

Little Stanney & District Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 23 September 2014 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, Pete Mountford, Martin Roberts and Judith Thomas
In attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

14.112 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

14.113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

14.114 OPEN FORUM

No issues raised

14.115 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 August 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

14.116 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) **U-turns in Stanney Lane:** Andy Raynor (CWaC) reported that the new large directional sign opposite the junction, showing 'Designer Outlet' straight on, now benefitted from the large tree in front of it being cut back quite drastically and was very easily and clearly visible to approaching traffic. A new 'Cheshire Oaks Shopping' sign was to be erected between the junction of Little Stanney Lane on the left for Stoak and Stanney Lane on the right for the Village Hall. The sign was to be erected by the existing sign that stated 'Queensferry 8'. It was hoped that the combination of these signs would go some way to improving the u-turn situation in Stanney Lane. There was also a new large directional sign on the approach to Longlooms Road roundabout stating 'Designer Outlet' traffic to turn right at the roundabout. The extended islands on Stanney Lane would remain in place until the effect of the new signage could be assessed.
- (2) **Speed Limits:** The speed limit assessments on Rake Lane and in Wervin had been completed. The recommendations supported by the police were for Rake Lane from the A5117 to Heathcote to be reduced to 40mph and in Wervin the speed limit to be reduced to 30mph. The next stage was the public consultation which would be supported by the Localities team. The recommendations must be supported by 51% of affected residents before the design stage was started. There would be another general consultation at a later stage when the public notice for the traffic regulation order was published.
- (3) **Waiting Restriction outside School House:** It had been hoped that the double yellow lines would be in place last week but this had not happened. The lines would be placed on the main road rather than in the back of the layby as the surface of the layby was not suitable to accommodate lining but the lines would enforce parking in the layby..
- (4) **Bridleways:** The bollard had been ordered for the bridleway in Stoak and would be installed as soon as it arrived. Pete Atkinson (CWaC) would remove the fallen tree as soon as he could enlist the help of one of the Rangers. With regard to surfacing issues, Pete Atkinson was looking for funding for the bridleway with the tree on it, The bridleway in Picton was a much bigger task but no indication had been given as to whether anything was to be done and, if so, the timescale. The Clerk would check this with Pete Atkinson. With regard to Stoak FP1, when leaving the track to cross the field to the bridge, the stile had been found to be rotten and was to be replaced with a kissing gate.

- (5) **Oil Drum in Stoak:** Despite several attempts to report the presence of an empty oil drum in Stoak, and several inspections by officers of CWaC, the drum was still in situ. The Clerk would report it yet again.
- (6) **Obscured Road Signs:** The Chairman reported that the obscured road signs at the junction of Wervin Road and Fox Covert Lane had now been cleared.
- (7) **Speeding on Whitby Lane:** The problems had not eased and it was still extremely difficult for people to get out of their drives onto the main road because of the fast moving traffic which would not give way. The 30mph speed limit was being ignored. The Clerk would contact the Police.

14.117 PLANNING

- (1) **Applications Received** for consideration and comment:

14/03656/FUL	Site improvements comprising of; new assistant wardens mobile home, replacement wardens mobile home, new car port in place of existing double garage and covered store with a new covered store adjacent existing garage, two additional all-weather pitches and widening of existing site access road at Fair Oaks Caravan and Camp Site, Rake Lane, Little Stanney, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4HS – No objection
14/03952/FUL	Conservatory to Granny Annex at Stanney House, Shotwick-Frodsham Road, Little Stanney, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4HZ – No objection

- (2) **Decisions:**

14/02834/FUL	Agricultural building, OS Field Number 8277, Picton Lane, Wervin, Chester, Cheshire – PERMISSION
14/02532/FUL	Replace mobile home with Log Cabin at OS Field Numbers 7363 5880 and 6600, Croughton Road, Croughton, Chester - PERMISSION

- (3) **Applications Withdrawn:**

14/03076/FUL	Single Storey rear extension at Ty Ni, Whitby Lane, Backford, Chester, CH1 6PH
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- (4) **Awaiting Decision:**

14/02271/S7	Variation of condition 15 (acoustic barriers) and removal of conditions 33 (upgrades to canal berth) and 34 (railway line) of planning application 11/04083/OUT at Plot 3, Ince Resource Recovery Park, Grinsome Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire
14/02272/S7	Variation of conditions 2 (scale and appearance), 3 (reserved matters), 6 (approved plans), 9 (HGV movements), 10 (car parking provision), 12 (vehicular access), 16 (Canal upgrade works), 17 (railway line), 19 (site gatehouse), 33 (acoustic barriers) and 46 (Business centre and village) of planning permission 10/01488/FUL at Ince Resource Recovery Park, Grinsome Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire
14/02278/S7	Variation of conditions 1 (approved plans), 14 (acoustic barriers), 26 (car parking provision), 28 (vehicular access) and 31 (vehicle movements) and removal of conditions 29 (Grinsome Road works), 33 (Canal upgrade works) and 34 (railway line) of planning application 11/00040/WAS at Plot 9, Ince Resource Recovery Park, Grinsome Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire

- (5) **'2D Geophysical Survey for IGas Energy plc:** TESLA Exploration International Limited had been contracted by IGas Energy plc to carry out a two dimensional seismic survey comprising 11 survey lines covering some 116.5 linear kilometres between Ellesmere Port and Chester. Works were scheduled to commence in late September 2014 with an expected completion date in October. The survey would comprise a number of operational phases. IGas had explained that the seismic testing was to gain some understanding of underlying geology in the area. It would be conducted under permitted development rights and was not subject to any planning application so no consultation was required by the local authority. Although this was not a statutory obligation, as best practice the company preferred to advise that this work was to be undertaken so that local councillors were aware of the testing should they be asked questions. The collection of seismic data was an unobtrusive process which should not cause any disruption to members of the public.

The survey work would be largely undertaken on private land and permission had been sought from all landowners. The only land within the parish area that was likely to be affected by the survey was in Croughton and Councillor Mountford confirmed that they had already been contacted about it.

14.118 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Play Area:** Three quotations had been sought for a replacement for the multi play unit on the Play Area. Two had been received and the third was awaited following a site visit. Once all three quotations had been received, the Clerk would submit an application to Cheshire West and Chester Council for funding from the S.106 money from the Wood Farm development.
- (2) **Nature Park:** The Police had visited as a result of some further drug activity on site. This time it had been officers from Frodsham who had agreed to monitor the site in the near future. The Clerk would get in touch with officers from Mickle Trafford to inform them of this and to ask that they also monitor activity on the site.

14.119 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

- (1) **Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies:** The six week public consultation on the modifications to the Local Plan (Part One) had begun on 8 September. Most of the modifications related to wording changes required to improve the clarity of policies and/or address objections raised through the examination process. The main modifications required to make the Plan sound were fairly limited in nature and did not relate to the Plan's approach with regard to the overall housing requirement, the distribution of the housing requirement or the approach to Green Belt. Where policies relating to levels of development had been expressed as 'in the region of' these had been modified to 'at least', for instance STRAT 2 now said 'Over the period 2010–2030 the Plan will deliver at least 22,000 new dwellings'. After the consultation ended the Inspector would produce his final report outlining his findings and modifications required to make the plan sound. The Council would then consider the Inspector's report and decide whether to accept the Inspector's findings and adopt the Plan. The Council could not adopt a Plan unless it accepted in full the main modifications.
- (2) **"Councils Together":** The Clerk had attended the Councils Together event held on 16 September 2014 at Cheshire View, Christleton. The event was opened by Councillor Lynn Riley, Executive Member for Localities, and included presentations by Justin Griggs, Head of Policy & Development at NALC, Sonja Rewhorn, Deputy Chief Executive of ChALC and a representative from the Association for Public Service Excellence. Each delegate was invited to join two workshops, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, focusing on funding, planning, building a profile and delivering services differently. The latter elicited assurances from CWaC about local councils taking on the provision of some services and the Clerk would raise again with CWaC the possibility of receiving some funding towards the cost of employing the Amenity Cleaner.

14.120 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

Nothing to report. The next meeting was scheduled for 1 October 2014.

14.121 COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUILD

Nial Casselden, Senior Planning Officer from CWaC, had agreed to meet with representatives of the Parish Council and Mr Richard Thomas to discuss what options might be available under the Community Right to Build legislation. He had suggested meeting some time during the last two weeks of October. Mr Thomas was available on Tuesday 21st or Friday 24th after 10.00am and the Clerk would offer these dates to Mr Casselden. It was resolved that the Clerk should agree a date with Nial Casselden and Richard Thomas and that any Councillor available to attend should do so.

14.122 FINANCE

- (1) **Payments:** To note/approve the payment of salaries/wages and expenses and invoices for goods received and services rendered.

Cheque No		Amount
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary September 2014	123.20
S/O	Amenity Cleaner – wages September 2014	242.67
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses September 2014	70.04
BACS	Amenity Cleaner – expenses September 2014	101.31
101	J Jones – petrol for mower	12.95
102	HMRC – Income Tax July-September 2014	280.89
103	BDO – External Audit Fee	36.00

- (2) **Receipts:**

Bank Interest	2.49
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- (3) **External Audit:** The external audit for the financial year 2013-14 had been completed by BDO and had been advertised on the Parish Council's notice boards. The only issue raised was that assets should be included at the purchase cost or proxy cost if the purchase cost was not known. The proxy cost could be the insurance value but the value should be fixed at this point and not re-valued each year even if the insurance value increases year on year. Assets gifted to the Council should be valued at £1 plus any installation costs etc incurred. The Parish Council's assets were fixed in 2011 and these were the values that should be used in future. It was resolved that the audited Annual Return for the year 2013-14 be received.

14.123 URGENT BUSINESS

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

14.124 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION

Councillor Glazzard reported that Broadband Delivery UK, part of the Government's Department for Culture, Media & Sport, had asked Connecting Cheshire to help with some research they had commissioned into testing propositions to inform a potential national take-up campaign for superfast broadband. They would be holding a focus group session on Thursday 2 October at 6:30pm at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel, Chester (formerly Hoole Hall). Eight participants were required representing families ideally with children or grandchildren, who were heavy internet users, e.g. who downloaded films and music, shopped online or who regularly worked from home. Each participant must also be responsible for selecting their broadband supplier, although participants did not have to be already upgraded to fibre broadband. Participants would receive £40 for taking part and refreshments would be provided. He would put this on the website.

14.125 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28 October 2014 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall