



Little Stanney & District Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 30 July 2019 in Little Stanney Village Hall

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

In Attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk), Mr Chris Jones representing B4RN and two members of the public.

Councillor Roy Greenwood (Vice-Chairman) in the Chair

19.82 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Councillor Michael Todd was proposed as Chairman by Councillor Greenwood and seconded by Paul Carter. Councillor Astbury volunteered himself but was not seconded. There being no further nominations Councillor Michael Todd was duly elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2019-20.

Following the resignation of Councillor Dilworth, there was a vacancy for a Parish Councillor in Little Stanney parish. The Clerk would advertise the vacancy on the Notice Boards and the website.

Councillor Michael Todd in the Chair

19.83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Judith Thomas and Ward Councillor Margaret Parker

19.84 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

19.85 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Margaret Lockhart was unable to attend. This item would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

19.86 B4RN (BROADBAND FOR THE RURAL NORTH)

The Parish Council welcomed Mr Chris Jones who had asked to speak to Councillors about a project to bring superfast broadband to the area around Mollington. This currently included part of Little Stanney and Croughton Village. Mr Jones explained that B4RN was a professionally designed fibre optic broadband network, registered as a non-profit community benefit society, and run by a dedicated local team with the support of landowners and volunteers. They offered 1,000Mbps FTTH broadband to every property in their coverage areas, costing households only £30 per month. The target for expressions of interest to build the Mollington hub was 350. To date 257 responses had been received of which 170 wanted B4RN. If enough signatures were received, building the B4RN system could begin this Autumn. Currently included in the scheme were properties on Whitby Lane and in Croughton village, where a number had already signed up. He asked whether anyone could deliver some leaflets to houses in Whitby Lane, addresses to be supplied. Councillor Todd agreed to do this. More information was available on the B4RN website <https://b4rn.org.uk/>

19.87 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

A complaint was made by the self-styled Chairman of the Little Stanney Residents Association that the new residents at Nos.6 and 10 Stanney Lane were misusing the grass verges, the first by parking on the verge and the second by driving over it to access his property. It was requested that the Parish Council write to the two residents asking them to discontinue these practices. He also raised a number of other issues:

- The hedge at the top of Stanney Lane overhangs the pavement and needs cutting back
- It was queried why the bus shelter was still in situ opposite the Village Hall in Little Stanney when there were no buses. It now served as a shelter for people to eat their lunch and/or smoke. The litter bin was always overflowing although it was emptied regularly by the Parish Council's amenity cleaner

- Could Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWaC) be requested to install speed bumps on Stanney Lane to prevent motorists from speeding.

As a resident of Little Stanney, the Chairman requested more information on the Little Stanney Residents Association as neither he personally nor the Parish Council generally were aware that such an Association had been formed either officially or unofficially. As a resident of Little Stanney he would have welcomed the opportunity to become a member of such an Association, but he had not been given that opportunity. To the Parish Council's knowledge, no meetings had been advertised and no minutes had been produced. The resident confirmed that there was no formal Association and that he was simply the recipient of grievances raised by residents of Stanney Lane. When asked why the residents did not come to Parish Council meetings to raise their issues the response was that they did not feel that they got a proper hearing and that nothing ever got done.

A resident of Whitby Lane asked the Parish Council for their help in relation to the height of the mound of soil at the back of their houses created by the Fishery. The mound was now level with the bedroom windows and was full of weeds. Attempts had been made to get CWaC Planning officers to take some enforcement action, but to no avail. There was also an issue with the lighting which was much brighter than had been agreed. It was suggested that the resident should write to the CWaC Solutions Team setting out the issues, copying in the two Ward Councillors and the Parish Council.

19.88 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 25 June 2019 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the reference to a Residents Association being deleted and substituted by reference to a member of the public.

It was agreed that all the appropriate issues raised by the member of the public at this meeting and the meeting in June should be forwarded to Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWaC).

19.89 IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS FOR LITTLE STANNEY PARISH

Councillor Astbury put forward proposals for items that might be included in the 2019/20 Improvement Projects programme for Little Stanney parish. He reminded the Parish Council of the previously agreed continuation of the shrub planting scheme from Long Looms to the traffic lights on Old Farm Way for which approval was awaited from CWaC. His proposals for the 2019/20 programme were to continue the approved planned planting scheme from the A5117 to the top end of Stanney Lane on both sides; the removal of the dead tree adjacent to Wood Farm Close and the provision of two or three additional trees, such as a flowering hawthorn, as far as The Nook; the provision of some trees set into the hedge line on the west side of Stanney Lane. Derek Johnson had agreed to provide a proposed planting scheme drawing prior to Highways and Streetcare being involved. It was **RESOLVED** that a fully costed scheme should be presented to the Parish Council so that an application for funding could be submitted as well as the proposals being presented to CWaC for approval.

19.90 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

It was queried whether Stanney Mill Lane was subject to a speed limit. Street lighting had recently been added but there were no repeater signs to show that it had been speed restricted.

Parking in and close to the bus stop in Stoak was still a problem especially for other vehicles using the road and the presence of a large van hid the bus stop sign. The Parish Council was still of the opinion that a marked out bus stop space on the road would help to alleviate this.

19.92 PLANNING

(1) Applications received for comment:

19/01562/FUL	Demolition of existing garage block and rear extension and erection of two-storey side and rear extension at The Lodge, Croughton Road, Croughton, Chester CH2 4DA – No objections by the Parish Council
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(2) **Decisions** made by CWaC since the last Parish Council meeting:

19/01417/FUL	Single storey side extension at 4 Meadow View, Little Stanney, Chester Cheshire CH2 4HN - APPROVED
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(3) **Applications awaiting decision:**

19/01855/FUL	Extension and open sided canopy to existing industrial unit at Benjamin House, Dutton Green, Chester CH2 4SA
19/01993/REM	Approval of reserved matters following outline application 17/05212/OUT for 7 dwellings on land adjacent to Lime Tree Farm, Stanney Lane, Little Stanney, Chester
19/02379/TPO	G1 - Tag 905 (Apple) - Crown lift to 3m. Tag 906 (Hawthorn) - fell and grind stump due to lean and stem decay - replace with cherry. Tag 907 (Apple) - crown lift 3m - Open Space on corner of Croughton Road and Picton Lane, Stoak, Chester

19.93 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

Despite the “no dogs except guide dogs” sign on the gate to the playing field, dogs were still being exercised on the field. It was RESOLVED that a letter should be sent to every household in Stoak village reminding residents that no dogs were permitted on the playing field.

19.94 PROTOS COMMUNITY FORUM

Nothing to report

19.95 FINANCE

(1) Payments made since the last meeting

28.06.19	SO	Staff Costs	497.95
30.06.19	Bank	Service Charge	18.00
01.07.19	BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses	29.85
01.07.19	BACS	Amenity Cleaner – expenses	58.10
01.07.19	BACS	Cllr Jones – petrol for mower	11.35
17.07.19	BACS	Bonus for Amenity Cleaner	25.00
19.07.19	BACS	Glasdon UK Limited – 2x benches	944.79
19.07.19	BACS	PlandMS – quarterly Inspection of Play Area	48.00
29.07.19	SO	Staff Costs	497.95

(2) Receipts since the last meeting: None

(3) Balance at 30 July 2019: £19,997.97

19.96 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT MEETING

No issues raised

19.97 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24 September 2019 at 7.30pm