

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9 April 2019 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllr T Williams (Deputy Chairman), K Jenkinson, S Pelham, D Booth.

In attendance: Alison May, Clerk to the Council, and three members of the public.

183(1) Apologies for absence

None

184(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations

Cllrs Williams, Pelham and Booth – planning application 19/00169/FUL

185(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Councillors **resolved** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 5 March 2019 and 13 March 2019.

186(4) Public participation

Councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting at 7.04pm to allow members of the public to speak.

- A member of the public explained why he was making changes to the property for which he had already received planning permission and why he was asking for Stalmine Council's support with application 19/00233/FUL.
- A member of the public reported that the land registry had suggested that the land on which the Village Hall was built belonged to Stalmine Council from when the council became a trustee of the building approximately five years ago. This was contrary to the belief of the Village Hall Committee and the Council. A request was made for the council to investigate this matter.
- Problems with the speed at which vehicles travel through the village and surrounding lanes were raised.
- The Residents Association representative reported that he would be asking for a number of items to be put on the May agenda.

Councillors **resolved** to reopen the meeting at 7.26pm.

187(5) Planning applications

Application Number: 19/00169/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of land for the siting of thirteen seasonal caravan pitches with associated amenity block and erection of two holiday cottages.

Location: Field west of New Road, Wardleys Lane, Stalmine, Poulton, FY6 9DX

This application could not be discussed as three of the five councillors present at the meeting declared an interest in that they either live on the same road as the applicant or the application.

Application Number: 19/00233/FUL

Proposal: Erection of two dwellings (resubmission of 17/01178/FUL)

Location: Land off Old Toms Lane Stalmine-With-Staynall, Lancashire, FY6 0JR.

Resolved: the council was unanimous in having no objections to the application.

Application Number: 19/00280/FUL

Proposal: Single-storey side and rear extension

Location: Hamersfield, Back Lane, Stalmine, Poulton-Le-Fylde, Lancashire.

Resolved: the council was unanimous in having no objections to the application.

188(6) Appointment of new plantsman

After looking at the references provided councillors **resolved** to appoint Andy Taylor to the post of plantsman from 9 April 2019 on the terms agreed in January (resolution 131(5)) and for him to be issued with a contract of employment.

188(7) Schoolchildren's planting

Councillors expressed support in principle for the school's proposal to maintain one of the council's planting features. They had reservations that the feature chosen was adjacent to the main road and thought that further discussions were necessary to agree a suitable location and method of working. It was also acknowledged that any work would need to be risk assessed as it would be classed as being done by volunteers.

189(8) Volunteers policy

Resolved: to adopt the volunteer policy as presented by the clerk.

190(9) Insurance renewal

As two of the existing signatories had been returned to office it was agreed that this agenda item was no longer necessary.

191(10) Rally Charity donation

Councillors expressed their gratitude at having been offered a £500 to donate to charities of their choice and **resolved** that they would like the money to be paid into the council's charity donations fund. This would enable them to select suitable charities within the community to donate to.

192(11) North West Air Ambulance Service – Request for a Donation

Resolved: to make a donation of £100 to the NWAA as its services have been called upon so often within the village and its environs.

193(12) Transfer of bank account from RBS

Councillors discussed the merits of each of the banks and resolved to move the council's business to the Clydesdale/Yorkshire Bank.

194(13) Grass cutting

Councillors **resolved** to continue with the same arrangements as previous years for the grass cutting contract.

195(14) Finance

The LALC invoice is £19.72 more than the amount allocated to this invoice in the January budget setting. There are funds available within the overall budget head of 'Insurance, Audit, Subs'. Budget heads will be managed quarterly.

1. Councillors **resolved**:

a) To note receipts:	
Current account	1636.97
Reserve account	1.12
General reserve account	0.54

b) To approve the following payments:	Cheque	Amount
Payroll	1561,1563, 1565	888.65
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	1562	73.20
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	1564	4.50
David Murphy (inv.1003) grass cutting	1566	576.00
LALC/NALC (Inv. 2065)	1567	319.72

c) To note the following payments by direct debit:	
Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	37.20

d) To approve the statement of accounts for month ending 31 March 2019 at the meeting and to action point 2 below.	
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e) To note the quarter 4 budget monitoring report and approve its accuracy.	
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- To write off the £0.20p bad debt from the year end accounts which had arisen in September when cheque 1510 was shown on the bank statement as £38.63. The cheque had been made out for the sum of £38.43 and this was the amount received by Wyre Building Supplies. The £0.20p amount was below the bank's de-minimis level for investigating and for the clerk to try to pursue this further was deemed uneconomical.
- Councillors resolved to approve the removal of Councillors Forshaw and Jenkinson from the bank mandate and for Councillors Booth and Haydock to be added.

196(15) Clerk's report (for information)

Councillors **noted** the information contained in the clerk's report:

External Audit for year ending 2018/19

The paperwork arrived this week from PKF Littlejohn for this year's audit, along with instructions for the revised process following complaints from a number of councils that the guidance wasn't clear.

Volunteers Week

This will be from 1-7 June in 2019 and is about celebrating the huge range of people who give their time in so many ways. It is a chance to say thank you for the contribution millions of volunteers make across the UK. NALC is keen for councils to get involved to raise awareness of the work of England's 100,000 councillors, who give their time to hold public office, and the countless volunteers councils work with.

Potholes

Any resident wishing to report potholes, street lighting or other highway problems should contact Lancashire County Council via - <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/fault-search.aspx>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Recruitment of Family Court Justices in Cumbria and Lancashire

This is a new and exciting initiative to recruit Justices directly to the Family Court. The Family Court deals with an interesting variety of cases relating to children, child protection, family breakdown and related issues. This is an opportunity for you to help make the lives of children better.

We aim to recruit 35-65 new Family Court Justices across Cumbria and Lancashire. Many Justices sit at more than one location and maximum flexibility is encouraged.

You do not need any legal or social work qualifications or experience, although these would be welcome. We also encourage and welcome diversity from all sections of our community in order to reflect the people with whom we come into contact.

Family Justices are advised by the Family Court Legal Advisor, the Children and Family Court Advisory Service (CAFCASS) and the child's Guardian during cases. Therefore, a detailed knowledge of the law is not necessary, just the ability to apply common sense and compassion to the cases put before you. There will be some reading of documents prior to the cases but the paperwork is vital and not excessive.

Justices are not paid but you will be able to claim expenses, including any loss of earnings. The minimum sitting requirement for all magistrates is 13 full days per year plus mandatory training, which is a minimum of seven full days in the first year. The average number of sittings is higher for those able to make that commitment.

Justices must commit to serve for at least five years from appointment and normally retire from the Family Court at age 70.

Family Courts are not open to the public so you will not be able to visit and observe a court. However, you can instead watch videos about the Family Court on YouTube produced by HM Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS) and other organisations. CAFCASS publish information on their role at <https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/about-cafcass/>

If appointed, you would sit only as a Magistrate in the Family Court. Some Magistrates also sit in the Criminal Courts but you would not be required to do this.

More information and application forms are available at www.gov.uk/become-magistrate. The closing date for applications is 30th April 2019. Those appointed would begin sitting in April 2020.

197(16) Items for next agenda

Councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Parish Council either at the meeting or by notifying the clerk at least 10 days prior to the next meeting (**26 April at the latest**), with a summary of the reason for raising the matter. Cllr Haydock said that he would contact the clerk with a number of items and Cllr Booth asked for the new noticeboards to be included.

198(17) Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting on **Tuesday 14 May 2019** at 7.00pm. It is preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting on the same night at 6.30pm.

There being no other business, the chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.