

# Little Stanney & District Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 24 September 2013 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Councillors Roy Greenwood (in the Chair), David Astbury, Linda Carter, Paul Carter, John Glazzard, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe, Peter Mountford, Martin Roberts and Ken Whitehouse and Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

## 13.65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Judith Thomas and Ward Councillor Graham Heatley

## 13.66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Lipscombe and Whitehouse declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in minute 13.69 (1), application 13/03495/FUL, as they were residents of the Caravan Park. They remained in the meeting, but took no part in the vote.

## 13.67 OPEN FORUM

No issues raised.

## 13.68 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 July 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 13.69 PLANNING AND LICENSING

### (1) Planning Applications Received:

13/03568/FUL	Proposed new access road from the A5117 to the British Pipeline agency at Little Stanney Pump Station, Stanney Mill Lane, Chester, Cheshire. No objections by the Parish Council. Some concern expressed about the tightness of the turn from the A5117 into the site which would presumably be addressed by Cheshire West and Chester Council.
13/03487/FUL	Single storey side and rear extension (demolition of existing) at Winsmere, Strawberry Way East, Chester CH1 6PG. No objections by the Parish Council. However it was noted that work had already begun prior to the application being approved.
13/03495/FUL	Change of use from grassed area to residents' car park at Wervin Mobile Home Park, Wervin Road, Wervin, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4BS. No objections by the Parish Council. However, it was noted that the change of use had already been completed prior to the closing date for comments, making this a retrospective application.

### (2) Decisions: The following decisions were noted.

13/01672/FUL	Erection of a 60m temporary anemometry mast for measuring wind speed and direction for the period of 24 months from construction at Ellesmere Port Waste Water Treatment Works, Shotwick-Frodsham Road, Thornton-le-Moors, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4JA - PERMISSION
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### (3) Greater flexibilities for change of use - Consultation: It was noted that these proposals by the Department for Communities and Local Government supported government priorities for making better use of existing buildings, supporting the high street and rural communities; providing new housing; developing more free schools and contributing to the provision of child care for working families. The consultation sought views on five proposals for permitted development rights to allow

- shops and financial and professional services to change use to a dwelling house
- existing buildings used for agricultural purposes of up to 150 square metres to change to residential use
- retail uses to change to banks and building societies only
- premises used as offices, hotels, residential and non-residential institutions, and leisure and assembly to be able to change use to nurseries providing childcare
- a building used for agricultural purposes of up to 500 square metres to be used as a new state funded school or a nursery providing childcare

All proposals also included permission to carry out building work connected with the change of use. A copy of the consultation document was available on the DCLG website via the link <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/greater-flexibilities-for-change-of-use>.

### 13.70 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) **Rake Lane and Wervin Road – Speed Limits:** As promised, Ian McNeill had provided a copy of the traffic count undertaken over a full week from 26 February to 6 March 2013. The count was vehicle numbers only and did not show vehicle speeds. The information was noted. A traffic count had just been undertaken on Wervin Road and the results were awaited. Both speed and vehicle class information were available and the Clerk was asked to request this information. The Parish Clerk was awaiting advice on how to submit an application for a speed limit. It was noted that PCSO Lyam Beddows had contacted a number of the local car dealerships and advised them on responsible road use on Rake Lane. The Parish Council had been informed by the Highways Department that ‘Concealed Entrance’ signs were for temporary access only and were not permanent.
- (2) **Outstanding Issues:** Councillor Astbury reported that, following Ian McNeill’s visit to the last meeting of the Parish Council and his own visit to Guilden Sutton Depot, a number of outstanding issues had been resolved including:
  - (a) Two loads of tipped soil on the verge opposite to Stanney Woods Avenue which had been there for some two years and had been reported regularly by the Clerk had finally been removed.
  - (b) Cleaning of the ditch opposite Casa Mia on Strawberry Way West was begun in November 2012. The cleaning of the pipe adjacent to Casa Mia which crosses the A5117 to the ditch is awaited. CWaC had stated that they were waiting for the owner of the Fishery to clean the highway ditch from Casa Mia to the Fishery entrance before undertaking this work.
  - (c) A limited waiting sign was to be erected in the lay-by outside the Old School House with waiting restricted to 30 minutes.
  - (d) Speed analysis testing and traffic flow apparatus had been installed in Whitby Lane adjacent to Strawberry Farm. The Clerk was asked to request a copy of the results, and the results of a previous analysis.
  - (e) Grass cutting outside the houses at the top of Strawberry Way East was being undertaken monthly, the grass having been cut only once prior to this.
  - (f) The large road sign for the Strawberry Roundabout was in the yard at Guilden Sutton awaiting re-erection, having been damaged in an RTC some eighteen months ago.
  - (g) Weed cleaning of gutters and other hard areas adjacent to roundabouts etc had been undertaken. These had not been touched for some considerable time.
  - (h) The majority of the new road signs (Strawberry Way East and West, Dunkirk Way and Whitby Lane) had been installed. Some additional signs that were originally rejected were now to be installed.
  - (i) An improved attitude to the Parish Council from staff at Guilden Sutton Depot had been noted. Kirsty Robinson, who was responsible for ordering and installing street name signs and other street furniture and white lining amongst other things, had been particularly helpful. It was RESOLVED to write to Ian McNeill and Kirsty Robinson to thank them for the help and co-operation.
- (3) **The Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council (Addition of Public Footpath No.50 Ellesmere Port) Modification Order 2012:** The Public Inquiry in relation to the Modification Order was to be held on Tuesday 15 October 2013 at Little Stanney Village Hall starting at 10.00am. It was not anticipated that the Inquiry would last more than one day. The Clerk had submitted a statement on behalf of the Parish Council and would attend the Inquiry. Other Councillors also stated their intention to attend. It was noted that nothing further had been submitted by the objectors to the Order, who would rely on their original objections.

