

## STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 11 August 2015 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

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

**In Attendance:** Jan Finch, Clerk to the Council and 3 members of the public.

#### **036(2015-16) Apologies for Absence**

None.

#### **037(2015-16) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations**

Cllr Pelham declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 6 (Play Area) as a member of Stalmine Bowling Club. Cllr Jenkinson declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 7 (Container for Flood Event Equipment) as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

#### **038(2015-16) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2015 be agreed as a true record.

#### **039(2015-16) 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.

No member of the public wished to raise an issue and there was no police report available.

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

#### **040(2015-16) Audit for the Year Ended 31 March 2015**

The external audit has now been completed and councillors **resolved** to accept and approve the Annual Return. Councillors noted that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit will be displayed on the notice board and the Annual Return uploaded on to the website.

#### **041(2015-16) Play Area**

Councillors considered a detailed response from Stalmine Bowling Club following the decision at the last meeting to consult members on the possible relocation of the play area to an area adjacent to the Bowling Club.

The Bowling Club raised concerns at the possible increase in litter and vandalism if the play area were relocated and expanded but their greatest concern was that all the Club's utility services are under the area in question and questioned what would happen if there were problems requiring the electricity supply, mains water and foul and surface water infrastructure to be accessed.

Councillors noted that, despite an article in the Green Book and in the website news article for the views of local residents no response had been received.

Given the possible impact on the Bowling Club's utility services councillors **resolved** not to agree to the relocation to an area adjacent to the Bowling Club. Councillors further **resolved** to give their full support to a refurbishment and possible expansion of play facilities in the current location.

**042(2015-16) Container for Flood Event Equipment**

Councillors noted that the village hall committee had discussed the location of the container on the village hall site but no decision had been made at the time of the meeting. Cllr Jenkinson reported that there were ongoing discussions relating to the state of the separate outbuilding and its future and this could influence the decision on the siting of the container. Councillors **resolved** to defer the matter to the October meeting.

**043(2015-16) LALC - 71<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting 2015**

Councillors noted that the AGM will be held on Saturday 7 November at 10am at County Hall in Preston. Councillors **resolved** not to send a representative and not to submit a resolution.

**044(2015-16) Planning Applications**

None received.

**045(2015-16) Finance****a) Receipts this month**

Preesall Town Council (Inv 005)	£12.00
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**b) Payments to be approved:**

1254/5/6	Staff costs (July and August)	£1822.79
1254/5	Staff expenses on behalf of the Council	£34.25
1257	Fleetwood High School	£15.65
1258	Preesall Town Council	£20.72
1259	Wyre Building Supplies	£2.40
1260	D S Jackson (reimbursement for flag stones)	£17.63

**Payments by Standing Order for Noting:**

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

The statement of accounts for the month ending July 2015 shows

Business Current Account	£236.77
Business High Interest Account	£16,968.82
General Reserve Account	£3,364.92

**d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1**

Councillors noted the Q1 Budget Monitoring statement and the significant variance in the insurance, audit and subscriptions budget head and the reason for it.

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

**046(2015-16) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)**

Cllr Jackson reported that there had been a meeting of the Planning Ambassadors to consider the information on services and facilities within each settlement and she had updated the information by email. She had also provided information on the supply of and demand for affordable housing.

Cllr Jenkinson reported that the LALC Wyre Area Committee had met recently with the main topic of the meeting being the Issues and Options document recently the subject of consultation with town and parish councils. Sgt Freaney had reported that she hoped for additional resources with the advent of the new hybrid policing model.

**047(2015-16) Clerk's Report (for information)**

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

NatWest – Online Banking Sessions

To help support residents with future banking in the light of the closure of the Knott End branch in September, Natwest are running some drop in sessions to talk to customers about their options and to show them how to access online / telephone banking services. The sessions are as follows:-

4 Aug – St Oswald's Parish Church – 9.00 – 12.00

13 Aug – Knott End Library – 2.30 – 4.30

The UK Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) Covers Deposits of Small Local Authorities

From 3rd July 2015 the UK Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) will cover the deposits of small local authorities. The definition of small local authority being one that has an annual budget of less than €500,000 (currently £355,700 as it is based on the exchange rate on 3rd July each year). This will extend cover to over 8,000 parish and community councils. The UK FSCS will cover the first £75,000 of eligible deposits, a reduction from the previous figure of £85,000. The previous limit will remain in force for individuals and small companies until 31st December 2015, but the new rate will apply immediately for councils. The FSCS ensure that eligible bank depositors have access to their eligible deposits within fifteen business days of receipt of a request from the depositor which contains sufficient information to enable the FSCS to make a payment. The formal announcement of the change can be found on the [Bank of England's website](#)

Communities To Have More Say Over Wind Farms

In a written statement to Parliament, Greg Clark MP, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has outlined changes to the planning system aimed at giving communities greater control over onshore wind farms. The changes mean that when considering a planning application for wind turbines in their area, a Local Planning Authority should only grant permission if the site is in an area identified as suitable for wind energy as part of a Local or Neighbourhood plan and, following consultation, the planning impacts identified by affected local communities have been fully addressed and therefore has their backing. Further information about these reforms to the planning system (which take immediate effect) can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/giving-local-people-the-final-say-over-onshore-wind-farms>

Planning Procedure Change

As part of its Summer Budget announced last week, the Government has proposed a series of reforms to the planning system. These notably included

- Set a deadline by which a local authority must produce a Local Plan and intervene for those local authorities that do not produce one by then
- Bring forward proposals to significantly streamline the length and process of producing local plans
- Consider how planning policy can support higher density housing around key commuter hubs
- Consider how national policy and guidance can ensure that unneeded commercial land can be released for housing and
- Legislate to grant automatic permission in principle on specified brownfield sites

Further information can be found on the gov.uk website

### Lancashire Adult Learning

Lancashire Adult Learning is running the following courses in Wyre in Autumn 2015

#### **Buy and sell on eBay at Poulton Library**

starts Mon 28<sup>th</sup> September for 4 weeks, 1 – 3pm, £38\*

#### **Buy and sell on eBay at Gt Eccleston Village Centre**

starts Tue 29<sup>th</sup> September for 4 weeks, 10am – 12pm, £38\*

#### **Buy and sell on eBay at Garstang Library**

starts Wed 30<sup>th</sup> September for 4 weeks, 1 – 3pm, £38\*

#### **Drawing and painting workshop at Garstang Arts Centre**

starts Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> October for 8 weeks, 10am – 12pm, £76\*

Course enrolment can be made by telephoning 0300 123 6711, or visiting our website at

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/adultlearning)

### Playing Field

Following approval given some time ago Wyre Juniors has now marked out a football pitch for use in the new season and the additional dog control order prohibiting dogs on the marked pitch requested from Wyre Council.

### Halite Planning Consent

Wyre Council, at its meeting on 30 July 2015, had debated a notice of motion “That this Council condemns the decision by Lord Bourne, Government Energy Minister at the Department of Energy and Climate Change, to grant permission to Halite to store gas underground at Preesall. This decision is an insult to the local residents who have worked so hard over many years to object to this proposal. This Council calls on the Officers of Wyre Council and Lancashire County Council to work together to investigate the possibility of a judicial review into the process so that this perverse decision can be challenge”.

### **048(2015-16) Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 13 October 2015** at 7.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.45pm.