

Little Stanney & District Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 25 April 2017 at Little Stanney Village Hall

Present: Councillors Chris Dilworth (in the Chair), David Astbury, Paul Carter, Linda Carter, John Glazzard, Roy Greenwood, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe, Judith Thomas and Michael Todd

In attendance: Pauline English (Parish Clerk) and one member of the public

17.40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

17.41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

17.42 OPEN FORUM

At the Annual Parish Meeting held prior to the Parish Council meeting a resident had raised the issue of the large amount of litter to the rear of the Blue Planet. This site was not in Little Stanney parish, but it was close enough to cause a problem in the parish and the Clerk was asked to try to arrange another meeting with McArthur Glen about the litter problem generally.

A request was made for trees to be planted in the verges and it was suggested that the Tesco Bags of Help scheme might be a useful source of funding for this. Andy Raynor had been asked to look into the possibility of having "no parking" orders placed on the verges.

A promise had been made by Mercedes Benz (Inchcape) that there would be a bund between the site and Stanney Lane. The Parish Council would look into this.

Fallen leaves from the trees were not being picked up and were blocking drains and causing flooding problems.

The traffic island on the end of Stanney Lane was causing more problems than it was solving. It would be better if it could be removed to enable vehicles to turn at the entrance to the lane where it was wider.

17.43 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2x March 2017 were approved as a correct record.

17.44 UPDATE ON ISSUES RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was proposed that a list of outstanding highways issues should be prepared and sent to Karl Farrow who would be asked to inform the Parish Council who would be responsible for taking these on. In particular, the letter to residents about the speed limit on Rake Lane was still awaited and the white lining at the junction of the A5117 and Rake Lane was still to be completed; the lining of the bus stop at Stoak was outstanding and, although some of the drainage issues had been resolved, grids were missing and the drain at the bottom of the Bunbury hill was proud of the road. The hedge on the corner was growing out into the road and needed cutting back.

With regard to Inchcape Mercedes Benz, it was agreed that a representative should be invited to attend a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss ongoing issues.

17.45 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2016/17

The Parish Council went through the Annual Governance Statement line by line and agreed with all the statements made. The Statement was duly signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

17.46 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2016/17

The accounts for 2016/17 had been completed and were signed off by the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer, subject to the internal audit.

17.47 WEBSITE

It was agreed that Councillor Glazzard should train the Clerk and at least one Councillor to manage the website in case he was unavailable to do so. Councillor Glazzard also asked for some feedback on the current layout and content of the website and any suggestions for improving it. A Website Working Group comprising the Clerk and

17.48 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

It was reported that the fingerposts in the parish needed cleaning and the Clerk would check with CWaC whether this was still their responsibility. The Amenity Cleaner had reported that it was becoming increasingly difficult to get green bags for his rubbish. The Clerk would check with CWaC how best to access a supply of these bags. A horse box was being parked regularly on the pavement in Stoak just before the reactive 30mph sign so that it was difficult for motorists to see the sign and, more importantly, for the sign to react to vehicles approaching. This would be monitored.

17.49 WARD WALK ON 6 APRIL 2017 – ISSUES RAISED

Representatives from Elton, Ince, Little Stanney & District and Thornton-le-Moors had been invited to attend the Ward Walk with Councillor Stephen Smith, the Cheshire West & Chester (CWaC) Ward Member and officers from CWaC. Councillor Lipscombe had attended but was disappointed that the issues raised had mainly been about potholes. Councillor Astbury had waited at Little Stanney Village Hall but the itinerary had not included a stop there. The venue in Little Stanney & District this time was on Picton Lane, Stoak where Councillor Jones had taken the opportunity to speak to Andy Raynor, CWaC Principal Engineer, about outstanding issues.

17.50 BOUNDARY MARKER ON STANNEY LANE

The Lord Mayor of Chester could decide where to place new boundary markers and this year Councillor Angela Claydon had decided that one should be put in the verge to mark the boundary, on Stanney Lane, of Little Stanney parish and Ellesmere Port. The Parish Council had not been consulted about this and would not have known about the Beating the Bounds ceremony on Saturday 15 April associated with the new marker had not Councillor Todd seen it and queried what it was. The Clerk had subsequently received an apology from the Civic Office, an invitation for Councillors to attend the Beating the Bounds ceremony, and an assurance that the boundary marker would play no part in any future discussion about the parish boundary at that location.

17.51 PLANNING

No new applications had been received this month and no decisions had been taken. It was noted that the conversation between Nial Casselden and Andy Raynor had still not taken place and it was queried whether it would now go ahead given the response reported at the last meeting from Catherine Reay.

17.52 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

It was noted that Sanctuary had mended the fence and that the Notice Board had been moved. The mats to complete the new play tower were still awaited (w/c 1 May).

17.53 PROTOS (INCE PARK) COMMUNITY FORUM

Nothing to report.

17.54 CORRESPONDENCE

Electoral Review of Cheshire West and Chester: Warding Arrangements:

Councillors were asked to consider any possible issues for their wards and these would be considered at the next meeting.

17.55 FINANCE

(1) **Payments:** The following payments were noted:

Payment Method	Payee	Amount
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary April	130.40
S/O	Amenity Cleaner – wages April	268.67
BACS	Cheshire County Playing Fields Association – subscription	18.00
BACS	PC Guy – laptop and software (Transparency Fund)	534.99
BACS	Little Stanney Village Hall – Hire of Room 2017-18	250.00
BACS	Parish Clerk – Expenses April	26.07
BACS	Amenity Cleaner – expenses April	28.35
BACS	Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC)-Affiliation	147.00
BACS	Cheshire Community Action-subscription	20.00

- (2) **Receipts:** It was noted that the Parish Council had received a grant from the Transparency Fund grant totalling £1,805.00. Of this £350 was for the purchase of a laptop, up to £100 was to purchase a scanner and £200 was to purchase software. The remaining £1,105 was to meet the additional costs of training the Clerk to manage the Parish website. It was noted that the Clerk had purchased a laptop and software from a local company, PC Guy, based in Little Sutton.

Transparency Fund grant	1,805.00
CWaC – Precept and CTRS grant	10,714.00

- (3) **Balance:** The balance at 25 April 2017 was £17,031.19

17.56 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT MEETING

It was reported that Yew Tree Farm now held the freehold of the Village Hall.

17.57 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23 May 2017 at 7.30pm (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)