

Little Stanney & District Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 28 October 2014 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors Roy Greenwood (in the Chair), David Astbury, Paul Carter, John Glazzard, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe, Pete Mountford and Judith Thomas

In attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk), PC Kevin Ross and one member of the public.

14.126 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Linda Carter and Martin Roberts

14.127 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

14.128 OPEN FORUM

A resident was in attendance to draw to the Council's attention the ongoing problems with the road network around Little Stanney/Cheshire Oaks and the lack of correct signage. The introduction of traffic cones at the entrance to Stanney Lane had exacerbated the problems and PC Ross confirmed that there had been an increase in minor accidents. The resident had drawn up a potential solution which he left with the Chairman and agreed to attend a meeting with Highway Engineers if one could be arranged to discuss the issues further.

14.129 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

14.130 PLANNING

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

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 – No objection
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(2) **Decisions:**

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 – PERMISSION
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(3) **Awaiting Decision:**

14/03952/FUL	Conservatory to Granny Annex at Stanney House, Shotwick-Frodsham Road, Little Stanney, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4HZ
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
14/02278/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

14.131 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

(1) **U-turns in Stanney Lane:** A small sign, black on white, had been attached underneath the "Queensferry 8 miles" sign on the A5117 directing motorists to "Cheshire Oaks Shopping". However there was no follow-up sign at the roundabout sending traffic towards the Coliseum. The position of the sign was causing visibility problems for vehicles exiting Little Stanney Lane and the Clerk would report this to CWaC. The Day Nursery had reported that u-turning was as bad as ever and that they had witnessed a vehicle driving out of Stanney Lane on the wrong side of the

road, having been unable to negotiate a u-turn. Since the road had been blocked off for the United Utilities roadworks, vehicles had been seen trying to u-turn in front of the roadworks. The Clerk would report this back to CWaC.

- (2) **Speed Limits:** The CWaC Localities Team had forwarded a copy of the consultation reports for Rake Lane and Wervin Road and these were circulated for information and comment. While Councillors were happy with the proposal for a 30mph speed limit through Wervin, the proposal for a 40mph then 60mph limit on Rake Lane was not considered to be acceptable. It appeared that the survey had been based on the number of entrances/exits along Rake Lane but that no account had been taken of the number of vehicles likely to be on the Caravan Club's site which had 100 pitches. The Caravan Park was popular year round and there could potentially be 400 people there at any one time. Christmas was particularly busy as people came to shop on Cheshire Oaks and mainly walked down Rake Lane to do so. Despite a request to the car dealerships not to use Rake Lane, there was evidence that this request was being ignored. Councillor Dilworth confirmed that there had been a number of minor accidents to both vehicles and people, none of which had been reported and therefore did not feature as statistics. It was resolved that Councillors should read through the proposals and let the Clerk have any comments they would like to include in the feedback to CWaC. A deadline was given of Wednesday 5 November.
- (3) **Waiting Restriction outside School House:** Andy Raynor, Senior Engineer, CWaC, had confirmed that he had given the order for the double yellow lines to Ringwood, CWaC's highways maintenance contractor, some time ago and was waiting for the job to be done.
- (4) **Bridleways:** Pete Atkinson, Public Rights of Way Officer (North Chester & Ellesmere Port) reported that delivery of the bollards for the bridleway in Stoak was still awaited. He aimed to have the tree done this week but because chainsaws were required it was necessary to have a buddy and he was waiting for one of the chainsaw trained Rangers to be available to assist. With regard the surfacing, as the Public Rights of Way team had no budget so he was trying to get some stone to do at least the bridleway where the fallen tree was. With regard to the Picton route a contractor might be needed to give a price but there was no guarantee that the job would be done as the decision was not his to make. It was noted that the vegetation on the route had been cut back. Councillor Astbury asked that Andy Raynor be reminded of the availability of plantings for the bridleway by Casa Mia.
- (5) **Oil Drum in Stoak:** The oil drum had now been removed.
- (6) **Speeding on Whitby Lane:** The Clerk had emailed Inspector Keith Curbishley about the speeding problems on Whitby Lane, but had not yet received a response.
- (7) **Little Stanney Lane:** The Chairman reported that he had contacted CWaC regarding the length of footway on Little Stanney Lane which was slowly being grassed over and becoming increasingly narrow for pedestrians to walk on. As there was only a relatively short length of footway to walk on between Stoak and the A5117 it was important that this limited facility was maintained to a good standard.

14.132 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Play Area:** Four quotations had been sought for a replacement for the multi play unit on the Play Area. Two had been received and the remaining two were awaited. A site visit had been undertaken two weeks ago and a further site visit had been arranged for 7 November. In the meantime the Clerk had emailed the basic details to CWaC and had asked whether there was an application form to complete to apply for funding from the S106 obligation attached to Wood Farm (or elsewhere in the area).
- (2) **Nature Park:** The handrail on the path leading from the old bridge onto the towpath at Stoak had been broken. The Clerk had reported it to CWaC who had advised that the Parish Council should get it repaired and invoice CWaC with the net cost. The work had been completed by Ringwood Fencing at a cost of £138.75 + VAT. Councillor Jones took the opportunity to inform PC Ross that it had been reported

that the people suspected of taking drugs were parking between the two motorway bridges and walking up the towpath to the Nature Park, mainly in the evenings. The hedge had been cut back even further and there was now a good view into the site from the road. PC Ross agreed to keep an eye on the site.

14.133 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

- (1) **Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies – Sites and Services Survey:** The Local Plan (Part Two) would set out the non-strategic land use allocations and detailed planning policies, following on from the strategic policy framework set out in the Local Plan (Part One). When adopted, both documents would form part of the statutory development plan for Cheshire West and Chester and would replace all former Local Plans. The Local Plan (Part Two) would cover the period up to 2030, to align with the Local Plan (Part One). CWaC were seeking local intelligence from parish and town councils and, in unparished areas, Localities and Regeneration Boards alongside ward councillors to identify potential future development sites that could be considered for allocation, inform a survey of local services and facilities to support the identification of local service centres in the rural area and identify development sites. This survey was an important evidence source to inform the council's Land Availability Assessment (LAA) and could also be used to assist communities preparing Neighbourhood Development Plans. It would be for the development plan to determine which of those sites were the most suitable to meet future needs. Parish and town councils, Localities and Regeneration Boards had received Local area OS map(s), site details forms and a services and facilities questionnaire to complete and return by Friday 14 November 2014. Although the Lawnswood site had been turned down previously because, although it was a brownfield site it was still in the Green Belt, it was resolved to submit it again along with the small field adjacent to Stanney Woods that was currently being used as paddock.

14.134 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

The last meeting had been held on 1 October 2014. The Chairman reported that site investigations had taken place in respect of ground conditions and Peel Energy were identifying funding options for the biomass plant and hoped to conclude this by the end of 2014. A new EfW partner had been found to replace Covanta and information about the new partner would be circulated in advance of the next meeting, which was to be held in February 2015. The hope had been expressed at the October meeting that the outstanding planning applications would be determined by the end of October.

.135 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **BT Telephone Kiosk, Bunbury Close, Stoak:** The Parish Council had been given advance warning that BT were reviewing their telephone boxes with a view to disconnecting and removing those that were poorly used. The telephone box in Bunbury Close, Stoak had only been used six times in the last twelve months and was one of those that BT wished to remove. The Parish Council could object to this or could purchase the box for £1 (without the telephone) for use for community purposes through the Adopt a Box scheme. It was resolved not to object to the removal of this box.

- (2) **Publications:** Clerks and Councils Direct – November 2014

14.136 GROW WILD SPACES (ENGLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND)

It was reported that Grow Wild was a four-year campaign to bring people together to sow UK native plants. Local voluntary, community, parish and town councils, youth groups, health authorities and secondary schools; etc. could apply for grants of between £1,000 and £4,000 to create a "Grow Wild Community Site. The funding could not cover staff costs but could cover costs such as materials, plants and seeds, and any volunteer costs. Grow Wild expect to fund 60 groups in 2015. The closing date for applications was 2 December 2014. The Parish Council was unable to identify a suitable site(s).

14.137 COMMUNITY ASSETS AND SERVICES PRE-FEASIBILITY GRANTS (ENGLAND)

Community based organisations thinking of running a local service or taking over the management of a local building or land had until 31 October 2014 to apply to the Community Assets and Services Pre-Feasibility Grants scheme where grants of £5,000 to £10,000 were available to build the internal capacity of organisations to help them compete to deliver public services and/or run assets. It was resolved that Little Stanney & District was not in a position to make a bid at the present time.

14.138 COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUILD

The meeting with Nial Casselden, Senior Planning Officer, CWaC and Richard Thomas to consider the issues relating to Community Right to Build had been cancelled and would be re-scheduled. It was suggested that the meeting be held in the early evening rather than during the day. A start time of 6.00pm was proposed.

14.139 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 October 2014	123.20
S/O	Amenity Cleaner – wages October 2014	242.67
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses October 2014	35.92
BACS	Amenity Cleaner – expenses October 2014	38.00
104	Ringwood Fencing-Repair of handrail on Canal Bridge towpath	166.50
105	J Jones – Hyacinths	6.00

- (2) **Receipts:**

Bank Interest	2.49
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- (3) **2nd Quarterly Budget Report:** Income and expenditure against budget at the half yearly stage was noted. There were no issues raised

14.140 URGENT BUSINESS

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

14.141 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

PC Ross apologised for not attending meetings previously but hoped that now the Parish Council was meeting monthly either he or PCSO Jake Connelly would be able to attend more frequently. The villages were generally very quiet with the main issues being theft from stables and speeding. Recently there had been two RTCs, both minor, and one incident at The Rake public house. Vehicles at the Fair Oaks Caravan Park in Little Stanney were being broken into fairly regularly with the target being mainly bikes and satnavs. There had recently been an arrest with the perpetrator receiving a three month prison sentence.

14.142 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 25 November 2014 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall. There would be no meeting in December.