

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 8 July 2014 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllrs J Jackson (Chairman), D Anderson, S Carrington, K Jenkinson, A Wallace and D Walmsley

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Council, and 15 members of the public.

33(2014-15) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Anderson and the reason accepted.

34(2014-15) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Councillors noted that Cllr Wallace has a pecuniary interest in the planning application relating to Long Acres Business Park and would therefore be prevented from reporting on planning enforcement matters (Item 5) unless she receives a dispensation from the council. Councillors **resolved** to grant Cllr Wallace such a dispensation for the duration of the meeting.

35(2014-15) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2014 be agreed as a true record.

36(2014-15) Public Participation (Including Police Report)

Councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to bring matters relating to the agenda to the attention of the council.

Members of the public raised concerns about planning application 14/00478/FUL (erection of a veterinary surgery building on land at the corner of Brick House Lane and Carr Lane). Their concerns related to Carr Lane already being an accident black spot, problems with utilities (including sewerage backing up and regular power cuts), the area being prone to flooding, the building itself being incongruous with other properties and out of character for the area.

A member of the public informed councillors that a pipe is being replaced with a larger bore pipe which will help to relieve flooding problems on Lynwood Drive. He reported that he had still not had a response to his letter to the Chairman of United Utilities although he had been led to believe he would receive a response shortly but he had been informed that United Utilities were looking at an alternative route for pipework to relieve flooding on Porters Row.

In the absence of a police representative the Clerk reported on the small amount of crime and anti-social behaviour in the parish.

On the conclusion of public participation councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.

37(2014-15) Planning Enforcement Matters

Cllr Wallace reported on discussions with Wyre Council over planning enforcement issues relating to Longacres Business Park. She confirmed that there had been little real progress and that it appeared to be "one step forward two steps back" on enforcing the conditions attached to the planning application. She further reported that she had received three complaints from residents that boulders and bollards had been placed on the grass verge and these were causing problems. Councillors **resolved** to write to LCC Highways to ask them to look into the matter.

38(2014-15) Parish Action Plan

Councillors noted progress against the action plan and **resolved** that the latest version be put on the website.

39(2014-15) LCC – Draft Criteria for Assessing Local Bus Services

Councillors noted that LCC is consulting interested parties on proposed new criteria for assessing subsidised local bus services. Councillors felt that, on the whole, the criteria and weighting were fair but **resolved** to ask LCC to increase the weighting relating to there being no reasonable alternative to using public transport.

40(2014-15) Review of Dog Control Orders

Councillors considered three proposed changes to Dog Control Orders relating to Hall Gate Lane Playing Field. Councillors **resolved** to ask Wyre Council to introduce a “no dogs” order on the playing field to protect children and young people using it.

41(2014-15) Signage in the Parish

Cllr Jackson raised the issue of the number of estate agent signs that were appearing on the grass verges along the main roads when the properties for sale were in side lanes. She felt that this caused problems for the Lengthsman and the parish council’s grass cutting contractor and councillors **resolved** to ask LCC to look into the matter. She also raised the number of A boards which are often placed in front of the Seven Stars and councillors **resolved** to write to Punch Taverns about the issue.

42(2014-15) LALC – 70th Annual General Meeting

Councillors noted that the AGM will be held on Saturday 8 November at 1.45pm following the LCC Parish and Town Council Conference in the morning. Councillors **resolved** not to send a representative and not to submit a resolution.

43(2014-15) Parish Charter Refresh

Councillors considered the revised Parish Charter prepared by Wyre Council and noted that, rather than working more closely with town and parish councils, Wyre Council appears to have distanced itself by withdrawing the rural grant and deciding not to pass on the local council tax support funding provided by government. Although councillors noted the good working relationships at individual officer level, they felt that there was little value in the Charter and **resolved** that the Council would not be minded to sign up to the revised Charter until Wyre Council at a corporate level demonstrated its willingness to work with the town and parish councils in a true partnership manner.

44(2014-15) Planning Applications**14/00432/FUL**

Proposal: Single storey side extension to form ancillary annexe

Location: Rathsheen, Stricklands Lane, Stalmine

It was unanimously agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

14/00455/REM

Proposal: Reserved matters application for the erection of one detached dwelling (following outline application 14/00128/OUT

Location: Land adjacent to Moor End Cottages, Stricklands Lane, Stalmine

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council objects to the proposal on the grounds the area is already prone to flooding owing to infrastructure problems and there would be highways issues relating to the road widening required by a previous planning consent.

14/00478/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a veterinary surgery building

Location: Land at corner of Brick House Lane and Carr Lane, Stalmine

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council objects to the proposal on the following grounds:

- Carr Lane in that vicinity has seen a number of serious accidents and the increased traffic to and from a veterinary surgery, including delivery vehicles, will exacerbate the problem
- The utilities infrastructure is already under strain with regular power cuts and sewerage backing up and this development will make the situation worse
- The site in question does flood and the introduction of hard surfaces will lead to a significantly higher level of run off contributing to flooding in the area
- The size and scale of the building is out of keeping with the character of this rural area

45(2014-15) Finance

a) Receipts this month

Moon Trust grant	£200.00
General reserve account interest	£4.17
High interest account interest	£2.58

b) Payments to be approved:

Staff costs	£880.20
Staff expenses on behalf of the Council	£26.11
HMRC	£578.80
Wyre Building Supplies	£81.44
AP & LA Worledge (Inv 1675)	£3960.00
Fleetwood High School (Inv 40040)	£36.22
Preesall Auto Discount (Inv 230)	£22.17

Payments by Standing Order for Noting:

Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	£36.00
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c) Statement of Accounts – June 2014

The statement of accounts for the month ending June 2014 shows

Business Current Account	£399.34
Business High Interest Account	£19,853.86
General Reserve Account	£3348.06

d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1

Councillors noted the Q1 Budget Monitoring statement.

Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts for and noted the receipts, the payment by standing order, the statement of accounts and the Q1 budget monitoring report.

46(2014-15) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)

Cllr Jackson reported that the Wyre Flood Forum had met in June but that she had been unable to attend. The meeting had received a presentation on Catchment Sensitive Farming.

47(2014-15) Clerk's Report (for information)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Grant Applications

The Parish Council has been awarded a grant of £200 by the RV, E and H Moon Charitable Trust towards the cost of installing the new plough feature. Unfortunately grant applications to the Duchy of Lancashire Benevolent Fund and the Parish Champion have not been successful.

Garstang and Over Wyre Neighbourhood Policing Team

A number of personnel changes have taken place which has resulted in the loss of a further PC post and his work will be taken on by the rest of the team.

Wyre Council Planning Department

Wyre Council has announced that, as a result of a high workload volume combined with staff vacancies, planning applications will not be allocated to a planning officer has the capacity to deal with it and applications will be allocated in date order. Planning applications continue to be sent out for consultation and any representations received will be uploaded to the website as usual.

Wyre Sports Stars

Wyre Council is looking for the borough's most talented sports stars and those who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support individuals and clubs. Nominations are invited in the following categories:

- Adult Volunteer of the Year (25+ years old)
- Coach of the Year
- Community Club of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Rising Star (under 21 years)
- School of the Year
- Service to Disability Sport Award
- Young Volunteer of the Year (14-24 years)

More information or to make a nomination wyre.gov.uk/sportsawards. Closing date for nominations is 18 July.

Lancashire and Merseyside County Training Partnership

There will be a Community Engagement workshop on 25 September, a Chairmanship workshop on 13 November and a Finance workshop on 4 December. The workshops usually take place from 7 to 9pm at a cost of around £25.

Queen's Award for Voluntary Services

Nominations for the award are open until 30 September 2014. The award is the equivalent to an MBE and winning groups may also be invited to a Royal Garden Party. Visit www.gov.uk/queens-award-for-voluntary-service.

Open Spaces

Town and village greens are land where local people have enjoyed informal recreation, for at least 20 years, without challenge or permission. Once the land has been registered as a green it is protected from development. Now landowners can submit a statement and map challenging the informal use of the land and thereby threaten the public's ability to register it as a town or village green. When such a statement is made local people have only one year to submit an application to register it as a green based on 20 years informal use.

NALC Meeting with Brandon Lewis MP

On 17 June a NALC delegation met with Brandon Lewis MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government to discuss local government finance and the 2015 parish elections. The Chairman updated the Minister on the latest situation regarding council tax support funding in 2014/15, welcoming the Minister's statement and letters to billing authorities as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement, but expressing concerns over the 15 billing authorities still not passing on grant funding in the current financial year. Further action by the Minister was requested and the Chairman again pressed him to identify funding in the financial settlement for 2015/16 or issue statutory guidance to billing authorities or fund parish councils directly. The Minister agreed to hold a roundtable meeting involving officials and representatives from the sector including

some of our largest councils to examine in detail how parish finances work, council tax support funding and referenda.

Onshore Oil and Gas Supplementary Planning Document – Notification of Scoping Consultation

The minerals and waste planning authorities of Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council intend to prepare a Supplementary Planning Document on Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution. The first stage in the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document is to consult with key stakeholders on the scope and level of detail that should be included in it.

48(2014-15) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 12 August 2014** at 7.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm.