

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, 25 NOVEMBER 2014** at 7.30pm for the purpose of transacting the business set out on the agenda below



Parish Clerk
18 November 2014

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 / 07890 140412 / e-mail: engy02@ntlworld.com).

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, they should declare any personal interests they have in any matter to be considered at the meeting. The declaration should be made before the matter is considered or as soon as the Councillor becomes aware that a declaration is required. If the interest is a prejudicial one, this must be declared and the Councillor should withdraw from the meeting. It is the Councillor's responsibility to decide whether or not a matter should be declared, although the Clerk will offer advice on the interpretation of the Code if required.

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

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 28 October 2014 as a correct record.

5 PLANNING

(1) **Applications Received** for consideration and comment: None

(2) **Decisions** since the last meeting of the Parish Council:

14/03779/FUL	Three GRP Kiosks on operational wastewater treatment works at Ellesmere Port Waste Water Treatment Works, Shotwick-Frodsham Road, Thornton Le Moors, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4JA - PERMISSION
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(3) **Awaiting Decision:**

14/02271/S73	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
14/02278/S73	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

6 HIGHWAY, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) Issues raised at the last meeting:
 - (1) **U-turns in Stanney Lane:** Update
 - (2) **Speed Limits:** The Clerk responded to the proposals for speed limits on Rake Lane and Wervin Road in accordance with a response provided by Councillors Astbury and Thomas. A reply has now been received from Dave Reeves, CWaC Highways and a copy of the response is attached.
 - (3) **Waiting Restriction outside School House:** The double yellow lines have finally been done.
 - (4) **Bridleways:** As requested at the last meeting, Andy Raynor (CWaC Highways) has been reminded of the availability of planings for the bridleway by Casa Mia.
 - (5) **Speeding on Whitby Lane:** A reply has been received from Inspector Keith Curbishley who has agreed to ask for some further support from the Force Roads Policing Team to support local officers in targeted enforcement of the speed limit and to liaise with the Highways Authority to explore any possibilities for signage or engineering that may also assist.
 - (6) **Little Stanney Lane footpath:** Following an enquiry by the Chairman after the last meeting, CWaC have confirmed that a section of footway from just after 'Stoke Grange' running back to Stoak Village has been recently inspected. A package of work has been put together with the intention of making a bid for funding with siding out of footway proposed to take place before the end of this financial year.
- (2) To consider any other issues relating to highways, rights of way or amenity cleaning.

7 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) Four quotations have now been received for the replacement of the climbing frame on the Playing Field. Information has been received regarding the availability of grant from CWaC and this is being pursued by the Clerk. Further information will be available at the meeting when a decision can be made about which quotation the Parish Council should accept.
- (2) Any other issues relating to the Playing Field or Nature Park.

8 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

- (1) **Annual Report 2014:** Cheshire West and Chester Council's Annual Report 2014 provides an opportunity to reflect upon the Council's fifth year and to review achievements across the Council. In the annual report you can find out about how CWaC continue to investigate how all the Council's services can be delivered better and see how that work has shaped a new organisation, responding to needs. The Annual Report can be viewed at:
http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your_council/policies_and_performance/performance.aspx
(For information)
- (2) **Election Charges:** CWaC have clarified some points raised at the ChALC Chester Area meeting regarding local council election recharges. They re-iterate the previous information sent out to Local Councils. Local Councils have always had to meet the cost of a by-election. Costs vary according to the number on the register, whether poll cards are sent out, the number of postal votes etc and vary between £2,500 up to £6,500 for larger Town Council wards. With effect from 1 April 2014 it has been agreed that local councils should be recharged some of the costs for holding combined elections. Rather than putting in place a complicated formula based on various rates for hire of polling stations, poll staff, costs for printing and postal votes etc, which would result in smaller parishes paying considerably more per elector than larger town or parish councils, a fixed rate per elector has been proposed. This method as well as being more equitable also means that local councils will know in advance how much a combined election will cost and will be able to budget accordingly. For any **uncontested elections** costs are still incurred – preparation of candidate packs, putting up notices, checking nominations etc. There will be a minimum charge for uncontested elections of £181 (£165 admin fee plus returning

officer fee £16 per 1000 electors) and this will affect all local councils. For **contested elections** the charges are £0.85 per elector with a minimum charge of £547.50 (£500 admin fee plus the Returning Officer fee of £47.50 as per the Cheshire Scale of Fees and Charges). There will be a cap on the maximum amount recharged to ensure that no local council pays more than the actual additional costs incurred by CWaC in carrying out the election. The maximum amount recharged will be £2,337.50 based on 2,750 electors. Any parish councils (with grouped parishes) that had split elections for parts of their areas (3 or 4 councillors in each making up a whole) would only need to pay one uncontested fee if all areas were uncontested or one contested fee (and no uncontested fee) if only part of the parish council area had a contested election. Town Councils will have to pay for each ward that is contested. It should be noted that whilst the recharging proposals mean that local councils pay a contribution towards the cost of combined elections, the amount being charged does not equate to the full additional costs incurred by CWaC when combined elections are held. The Council is aware that this is a change in the way that elections are charged for and in order to lessen the impact of this change, costs for scheduled elections in 2015 may be paid for in two stages 50% in 2015/16 and 50% in 2016/17. Following the May 2015 elections the Council will review the arrangements and discuss with ChALC whether any further changes are required. Parish Councils will be notified well in advance of any changes that may be in place for the 2019 elections. This will give Councils the chance, if appropriate, to create an elections reserve to enable them to budget for the cost of contested elections over a period of years. In relation to the 2015 elections the Council will be offering all Clerks the opportunity to attend briefings on the nomination and elections process. The briefings will take place in early 2015 and details will be sent nearer the time.

- (3) **Consultations:** CWaC are currently consulting on a Domestic Abuse Strategy. The closing date for responses is **31st December** and the consultation document and online questionnaire can be viewed at:

http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your_council/consultations_and_petitions/council_consultations/domestic_abuse_strategy.aspx

CWaC are also consulting on a Homeless Strategy. The closing date for responses is **31 December 2014** and the strategy and questionnaire can be viewed at:

http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/your_council/consultations_and_petitions/council_consultations/homelessness_strategy_consulta.aspx

9 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

Peel have issued a press statement which begins as follows: "Peel Environmental has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Babcock & Wilcox Volund (BWV) to progress the consented Ince Resource Recovery Park in Cheshire. The deal will see Peel and BWV work together to pursue the development, construction and operation of the consented Energy from Waste (EfW) plant which will service local needs and industry." BWV will take over from Covanta who pulled out of the EfW partnerships last year.

10 COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUILD

To consider the issues raised at the meeting on 18 November 2014 with Nial Casselden, Senior Planning Officer, CWaC and Richard Thomas

11 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **Active Cheshire Funding:** To celebrate their 25th Anniversary, Active Cheshire are awarding one grant of £15,000, one of £5,000 and five of £1,000 to be used for anything that will help to get a community active eg. fun runs, investing in equipment or adapting facilities. The closing date for submissions is 5 January 2015.

- (2) **Annual Consultation on Future Plans for Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service:** Cheshire Fire Authority has launched its annual consultation on plans for the next financial year and is seeking feedback from local councils as key stakeholders. The overall plans have been developed and agreed by the Fire Authority to maintain and improve front line services, while making the most effective use of reduced national funding. The Fire Authority has now published its draft annual plan for 2015-16, the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP), which continues the implementation of

these major proposals. A 12 week consultation was launched on 29 September and will run until 31 December. A copy of the summary of the plan is attached. Further information can be found at www.cheshirefire.gov.uk. The latest draft plan includes detail on the building of three new fire stations at Alsager, at the end of the M56 in Mollington and at Penketh. This is in addition to a joint safety/education centre and fire station at Lymm, which will focus on prevention activities and provide a hub for partnership work. The new stations, which have all had planning permission granted, will provide on-call and other employment opportunities within local communities. The Plan also sets out proposals to make significant changes to how fire stations are crewed, by increasing the use of on-call staff. This will help the Service to meet expected budget cuts of £2 million per year from its current £42m budget. Members of the Fire Authority are confident that, with these plans, no fire stations will be closed and no firefighters will be subject to compulsory redundancies.

12 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	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-wages November 2014	251.33
S/O	Parish Clerk-salary November 2014	123.20
BACS	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner) – expenses November 2014	t.b.c.
BACS	Parish Clerk-expenses November 2014	40.50

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

13 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.

14 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION

15 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 27 January 2014 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall