

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15 July 2013 at 7pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllrs J Jackson (Vice-Chairman); S Carrington; K Jenkinson; A McCann and A Wallace

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

042(2013-14) Apologies for Absence

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

043(2013-14) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Jenkinson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 11 as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

044(2013-14) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2013 be agreed as a true record.

045(2013-14) 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 gave a short update on crime and antisocial behaviour. On the conclusion of public participation councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.

046(2013-14) Street Naming of Back Lane

Cllr Jackson reported that there were two roads named Back Lane in the village. One leads from Preesall and is generally known as Back Lane (Preesall), although it is also in Stalmine and the other, at the other end of the village, is known as Back Lane (Stalmine). She reported that an invitee to a recent site visit had gone to the wrong location in the first instance and questioned whether this might also be an issue for the emergency services. Councillors were not aware of any problems with the naming and **resolved** not to take any action at this stage.

047(2013-14) LALC Training Opportunities

Councillors considered two courses being offered by the County Training Partnership, one on Employment and one on Community Engagement, and **resolved** that no councillor should attend.

048(2013-14) LALC – 69th Annual General Meeting

Councillors noted that the AGM will be held on Saturday 9 November at 1.45pm following the LCC Parish and Town Council Conference in the morning. Councillors **resolved** not to send a representative and not to submit a resolution.

049(2013-14) Free Trees

Councillors noted that the Woodland Trust will be giving away 4,000 free tree packs and **resolved** not to apply given that there was no suitable location available.

050(2013-14) Wardley's Lane

Councillors noted that the traffic signs showing that the lane was narrow with no passing places had been erected at either end of the lane and hoped that this would solve the problem of too large vehicles using the lane and depositing soil from the banks onto the road surface. In the absence of Cllr Anderson there was no update on the hedges available. Cllr Jackson reported that the warning signs to alert drivers to ducks in the area had been installed.

051(2013-14) Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team– Request for Donation

Councillors considered a request for a donation from the Team and **resolved** not to make a donation on this occasion in the face of other demands on the Council's finances.

052(2013-14) Stalmine Village Hall Committee – Request for Donation for Disabled Ramp

Councillors considered a request from the Village Hall Committee for a contribution towards the costs of installing a new disabled ramp which will run from the car park to the old emergency exit of the main hall. The emergency exit will be made into a new entrance for the hall with a new fire door. The handrails on the ramp will be DDA compliant. Councillors **resolved** to make a donation of £500 using the powers available to it using Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 as the provision of a disabled ramp will bring benefit to all or part of the community.

053(2013-14) Provision of Dog Bins

Cllr Carrington raised the issue of the lack of public waste bins in the village which meant that dog walkers were having to walk some distance without being able to put dog waste into a bin. Councillors resolved to ask Wyre Council if it would provide additional bins or, if not, whether they would empty any additional bins provided by the Parish Council. Councillors also resolved to ask Wyre whether they would remove bagged waste if the Parish Council were to provide a bin and deposit filled bags in a suitable location.

054(2013-14) Halite

Cllr Jackson reported that there was still no news as to whether Halite's application for a judicial review had been accepted. If a judicial review of the Minister's decision was granted Halite's grounds for challenging the Minister's decision would be made public at that time. Halite cannot challenge the Minister's decision itself but can challenge the legalities of how that decision was arrived at.

She further reported that Halite intends to undertake a 2D seismic survey at Preesall during August. There is some doubt about the proposed extent of the survey, as some of the land is in private ownership. Canatxx undertook geophysical surveys of the SSSI's in 1997 and the results proved inconclusive.

Cllr Jackson finally reported that a plan to convert an empty gas field in Norfolk into a storage facility could be shelved after the Government signalled that it did not believe Britain needs more storage.

055(2013-14) Additional Grass Cutting at Road Junctions

Cllr Jackson reported that the grass is very high at a number of road junctions as LCC has not cut it since early in the year and councillors **resolved** to ask the Parish Council's contractor to cut the grass at locations identified by councillors to improve sight lines and therefore road safety.

056(2013-14) Bollards – Junction of Staynall Lane and A588

Cllr Jackson reported that newly installed bollards to the left of the Staynall Lane junction impede visibility when exiting the junction. The Clerk reported that she had raised the issue with LCC's Public Realm Manager and, in turn, he had raised it with the Road Safety Team. Their response had been that the bollards would remain as they were part of a road safety scheme. This was the same response as had been received about the bollards by the cart floral feature on Stricklands Lane. Councillors **resolved** to raise the issue with County Councillor Vivien Taylor and to ask for her assistance in finding a common sense solution to the issues.

057(2013-14) Audit for the Year Ended 31 March 2013

At the request of the Clerk councillors resolved to defer this item to the next agenda as she was unable to circulate copies of the Annual Return for approval.

058(2013-14) Planning Applications**13/00489/FUL****Proposal:** Front dormer**Location:** 32 Lynwood Drive, Stalmine

It was unanimously agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

059(2013-14) Finance**a) Receipts this month**

RV, E and H Moon Charitable Trust	£300.00
Bank interest	£7.19
Preesall Town Council	£35.00

b) Payments to be approved:

Staff costs	£1100.22
Staff expenditure on behalf of the Council	£55.10
HMRC – Quarter 1	£699.00
Preesall Auto Discount	£84.03
Village and Urban	£1,128.00
The Helping Hand Company	£156.00
Wyre Building Supplies	£482.12
BDO LLP	£120.00
F H & M Davies & Son	£802.98
Preesall Town Council	£35.74

Payments by Standing Order for Noting:

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

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

Business Current Account	£435.59
Business High Interest Account	£22,815.46
Playing Field Account	£3331.37

d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1

Councillors noted the Q1 Budget Monitoring statement which shows that spending against budget is on track.

060(2013-14) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)

Cllr Jackson reported that she had attended the Wyre Flood Forum on 13 June at which a report was given by the Fylde Peninsular Management Group on the impact of short term pollution events on bathing water quality; these events generally follow periods of high precipitation. The use of signage was discussed to warn the general public during short term pollution events.

United Utilities have dropped the proposed Porter's Row, Stalmine flood relief scheme due to the estimated costs of £3 million. UU will explain the reasoning behind this decision to the Parish Council at some future point. Cllr Jackson indicated that she would like to see a breakdown of how UU had arrived at the estimated costs as this is not the first time that UU have argued that remedying the

problem would not be cost effective. Last time UU did admit that they were responsible for the problem by admitting that they permitted surface water to be directed into the sewer system. The matter was dropped from the Flood Forum agenda as problem resolved and Cllr Jackson reported that she had had the issue re-instated on the agenda and would like the Parish Council to continue to pursue UU to correct the problem.

Lancashire County Council reported that potential blockages of drains causing the flooding events on Stricklands Lane will be subject to an investigation following the use of a camera to survey the drains. Cllr Carrington reported that this had not yet happened.

Cllr Jackson was accompanied to the meeting by a local resident from Moss Side Lane who related the series of serious flooding events which had occurred at her home. LCC will investigate her drainage problems at the same time as those on Stricklands Lane.

Mathew Connor, Environment Agency, gave a presentation on Flood Action Groups. It was suggested that he give this presentation to LALC, in order to inform other local councils in the area and he agreed to do so. He also referred to the National Flood Forum, which we might find a useful source of information www.floodforum.org.uk

Cllr Jackson reported that the LALC meeting had taken place on 9 July but unfortunately she had been unable to attend.

061(2013-14) Clerk's Report (for information)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

SLCC Branch Meeting

The Clerk attended the meeting on 5 June where useful presentations from the Society's new President, the War Memorials Trust and Jo Turton, Executive Director for the Environment at Lancashire County Council were received.

Parish Champion – Grant Application

A grant application towards the cost of the new notice board has been made to the new Parish Champion at LCC, CCllr Cynthia Dereli. Councillors set aside money in this year's budget to purchase the notice board (which has now been delivered) but, if the application is successful, some of that money could be reallocated to another project. Applications are being assessed in mid-July. The Parish Champion has indicated that she would be happy to attend meetings by invitation and subject to her diary commitments.

The RV, E and H Moon Charitable Trust – Grant Application

The application for £300 towards the cost of the cart and the boat has been successful.

Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Wyre

The Commission has now published its draft recommendations, none of which affect the town council area. Any comments should be made to the commission (consultation.lgbce.org.uk) by 9 September.

Village Hall – Holding Trustee

The Village Hall Committee has now received notification that the Charity Commission has approved the change of wording to allow the Parish Council to be the Holding Trustees for the Village Hall. The Secretary is now liaising with the solicitor to amend the land registry details to show that the Parish Council is the Holding Trustee.

Litter Picking Dates

The next parish litter picks will be held on Wednesday 28th August at 7.00PM at the Village Hall.

S Bend Bollards

LCC's Public Realm Manager has now responded after discussion with the road safety team. The bollards were installed as part of a local road safety scheme which also included the reduction of speed on this section of the A588 to 30mph. The scheme is a package of works which as a whole are intended to reduce accidents along this stretch. Officers do not have authority to make variation to the scheme which was approved by Cabinet. The Road Safety Team are not willing to remove the bollards as the bend when travelling towards Hambleton is considered to be severe and unless there is an alternative way of highlighting the bend the bollards will unfortunately have to stay.

062(2013-14) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 19 August 2013 at 7pm.

063(2013-14) 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 Vice-Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm.