

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 14 April 2015 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

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

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

150(2014-15) Apologies for Absence

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

151(2014-15) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

152(2014-15) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2015 be agreed as a true record.

153(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.

A member of the public raised concerns over the concrete urns placed on Ash Lea Grove and asked the Council to consider moving them in order to allow children to play safely.

Although the crime anti social behaviour figures for March had been provided they cover both Hambleton and Stalmine. As the narrative had not yet been provided it was not possible to identify whether any of the incidents had taken place in the parish.

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

154(2014-15) Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Councillors noted that entries are being sought for this year's competition and **resolved** not to enter but to concentrate on making the villages as attractive as possible through planting and the provision of additional features.

155(2014-15) Moon Trust Grant

Councillors **resolved** to apply for a grant towards the installation of the new seat feature.

156(2014-15) New Transparency Code

Councillors noted that the government has introduced a new transparency code which will apply to parish councils with a turnover of £25,000 or less. The new code means that the Council will not be required to submit the Annual Return and pay an external audit fee but will impose additional duties on the Clerk. Councillors considered the implications and **resolved** to agree the courses of action proposed to ensure compliance with the code.

157(2014-15) Pensions Auto Enrolment

Councillors noted that every employer with at least one employee must now put those who meet certain criteria into a workplace pension scheme and contribute to it. The date by which the Parish Council must comply with these new responsibilities is 1 February 2017 and the appropriate initial actions have been completed. Councillors **resolved** that regular updates be provided outlining the progress made towards compliance and the financial implications.

158(2014-15) Summer Planting

Councillors **resolved** to write to all residents in Ash Lea Grove to seek their views on whether the urn planters should be straightened up and left in place, whether some should be removed or whether they should all be removed. Councillors further **resolved** to purchase the same mix and number of plants as last year with the addition of variegated ivy for the urns.

159(2014-15) Newsletter

Councillors noted that a small number of quarterly newsletters had been printed and left in public places in the village. Given the decision not to pursue the Local Council Award Scheme and the fact that all the information in the newsletters was publicised by other means councillors **resolved** to no longer produce a newsletter.

160(2014-15) Planning Applications**15/00179/FUL**

Proposal: Erection of rear extension and roof lift

Location: 5 Sarahs Fold, Stalmine

It was agreed that the parish council has no objections in principle but as concerns over the possible impact on the residential amenity of neighbouring properties and loss of privacy.

15/00210/FUL

Proposal: Erection of one detached dwelling

Location: Land Adjacent Dolveris, Smithy Lane, Stalmine

It was agreed that the parish council objects to the proposal on the grounds that the drainage infrastructure in this part of the parish is inadequate for current demands and any further properties will exacerbate the problems with flooding.

15/00190/FUL

Proposal: Removal of mobile home and erection of one single storey dwelling

Location: Hallgate Stables, Hallgate Lane, Stalmine

Application withdrawn

15/00242/FUL

Proposal: Variation of condition 3 on planning permission 11/00778/LMAJ to allow siting of up to 48 holiday caravans and 1 warden's caravan and variation of condition 2 to allow the warden's caravan to be occupied on a permanent residential basis in association with the site

Location: Robins Bank Caravan Park, Wardleys Lane, Stalmine

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

161(2014-15) Finance**a) Receipts this month**

General Reserve Account Interest	£4.14
High Interest Account Interest	£0.20
Precept	£18,509.00

b) Payments to be approved:

1223/4/5	Staff costs	£908.17
1223/4	Staff expenses on behalf of the Council	£49.11
1226	HMRC	£563.20
1227	Preesall Auto Discount	£13.65

1228	Lancashire Association of Local Councils	£278.86
1229	Preesall Town Council	£101.82
1230	D S Jackson (seats)	£174.96
1231	Wyre Building Supplies	£24.66
1232	Mrs E Parry (internal audit)	£100.00

Payments by Standing Order for Noting:

Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	£24.00
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c) Statement of Accounts – March 2015

The statement of accounts for the month ending March 2015 shows

Business Current Account	£112.52
Business High Interest Account	£4,257.46
General Reserve Account	£3,360.73

d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 4

The Q4 Budget Monitoring statement was noted.

Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment and noted the receipts, the payment by standing order, the statement of accounts and the Q4 budget monitoring statement.

162(2014-15) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)

Wyre Flood Forum

Cllr Jackson reported on the meeting held on 12 March 2015 Carl Green gave a presentation on sources of pollution on Cleveleys and Fleetwood beaches. United Utilities reported that they were trying to further progress the drain camera survey at Porters Row, Stalmine. There was no representative from either the Environment Agency or Natural England but Paul Long agreed to ask the EA for an update on any progress regarding the de-silting of the outfall of Grange Pool watercourse. Although there was an update from the Making Space for Water Technical Group it was the same information that was presented at the recent Stalmine Flood Group meeting and Cllr Jackson gave a report on that meeting. She reported that good progress had been made but there remained one main outstanding issue – that of finding a central location to store sandbags and traffic cones. She proposed that one solution would be an exterior lock up box sited at the Village Hall but the cost could be prohibitive. It appeared, however, that flood resilience grants are available from DEFRA and that the Small Schemes Pathfinder grant might be suitable. Carl Green agreed to forward details of suitable grant schemes. Wyre Borough Councillor Roger Berry, Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services had commended the efficiency with which the Parish Council had set up the Stalmine Flood Group. The next proposed meeting of the Flood Forum is 11th June 2015.

163(2014-15) Clerk's Report (for information)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Upgrade to Telecommunications Radio Base Station

Telefonica and Vodafone have agreed to jointly operate and manage a single network grid across the UK. As a result they are to upgrade their existing radio base station on land at Moors Farm, Mill Lane, Hambleton in order to improve the 2G/3G capacity and to enable the site to deliver 4G capability to the network. They propose to extend the existing 15m mast to 16.5m, to remove 3 antennas and the existing headframe, install 6 antennas on a new headframe, relocate 1 existing 300mm dish and install a 600mm dish. They also plan to install ground based equipment cabinets.

Public Rights Improvement Plan Consultation

Lancashire County Council is consulting on the public rights of way improvement plan from 23 March to 15 June 2015. The plan can be seen on the LCC website or in hard copy at any library. In addition a number of informal drop in sessions are being held, the nearest one being in Lancaster Library on 14 April from 3-7pm. Responses can be made via an online questionnaire which can also be found on the LCC website.

Local Community Website for Wyre

Streetlife, the local social network, aims to help people make the most of where they live by connecting with their neighbours. The website provides a free and easy place to share local news, views, recommendations and resources enabling residents to keep in touch with their community. Streetlife has recently launched in Wyre. Anyone interested can sign up at www.streetlife.com.

Star Councils 2015

NALC has launched the Star Councils 2015 awards. The awards are an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements of member councils and County Associations. There are nine categories recognizing individual and council achievements – Young Councillor, Clerk, Councillor, Chair, Council Worker, Digital Communications, CALC Outstanding Project, Local Council Outstanding Project and Council of the Year. Nominations close on 30 June and the event itself will be held in October.

The Local Government (Electronic Communications) (England) Order 2015

This came into effect at the end of January and allows meeting papers to be issued by e-mail rather than delivered in hard copy. If any councillor wishes to receive papers in this way a signed written request must be made to provide authorisation.

164(2014-15) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 12 May 2015** at 7.00pm. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 6.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm.