

## STANWIX RURAL PARISH

### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held virtually on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7:15p.m.**

#### **1. Present**

The Chairman, Mr C Nicholson (Chairman of Stanwix Rural Parish Council), 5 Parish Councillors, 3 Carlisle City Councillors & Mrs S Kyle, Clerk to the Parish Council.

#### **2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**

Approved and signed by Mr C Nicholson. It was noted no meeting had taken place in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **3. Chairman's Report 2020/21**

The impact of the Covid pandemic has meant that the Parish Council, like countless other organisations, has had to adapt to holding meetings online. Since May these have been held (not entirely without occasional technical problems) via Zoom. At the time of writing live 'face to face' meetings must resume from May 7 2021. For the latest information on Parish Council meetings and updates on other council matters please visit the Parish Council's website at: [www.stanwixrural.co.uk](http://www.stanwixrural.co.uk) or Email the Parish Clerk at [stanwixruralpc@gmail.com](mailto:stanwixruralpc@gmail.com) Tel: 01228 231 124

#### *Activity*

In common with other organisations much activity has been severely curtailed during the pandemic; Houghton Fair and the Summer Play Days being cancelled last year due to national restrictions. It is hoped that the Play Days, at least, will go ahead this year; funded as usual by the Parish Council. We will keep you informed via your local school.

Notwithstanding the impact of Covid planning applications continue to be received by the Parish Council in its role as a Statutory Consultee, although the overall number was significantly reduced last year, with only 40 applications being considered. This year, however, looks as though it will be much busier with around 12 applications already received, including proposals ranging from modest house extensions, to a holiday development at Eden Golf Club.

#### *Precept*

Being acutely aware of the enormous stress and uncertainty Covid has inflicted on many families and individuals, the Parish Council has taken the decision not to increase the Parish Precept for 2021/22. The precept will therefore remain at its 2019 level of £46,500 until at least 2023. This financial stability is enabled only through the Parish Council's continuing exercise of prudent budgetary control and monitoring procedures.

In conclusion it remains for me to thank members of the Parish Council for their continuing work in support of our communities. Thanks too to our City Ward Councillors, Elizabeth Mallinson, Fiona Robson and Paul Nedved and County Cllr John Mallinson for their highly valued and valuable help and support, including financial support, on a wide variety of matters.

Huge thanks are, of course, due to Sarah Kyle, our Parish Clerk and Proper Officer. Her always calm and good-humoured demeanour, I know, hides a considerable amount of un-seen toil – like the proverbial swan, seen gliding serenely up steam while its legs work like pistons beneath the surface! A good Clerk, I've always stressed, is a Parish Council's greatest asset and Sarah is exceptional. As Chairman my warmest, most grateful, sincere and unstinted personal thanks to Sarah, for keeping me on track, up to speed and for putting up with me, in general!

Stay safe – stay well. Craig Nicholson

#### **4. Open Forum**

No matters for discussion were raised and the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman: 13.04.2022 (TBC)