

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18 February 2013 at 7pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllrs D Anderson; J Jackson; K Jenkinson and A McCann

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Council and 1 member of the public.

201(2012-13) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Mason and the reason accepted.

202(2012-13) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Jackson declared a pecuniary interest in Planning Application 13/00048/FUL as she has a business interest in the land in question.

203(2012-13) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2013 be agreed as a true record.

204(2012-13) Public Participation (Including Police Report)

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

In the absence of a police representative the Clerk reported on the continuing very low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in the parish.

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

205(2012-13) Election of Vice-Chairman

Councillors **resolved** to elect Cllr Jackson as Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year.

206(2012-13) Cleansing of Wardley's Lane

Councillors noted that the matter has now been passed to LCC to take action and Cllr Anderson's report that the hedges had still not been cut. The problem is now exacerbated by the increasing traffic resulting from the opening of the caravan site.

207(2012-13) Addressing Flooding Issues

Cllr Jackson reported that she had been approached by a resident whose property has been flooded and who has been unable to get a satisfactory response from any of the agencies involved. Cllr Jackson has invited the resident to attend the next meeting of the Wyre Flood Forum to put the issues to all the agencies together to elicit a joined up response. Councillors **resolved** to make an effort to identify all the ditches and dykes that are not well maintained and to identify the landowners responsible in order to explain the knock on effects and to encourage them to comply with their responsibilities. Councillors also **resolved** to ask Wyre Cllr Lynn Bowen to arrange a multi-agency meeting in the village to encourage a holistic response to all the flooding issues.

208(2012-13) Neighbourhood Planning Workshop Report

Having considered the advantages, disadvantages, costs and timescales involved, councillors **resolved** not to pursue a Neighbourhood Plan.

209(2012-13) Parish Plan Refresh

In order to begin the process of updating the plan, councillors **resolved** to develop questionnaires that can be circulated to both local groups, organisations and residents to seek their views on what actions the parish council can take to improve the village over the next two to three years.

210(2012-13) An Annual Event for Stalmine

Councillors noted that the Residents' Association is planning a Stalmine Festival Week and **resolved** not to pursue the matter of an annual event further.

211(2012-13) Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

The Clerk reported on concerns expressed about comments in the Judges' Report which some believed were inappropriate and councillors **resolved** to ask the Clerk to include an apology to those concerned for any distress caused by the circulation of the report. Councillors further **resolved** not to enter the competition this year.

212(2012-13) Playground Inspection

As a result of the state of the playground being raised by a member of the public at the last meeting, councillors noted Wyre Council's confirmation that it carries out a weekly inspection of the playground to ensure it is in a safe condition for use and that there is also an annual independent inspection. Councillors further noted that Wyre Council would carry out any minor repairs necessary and would remove any piece of equipment that was judged to be unsafe. The Clerk confirmed that a letter outlining these facts was sent to the member of the public who raised the issue.

213(2012-13) Village Litter Pick

Cllr Jackson reported on the very successful initiative in Hambleton where a group of residents regularly conducted a village litter pick. Councillors **resolved** to seek volunteers to establish a similar group in Stalmine.

214(2012-13) Maintenance of the Speed Information Device (SpID)

Councillors noted that there were problems with the SpID despite the fact that new batteries had been fitted. As a result of the costs involved councillors **resolved** not to have the device serviced and repaired and to write the SpID off the asset register.

215(2012-13) Request for a Bus Shelter

Cllr Jenkinson reported that he had been approached to ask for an additional bus shelter to be erected in addition to the previous resolution to ask LCC to supply a bus shelter at the junction of Neds Lane and Carr Lane. Councillors noted that LCC had responded that it no longer has a budget for installing shelters and no longer makes grants to parish councils for shelters.

216(2012-13) Parish Wood – Management Plan

Councillors noted the Management Plan which would inform the work of the Extra Lengthsman in relation to the parish wood. Councillors further noted that the Clerk is in the process of arranging a meeting with Wyre Council officers to identify whether the countryside volunteers could help to revitalise the pond in the wood.

217(2012-13) Change of Signing Authority

Councillors **resolved** to remove former Cllr W McCann as an authorised signatory for banking purposes and to add Cllrs Anderson and McCann as authorised signatories.

218(2012-13) Date for June Meeting

As a result of holiday commitments councillors **resolved** to change the date of the June meeting from 18 June to Tuesday 11 June subject to the room being available for the meeting.