### 13.71 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Damage to Picnic Bench:** It was noted that damage to the wooden picnic bench had been reported to the police and had been investigated by PC Kevin Ross and PCSO Lyam Beddows. They had thought that the damage was not too serious and could be repaired but closer investigation had shown that the damage was more extensive than originally thought. Ringwood had been asked to provide a quotation for the repair of the bench following which a decision would be made whether or not to contact the Parish Council's insurers with a view to making a claim for the damage. A crime number had been obtained. The police had found evidence of drug taking around the area of the bench and would keep an eye on the site.

### 13.72 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

- (1) **Draft Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan, Consultation:** On 7 August Cheshire West and Chester Council's Executive had approved the Publication Draft Local Plan for consultation. This had subsequently been confirmed by the full Council and the consultation had commenced on 6 September, closing on 1 November. The consultation sought the views of local residents, key stakeholders and other interested parties as to whether the Plan was positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national planning policy. The Parish Council had received formal notification of the consultation and a copy of the Plan. A briefing event had been held for Local Council representatives on 17 September which the Chairman and Clerk had attended. Other drop-in events were being held throughout the consultation process and the Clerk circulated a list of these. Following consultation on the Local Plan Publication Draft, the Council would submit the Plan, along with all representations received during the consultation, to the Planning Inspectorate who would appoint an Inspector for the subsequent Examination in Public. There were no sites around the Parish area that were likely to be affected by the proposals in the Plan, so it was RESOLVED that any comments should be made by individual Councillors and not the Parish Council as a whole.
- (2) **Community Resilience:** A lesson learnt following the 2007 floods in Hull, Gloucestershire & Sheffield was a need for local communities to become more resilient to future major emergencies especially from a severe weather perspective. Cheshire Shared Services had invited Town and Parish Councillors to send representatives to a Community Resilience Speed Training Event. Delegates would learn more about Community Resilience and how to prepare a Community Emergency plan, and would receive advice on how to make their communities more resilient to major emergencies. Organisations taking part included Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service, North West Ambulance, Snow Angels/ Winter Planning, Flood Response supported by the Environment Agency. The Parish Council was aware that there were some emergency plans in place around the area, but was not aware of how these would work, in particular how residents would be informed of any emergency and what action they should take. This information would be of more use to the Parish Council. It was therefore RESOLVED that no-one should attend these sessions but more information should be sought on what was already in place in the local area.
- (3) **Make or Buy – Council Services 2014 and Beyond:** The Parish Council was made aware of options for the provision of Council Services from 2014 which set out in a consultation document and questionnaire, a copy of which was given to all Members. It was RESOLVED that the questionnaire should be completed individually and not by the Parish Council as an organisation, as views could differ.
- (4) **Chester Transport Strategy – Have Your Say!** It was noted that CWaC was preparing a new transport strategy for the city of Chester. This was considered essential to help assess and respond to current and future travel requirements and demands in and around the city in the years to come. The public's views were being sought on the proposals as part of a consultation exercise being carried out between Friday 6 September and Friday 18 October 2013. Full details were available on the Chester Renaissance website at: [www.chesterrenaissance.co.uk](http://www.chesterrenaissance.co.uk) including an online questionnaire to enable thoughts and views about the proposals to be communicated.

