



Minutes of a meeting of Little Stanney & District Parish Council held on Tuesday, 26 February 2019 at 7.30pm in Little Stanney Village Hall

Present: Councillors Roy Greenwood (in the Chair), David Astbury, John Glazzard, John Jones, Clive Lipscombe, Pete Mountford and Michael Todd

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

19.07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Linda Carter, Paul Carter, Chris Dilworth and Judith Thomas,

19.08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

19.09 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

No public present

19.10 CLERK'S REPORT

Cheshire Oaks: The Clerk had followed up one of the contacts provided by Sharon Marshall Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) and had received a reply from Kenny Murray, the Centre Manager, who was trying to free up his diary to come to the Parish Council meeting on 26 March. He had asked to be informed of any specific issues the Parish Council wanted to discuss to ensure that he had all the relevant information. It was agreed to focus on the two main issues of traffic and litter.

Governance Review: The governance review had now been completed and the revised boundaries for Little Stanney & District had been agreed by CWaC. An order was being prepared and a copy with a final map should be available before the next meeting. This would confirm exactly where the new boundaries were.

Planting Scheme: Councillor Astbury had taken the opportunity to speak to Stuart Bateman, the Network Steward, at the recent Ward Walk. Stuart was discussing the proposed planting scheme along the A5117 with the maintenance team to find out whether the proposal would be acceptable to them. Once comments had been received from the maintenance contractor and senior management, he would contact us again.

Boundary Signs: Protos had approved the Parish Council's request for a grant towards the cost of the Little Stanney boundary signs. The location of the signs had to be approved by CWaC and Councillor Astbury had spoken to Stuart Bateman about this. Under Protos rules the signs must be paid for by the Parish Council and Protos would reimburse the sum agreed on production of an invoice.

Benches: Councillor Astbury had agreed the location of two benches with Stuart Bateman who would advertise the intention to place them and request a quotation for their installation.

Fly-tipping: Graham Povey, the Parish Council's Amenity Cleaner, had informed the Clerk that he had reported fly tipped asbestos in the lay-by on Little Stanney Lane.

Amenity Cleaner's routes: Now that the Parish Council had new boundaries it was necessary to look at the areas to be targeted in more detail. It might be necessary to drop some areas and add some new areas. It was RESOLVED that a Working Group be appointed (Dave Astbury, John Jones, John Glazzard and Pete Mountford) to liaise with the Amenity Cleaner and agree new routes if necessary.

Amenity Cleaner's contract: For the past few years the Amenity Cleaner's contract had been renewed annually because the Parish Council was unsure whether any funding would be available from an external source towards the cost of his wages. His hours had been reduced from 16 to 10 and he had confirmed that he was happy with this. The Parish Council had now assumed full responsibility for paying him and it was RESOLVED that it should no longer have to be renewed annually but should be a permanent contract.

19.11 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) Despite the new speed limit through Wervin, there were concerns about cars driving too fast and it was suggested that the Parish Council should ask for a speed monitoring exercise to be carried out, preferably using the speed gun.

- (2) The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways department to ask whether a pavement could be created between the Caravan Park and The Rake public house, and whether there were any options available to provide a footpath in any other parts of Rake Lane.
- (3) Councillor Glazzard expressed his disappointment that there had been no response from Highways England regarding his proposal for traffic lights at the junction of Little Stanney Lane and the A5117. It was RESOLVED that this be referred back to the new Chief Executive at CWaC.
- (4) Councillor Astbury had at last made contact with Maria Roberts, CWaC, about the flooding in Rake Lane and had met her on site to discuss the issues and their possible resolution. She had suggested that another grid might solve the problems and would look into it. The Clerk was asked to send her a reminder.
- (5) Nothing had happened with regard to the bus stop in Stoak and the Clerk was asked to follow this issue up with CWaC.

19.12 PLANNING

- (1) **Applications Received** for consideration and comment (all applications available to view on the CWaC website <http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>):

18/04850/WAS	Upgrade and capacity increase including the integration of new plant and machinery with existing operational equipment and an extension to the south for additional plant, machinery and landscaping at United Utilities Waste Water Treatment Works, Ring Road, Little Stanney, Chester CH2 4HZ – Noted, no comments to be made
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- (2) **Decisions:**

18/04125/FUL	Part single part two storey side extension with loft conversion including rear dormer at Almau, Strawberry Way East, Chester CH1 6PG - APPROVED
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- (3) **Awaiting Decision:** None

- (4) **Lime Tree Farm:** It was noted that an outline application for the erection of up to nine residential units with associated access had been approved by CWaC in 2017 (17/05212/OUT). A full application for the site was still awaited.

19.13 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

The litter bin that had been sited on the Playing Field and was in constant use during busy times at the Play area, had been re-sited to the verge outside the field because it was considered to be more convenient for refuse collection. The Parish Council objected to this on grounds of safety because it would mean children having to leave the safety of the Playing Field to dispose of their litter. The only other option was for the litter to be left on the field, which was not an acceptable option. It was RESOLVED that CWaC should be asked to put the bin back on the field.

19.14 PROTOS (INCE PARK) COMMUNITY FORUM

Nothing to report

19.15 CWaC CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

The Clerk reported that ChALC were running a Code of Conduct training session on 14 March 2019 and asked anyone interested in attending to let her know.

19.16 FINANCE

- (1) Salary/wages of employees for 2019-20:

- (a) The Local Living Wage was currently set at £8.75 per hour for employees aged 18 or over in West Cheshire, a rate based on the real cost of living for employees and their families in the borough. This was assessed annually and implemented on 1 April each year. The Parish Council had adopted the Living Wage in 2018-19 and it was proposed that the Amenity Cleaner should continue to be paid the Local Living Wage and that this be updated, if appropriate, on 1 April 2019.

- (b) The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) had agreed the new pay scales for 2019-20, to be implemented from 1 April 2019 and a revised list of payscales had been advised. The Clerk was currently paid on SCP27 which had now been split into two and renumbered SCP20 and SCP21. It was proposed that the Clerk's salary for 2019-20 be based on SCP21 (£13.41 per hour). It was also proposed that the Clerk's hours be increased from three a week to four a week.
- (c) the Parish Council was also asked to agree the Clerk's monthly fixed payment which was currently set at £10 and the rate per mile to be paid for casual use of own transport by both employees and Councillors on Parish Council approved business which was currently set at 45p per mile

It was RESOLVED that with effect from 1 April 2019:

- (a) the Amenity Cleaner should continue to be paid the Local Living Wage, currently £8.75 per hour, and that this be updated, if appropriate, on 1 April 2019.
- (b) The Clerk's salary for 2019-20 should be based on the revised SCP21 (£13.41 per hour) and that the Clerk's hours be increased from three to four a week.
- (c) the Clerk's monthly fixed payment should remain at £10
- (d) the rate per mile to be paid for casual use of own transport by both employees and Councillors on Parish Council approved business should remain at 45p per mile
- (2) Appointment of Internal Auditor: Dotty about Accounts had informed the Parish Council that they would no longer be undertaking end of year audits for Parish Councils which meant that an alternative internal auditor would be needed for the 2018-19 accounts. The Clerk would ask around locally.

- (3) Payments: the following payments had been made since November 2018:

28.11.18	Parish Clerk - salary	133.28
28.11.18	Amenity Cleaner – wages	292.94
03.12.18	Amenity Cleaner – expenses November	38.00
12.12.18	J Jones -	421.34
14.12.18	Parish Clerk – expenses	109.92
28.12.18	Parish Clerk – salary	133.28
28.12.18	Amenity Cleaner – wages	292.94
31.12.18	Service Charge (3 months)	18.00
14.01.19	Amenity Cleaner – expenses December	28.35
28.01.19	Parish Clerk – salary	133.28
28.01.19	Amenity Cleaner – wages	292.94
28.01.19	Councillor Glazzard – repayment of website hosting/domain registration	107.99
01.02.19	HMRC-Income Tax	794.56
01.02.19	PlandMS-Play area inspection	50.40
25.02.19	Amenity Cleaner – expenses January	47.65

- (4) Receipts: the following sums had been received since November 2018:

27.12.18	Cheshire West & Chester Members' budget grant towards planting	960.00
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- (5) Balance in bank as at 26 February 2019: £14,674.91

19.17 ELECTIONS – 2 MAY 2019

A timetable setting out the steps to be taken before the next election on 2 May 2019 had been circulated. The Notice of Election would be posted on 26 March and the Clerk would receive enough nomination papers for the current Councillors by 3 April.

19.18 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT MEETING

No further issues raised

19.19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 26 March 2019 at 7.30pm