

NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday 10th July 2018
TIME: 7.30pm
LOCATION: North Stainley Village Hall
PRESENT: Councillors Mike Porter (Chairing), David Bryant, Liz Falkingham, Margaret Goddard
CLERK: Nick Reed (minutes)

18.33	Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation Cllr Goddard declared a pecuniary / ownership interest in item 18.42 and was granted a dispensation.
18.34	Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Alston and Bailey.
18.35	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th June 2018 These were AGREED as a true record of the meeting, and signed as such by Cllr Porter.
18.36	Ongoing issue from the minutes for updating Felled tree: The council NOTED with gratitude that North Stainley Estates had agreed as a gesture of goodwill to cover the costs of the replacement tree on Watermill Lane [minutes <i>passim</i> and most recently item 18.261]. Comments were noted from two parishioners questioning whether a lime tree was appropriate for the replacement, as this species can grow to 20+ metres. While noting that the original tree was believed to be a lime and therefore like-for-like replacement was certainly an option, councillors agreed to take advice on any suitable alternative which would top out at around 10 metres. It was RESOLVED to make a final decision at the September meeting. Action: Clerk to investigate suitable species and planting times
18.37	Questions or comments from members of the public There were none.
18.38	Reports from district / county councillors There were none
18.39	Financial Statement and Approvals for Payment The Council's cash book balance was noted as being £15,547.07 It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Parish Clerk (expenses and training inc. CiLCA enrolment) £298.50MHS Countryside Management (grass cutting) £720.00; Streetscape Ltd (play area repairs £594.00; Autela Group Ltd (payroll admin qtr 1) £46.80; Parish Clerk (salary – July). Bank charges of £18.00 for qtr1 were NOTED as having been taken by direct debit and this payment was approved.
18.40	Planning applications and decisions Applications: there were none to report Decisions: The Council NOTED the approval subject to standard conditions of 18/01608/FUL for demolition of conservatory and conversion of garage to living accommodation at 7 Watermill Close. They also NOTED the approval of 18/02016/FUL for conversion of garage to annexe and erection of new garage at The Fold, subject to various conditions including the replacement of any felled trees, and that the new annexe be used only for residential purposes ancillary to the main building.

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18.41	<p>Policy and practice</p> <p>The Council discussed briefly the draft updated Standing Orders and Code of Conduct. It was RESOLVED to re-consider the matter at September's meeting, and that Councillors should be in an informed position to do so.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Clerk to re-circulate the documents</i></p>
18.42	<p>Beck downstream of large pond</p> <p>A quote had been received from the parish caretakers for dredging and levelling the bed of the beck, of £750 +VAT. Councillors discussed briefly the possibility of installing another weir at the pond end of the beck instead or as well as dredging, but this was regarded as unnecessary and potentially extremely expensive. After some discussion it was RESOLVED to accept the quote for a one-off dredging. It was NOTED per minute 18.18 that the council does not accept that there is any causal connection between the state of the beck and any erosion that may be occurring to the pond banks.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Clerk to liaise with caretakers</i></p>
18.43	<p>Encouragement of litter collection</p> <p>Cllr Bryant introduced this item, noting that while North Stainley village is mostly litter-free, other roads within the parish, notably the A6108 at North Lees, have litter problems. A discussion of the issues yielded the following points:</p> <p>Harrogate BC has litter-picking kits (gloves, grabbers, refuse sacks, hi-vis etc) for parties of up to 20 people. The council agreed such an activity would be useful.</p> <p>It was not clear whose responsibility is litter clearance for main road verges.</p> <p>Yoredale News (the combined churches newsletter) was agreed as a good means of recruiting volunteers. Cllr Falkingham agreed to be the point of contact for potential volunteers.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Clerk to investigate standard practice re litter picking on main road verges</i> <i>Clerk to write litter-picking piece for Yoredale News and the website</i></p>
18.44	<p>Broadband</p> <p>This item was withdrawn from discussion, having been raised based on unreliable information about broadband speeds. It was noted that North Stainley village broadband is satisfactory, but other parts of the parish including Slensingford and North Lees have a less reliable service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Clerk to contact NYCC broadband development team about future plans</i></p>
18.45	<p>Caretaker task list</p> <p>Councillors had nothing to add to the regular schedule of work.</p>
18.46	<p>Correspondence</p>
18.461	<p>Harrogate BC re 2019-20 budget consultation. It was AGREED that it was not necessary for the council to draft a questionnaire response as a body.</p>
18.462	<p>A parishioner commenting on the council's s.137 donation to Harrogate and Ripon CVS. The council reiterated its commitment to this donation, with its potential direct benefits to parishioners in need.</p>
18.463	<p>A parishioner noting the weeds on Watermill Lane, per minute 18.31. The Clerk had replied noting that the work was scheduled and asking for feedback following the work if the parishioner wished.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE: