



Little Stanney & District Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2020 in Little Stanney Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors Mike Todd (in the Chair), David Astbury, Paul Carter, John Glazzard, Roy Greenwood, Peter Hartshorn, John Jones and Clive Lipscombe.

In attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk), Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) Ward Councillor Graham Heatley, Kenny Murray (General Manager of Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet) and Graham Povey (Parish Council Amenity Cleaner). There were no members of the public present.

20.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Linda Carter, Pete Mountford and Judith Thomas. Ward Councillor Margaret Parker also sent her apologies.

20.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

20.03 CHESHIRE OAKS DESIGNER OUTLET

The Parish Council welcomed Kenny Murray, General Manager of Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet. The main issue for discussion focused on the traffic chaos over the Christmas period, in particular (black) Friday 27 December and Monday 30 December when there were queues on all roads in and out of the Cheshire Oaks site. Traffic control had once again been taken over by the private company employed by the Cheshire Oaks Partnership. Priority for traffic light control continued to be given to the slip roads off the M53 to ensure there was no backup onto the motorway which had resulted in a backup of traffic on the A5117 and on Stanney Lane.

As part of the 2012 Autumn Statement the government had announced the creation of a Local Pinch Point Fund designed to enable local councils to remove bottlenecks on the local highway network which were impeding growth by restricting the movement of goods and people. CWaC proposed to apply for funding from this scheme towards helping to reduce congestion and improve access through a series of junction improvements and measures to improve traffic flow within the Cheshire Oaks retail area, Chester Gates Business Park and Ellesmere Port Industrial Area. The Parish Council supported this proposal and it was RESOLVED to write to CWaC confirming this support.

Councillor Glazzard drew attention to the proposals he had put forward to CWaC last year with regard to a possible solution to the problems at the A5117-Little Stanney Lane junction which had been forwarded to Highways England but to which no response had been received. He repeated his concerns about the lack of ability of drivers to turn right out of Little Stanney Lane during busy periods on the A5117.

A suggestion to put a slip road from the M53 directly into the Cheshire Oaks site had already been raised with Highways England who had ruled this out on the grounds that there was insufficient room.

Mr Murray told the meeting that McArthur Glen had spent a substantial amount already and would continue to fund the Traffic Management Plan. Other businesses on the Cheshire Oaks site, including Marks & Spencer, were not yet involved but McArthur Glen were trying to bring them in as well. Councillor Astbury asked Mr Murray to look at the A5117 up to the A41 and beyond as part of the Traffic Management Plan.

With regard to litter, McArthur Glen had been working with Justin Madders MP and Alison Armstrong, Locality Manager at CWaC, to find a solution. The Parish Council's Amenity Cleaner reported that the problem was mainly to do with food packaging litter. There was only one litter bin on Kinsey Road and it was plain to see in Little Stanney village when there had been a public holiday when there were wooden hangers left by the roadside. McArthur Glen wanted to work with partners and confirmed that McDonald's had started putting vehicle registration numbers on their packaging to identify anyone who discarded litter incorrectly.

It was agreed that the Chairman would attend the next meeting of the Cheshire Oaks Partnership.

20.04 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

No members of the public present

20.05 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

20.06 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that she had tried to contact Stuart Bateman at CWaC Highways with regard to the agreed planting scheme on the A5117 and the proposed village entry signs, but had not received a reply.

The Parish Council's Internal Auditor, Dotty about Accounts, was no longer able to provide this service and a new auditor needed to be found before the end of May. The Chairman agreed to ask whether any of his colleagues at Cheshire East Council would be willing to take this on. Any other suggestions would be welcomed.

20.07 PLANNING

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

19/04362/FUL 19//04363/LBC	<p>Proposed erection of ground floor extensions comprising Garden Room, Lobby/Accessible WC and Cellar extensions; proposed internal and external alterations including the creation of 7 no. letting bedrooms; installation of external cold room and new bin and log stores; reconfiguration and extension of customer car park; reconfiguration of deliveries and staff parking area; installation of new external escape stair; replacement plant and new landscaping works at existing public house - Rake Hall, Rake Lane, Little Stanney, Chester CH2 4HS</p> <p>Councillors representing Little Stanney Parish, in consultation with local residents, had agreed the following comments on this application which had been submitted to Cheshire West & Chester (CWaC) Council. The Parish Council ratified these comments, as follows:</p> <p>"Little Stanney & District Parish wish to make the following comments on the above planning application.</p> <p>Safety proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To lower the existing hedging for its entire length adjacent to the property entrance/exit to say 1.2 meters maximum height, so as improve the visibility in a southern direction for drivers when exiting from the premises into Rake lane;• To also encompass the same arrangement for future should the developers decide to make any future changes to the Northern direction of the front of the curtilage boundary hedges/fencing arrangements;• Boundary and pathway lighting would be advantageous and provide safe access and egress for pedestrians;• To improve the walkway arrangements for pedestrians between the visitors car park and the property entrance <p>We are pleased to note that proper provision is being provided for staff parking and also goods offloading within the curtilage."</p> <p>Councillor Greenwood suggested asking for the wall and hedge to be removed to enable the creation of visibility splays. Councillor Astbury proposed a meeting with the new owners to discuss the release of land to create a pavement on the site boundary.</p>
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(2) **Decisions:** None

(3) **Awaiting Decision:** None

20.08 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

(1) Before moving on to another work area, Andy Raynor (CWaC Highways) had promised the Parish Council to have an order made to stop parking on the grass verges on Stanney Lane. This had not happened. Ward Councillor Heatley asked to be informed of any outstanding issues, which he would take up with CWaC.

- (2) Councillor Glazzard raised the issue of parking on Caughall Road outside Chester Zoo. The matter had been raised with the Zoo previously and they had confirmed that it had been dealt with, but it was now worse than ever. The Clerk would write to the Zoo.
- (3) The drains in Stoak and two by the crossroads in Wervin needed attention. The Clerk would refer this to CWaC Highways.
- (4) The barriers from the bridge down to Stoak village, opposite the Playing Field, needed attention. The Clerk would report this to CWaC Highways.
- (5) There was flooding on Picton Lane beyond the Wervin sign south east of Ashwood Lane when there had been heavy rainfall. It was confirmed that this was not drinking water. The Clerk would report this to CWaC..
- (6) Councillor Heatley was requested to organise a Ward Walk when the weather improved.

20.09 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

- (1) Councillor Jones reported that the grass in the Playing Field had not been cut as it was too wet. He would arrange for it to be cut as soon as it was dry enough.
- (2) The Canal & River Trust had made a very good job of cutting the hedge bordering the Nature Park.
- (3) Evidence had been found of the use of a firearm in the Nature Park. The Clerk would report this to the local Beat Manager and the PCSO and ask for a check to be made to ensure there was no danger to the public.

20.10 PROTOS (INCE PARK) COMMUNITY FORUM

Nothing to report as no meetings had been held.

20.11 FINANCE

It was RESOLVED

(1) That:

- (a) the Clerk's salary for 2020-21 be based on SCP22 (£13.68 per hour) of the NJC pay scales;
- (b) the Clerk's hours remain at four per week;
- (c) the Amenity Cleaner's hourly rate be the Local Living Wage notified by Cheshire West & Chester (CWaC) Council annually (currently £9 per hour and due for review in March 2020);
- (d) the Amenity Cleaner's hours remain at 10 per week;
- (e) the Clerk's monthly fixed payment to mitigate the costs of having the Parish Council's registered office at the Clerk's home remain at £10;
- (f) the rate per mile to be paid for casual use of own transport by both employees and Councillors on Parish Council approved business remain at 45p per mile;
- (g) the budget for 2020-21 (attached) be approved; and
- (h) the precept for 2020-21 be set at £11,000 and CWaC be notified accordingly.

(2) That payments since the last meeting be noted as follows:

Date	Method	Item	Amount
28.10.19	SO	Parish Clerk-salary October	185.95
28.10.19	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages October	312.00
07.11.19	BACS	Amenity Cleaner-expenses October	38.20
11.11.19	BACS	HMRC-PAYE	291.61
28.11.19	SO	Parish Clerk-salary November	185.95
28.11.19	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages November	312.00
02.12.19	BACS	Amenity Cleaner-expenses November	38.20
30.12.19	SO	Parish Clerk-salary December	185.95
30.12.19	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages December	312.00
31.12.19	Bank	Bank Charges (3 months)	18.00
20.01.20	BACS	HMRC-PAYE	293.44
20.01.20	BACS	Amenity Cleaner-expenses December	28.55
26.01.20	BACS	Parish Clerk-expenses (October-January)	54.50
26.01.20	BACS	PlandMS-Playground Inspection (quarter to December)	48.00
28.01.20	SO	Parish Clerk-salary January	185.95

28.01.20	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages January	312.00
28.01.20	BACS	Repay Cllr Glazzard-annual website hosting fee	47.99

(3) That the balance of £15,512.66 in the bank as at 28 January 2020 be noted.

20.12 CONSULTATIONS

The following consultations were noted:

(1) Cheshire West & Chester draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): The SPD on house extensions and domestic outbuildings had been prepared for consultation between 20 January and 1 March 2020. It would supplement the Council's existing planning policies and provide additional detail and guidance for planning applicants and decision makers. When adopted, the SPD would be a material consideration for planning applications.

https://consult.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/portal/cwc_ldf/spd/residential_extensions_spd.

(2) Cheshire Fire Authority had published its draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) covering the period from 2020 to 2024. The plan provided information on the risks facing Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service and detailed how the organisation was structured and operated to mitigate these risks. It also detailed how Cheshire Fire Authority was funded and outlined plans over the next four years. A short survey was available on the website <https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/about-us/key-documents/irmp/irmp-202024-plan/irmp-202024-plan>

20.13 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(1) **Meet the Cheshire West and Chester Planning Team:** To be held on Wednesday 19 February 2020 at Tarvin Community Centre, Meadow Close, off Crossfields, CH3 8LY at 7pm - 9pm.

(2) **CWaC Parish Conference - Working Together:** To be held on Tuesday 3 March 2020 at the Doubletree Hilton, Chester at 5.30pm - 9pm. Bookings to be made by 14 February 2020. Councillors to let the Clerk know if they wish to attend.

20.14 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT MEETING

None

20.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 25 February 2020 at 7.30pm in Little Stanney Village Hall