mobile vehicle activated sign, shared amongst other local villages.
- The Parish Council said farewell to Helen Robinson who had, until recently, served as Chair of the Council but who has now moved from the parish.
- The Parish Council is liaising with North Stainley Estates on a number of matters of mutual interest, with a view to taking over ownership of a number of communal areas in the village.
- The circular walk leaflet has (finally) been printed, with a copy being sent to each household in the parish as well as a supply being placed in a number of local outlets such as pubs, B&B's and Ripon Tourist Information.
- Responsibility for the emergency plan was handed over to Frank Bailey who has formed a committee to maintain the plan and act in the event of an incident.
- The Clerk and Councillors are continuing to monitor developments with the Localism Act 2011 which will affect a number of areas of the Council's work, including planning and standards.
- During the past year the Parish Council has met with representatives of both Potgate and Hanson's Ripon Quarries to discuss their proposals for planning applications to extend the quarries.
- The Parish Council has also responded to a number of consultations on the Minerals and Waste Development Framework.
- The Parish Council has worked to establish an oil purchasing co-operative and is delighted that Linda Robinson has volunteered to become co-ordinator for the scheme.
- The Parish Council continues to contract the Walled Garden Scheme to carry out maintenance works in the parish, partially funded by a grant from the Yorkshire Dales Leader Scheme. Works carried out include maintaining the play area and local footpaths, reinstating damaged benches, litter picking and other works as identified by Councillors and members of the public.
- The Parish Council is looking to provide allotments in Front Field within the next year.
- The Parish Council continues to produce a newsletter after each ordinary meeting. This is distributed to each household on the electoral roll.