219(2012-13) Highway Resurfacing Works – Hall Gate Lane/Burned House Lane

Councillors noted that LCC will carry out resurfacing works from Preesall Park Fold to Park House, including the junction of Cemetery Lane/Park Lane/Burned House Lane, from Wednesday 20 February to Tuesday 26 February inclusive. In order to carry out the works the junction will be closed from 9am to 5pm each day. Access to adjacent properties will be disrupted whilst the works are carried out and a diversion route will be in operation.

Councillors expressed their concerns at the timing of the closure and the state of the diversion routes and their suitability to carry the volume of traffic required and **resolved** to write to LCC to express those concerns.

220(2012-13) Introduction of 50mph Speed Limit on Carr Lane

Councillors noted LCC's proposal to introduce a 50mph speed limit on Carr Lane, Stalmine-with-Staynall, both sides, from a point 175 metres north of the centreline of Carr Road to a point 53 metres south of the centreline of Carr End Lane.

Councillors expressed concern that the 50mph speed limit signs had been erected some time ago and questioned the value of the consultation given that fact, although they welcomed the speed reduction. Councillors **resolved** to respond accordingly.

221(2012-13) Planning Applications

Having declared a pecuniary interest Cllr Jackson left the room for this item.

13/00029/FUL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of a temporary CCTV camera

Location: Land Adjacent Browns Lane, Preesall

Councillors **resolved** to object to the proposal on the grounds of impact on the rural character of the area and impact on those using adjacent roads and footpaths.

13/00048/FUL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of two temporary CCTV cameras

Location: Land Adjacent to Junction of Highgate Lane and Back Lane, Stalmine

Councillors **resolved** to object to the proposal on the grounds of impact on the rural character of the area, impact on those using adjacent roads and footpaths and a potential breach of human rights in respect of the right to privacy.

222(2012-13) Finance

a) Receipts this month

High Interest Account interest	£2.18
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b) Accounts for Payment:

Staff costs	£707.34
Staff expenses on behalf of the Council	£29.58
Wyre Council (playing field rental)	£15.00

Payments by Standing Order for Noting:

Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	£36.00
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c) Statement of Accounts – January 2013

The statement of accounts for the month ending January 2013 shows:

Business Current Account	£48.34
Business High Interest Account	£13906.86
Playing Field Account	£3323.13

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

223(2012-13) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)

None.

224(2012-13) Clerk's Report (for information)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of

Chainsaw Training

The Extra Lengthsman has now completed the Chainsaw certificate course and the City and Guilds Level 2 award Ground Based Chainsaw Operator course.

Lancashire Environmental Fund (LEF)

The fund was set up in 1998 as a not for profit organisation to support community and environmental projects within Lancashire with grants generated by the Landfill Communities Fund regulated by Entrust. Funds are provided by landfill operators SITA UK Ltd and Neales Waste Management and are enhanced by a 10% third party contribution from LCC. The Fund is an equal partnership between SITA UK Ltd, LCC, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and Community Futures. Representatives from each organisation serve on the Fund's Board and Project Assessment Panel to ensure that the best projects throughout the county, which provide environmental, community and social benefits, are supported.

Bollards on the S Bends

A site meeting had taken place to show the Public Realm Manager how the bollards detract from the appearance of the flower bed and make grass cutting difficult. It appears that the bollards were part of a larger road safety scheme agreed some years ago and the Public Realm Manager questioned whether the need for them has been superseded by the new 30mph speed limit and will check the position out including accident statistics. If he can find no reason for them remaining they will be removed.

Verge Cutting on Behalf of LCC

Although a response has been received from LCC it does not reflect local practice and further enquiries are therefore being made.

20mph Speed Limit – Stalmine School

The new speed limit signs are due to be installed by the end of February.

Old Photos and Communicating via Social Media

A local resident has offered to provide the Council with any old photos she has if the Council would like to display them on the website. She has also offered to set up a Facebook page and update it for the Council in order to reach a wider audience. The Clerk will approach Easy Websites about space on the website and will include an item on a future agenda for councillors to consider both issues.

225(2012-13) 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 this meeting or by notifying the Clerk at least 10 days prior to the next meeting. A summary of the reason for raising the matter should be provided.

226(2012-13) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18 March 2013 at 7pm.

227(2012-13) Exclusion of the Press and Public

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, councillors **resolved** to exclude the press and public to discuss items relating to the employment of staff.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm.