

Little Stanney & District Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 24 February 2015 at Little Stanney Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors John Glazzard (in the Chair), Linda Carter, Paul Carter, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe and Judith Thomas

In attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

15.15 COUNCILLOR MARTIN ROBERTS

The Parish Council was sad to note the death, on Tuesday 27 January 2015, of Councillor Martin Roberts. Although a resident of Stoak, Martin represented Little Stanney parish. He had been a Parish Councillor for many years and would be missed by his fellow Councillors. Members stood in silence as a mark of respect. Given the proximity of the Parish Councils elections in May 2015, it was not proposed to advertise and fill the vacancy.

15.16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors David Astbury, Chris Dilworth, Roy Greenwood and Pete Mountford

15.17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

15.18 OPEN FORUM

No issues raised.

15.19 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 27 January 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

15.20 PLANNING

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

15/00145/FUL	Conversion of existing barn into residential unit – Amendment to application 14/02159/FUL at Pennywell Farm, Croughton Road, Croughton, Chester CH2 4DA – no comments to be made
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(2) **Decisions** since the last meeting of the Parish Council:

14/05064/DIS	Discharge of conditions 3 (materials), 5 (window details) and 7 (mitigation of swallows) as approved under permission 13/05178/FUL at Stanney House, Shotwick-Frodsham Road, Little Stanney, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4HZ - 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

(4) **Ellesmere Port Gateway Signs:** The Clerk reported that Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) had originally wanted to erect two Ellesmere Port Gateway signs in the grass verges outside the garage and the Wain housing development. This proposal had since been modified to one sign in the grass verge outside the Wain homes. The sign would be located between the two lamp posts and would be approximately 3m in length and 1m in height. As the sign would be within Little Stanney parish, the Parish Council had been consulted on the proposal. Councillors Astbury, Dilworth and Thomas and the Clerk had discussed the proposals and had some concerns about the size and location of the signs, although it appeared that the original proposal had been modified to take account of these concerns. The Parish Council had drawn up a wish list of improvements to the area, including the

installation of Parish boundary signs at various locations, which would be suggested to CWaC. The Parish Council would also ask why Little Stanney & District Parish Council had not been included in the terms of the S106 agreement, as part of the Wain Homes site was within Little Stanney parish.

15.21 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) **U-turns in Stanney Lane:** The Clerk had written to the Leader of CWaC, Councillor Mike Jones, the Chief Executive, Steve Robinson, the Manager of the McArthur Glen Outlet Village at Cheshire Oaks and the Highways Agency, copying in the three ward members, Councillors Heatley, Henesy and Madders, asking for a meeting of all interested parties to discuss the traffic issues at Junction 10 of the M53 and the A5117 around Cheshire Oaks. An acknowledgement had been received from Steve Robinson but to date no response had been received from any of the other recipients.
- (2) **Speed Limits:** CWaC were dealing with the consultation programme for the proposed speed limits on Rake Lane and Wervin Road.
- (3) **Dropping off place outside School House:** The Clerk had received a visit from Sgt Williams who was responsible for siting surveillance vehicles in the dropping off place outside School House despite the double yellow lines on the road in front of the area. He had admitted that he had not been aware that vehicles could not park behind double yellow lines but had checked this and had discovered that it was illegal to park up to the fence line. He apologised for not knowing this and would tell his officers not to park there in future, although it had been the perfect vantage point for surveillance of vehicles coming from the motorways into Cheshire Oaks. Other vehicles had been seen parking in the dropping off place and the Clerk had emailed Andy Raynor (CWA C Highways) to ask whether the double yellow lines could be painted on the pavement behind the pull-in or a notice placed in the dropping off place to say there was no parking permitted at any time.

15.22 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Play Area:** The Clerk had still not received any response from CWaC about the possible S106 funding for the new play equipment. A further reminder had been sent. One of the four companies who had quoted for the replacement slide had offered advice on getting grant for play equipment and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact him to ask what was available.
- (2) **Nature Park:** Councillor Jones reported that there had been some vandalism to cars parked by the Nature Park. This would be reported to the Police.

15.23 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Parish Council considered and adopted the following policies:

- (1) Freedom of Information – Publication Scheme
- (2) Policy and Procedure for handling requests for information
- (3) Risk Management Strategy
- (4) Dignity at Work. Bullying and Harassment Policy
- (5) Discipline, Dismissal and Grievance Policy
- (6) Equality and Diversity Policy
- (7) Scheme of Delegation to the Parish Clerk
- (8) Complaints Procedure
- (9) Health and Safety Policy
- (10) Data Protection and Information Security Policy

These would be put on the website and a copy would be given to new Councillors when they were first elected/co-opted

15.24 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL

- (1) **Good dog Ownership Campaign:** CWaC had launched an innovative campaign to tackle the problem of dog fouling in the borough. The initiative would consist of awareness raising, community engagement and enforcement. Mabel, a large black Newfoundland dog, had been recruited as a mascot for the campaign and would be

used for school visits and roadshows. The involvement of schools was an important feature of the campaign and William Stockton School in Ellesmere Port was designing a lesson plan which would cover responsible dog ownership, prevention of fouling, the impact of fouling and the importance of clearing up. A new leaflet entitled "Good owners make good dogs" which featured Mabel and contained useful information and tips was available for distribution. Material from the Keep Britain Tidy 'We're Watching You' campaign was also available. One of the initiatives was 'Pink Poo' which involved spraying the dog mess and then reporting the problem on-line so that it could be cleaned up by Streetscene. A Pink Poo toolkit was available to all communities and it was suggested that the Parish Council should request one and ask Graham Povey, the Amenity Cleaner, to use it when out on his rounds. The Clerk could then report the location of the pink poo on-line. This was agreed.

15.25 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

The last meeting had been held on 4 February 2015 when both Northern Bio Power and Babcock Wilcox Volund had given presentations on the Biomass Facility and the Efw Facility, respectively. Further information on the progress of these two facilities was awaited.

15.26 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **Consultation on 'Planning for a Safer Cheshire 2015-2020: Cheshire Fire Authority's Draft Five Year Strategy:** Consultation was under way on a new draft five year strategy, entitled '*Planning for a Safer Cheshire 2015-2020*', which set out Cheshire Fire Authority's plans up to 2020. The strategy proposed to provide the Service's frontline resources on its current Cheshire boundaries rather than exploring options to merge with other fire and rescue services; in relation to support functions, embark upon a programme of collaboration with Cheshire Police and potentially with other organisations locally and regionally; further review the Service's prevention and protection functions, including exploring the potential to work more closely with health bodies to reduce the demand on services; consider asking residents to vote for an additional council tax increase if the Authority feels that the alternatives would increase local risk levels unacceptably and undertake a new review of emergency response arrangements to ensure that the resources in place reflect local risks and activity levels. Consultation at this stage would focus mainly on gathering the views of local stakeholders, partner organisations and staff. Once finalised, the objectives within the strategy would underpin public, staff and stakeholder consultation on the Service's future annual action plans, called Integrated Risk Management Plans (IRMPs). The formal consultation period would end on 27 March 2015, with a revised strategy being considered at the Annual General Meeting of the Fire Authority on 17 June 2015. No comments to be made
- (2) **ChALC Chester Area Meeting:** The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 4 March 2015 at 7.00pm at HQ, Chester. The Clerk would attend. Councillor Astbury would be informed in case he also wished to attend.
- (3) **Publications:** The following publications had been received – ChALC News December 2014.

15.27 FINANCE

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

Cheque No		Amount
S/O	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner)-wages February 2015	251.33
S/O	Parish Clerk-salary February 2015	123.99
BACS	G Povey (Amenity Cleaner) – expenses February 2015	28.35
BACS	Parish Clerk-expenses February 2015	43.04

- (2) **Receipts:** None
- (3) **Balance:** The balance in the bank at 24 February 2015 was £6,117.42

- (4) **Insurance:** The Parish Council's insurance policy would expire at the end of May 2015 when the three-year contract with Came and Company ended. The Clerk would seek quotations from other insurance companies as well as Came and Company to find suitable insurance for the year 2015-16. To assist with this, Councillors considered and approved the list of the Council's assets as being correct.

15.28 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Elections: The Clerk informed Councillors that nomination papers for the forthcoming Parish Council elections would be made available from CWaC from 9 March and that she would be informed when she could collect them from the Ellesmere Port offices. It was agreed to complete them in time for the March meeting and the Clerk could then check them and submit them all together.

15.29 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24 March 2015 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall.