

## STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20 January 2014 at 7pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

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

**In Attendance:** Jan Finch, Clerk to the Council, PCSO Terry Molloy (Item 4) and one member of the public.

#### **150(2013-14) Apologies for Absence**

None.

#### **151(2013-14) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations**

The Clerk reminded councillors that they all had a pecuniary interest in item 5 (draft budget for 2014/15) as they were all council tax payers but that they had all been granted a dispensation by the Council which allowed them to discuss and vote on the precept.

#### **152(2013-14) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2013 and the extraordinary meeting on 6 January 2014 be agreed as a true record.

#### **153(2013-14) 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. PCSO Molloy provided an update on the small amount of crime and anti-social behaviour in the parish. He encouraged residents to report non-emergency matters using the 101 number.

A member of the public expressed his disappointment at the responses from United Utilities at the recent meeting and councillors agreed to ask the Clerk to write to Ben Wallace MP to seek his support on moving the Smithy Lane/Porters Row project up the agenda.

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

#### **154(2013-14) Draft Budget for 2014/15**

Councillors considered the draft budget options. In the light of Wyre Council's decision to withdraw the rural grant and not to passport local council tax support monies, worth in the region of £3600 to the Town Parish Council, councillors **resolved** that the precept for 2014/15 be set at £16,131.

#### **155(2013-14) Change of Bank Account**

Councillors noted that there had been no activity on the Playing Field Account for some time and **resolved** to ask RBS to rename the account to "General Reserve Account".

#### **156(2013-14) Community Engagement Strategy**

Councillors noted that the community engagement strategy should be reviewed annually and **resolved** to approve the revised draft, incorporating changes to methods of communication and bringing the public participation at meetings section into line with the Council's Standing Orders.

#### **157(2013-14) Lancashire & Merseyside County Training Partnership**

Councillors noted that the County Training Partnership will run a Finance workshop on 13 February 2014 from 7 to 9pm at a cost of £25 and a Chairmanship Workshop on 6 March.

**158(2013-14) Roadside Working Training**

Councillors **resolved** to arrange roadside working training for the Lengthsman to ensure road safety.

**159(2013-14) Corner of New Road and Highgate Lane**

Cllr Anderson proposed that shrubs be planted on the triangle in place of the raised bed which had to be removed. Councillors **resolved** to plant it with low growing shrubs in line with the requirements of LCC.

**160(2013-14) Winter Newsletter**

Councillors **resolved** that the winter newsletter include articles on the help and support available through Help Direct, a request to landowners to clear dykes, the 101 non-emergency number, the additional litter bins in the village and how to report nuisance drivers.

**161(2013-14) Closure of Wood View and Carr End Lane**

Councillors noted that the full length of both roads from the junction with Grange Lane to the junction with the A588 Carr Lane will be closed between 7am and 5pm from 17 February to 23 May to allow new high voltage cables to be installed. The diversion will be via Smithy Lane/Mill Lane/Stricklands Lane. Access will be restricted to pedestrians but access for residents will be provided.

**162(2013-14) Parish Action Plan**

Councillors considered the draft action plan that had been developed using the results of the recent parish survey and other issues already known to the parish council. Councillors noted that the Clerk had sent the issues relating to Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Constabulary and Wyre Council to the respective organisations for information and action.

In respect of the flooding issues contained in the action plan councillors **resolved** to facilitate the setting up of a Stalmine Flood Action Group in conjunction with the Environment Agency and other key partners.

Councillors **resolved** to accept the action plan which would be updated on a quarterly basis and noted that the action plan would be uploaded to the website and progress publicised using the regular Over Wyre Focus article and the blog.

**163(2013-14) Planning Applications**

None.

**164(2013-14) Finance****a) Receipts this month**

Playing field account interest	£4.29
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**b) Payments to be approved:**

Staff Costs	£771.88
Staff expenditure on behalf of the Council	£33.27
HMRC	£612.00
Stalmine Village Hall	£80.00

**Payments by Standing Order for Noting:**

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

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

Business Current Account	£174.57
Business High Interest Account	£9017.81
Playing Field Account	£3339.86

**d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 3**

Councillors noted the Q3 Budget Monitoring statement.

Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment and noted the receipts, the payment by standing order, the statement of accounts and the Q3 budget monitoring statement.

**165(2013-14) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)**

None.

**166(2013-14) Clerk's Report (for information)**

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Lancashire Association of Local Councils

The 2012/13 Annual Report has been received and is available should any councillor wish to read it.

The Association's Conference will take place on Saturday 5 April 2014 at the Leyland Hotel (Junction 28 M6) and the programme includes a presentation by National Grid, Veterans in the Community, Marketing Lancashire and Employment questions and answers. The cost is £35 per person and, if any councillor wishes to attend, full details can be obtained from the Clerk.

Sustainable Communities Act 2007

The Act, which allows local authorities to submit proposals they believe will improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of their communities direct to the Department for Communities and Local Government, has now been extended to town and parish councils. NALC has developed a 4 step process which they recommend should be followed before formally submitting proposals under the Act.

Useful Publications

The following publications are available to download from the NALC website ([www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk)):

- The Good Councillors Guide
- Making it Easier to Set Up a New Council
- Localism in Practice
- Being a Good Employer
- Whatever, Yeah – Local Councils and Youth Provision
- Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – a Practitioner's Guide

There are also toolkits on Communications, Become a Councillor, Create a Council, Create a Youth Council and Elections.

Lancashire & Merseyside County Training Partnership

The following workshops are being offered in 2014:

6 March	Chairmanship
1 May	Certificate in Local Council Administration (Session 1 of 6)
12 June	Employment
5 July	New Councillors and Clerks – Module 1

19 July	New Councillors and Clerks – Module 2
25 September	Community Engagement
13 November	Chairmanship
4 December	Finance

If any councillor is interested in any of the workshops please let the Clerk know so that a place can be reserved.

#### Ageing Better Consultation

Wyre Council is asking older people to complete a quick survey to help them to shape services to older people. The deadline for responses is 22 January 2014 and the survey can be accessed at [http://consult.wyre.gov.uk/portal/wyre\\_fulfilling\\_lives\\_ageing\\_better\\_consultation\\_1](http://consult.wyre.gov.uk/portal/wyre_fulfilling_lives_ageing_better_consultation_1)

#### NHS Choose Well Campaign 2013/14

This campaign is designed to help to direct people to the health services that can give them the fastest and most effective treatment over the winter period. The aim is to make sure people know about the range of health services available, and also how to keep fit and well. It promotes the message that A&E departments and 999 services are for those who are seriously ill or emergencies, asks people to think twice before calling their GP and gives information about the alternative services available. Promotional material is available to download from [www.blackpoolccg.nhs.uk/local-services](http://www.blackpoolccg.nhs.uk/local-services) and [www.fyldeandwyreccg.nhs.uk/campaigns/3348-choose-well](http://www.fyldeandwyreccg.nhs.uk/campaigns/3348-choose-well)

#### Casual Vacancy

An advert has been placed in the Over Wyre Focus giving a deadline of the end of January for expressions of interest in the casual vacancy. One expression of interest had been received at the time of writing.

#### Lancashire and Blackpool Local Flood Risk Management Strategy – Public Consultation

In response to new responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act, Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council have produced a joint Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. This strategy is subject to a public consultation from 10 January – 21 February 2014.

The strategy is available to view at:

[http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/atoz/a\\_to\\_z/service.asp?u\\_id=3904&tab=1](http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/atoz/a_to_z/service.asp?u_id=3904&tab=1) and paper copies are also available on request. There are two ways to provide views - an online questionnaire is available at the Lancashire County Council Have Your Say Website:

<http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/consultation/responses/responses.asp?siteid=5140&pageid=26949&e=e> and there are a number of public drop in events.

County Hall, Preston	22 January	11am-7pm
Blackpool Central Library	27 January	11am-7pm
Fleetwood Library	28 January	11am-7pm
Lancaster Library	5 February	12.30pm-7pm

Anyone wishing to discuss the draft Lancashire and Blackpool Local Flood Risk Management Strategy or to speak to someone about one of the organised consultation events can contact the Lancashire County Council Flood Risk Management Team on 01772 530174 or using [FRM@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:FRM@lancashire.gov.uk)

#### **167(2013-14) Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 February 2014 at 7pm.

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