

STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

(Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28th September 2015 at St Thomas' Church Crosscrake)

MINUTES

Present: Councillors: Vice chair Thomas Nelson (took the meeting in chairs absence), Tot Mason, Geoff Wilson, Julie Knowles, Rev Ian Swift, Clerk Karen Wells, along with several members of the parish.

29.15 APOLOGIES: received from: John Stott chair (attending LAP meeting), Brenda Grey (attending LAP meeting), and Sheila Eccles (on holiday).

30.15 MINUTES: the minutes of the last parish council meeting dated 27th July 2015 were signed by the vice chair as a true record of the meeting.

31.15 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: none

32.15 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: none

33.15 OPEN SESSION:

A member of the parish brought the following issues to the meeting:

- i. Hedge cutting between Bridge End and the canal (it was agreed to check at next meeting that the work had been carried out)
- ii. Removal of Himalayan balsam from areas of the parish (the possibility of organising a removal day spring 2016 was discussed)

34.15 POLICING IN THE COMMUNITY: PCSO did not attend the meeting. The clerk read out reports sent to the council. A summary of the points:

- i. There have been various thefts from rural areas, of diesel fuel, livestock, horse tack and vehicles.
- ii. These thefts seem to be opportunist and thieves will cover an area looking for easy targets. Therefore the police remind everyone to lock up out buildings and make sure windows and doors are locked and closed at night. Especially now the evenings are getting darker.
- iii. Crimes reported in Stanton; burglary from a barn. Other crimes in local area: 2 Burglaries from houses in Natland, break in to a barn Crooklands, 2 break ins at the Summerlands trading estate, several cars damaged at Sedgwick and at the Seven mile Bridge layby.

35.15 UPPER KENT LAP: meeting on the same night as the council meeting Chair John Stott attending.

36.15 HIGHWAYS: pot hole on Stanton lane reported and logged.

37.15 FOOTPATHS: No reports (subject to be discussed at LAP meeting Chair to report back)

38.15 PLANNING.

Application Received: None

Notifications Received:

SL/2015/0209: 1 Humphrey Cott. Stainton, LA8 0AD Change of use of land. Full planning granted. ACON 28/8/15

SL/2015/0632 Orchard House Stainton, LA8 0DX. Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with single storey extension. Grant with conditions 2/9/15

SL/2014/0840 – Helm mount Farm, Barrows Green, Retention of stable building and all weather exercise area to allow for riding lessons. Granted with conditions 2/9/15

39. 15 FINANCE:

To authorise schedule of payments for Sept/ Oct

i. **Payments:**

Made between meetings:

MD Hanafin & Sons Ltd (Wood for repairs at Under Helme wood) = £216.32

Payments sanctioned during the meeting:

Clerks Sept wage = £129.15

Clerks Oct wage = £129.15

Hire and associated costs of meeting payable to Church = £20.00

Payments received: None

- ii. Clerk reported to Council on half yearly Income v forecast expenditure. The report was discussed by the council and some of the forecast expenditures adjusted, the report was then approved.
- iii. Internal auditor: Alan Hartley was approved as the replacement.
- iv. The external audit report has been issued the council discussed and approved the report.
- v. The pension regulator have requested that the council set up a pension scheme for automatic enrolment. After receiving advice from CALC the following actions are to take place: as the council only employ a clerk and that position comes under 'entitled worker', the council only have to provide a pension scheme if the clerk requests it. The current clerk does not wish to join a scheme. Therefore a scheme will only be set up for any future clerk on request (under current regulations) this has to be done within 6 weeks. The council has agreed that the scheme they will join, when needed, will be the 'national employment saving trust' (NEST). This clause will be added to the clerk's contract and the pension regulator will be informed of the council's decision.
- vi. A £250 grant is to be spent on a notice board for the junction on Millbeck lane.
- vii. Employment: End of probationary period for clerk. Both parties were happy to make the position permanent.

40.15 CONSULTATION & FUNDING REQUESTS: none

41.15 Mobile library van: the council was informed that the service is to be permanently withdrawn and that individuals who use the van will be informed by the library service about alternatives. The email has been posted on notice boards and notice put in parish magazine.

42.15 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.

- i. **Progress of work on canal restoration.** Email received from Richard Trevitt advising the council that an engineer has been asked to visit the site to assess the problem. Lancaster Canal trust has said they will keep the council informed.
- ii. **Up keep of: Bus shelters** – Graffiti and damage the clerk will report the matter to the PCSO, meanwhile Cllr Knowles has cleaned off some of the graffiti. **Stainton notice board** – Cllr Nelson has removed the board for repair. **Underhelme wood** – the fly tipping was reported by the clerk, if it is not removed in the next few days some of the Cllrs will remove the rubbish.

43.15 AOB: The council has been asked to contribute to the consultation by the ministry of Justice about the closure of both Kendal Magistrates and County Courts. The clerk will voice their concerns on the website set up for the purpose.

44.15 Councillor's issues to be raised at next meeting – None

(No discussions must take place on these matters but will be placed on the next Agenda)

45.15 Meeting closed at 8.45pm

46.15 next meeting – Monday 23rd November 2015 at 7.30 St Thomas' church Crosscrake