A number of exhibitions, drop-in events and presentations were being arranged and CWaC representatives would be attending a number of local Community Forums as part of this exercise. Further information was available from Jamie Matthews on 01244 973595 or e-mail: [Jamie.matthews@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:Jamie.matthews@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

- (5) **Events Toolkit:** It was noted that CWaC’s Events Team had compiled an Events Toolkit which was available at [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/arts](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/arts)
- (6) **Charity Wine Tasting Evening:** It was noted that the Lord Mayor of Chester was holding a Charity Wine Tasting Evening on Friday 27 September 2013 between 7.00pm and midnight at St Mary’s Centre, Chester.

### 13.73 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

The next meeting was on Wednesday 25 September 2013. This was a special meeting that had been called to discuss a planning application that was about to be submitted. No further details were yet available.

### 13.74 PROTOCOL FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PARISH WEBSITE

The Clerk circulated a draft protocol for the management of the Parish website. Members were asked to read it and feed back any comments before the next meeting. Councillor Glazzard asked that reference be made to the website on the notices of meetings etc.

### 13.75 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE/ISSUES

- (1) **ChALC Annual Meeting 2013:** The Annual Meeting of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils was to be held on Thursday 24 October 2013 at 7.00pm at Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Winsford. It was RESOLVED that Councillor Astbury should attend on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman would confirm to the Clerk whether or not he was also able to attend. The Annual Meeting Motion provided Member Councils with an opportunity to gain the support of the Association Membership in moving forward an issue that is of concern or interest. The Motion should set out an action that is required by the Association. The closing date for submission of Motions was 27 September 2013. It was agreed that the Clerk should draft a Motion calling upon ChALC to request Cheshire West and Chester Council’s Chief Executive to remind officers of the Council of the status of Parish Councils as a tier of local government and that they should be treated in much the same way as the elected ward councillors.
- (2) **Cheshire Playing Fields Association Annual General Meeting:** To be held on Thursday 31 October 2013 at 10.30am at the Winsford Lifestyle Centre, Winsford. The event would include a presentation on “Tackling Child Obesity” and the links to modern play and equipment. The event would conclude with a buffet and an opportunity for networking and discussion on the issues raised. As a member of the CPFA the Parish Council had been invited to attend. No-one to attend.
- (3) **Publications etc:** To note the receipt of publications and other information items that might be of interest to Councillors. Items received to date:
  - (1) *Cheshire Rural Touring Arts – Autumn Season 2013*
  - (2) *Clerks & Councils Direct September 2013*
  - (3) *Cheshire West & Chester Public Transport Map & Guide*

### 13.76 FINANCE

- (1) **Payments:** The following payments were approved:

Cheque No		Amount
S/O	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-wages September 2013	242.67
S/O	Parish Clerk-salary September 2013	118.72
S/O	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-wages October 2013	242.67
S/O	Parish Clerk-salary October 2013	118.72
76	J Jones – petrol for mower	7.20
77	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-expenses August 2013 (replaces 74)	33.00
78	HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax July-September 2013	271.02
79	Parish Clerk – expenses July-September 2013	32.15
80	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner) – expenses September 2013	59.64
81	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner) – expenses October 2013	t.b.c
82	J Jones – petrol and service for mower	40.15

(2) **Receipts:** The following receipts were noted:

CWaC – net cost of repair to handrail on Canal Bridge	362.71
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**13.77 URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business brought forward under Standing Order 1(18).

**13.78 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION**

(1) The Clerk was asked to remind Chester and District Housing Trust of the need to cut back hedges and shrubbery surrounding their site on Little Stanney Lane/Croughton Road and two trees in their ownership on the playing field

**13.79 NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 26 November 2013 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall