

Little Stanney & District Parish Council

COUNCIL SUMMONS

Dear Member

You are HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in **LITTLE STANNEY VILLAGE HALL** on **TUESDAY, 22 APRIL 2014** at 7.30pm or following the Annual Parish Meeting for the purpose of transacting the business set out on the agenda below



Parish Clerk
15.04.14

Members of the public and the press are welcome to attend for the "Part 1" section of the agenda. Any reports in "Part 2" contain confidential information and only Councillors and the Parish Clerk can be present.

If you have any general enquiries about the meeting, please contact: Pauline English, Clerk to the Parish Council (Tel: 0151 339 1405, e-mail: engy02@ntlworld.com).

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in any item on this agenda, subject to the rules regarding disclosure contained in the Members' Code of Conduct

3 OPEN FORUM

Members of the public are invited to raise issues not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda. The maximum time allowed is 30 minutes, subject to the Chairman's discretion.

4 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 March 2014 as a correct record (copy attached) and to consider any matters arising from the Minutes which are not dealt with as separate items elsewhere on this agenda.

5 VACANCY FOR COUNCILLOR

Following the resignation of Councillor Whitehouse at the last meeting, a notice declaring a vacancy on the Parish Council and inviting local residents to request an election has been posted on the Parish Council's Notice Boards and on the website and a copy has been sent to Cheshire West and Chester Council. The deadline for requests is 28 April. If no request is received by that date the Parish Council may co-opt to fill the vacancy.

6 PLANNING

(1) **Applications:** The following applications have been received for comment:

14/01319/AGR	Demolition of existing building and replacement steel portal framed building at Kennel Farm Buildings, Wervin Road, Wervin, Chester Cheshire
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(2) **Decisions:** The following applications have been decided since the last meeting:

14/00777/FUL	Replacement roof to outbuilding, including the raising of the roof, and installation of new openings at Plum Tree Cottage, Wervin Road, Wervin, Chester CH2 4BP - PERMISSION
13/03568/FUL	Proposed new access road from the A5117 to the British Pipeline Agency. I Little Stanney Pump Station, Stanney Mill Lane, Chester, Cheshire - PERMISSION

Details of applications/decisions are available on the Cheshire West & Chester website <http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>

- (3) **Awaiting decision:** The following application is awaiting decision

14/01034/FUL	First floor extension to side two storey extension to front of dwelling at Ashwood Cottage, Picton Lane, Wervin, Chester, Cheshire
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- (4) **Proposed Base Station Installation, Stanney Lane, Little Stanney:** Vodaphone Limited has entered into an agreement with Telefonica UK Limited to jointly operate and manage a single network grid across the UK through Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (CTIL). They have identified the need for an upgrade to their radio base station on Stanney Lane, Little Stanney to provide improved technical provisions, greater capacity and coverage in the area. Upgrading an existing site is preferred from a planning perspective.
- (5) **Strutt & Parker – Neighbourhood Planning Services:** A letter has been received from Strutt & Parker setting out the services they offer in relation to Neighbourhood Planning. To deal with any other planning matters. This includes advice on establishing a Neighbourhood Forum, the development and adoption of a Neighbourhood Development Plan, advice on creating Assets of Community Value, and the creation of Village and Town Greens as well as providing input into the process by acting as a critical friend or project manager. Some time ago Councillor Heatley asked whether the Parish Council would be interested in joining with Elton and Thornton-le-Moors Parish Councils to produce a Parish Plan or Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Parish Council was interested in doing this, but nothing further has been done to initiate such a Plan. It is suggested that this letter be sent to Councillor Heatley with a request for an update on his proposals for preparing a Parish / Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Elton area.
- (6) **DCLG Consultation “Planning Performance and Planning Contributions”:** The Autumn Statement 2013 included a commitment to consult on a new threshold for designating local planning authorities as underperforming, and on a proposed new 10-unit threshold for section 106 planning obligations policy. The second part of this consultation by the Department for Communities and Local Government proposes to introduce a 10-unit and 1,000 square metres gross floor space threshold for affordable housing contributions through section 106 planning obligations in order to aid the delivery of small scale housing sites (excluding Rural Exception sites). This could have an impact on the provision of affordable housing in rural areas. Comments are requested by 4 May.

7 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND STREETSCENE

- (1) **Update on outstanding issues including:**

Street Naming
Drainage in Stoak
Speed Limits
Waiting Restriction sign outside School House

- (2) **Boundary Trees and Shrubs, Little Stanney Lane/Croughton Road:** Both letters and emails have been sent to the Chester and District Housing Trust (now Sanctuary Housing) regarding the overgrown condition of the trees and shrubs around the boundary of their site bordering Croughton Road without any response being received. However, Councillor Jones saw one of their operatives working in the area and tackled him about the issues, following which an email has been received to say that the work has been scheduled and should take place within the next eight weeks. I have also asked for the boundary fence at the back of Bunbury Close to be inspected and made good where necessary.
- (3) Any other Highway, Rights of Way or Streetscene issues.

8 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Picnic Bench:** The new picnic bench is due to be delivered on 17 April. The old bench has been removed.
- (2) Any other issues relating to the Playing Field and/or Nature Park.

9 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

(1) **Local Councils' Assembly:** The annual Local Councils' Assembly took place on Wednesday 26 March 2014 at Chester Town Hall. The Chairman, Councillor Astbury and the Parish Clerk attended. The evening started with an over long presentation by Steve Robinson, Chief Executive of CWaC, entitled "*Blueprint for the Future*" which highlighted the Council's achievements, backed up by a film showing how some community groups worked together, and looked at the Altogether Better programme. This was followed by a presentation entitled "*Empowered Communities*" from Lynn Riley, Executive Member for Localities. Jackie Weaver, Chief Executive of ChALC, explained how the Association could help parishes by providing help and support on a number of issues, and Sonja Rewhorn, Deputy Chief Officer, then looked at the existing Local Councils' Charter. The short round table discussion focussed on what parishes would like to see in a new Charter. The evening's presentations ended with one from Mike Jones, Leader of the Council, entitled "*Leading the Way*". This looked ahead to how services might be provided in the future, given the ever decreasing amount of funding that was being made available to principal authorities. A 15-minute question time followed and the Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor Jill Houlbrook, ended the evening with some brief closing remarks.

(2) **Community Governance Review:** On 25 March 2014 CWaC's Community Governance Review Committee resolved to make the following recommendation to Council in respect of the Community Governance Review of Backford & District as part of a long list of changes:

- (1) the boundary of the existing parish of Chorlton-by-Backford be redrawn to the north to transfer Woodcroft, Strawberry Farm, Strawberry Mead and Trade Winds from Chorlton-by-Backford parish to Little Stanney parish;

The proposals are currently out to consultation and views are being sought from interested parties prior to the recommendations being finalised for approval by the Council.

10 THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM (PAYMENTS BY PARISH COUNCILS, COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND CHARTER TRUSTEES) ORDER 2014

As reported at the last meeting, the Order removes the statutory requirement in Section 150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 that cheques and payment orders must be signed by two members of the parish council. Further information has now been made available and the Parish Council will need to decide how it wishes to implement the changes, including appropriate amendments to Financial Regulations.

11 HIGH SPEED BROADBAND

A copy of the latest Connecting Cheshire Project Update is attached. Councillor Glazzard will report on progress at the meeting.

12 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 April at 7.30pm at the Ellesmere Port Boat Museum. It was reported at the last meeting that planning applications were due to be submitted to CWaC. These have now been submitted and they relate to:

[Formal Scoping opinion relating to S73 application for variation of conditions on 11/04083/OUT \(timber recycling facility\) without the delivery of the first phase of the railworks, the delivery of the first phase of the birth to the Manchester Ship Canal and Ecological Mitigation Areas B, C and E.](#)

[Request for formal scoping opinion relating to S73 application for variation of conditions on 11/00040/WAS \(biomass renewable energy plant\) without the requirement to complete the works to Pool Lane roundabout and the Pool Lane railway bridge, the delivery of the first phase of the rail works, the delivery of the first phase of the birth to the ship canal and Ecological Mitigation Areas B, C and E.](#)

[Request for scoping opinion relating to S73 application for variation of conditions on 10/01488/FUL for proposed development of Resource Recovery Park without the delivery of the first phase of the berth on the Manchester Ship Canal, the delivery of the first phase of the rail works and Ecological Mitigation Areas B, C and E.](#)

13 PUBLICATIONS

Publications received to date are:

- (1) *ChALC Newsletter – April 2014*

14 FINANCE

(1) **Village Hall Hire Rate:** The Village Hall Committee has considered and approved the Parish Council's proposal of a flat rate for the hire of the Village Hall of £200 for the coming year. They agreed that this would cover 12 meetings if required and that meetings could take up to two hours. They have suggested that the Parish Council makes four quarterly payments of £50 in April, July, October and January. Under the new financial regime, this can be done by BACS transfer. The Parish Council is requested to approve these arrangements.

(2) **Audit:** The date appointed for local residents to inspect the accounts and make copies of the annual return and all documents relating to the Accounting Statements is 27 May 2014 until 23 June 2014. The internal audit is to be conducted on 8 May, following which the Parish Council will be asked to approve the submission of the Annual Return to the external auditor, BDO, LLP.

Payments: To approve the payment of salaries/wages and expenses and invoices for goods received and services rendered. It is suggested that, where possible, the Parish Council should make payments by BACS transfer in the future and the payments should be authorised by two of the Council's authorised signatories by means of the signature of a schedule.

Cheque No		Amount
BACS	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-expenses April 2014	t.b.c.
S/O	Parish Clerk-salary April 2014	123.20
S/O	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-wages April 2014	251.33
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses April 2014	28.47
BACS	Cheshire Association of Local Councils – affiliation fee	120.00
BACS	Cheshire County Playing Fields Association – membership fee	18.00

(3) **Receipts:** To note any receipts

Cheshire West & Chester Council – precept and CTRS payment	7,614.00
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(4) **Other financial matters** To consider any other financial matters

15 URGENT BUSINESS

In accordance with Standing Order 6(21) the Chairman may rule that an item(s) of business should be considered as a matter of urgency if it cannot await the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council.

16 **NEXT MEETING – Annual Meeting** - Tuesday 27 May 2014 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall.