

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17 March 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, PC Dave Kerfoot (Item 4) and one member of the public.

180(2013-14) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr D Walmsley and the reason accepted.

181(2013-14) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Councillors noted that Cllr Wallace has a pecuniary interest in the planning application relating to Long Acres Business Park and would therefore be prevented from reporting on planning enforcement matters (Item 5) unless she receives a dispensation from the council. Councillors **resolved** to grant Cllr Wallace such a dispensation for the duration of the meeting.

182(2013-14) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2014 be agreed as a true record.

183(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.

The member of the public confirmed that he had written to Mr Mogford, Chief Executive of United Utilities, concerning the ongoing problems in Smithy Lane and the withdrawal of the remediation scheme by UU.

PC Kerfoot introduced himself as this was the first meeting he had attended and gave an update on the small amount of crime and anti-social behaviour in the parish .

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

184(2013-14) Planning Enforcement Matters

Cllr Wallace gave an update on planning enforcement matters relating to Longacres Business Park and on meetings held with Wyre Council on the matter. Ben Wallace MP is to meet Wyre Council and Wyre Councillor Lynne Bowen is raising the issue at the Council. Councillors **resolved** to put this on the agenda for the next meeting for Cllr Wallace to provide a further update.

185(2013-14) Stalmine Post Office – Service Change Consultation

Cllr Jackson reported that she had become aware of proposals to relocate the post office to the church and for the service to be reduced to three days each week when she had read a poster in the post office. The Clerk had had to contact the Post Office consultation team and nothing had been received despite the Parish Council being listed as a consultee.

Councillors concluded that a reduced service was preferable to no service at all but expressed concern that a three days per week service could preclude many people from using the service and this could lead to the service eventually being withdrawn. Councillors **resolved** to put these concerns to the Post Office and to ask for a commitment that the service would continue in the long term.

186(2013-14) Telephone Fault Repair Service Problems

Cllr Jackson raised concerns over the poor fault repair service provided by OpenReach and gave

examples of where telephone and/or internet connections had been down for more than two weeks. She had raised these concerns with Ben Wallace MP and councillors **resolved** to write to him to outline their concerns and ask him to try to secure an improvement in the service.

187(2013-14) Annual Governance Review

Having considered the various internal control documents councillors **resolved** to agree the minor changes to Standing Orders and the Risk Register as outlined in the paper presented and to readopt the Financial Regulations, the Risk Management Plan and the Annual Parish Meeting Standing Orders without change. Councillors further **resolved** to agree the Schedule of Assets as at March 2014.

188(2013-14) Appointment of Internal Auditor for Year Ending 31.3.14 and Approval of Internal Audit Terms of Reference

Councillors **resolved** to appoint Edwina Parry as the Internal Auditor for year ending 31.3.14 at a fee of £100 and further **resolved** to agree the terms of reference for the internal audit.

189(2013-14) Review of Model Publication Scheme, Information Security Policy and Complaints Procedure 2014

Councillors **resolved** to adopt the updated Model Publication Scheme and to readopt the Information Security Policy and the Complaints Procedure without change.

190(2013-14) Wyre Three Tier Forum

Councillors noted the call for agenda items and **resolved** not to submit any items for the agenda.

191(2013-14) Planning Ambassador

Councillors noted that Wyre Council has asked the Parish Council to nominate a Planning Ambassador and for that person to attend a meeting on the Local Plan on 24 March. Given that the meeting is in the daytime no councillor was able to attend and the role of Planning Ambassador remains vacant. Councillors **resolved** to notify Wyre Council. (NOTE: after the meeting Cllr Jackson agreed to attend).

192(2013-14) Wyre Council Local Plan – Call for Sites

Councillors noted that Wyre Council had asked town and parish councils to identify sites which they believe have the potential for development in relation to new homes, employment and services. Councillors **resolved** that, in their view, there were no such sites in the parish.

193(2013-14) Planning Applications 14/00128/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of one dwelling

Location: Land adjacent to Moor End Cottages, Stricklands Lane, Stalmine

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council objects to the proposal on the grounds the area is already prone to flooding owing to infrastructure problems and there would be highways issues relating to the road widening required by a previous planning consent.

194(2013-14) Finance

a) Receipts this month

Grant	£3560.00
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b) Payments to be approved:

Staff costs	£898.75
Clerk's expenses on behalf of the Council	£16.00
Fylde Mowercare	£119.12
P G Whitside	£30.00

Payments by Standing Order for Noting:

Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	£36.00
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c) Statement of Accounts – February 2014

The statement of accounts for the month ending February 2014 shows

Business Current Account	£3738.59
Business High Interest Account	£6419.38
General Reserve Account	£3339.86

195(2013-14) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)

Cllr Anderson reported that she had recently attended the Wyre Road Safety Committee and had yet again raised the issues of the state of Highgate Lane and has also asked for Wardley's Lane to be scraped clean of mud.

196(2013-14) Clerk's Report (for information)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Best Kept Village Competition

Entries are now being invited for the competition and are required by 31 March. Further information is available from the Clerk.

Town and Parish Charter, the Rural Grant and Localised Council Tax Support

A response has been received from Wyre Council's Chief Executive. Following the Rural Parish Grant as part of the Town and Parish Charter being raised at the LALC meeting on 21 January an email was sent to the Secretary confirming that the Charter does need to be updated to reflect the withdrawal of the Rural Parish Grant and the review will also reflect the Shaping Your Neighbourhood Initiative as a method of further developing consultation and engagement with parish and town councils. The withdrawal of the Rural Parish Grant and Localised Council Tax Support is a result of the reduction in the financial settlement and Wyre's priority is to protect front line services. Wyre has frozen council tax for 4 years running and hopes to be able to do so again in 2015/16. He values the role of town and parish councils and hopes that the Town Council will continue to work closely with the Council to help them meet the needs of our communities.

An acknowledgement has been received from Ben Wallace MP who has asked to be informed of the response received from Wyre and Wyre's response sent to him. Given Wyre's negative response a letter had been sent to the Minister asking him to take action and had been copied to Ben Wallace.

LALC – Planning, Insurance and Investment Workshop

This workshop is being held at the Leyland Hotel on Saturday 17 May from 9.30 to 15.45 at a cost is £40. Any councillors interested in attending should contact the Clerk.

Mud on the Highway

Wyre Council's Area Operations Officer (Rural and Over Wyre) h received a number of complaints about heavy mud being deposited on the highway near the junction with Cemetery Lane and continuing towards Preesall. The mud is thought to result from contractors working in fields to renew power lines and LCC has taken up the issue of cleaning the roads with the contractor.

Concessionary Travel on Tram Services between Blackpool and Fleetwood

Since April 2011, Blackpool Council has enhanced the mandatory concessionary travel scheme to allow free travel on the tram to all concessionary pass holders, including Lancashire NoWcard holders. However, concessionary travel on the tram is not part of the mandatory concessionary travel scheme and pass holders are therefore not entitled to free travel at any time on the tram under the mandatory scheme. The county council contributed £36,000 towards funding free travel on Blackpool's trams for

NoWcard holders but the majority of the cost, £1.8m was funded by Blackpool Council. As part of their budget process, on 28 February, Blackpool Council agreed to restrict the discretionary scheme to Blackpool residents only from 1 April 2014. As a result, Lancashire NoWcard and English concessionary travel pass holders will no longer be able to use the tram services free of charge.

Playing Field Account

The account has now been renamed to the General Reserve Account and new paying in book received.

Global Renewables Community Tours

Global Renewables runs the Farington Waste Recovery Park at Leyland and is offering free community tours to see the work in action. Tours are available between 2.30 and 4.30pm during term time but tours are available all day through the Easter holiday period (7-17 April). Presentations can also be made to meetings. Contact Sonia Edwards on 01772 642870.

197(2013-14) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 22 April 2014** at 7pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm.