

NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

DATE: Tuesday 19th April 2016
TIME: 19.30 hrs
LOCATION: North Stainley Village Hall

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Margaret Goddard (Vice-Chairman), Ian Alston, David Bryant, Dawn Levine and Steve Tordoff.
Iona Taylor (Clerk to the Parish Council)
District and County Councillor Margaret Atkinson.

1. WELCOME TO THE MEETING

Councillor Margaret Goddard, Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Glenys Bailey and Steve Taylor, from Julie Puttock (North Stainley Cricket Club), from Linda Robinson (North Stainley Oil Club) and from David Cleeves (St. Mary's Church).

3. MINUTES FROM THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was agreed that the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st April 2015 be approved and signed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – none.

5. REPORT ON PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS 2015/16

The following report was received and considered:

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.

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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.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS / REPRESENTATIVES

6.1 North Stainley Sport & Recreation Trust (including North Stainley Village Hall).

A report, including the following points was received from Trust Chairman, Ian Alston.

- The Trust is fortunate to make a surplus each year, mainly due to the rental income from the four flats about the hall.
- Bookings in the hall are buoyant, with the school remaining the biggest client.
- Extensive maintenance of the hall is undertaken to offset the intensive use of the building.
- The cricket season is about to start, which will mean heavy use of the Recreation Ground and village hall. The Trust will monitor the usage for any issues for local residents or other community groups.
- A new contractor, MHS Countryside Management, has been appointed to cut the grass in the community garden. Working parties are held to compliment the regular maintenance work which is carried out.
- Improvements to the scoreboard, including the installation of running water and electricity.
- Thanks were expressed to all the volunteers who help with the running of the hall and grounds.

6.2 North Stainley Cricket Club.

A report containing the following points was received:

- Over the 2015 season the Club has fielded 3 senior teams, 6 junior teams and 8 teams in the indoor league.
- Grant funding has been secured to enable an expansion of the Club's facilities. The grant has allowed the Club to purchase more coaching equipment, a new batting cage, and to fund fitness training and additional coaching.
- Junior members have been trained to support the coaches at the popular Sunday evening sessions, have been appointed to the Club's committee.
- In 2016 the Club had its first junior captain in senior matches.

6.3 St. Mary's Church / Parochial Church Council.

A report was received from the Priest in Charge which reported on the following points:

- Early July saw the arrival of Nick Morgan as curate. Having a clergyman live in the village can only be a good thing for the church.
- The link between the church and school continues to grow as Nick Morgan has become a governor, regular collective worship and special services are held.

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- The number of services held each month has been reduced to two.
- The parish magazine continues to be distributed to virtually every household in the parish.
- The church has provided a number of ways for people to explore and expand their faith.
- Grateful thanks were expressed to everyone who helps with the work of the Church in North Stainley.

6.4 1st North Stainley Brownies.

Iona Taylor, Unit Leader, reported that numbers in the unit have now stabilised from a peak of about 30 girls in September 2015.

A varied programme has been enjoyed in the hall over the past two terms, with activity programmes including a Chinese New Year challenge. The summer term will see the unit going out and about in the local area each week.

6.5 50 Club.

Neville Newton reported on the ethos of the Club which provides members with a monthly programme of dinner and entertainment and also supports a variety of local, national and international charities. The Club also supports and makes achievement awards to the gifted and talented young individuals from North Stainley.

6.6 North Stainley Arts Society

Glenys Bailey, Secretary of the Arts Society, sent the following report:

"The Society has had a very productive twelve months. In June of 2015 we presented a Richard Harris play 'Outside Edge' this was well received, with capacity audiences each evening. Our winter production 'ALLSORTS' produced by Jon Hodgson and Suzanne Maisey, with original sketch writing by Pete Best attracted a capacity audience. Twenty children from the village were involved, plus adult members of our community. Thanks to all involved, parents for helping in a variety of capacities for making this production the success it was.

We have continued to show films once a month from September to April and we will be carrying on with offering a variety of films into next year.

Currently we have two things in the pipeline, the first of which is an activity based afternoon in June, during half term for children under 11. This will cost each child a pound and is being presented by Mud Pie Arts, through Nidderdale Rural Arts based in Thirsk. The Arts Society are underwriting the cost of this event.

Our next play will be a joint event with Masham Players, each of the societies doing a One Act play, ours will be 'Last Tango in Tanfield' an hilarious comedy. The production will be in North Stainley 1st and 2nd of July and in Masham Town Hall 8th and 9th of July.

Membership remains buoyant for the coming year."

6.7 North Stainley Oil Club.

It was noted that there are now 60 members in the Club. There were 5 orders placed in 2015 and two so far in 2016. Members have benefitted from the drop in oil prices and from a new oil supplier operating in this area.

6.8 District & County Councillor Margaret Atkinson.

Harrogate Borough Council

- Councillor Atkinson has been Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Rural Affairs over the past year.
- There has been a continued reduction in crime.
- Harrogate Borough Council continues with its campaign against dog fouling.
- After a six year freeze there will be a rise in Council Tax for the 2016/17 financial year, although savings are still being implemented where possible.
- The new waste collection policy was implemented in the form of introducing wheelie bins.
- The housing department is continuing to make improvements to tenants' homes.
- The Borough Council is working hard to get another Local Plan in place as soon as possible. A 5 year housing supply has been achieved.
- The Boundary Commission is conducting a review of the warding arrangements in the Harrogate District. North Stainley is likely to join the Wathvale ward.

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North Yorkshire County Council

- The County Council is struggling with the extent of savings which it has to make. They will eventually total over £160 million. An 2% increase in council tax is to be levied this year, together with an additional 2% for 'Extra Care Services'. The funding reductions have meant that there have had to be reductions in services.
- North Yorkshire County Council has again been successful in securing Government funding for road repairs.
- Delivery of high speed broadband continues to be a priority for the Council.
- The County Council has now gone paperless.
- There has been a reduction in crime and North Yorkshire is the safest place to live in the United Kingdom. Harrogate was voted the happiest place to live, which is good news.
- County Councillors now have a locality budget and can make small grants from it.

7. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS / REPRESENTATIVES – none.

8. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

It was noted that there will be two vacancies on the Parish Council after the May elections.

Meeting closed at 20.24 hrs.

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

SIGNED: (Chairman)

DATE: