

Little Stanney & District Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 26 May 2015 at Little Stanney Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors David Astbury, Linda Carter, Paul Carter, Chris Dilworth, John Glazzard, Roy Greenwood, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe, Pete Mountford and Michael Todd.

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

Councillor Roy Greenwood in the Chair

15.55 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Glazzard was nominated by Councillor Linda Carter and seconded by Councillor Astbury. There being no further nominations Councillor Glazzard was elected Chairman of the Parish Council for the year 2015-16. The Chairman signed declaration of acceptance of office form.

Councillor John Glazzard in the Chair

15.56 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillors elected on 7 May 2015 signed their declaration of acceptance of office forms.

It was resolved that the appointment of Vice-Chairman should take place after the co-option of councillors to the two vacant places.

15.57 RESULTS OF ELECTION AND VACANCIES FOR COUNCILLORS

It was noted that at the elections held on 7 May 2015 the following had been elected to represent Little Stanney & District Parish Council:

Croughton Parish (1): Councillor Pete Mountford

Little Stanney Parish (4): Councillors David Astbury, Chris Dilworth, Judith Thomas and Michael Todd

Stoak Parish (3): Councillors Linda Carter and John Jones (one vacancy)

Wervin Parish (3): Councillors John Glazzard and Clive Lipscombe (one vacancy)

Two seats remain to be filled by co-option. A request had been received from Roy Greenwood to fill the vacant place in Wervin. A request had been received from Paul Carter to fill the vacant place in Stoak. It was resolved that both applicants be co-opted to fill the vacant places on the Parish Council with immediate effect and that they sign declarations of acceptance of office.

15.58 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Greenwood was nominated by Councillor Glazzard and seconded by Councillor Lipscombe. There being no further nominations Councillor Greenwood was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the year 2015-16.

15.59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Judith Thomas

15.60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

15.61 OPEN FORUM

No issues raised

15.62 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 28 April 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

Two issues were raised relating to the Minutes.

- (1) **Litter:** No reply appeared to have been received to Justin Madders' letter to the fast food takeaways on Cheshire Oaks regarding the amount of litter generated in the area and it was agreed that the Parish Council should follow up with an invitation to McDonald's and KFC to meet with the Parish Council, Justin Madders MP and Councillor Stephen Smith to try to find a solution to this constant problem.

- (2) **Ellesmere Port Gateway signs:** There was no further progress on the siting of these signs. The Clerk would follow this up with CWaC.

15.63 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL (CWaC)

It was noted that at the elections held on 7 May 2015 control of Cheshire West and Chester Council had passed to the Labour Party, who were now the largest party by two seats, reduced to a majority of one by an independent councillor. Councillor Stephen Smith (Labour) had been elected to serve the Elton ward. Unfortunately Councillor Smith was unable to be present at the meeting due to a commitment in London. He hoped to attend the next meeting.

15.64 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

The following were appointed to represent the Parish Council for the year 2015-16:

- (1) Ince Park Community Forum – Councillor Roy Greenwood
- (2) Cheshire Association of Local Councils, Chester Area Meeting – Councillor Astbury and the Clerk (+ any other Councillors who wished to attend)

15.65 DELEGATION TO COMMITTEES OR EMPLOYEES

- (1) In accordance with Standing Orders, the appointment of a Conduct Committee was confirmed comprising the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and one further Councillor to be decided by the Parish Council depending on the issue to be heard. The Committee's terms of reference were as set out in Standing Orders. If the complaint of misconduct was against a member of the Committee, the Parish Council would select another Member in his/her place.
- (2) The delegation of the submission of responses to planning applications to the Parish Clerk was confirmed, subject to any major or contentious applications being referred to a meeting of the Council called for the purpose if there is no scheduled meeting of the Council within the timescale for a response to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

15.66 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Parish Council should review its Standing Orders and Financial Regulations annually and make any necessary changes as a result of new legislation or for other reasons. NALC had issued a revised model which had been adapted to meet the needs of Little Stanney and District Parish Council and a copy of the revised Standing Orders was circulated for approval. No changes were needed to Financial Regulations. It was resolved that the new Standing Orders be adopted.

15.67 AUDIT

Wellfield Accounting Services Ltd had completed the internal audit and had submitted a report which showed that no changes were necessary to the current accounting systems. It was resolved that the report be received and noted and a copy be placed on the Parish Council's website in accordance with the requirements of the new audit system.

15.68 INSURANCE

Came & Company, the Parish Council's current insurers, had quoted £521.58 to renew the Council's insurance cover for the year 2015-16. Zurich had quoted £326.67 with an agreement until 1 June 2018. As agreed at the last meeting, the Clerk had accepted Zurich's quotation.

15.69 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) **Junction 10:** There was nothing further to report following the meeting with the Highways Agency and CWaC, although it was reported that the Zoo traffic was now being signed via the Hoole roundabout.
- (2) **Speed Limit Reviews:** Now that the election was over, CWaC could start the consultation with residents about the speed limit proposals for Rake Lane and Wervin Road. The Clerk would ask Sarah Dobbins (Locality Team) to find out who was now responsible for conducting the consultation exercise.

- (3) **Picton Lane/Wervin Road Junction:** The triangle of grass at the corner of the junction had not been cut back for some time and the grass was now so long it was causing visibility difficulties. It was noted that this area was being cut during the winter months when it was not needed.
- (4) **Ashwood Lane bridle path:** The steps on this bridle path were covered in briars. The Clerk would inform Pete Atkinson, CWaC Rights of Way officer.

15.70 PLANNING

- (1) **Applications:** None Received
- (2) **Decisions:** None taken
- (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 |

15.71 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Play Area:** The Clerk had been informed that an application had been submitted to the Section 106 Panel on behalf of the Parish Council seeking a grant sufficient to cover the cost of the new play equipment. The outcome of the Panel's deliberations was awaited.
- (2) **Nature Park:** It was noted that it had been necessary to repair the mower at a cost of £127.10 + VAT.
- (3) **Playing Field:** The fence to the rear of the playing field backing onto the houses in Bunbury Close had been repaired by Sanctuary Housing. However, the briars along the edge of the path leading to the canal bridge had still not been cut back.

15.72 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

The meeting scheduled for 20 May 2015 had been cancelled at the request of Cheshire West and Chester Council in order to enable them to appoint representatives following the recent elections. The next meeting would be the Annual General meeting in June.

15.73 DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

A disposal policy was considered and approved.

15.74 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 May 2015 | 260.00 |
| S/O | Parish Clerk-salary May 2015 | 128.10 |
| BACS | G Povey (Amenity Cleaner) – expenses May 2015 | 37.80 |
| BACS | Parish Clerk-expenses May 2015 | 25.96 |
| 114 | J Jones – Mower Repair / petrol for mower | 165.42 |
| 115 | Cheshire County Playing Fields Association – Affiliation | 18.00 |
| 116 | Wellfield Accounting Services Ltd – Internal Audit Fee | 84.00 |

- (2) **Receipts:** None
- (3) **Balance:** The balance in the bank at 26 May 2015 was £11,651.66.

15.75 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

None

15.76 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23 June 2015 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall

