

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 12 December 2017 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllrs D Forshaw (Chairman), T Williams, D Booth, A Haydock, K Jenkinson

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

092(2017-18) Apologies for absence

Cllr S Pelham

093(2017-18) Declaration of interests and dispensations

The Clerk reminded councillors that they all had a pecuniary interest in item 6 (budget for 2018/19) as they were all council tax payers. Cllr Haydock and Cllr Booth had requested a dispensation in order to allow them to discuss and vote on the precept and councillors **resolved** to grant the dispensations until the next elections in May 2019.

094(2017-18) Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2017 be agreed as a true record.

095(2017-18) 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 addressed the council to express their concerns in respect of planning application 17/00980/OUT. Councillors were made aware of flooding problems on Occupation Lane, most recently in November, problems with sightlines and accessibility along the narrow lane, and that the proposed development was not in keeping with existing properties, particularly as one is a listed building.

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

Councillors **resolved** to bring agenda item 8 forward and to deal with application 17/00980/OUT first.

096(2017-18) Planning applications

Application Number: 17/00980/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of one detached dwelling with access, appearance, layout and scale applied for (landscaping as reserved matter) resubmission of app: 17/00533/OUT

Location: Land at Occupation Lane south of Grange Lane Stalmine Lancashire.

It was **agreed** that the parish council objects to the proposal on the grounds of access to the highway, flooding and potential for sewerage contamination, impact on wildlife and inappropriate design.

Application Number: 17/00709/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of up to 4 dwellings

Location: Land adjacent Foxfields Hall Gate Lane Stalmine FY6 0QR.

It was **agreed** that the parish council objects to the proposal on the grounds of highway safety concerns, especially when vehicles turn northwards into a 60mph zone.

Application Number: 17/00984/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of single storey front and rear extension.**Location:** 2 Smithy Close Stalmine with Staynall Poulton le Fylde FY6 0LX.

It was **agreed** that the parish council has no objections to the proposal.

Application Number: 17/00985/FUL**Proposal:** Variation of condition 2 on app: 17/00572/FUL for the erection of 2 detached dwellings and new access on to Back Lane.**Location:** Land adjacent to Moor End Cottages Stricklands Lane Stalmine Poulton le Fylde.

It was agreed that the parish council has no objections to the proposal.

Application Number: 17/01024/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of a detached garage/storage building (resubmission of 17/00184/FUL).**Location:** Willow Bungalow Back Lane Stalmine Poulton le Fylde.

It was **agreed** that the parish council has no objections to the proposal on the proviso that the existing public footpath and signage is retained.

Application Number: 17/01033/OUT**Proposal:** Outline application for the erection of two dwellings (all matters reserved).**Location:** Land adjacent to Moor End House Stricklands Lane Stalmine Poulton le Fylde.

It was **agreed** that the parish council objects to the proposal on the grounds of highway safety concerns given the amount of new properties accessing Stricklands Lane within half a mile of the proposed development. The council is also concerned in respect of flooding at this location.

Councillors **resolved** to move item 6 to this point in the agenda.

097(2017-18) Flooding

Councillors discussed the recent flooding events and the number of calls received from residents not clear on what they should do or the help available. It was accepted that the council cannot provide a first line response when flooding occurs but could provide advice and guidance on how those at risk of flooding can prepare in advance. Councillors **resolved** to put an update in the Green Book signposting residents to the detailed advice from Wyre Council on how to take mitigating action ahead of any flooding event and to make residents aware of the flood forum, the recent post-flooding event at Wyre, and their proposal to the Wyre councillor for another similar event to be held.

098(2017-18) Draft budget for 2017/18

Councillors considered the draft budget for next year and **resolved** to consider the final budget at the January meeting.

099(2017-18) Finance

a) To note the following receipts:	
Business reserve account Oct £0.28; Nov: £1.11	1.39

b) To approve the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	01420,01421, 01422	

Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	01420	32.53
Lengthsman's expenses (SLN on behalf of council)	01421	34.00
Extra lengthsman's expenses (BH on behalf of council)	01422	14.50
Stalmine Village Hall	01423	200.00
Over Wyre Brass	01424	50.00
Wyre Council (invoice 1111089700)	01425	15.00

c) To note the following payments by standing order:	
Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	24.00

d) Resolved to note the statement of accounts for month ending 30 November 2017	
Current account	585.20
Business Reserve account	32242.47
General reserve account	3403.01

100(2017-18) Occupation Lane public footpath

Councillors heard that a new stile had been put in place that no longer provides access for dogs via a flap, on footpath 12, thereby making the path inaccessible for a number of dog walkers. Councillors **resolved** for the clerk to ascertain who had replaced the stile with a view to requesting for it to be adjusted to allow canine access.

101(2017-18) Reports from outside bodies (for information)

None

102(2017-18) Clerk's report (for information)

Smaller authorities audit

Under powers set out in Regulation 3 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA) was appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government as "a person specified to appoint local auditors" and as the Sector Led Body (SLB) for smaller authorities. Smaller authorities are those whose gross annual income or expenditure is less than £6.5 million.

Under the regulations, SAAA is responsible for appointing external auditors to all applicable opted-in smaller authorities, for setting the terms of appointment for limited assurance reviews and for managing the contracts with the appointed audit firms.

During 2016 various communications outlined that smaller authorities would be opted-in to the new central procurement regime managed by SAAA unless they expressly decided to opt-out and correctly followed the various procedures required under statute to appoint their own external auditors.

Stalmine with Staynall Parish Council is opted-in to the central procurement process and therefore an external auditor has been appointed for the five-year period commencing with the financial year 2017/18.

Exempt authorities

There are various changes to the legislation taking effect from 2017/18, most notably the potential for authorities where the higher of income or expenditure for the year was £25,000 or less, to declare themselves as 'exempt' from a limited assurance review by an external auditor if they meet certain qualifying criteria.

However, all authorities, even if they declare themselves 'exempt', will still need to fully complete and publish an annual return and must still have a named appointed auditor to deal with questions or objections from local electors about the accounts. Opted-in authorities have already had an auditor appointed for them by SAAA.

As the council's turnover is normally below £25k it would ordinarily come within the 'exempt' category. However, the planned expenditure on the playzone phase 1 will take it above the £25,000 limit in 2017/18, resulting in an external audit being needed. This will potentially be in the 50,001-100,000 expenditure bracket, meaning the cost of the audit will be £300.

Response from RAF Spadeadam

An email expressing thanks for the council's offer to celebrate the centenary of the RAF has been received along with an offer of help for design ideas.

PAYE

HM Revenue and Customs has announced that from 15 December 2017 it will no longer be possible to make payments to HMRC at the Post Office. The only other option currently available to the council is payment by cheque through the post. The clerk will look into the possibility of making payments via direct debit.

103(2017-18) Items for next agenda

None

104(2017-18) Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Tuesday 9 January 2018** at 7.00pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.