

# Little Stanney & District Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council** held on Tuesday 22 September 2015 at Little Stanney Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Councillors John Glazzard (in the Chair), David Astbury, Chris Dilworth, Roy Greenwood, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe, Pete Mountford and Michael Todd.

In attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk). There were eight members of the public present.

## **15.100 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Judith Thomas and Cheshire West & Chester Ward Councillor Stephen Smith

Councillors Linda and Paul Carter were also absent from the meeting.

## **15.101 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

## **15.102 OPEN FORUM**

(1) **Seismic Surveys:** iGas Energy were in the process of acquiring data to build up an image of rock formations in the area by undertaking a number of 3-D seismic surveys. The areas in which these surveys were being taken were around Ince, Stoak, Thornton-Le-Moors, Little Stanney, Elton and Frodsham Marshes and the local population in the search areas were being offered a financial incentive to allow the tests to be undertaken on their property. The data recovered would add to the information iGas had already received about what was under the ground obtained from 2-D surveys and exploratory drilling over recent years. The quality of the 3-D data would allow their technical teams to get a more reliable picture of underground features and rock formations to enable them to make better informed decisions about future operations. Members of the public were concerned that these surveys might lead to fracking operations in the area. The Parish Council was asked for its views on whether it would allow the seismic surveys to take place on land in its ownership. This was not something that the Parish Council had discussed and a show of hands determined that of the eight members in attendance at the meeting, four were against allowing the surveys to take place. The remaining four abstained. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) expressing the concern of residents about the lack of information from CWaC about what was happening regarding seismic surveys and test drilling in the area and to ask iGas for the results of the last drilling exercise.

(2) **United Utilities work in Stanney Lane:** United Utilities had recently spent some time in Stanney Lane installing new water mains. They had reinstated the verge on the corner of Stanney Lane/A5117 very badly and had not put back the bollards recently erected around the edge of the corner to prevent u-turning. Trees had been removed from the verge further down Stanney Lane. The Clerk was asked to write to United Utilities to ask them to reinstate the verge to an acceptable standard, replace the bollards and plant replacement trees.

## **15.103 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 28 July 2015 were confirmed as a correct record.

## **15.104 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING**

(1) **Speed Limits – Rake Lane and Wervin Road:** CWaC had been asked to confirm when the public consultation exercise would be undertaken with regard to the proposed speed limits on these two roads. The matter had been taken up by the Ward Councillor, Stephen Smith, and it had been agreed to go out to consultation in October. The Parish Council was reminded that the proposals would require 51% support from residents who might be impacted and that match funding would need to be found.

- (2) **Junction 10/Cheshire Oaks:** A sign had been ordered to direct those who made a wrong turning into Stanney Lane straight down ahead to Kinsey Road instead of making a u-turn. They would then turn left to the Coliseum roundabout and come back down the other side of Kinsey Road. A major resigning exercise had been undertaken as part of the Mersey Gateway project around the motorway junctions and a copy of the report was awaited from the consultants. The Parish Council would be consulted once the report was available. It was hoped that this would address the issue of how the lanes were labelled for traffic leaving the M53 from Chester and would ensure people were in the correct lane for Cheshire Oaks. A sign had already been installed on the A5117 to direct people straight ahead via Longlooms Road if they had taken a wrong turn off the motorway roundabout.
- (3) **Loading Bay outside School House:** There were no authorised signs that could be placed here which could be enforced although a sign could be installed for information. Andy Raynor was looking into this but the Parish Council was reminded that, once again, there might be cost implications. Any vehicles parked in the loading bay that were not delivering to School House should be reported to Parking Services (Ken Prior)
- (4) **Motorbike:** PCSO Jake Connolly had so far been unable to catch the speeding motorbike reported at the last meeting to have been seen and heard in Stoak and Wervin. A speeding motorbike had also been noted in the Capenhurst Lane area. The matter would continue to be pursued.
- (5) **Vehicle Testing on Village Roads:** It was reported that, once again, local dealerships were using village roads to test their vehicles. The worst offender was Porsche. PC Rob Boulton offered to have a word with them.
- (6) **Blocked Bridleway:** Pete Atkinson (CWaC Rights of Way Officer) had reported that the tree blocking the bridleway to the rear of Whitby Lane had now been removed.
- (7) **Ellesmere Port Gateway sign:** CWaC now proposed to site the Gateway sign against the hedge opposite the garage (backing onto the new houses) on land within Little Stanney parish, and had asked the Parish Council to support this. Two alternative sites had also been offered, on the verge outside the garage and closer to the entrance to the Wain Homes development.
- (8) **Little Stanney Parish boundary signs:** Following on from the proposal to erect the Ellesmere Port Gateway sign, the Parish Council had asked CWaC for some funding towards the cost of Little Stanney parish boundary signs to be placed on Chester Road (leaving Ellesmere Port), Whitby Lane (coming towards the Strawberry roundabout) and Strawberry Way West (just after the Fishery). The Parish Council would also like a sign between Little Stanney and Thornton-le-Moors.
- (9) **Little Stanney Lane junction with A5117:** A “Sports Village” sign had been put on the existing sign to the left of the junction, which was causing visibility problems for people exiting the Lane.

## 15.105 PLANNING

- (1) **Applications Received** for consideration and comment: None received
- (2) **Decisions** taken by CWaC since the last Parish Council meeting:

15/03480/FUL	Erection of control kiosk at Ellesmere Port Waste Water Treatment Works, Shotwick-Frodsham Road, Thornton Le Moors, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4JA - PERMISSION
15/03182/TPO	Crown reduce by 20% max various trees in TPO area and Sycamore T1 and T2 as indicated in the application on land at Strawberry Way East, Chester - PERMISSION
15/02229/FUL	Detached dependant relative accommodation at Barn, Pennywell Farm, Croughton Road, Croughton, Chester – APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
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 – PERMISSION
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14/02278/S73	Variation of conditions 1 (approved plans), 14 (acoustic barriers), 26 (car parking provision) and removal of conditions 33 (Canal upgrade works) and 34 (railway line) of planning application 11/00040/WAS on Plot 9, Ince Resource Recovery Park, Grinsome Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire - PERMISSION
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### 15.106 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) **Play Area Inspection Report:** The report of the inspection undertaken on 1 September 2015 had been received from Morral Play Services. The only issue raised was the condition of the climbing frame, which the Parish Council was advised would only last one more year. It was recommended that the safety surface be replaced as soon as possible.
- (2) **Funding for new Play Equipment:** The Clerk was still trying to ascertain whether or not the Parish Council had been successful in receiving a grant towards the cost of the new play equipment using the S106 money generated by the Wood Farm development. One of the issues raised regarding the use of the S106 money was that Wood Farm was classed as being within Ellesmere Port. This was a matter that was to have been considered when the Governance Review of the unparished areas was undertaken, but the review had been put on hold prior to the election and it was not known whether it would now be undertaken at all. The Clerk would make enquiries about this with CWaC.

### 15.107 INCE PARK COMMUNITY FORUM

The last meeting had been held on 9 September 2015 at which it was reported that the site work on the Biomass plant was likely to start towards the end of September. The facility was likely to take about two years to complete. Northern Biopower would be invited to a meeting of the Forum to update them on progress. Discussions were continuing with the aim of having agreement by the end of the year to progress the EfW scheme. Peel and Chester University were to work together on a new, nationally significant enterprise and industry hub based at Thornton Science Park. A new website was being developed which would have dedicated pages for the Community Forum and the Community Benefit Fund.

### 15.108 CHANGES TO BUS SERVICE

It was reported that from 1 September 2015 the Service 26 Ellesmere Port-Wervin-Upton-Chester-Belgrave Road-Guilden Sutton would operate on a revised timetable. A copy had been circulated.

### 15.109 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **Police and Crime Commissioner:** The next meeting of the Police and Crime Commissioner with Parish Councils would be held on 4 November 2015 at Ellesmere Port Civic Hall. A copy of the note of the meeting held on 30 July 2015 had been circulated..
- (2) **ChALC Meetings:** It was reported that the ChALC Area Meeting would not now take place on 30 September 2015, as previously advertised, but would be held on **Monday 2 November 2015** from 7.00pm at Castle Park, Frodsham. The ChALC Annual Meeting would be held on **29 October 2015** at Middlewich Town Hall.
- (3) **Cheshire West and Chester Council Community Energy Scheme:** Details of the Community Energy Scheme had been circulated with the agenda.
- (4) **Cheshire County Playing Fields Association AGM:** To be held on Thursday 8 October 2015 at 10.30am in The Pavilion, Sandbach Park Bowling Club, Sandbach Park, The Common, Sandbach CW11 1FJ.
- (5) **Publications:**
  - (a) Clerks and Councils Direct – September 2015
  - (b) Cheshire Rural Touring Arts – Autumn 2015 programme
  - (c) Connecting Cheshire – September 2015

### 15.110 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	Parish Clerk – salary August 2015	128.10
S/O	Amenity Cleaner – wages August 2015	260.00
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses August 2015	13.24
BACS	Amenity Cleaner – expenses August 2015	38.10
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary September 2015	125.10
S/O	Amenity Cleaner – wages September 2015	260.00
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses September 2015	29.92
BACS	Amenity Cleaner – expenses September 2015	37.80
151	J Jones – Petrol for mower	30.68
152	Morral Play Solutions – Annual Inspection of Play Area	54.00

- (2) **Receipts:** None

- (3) **Balance:** The balance in the bank at 22 September 2015 was £10,454.38.

### 15.111 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

None

### 15.112 NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 27 October 2015 at 7.30pm at Little Stanney Village Hall. Ward Councillor Stephen Smith asked that Councillors be reminded of his Surgery from 6.30pm, prior to the Parish Council meeting.