

NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

DATE: Tuesday 16th April 2013
TIME: 19.30 hrs
LOCATION: North Stainley Village Hall
PRESENT: Parish Councillors Glenys Bailey (Chair), Margaret Goddard (Vice-Chair), David Bryant, James Stuart-Mills and Steve Tordoff.
Linda Robinson (Oil Club), Iona Taylor (Parish Clerk), Elizabeth Watts (Headteacher, North Stainley C of E Primary School)
IN ATTENDANCE: David Cleeves (Priest in Charge, St. Mary's Church)
District Councillor Margaret Atkinson and County Councillor Paul Richardson

1. WELCOME

Councillor Bailey (Chair of the Parish Council) welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Ian Alston and Paul Reynolds.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting, held on 17th April 2012, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING – none.

5. REPORT ON PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS 2012/13

The following report was submitted:

Meetings

The Parish Council has met 11 times since the 2012 Annual Parish Council meeting.

6 meetings were ordinary ones when a full agenda of business was considered. The other 5 were for planning or other urgent items of business.

Councillors

The following Councillors served throughout the year:

Glenys Bailey (Chair), Margaret Goddard (Vice-Chair), Ian Alston, David Bryant, James Stuart-Mills and Steve Tordoff.

Carolyn Mahan served as a Councillor from May to December 2012.

Paul Reynolds was co-opted on to the Council at its meeting in March 2013.

Planning & Development

- The Parish Council has considered 12 planning applications since May 2012.
- Proposals ranged from house extensions to solar panels to works to protected trees.
- The Parish Council had no objections to an application for 106 holiday lodges at Lightwater Valley, but did make a number of comments about the proposal – particularly relating to highways aspects.
- The Parish Council commented about the potential impact on neighbouring properties of proposals to extend Potgate Quarry.

Provision of New School / Allotments

- Richard Plummer, Chair of Governors at North Stainley C of E Primary School, has attended meetings twice during the past year to advise the Parish Council about proposals which are being drawn up for the provision of a new school in the village.
- The Parish Council had drawn up and approved plans and documentation for the provision of allotments in North Stainley, but has agreed to put the project on hold, pending the outcome of a site survey which will help to determine the location of a new school.
- The Parish Council continues to monitor and discuss these and other proposed developments in the village.

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General

- The Parish Council has taken over the ownership of a number of the communal areas in the village, including the ponds in the centre of the village.
- The Parish Council has played a prominent role in efforts to secure further traffic calming measures through North Stainley. Representatives of this Council attended a County Council Working Group meeting to make a representation about the provision of Vehicle Activated Signs in villages. Unfortunately North Stainley was not selected to take part in the initial phase of a scheme to locate temporary signs in villages, but Councillors have agreed to investigate other options.
- The Parish Council managed the creation of a formal recycling area at the rear of the Staveley Arms, funded by donations from Lightwater Quarries and LEADER.
- The Parish Council continues to be responsible for the maintenance of the play area and has incurred significant expenditure on replacement parts during the past year. The site is inspected monthly by the caretaker and annually by an external firm. Weekly inspections, by a nearby resident, are about to commence.
- The issue of dog fouling in North Stainley was considered by the Council but has improved in recent weeks.
- The Parish Council considered the issues raised by the Church of England's registration of Mines and Minerals Rights under communal areas in North Stainley.
- Farm & Land Services Ltd has recently been appointed as the Parish Caretaker. Anyone who knows of any jobs that need doing should contact the Clerk.
- The Parish Council has employed a local firm of accountants to implement a payroll system and register with HMRC for PAYE.
- The Parish Council adopted a new Code of Conduct in June 2012, but is awaiting further training and information about the Localism Act which will guide it further in this area.
- The Parish Council continues to correspond with Highways North Yorkshire about a number of highways faults.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS / REPRESENTATIVES

Reports were received from the following organisations:

6.1 North Stainley Sport & Recreation Trust.

The following highlights of the past year were noted:

- The Trust has continued to manage the Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Jubilee Garden for the benefit of the inhabitants of North Stainley and surrounding area.
- The new village website has been launched (www.northstainley.org.uk)
- The village's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, including the opening of the Jubilee Garden.
- Taking over ownership of the Village Square.
- Minor alterations and improvements to the Village Hall and Recreation Ground.

6.2 North Stainley C of E Primary School

Elizabeth Watts, Headteacher, submitted the following report:

- The school continues to go from strength to strength with results showing a trend of improving pupil progress and rising standards.
- A new phonics based reading and writing programme has been introduced with positive results.
- In January 2012 a before and after school club was introduced which is proving increasingly popular.
- The most important change has been the increase in pupil number – up from 43 in April 2010 to 56 in April 2013.
- Proposals are being drawn up for the provision of a new school. These are currently sitting with North Yorkshire County Council. Information from the planning department will be used to put together a proposal to be taken to Members to see if there is agreement of support in principal for including the North Stainley project in the capital funding programme for the 2014-15 period.

6.3 North Stainley W.I.

Emma Griffiths, President, submitted a report detailing the group's varied activities during the past year, including a quiz night, trips to Swinton Park, Hackfall Woods and an orchard in Sharow, Ripon ghost walk, wine tasting and Christmas crafts.

The annual Macmillan Coffee Morning raised over £400 for the charity. The group's website has been launched and can be found at www.northstainleywi.btck.co.uk

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6.4 St. Mary's Church / Parochial Church Council

David Cleeves attended to report that with effect from the end of last year St. Mary's Church has been taken back under the care of the Masham benefice as Ripon cathedral had been unable to give the parish the necessary and desired attention. This new arrangement will be reviewed in three years.

Worship takes place in St. Mary's Church at 10.45am each Sunday, with family services on the third Sunday of each month.

It was noted that the number of parishioners attending each service are low and finances are tight. It is hoped that there will be good weather and support for the two car boot sales in May.

6.5 1st North Stainley Brownies

Iona Taylor reported on another successful year which had included activities based around the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics. The unit held its annual one-night sleepover in North Stainley Village Hall last week.

6.6 50 Club

Neville Newton submitted a report outlining the structure of the 50 Club which is a 'village community support club' which supports village projects and groups, particularly those involving children and young people. The club meets monthly in North Stainley Village Hall (except for a Christmas meeting at The Staveley Arms). The format is a drinks reception then an evening meal and entertainment or a speaker.

6.7 North Stainley Arts Society

The last twelve months have seen the Society host, present, or perform a number of films, plays and a pantomime. Films have included classifications for each age group and have been well attended. Visiting theatre productions have been a feature and have included visits by north Country Theatre, Masham Players, and the Library Theatre Group. Each of these groups brings something special and have admired North Stainley's facilities.

The pantomime this year was Aladdin and included appearances by 24 local children. Full houses throughout the production were testament to the hard work so many people put into putting the show on.

Rehearsals for the comedy 'Ladies Day' have now begun, with performances on 7th and 8th June 2013.

6.8 North Stainley Baby & Toddler Group

It was reported that the group continues to meet each Thursday at North Stainley Village Hall, excluding the last one of the month which is held at West Tanfield to use the soft play equipment. Numbers are a little thin on the ground, but with the creation of the new village website, Facebook page and a promotion drive it is hoped to increase numbers.

6.9 North Stainley Oil Club

Linda Robinson, the Club's Co-ordinator, reported on the Club's first year of operation. Initially there were 9 members, but this has risen to 32, spread throughout the parish. There have been 7 scheduled deliveries with an average of 10 members placing an order each time at an average price of 57.66p per litre. The best price for each delivery has been negotiated with the same company – Tate Oil, Otley. Oil Club members will shortly be contacted to ascertain their views about scheduling deliveries with a greater timescale.

Mrs Robinson was thanked for all the hard work she has put in to setting up this scheme.

6.10 North Stainley Quiz Night

The village quiz night is now in its fourth year and continues to be a popular fun night out. All monies raised go to local causes and despite only charging £1 entry fee per person over £1500 has so far been donated. The quiz takes place on the last Thursday of the month in the village hall. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Enquiries should be directed to Gill Hall or Janet Thomson.

6.11 District Councillor Margaret Atkinson

Councillor Atkinson noted that the Borough Council has again managed not to increase Council Tax.

Changes to a wheelie bin system of refuse collection are imminent. It is hoped that these changes will help to increase the rate of recycling in the Harrogate District. Any concerns about or problems with this new system should be directed to Councillor Atkinson. It was also noted that the Harrogate District has a very low crime rate.

Councillor Atkinson is standing for election to the County Council in May.

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6.12 County Councillor Paul Richardson

Councillor Richardson advised that he had little to report on as it is difficult for the County Council to do much in the current economic climate. Councillor Richardson commented on the recent Allerton Waste Incinerator debacle. Councillor Richardson was thanked for the work he had carried out during his time on the County Council.

7. OTHER ORGANISATIONS / REPRESENTATIVES – none.

It was noted that the Youth Club has ceased during the past year due to a lack of adult leaders.

8. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- It was noted that this would be County Councillor Richardson’s final attendance at a meeting in this village as he is not standing for re-election in May. Councillor Richardson spoke to the meeting in a farewell address, noting that during his time on the County Council he had worked in accordance with his motto of ‘do the right and fear no man’, no matter how difficult this had been. He also commended the way in which the growth of North Stainley had been managed and noted that it had been a privilege to serve this community. Councillor Richardson was thanked for all the work that he has carried out on behalf of the Parish.
- Initial arrangements for celebrating the Tour de France’s Grand Depart’s passage through North Stainley were noted and discussed.

Meeting closed at 20.23 hrs.

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Iona Taylor, Clerk to the Parish Council.

SIGNED: (Chairman)

DATE: