

## STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 19 November 2012 at 7pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

**Present:** Cllrs W McCann (Chairman), D Anderson, J Jackson, K Jenkinson and G Mason

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

#### **137(2012-13) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr A McCann and the reason accepted.

#### **138(2012-13) Declaration of Interests**

The Clerk advised that the automatic dispensation provided under previous legislation which enabled councillors (who would otherwise have had a personal and prejudicial interest) to take part in and vote on the precept had been removed by the Localism Act 2011 which revised the Code of Conduct. Councillors will now have a disclosable pecuniary interest which they would have to declare and which would prevent them from taking part in such discussions and decisions unless they had a dispensation to do so from the parish council. The parish council may grant a dispensation if, without it, the "number of members or co-opted members prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business". Councillors therefore made a request for a dispensation to allow them to discuss and vote on the precept and the Council **resolved** that a dispensation be granted to all six serving councillors to enable them to discuss and vote on the precept for the period until the next elections in 2015 or until the legislation is amended to provide the automatic dispensation, whichever is the sooner.

#### **139(2012-13) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2012 be agreed as a true record.

#### **140(2012-13) Public Participation (Including Police Report)**

Councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to express their concerns on planning application 12/00694/FUL. In the absence of a Police representative the Clerk gave a short update on the small number of crimes reported in October. On the conclusion of public participation councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.

#### **141(2012-13) Consultation on Withdrawal of Rural Parish Grant by Wyre Council**

Councillors considered the proposal by Wyre Council to withdraw the payment of the Rural Parish Grant and **resolved** that the Clerk be asked to convey the disappointment of the Parish Council in response.

#### **142(2012-13) Draft Budget for 2013/14**

Councillors considered the first draft of the budget for 2013/14 and made a number of amendments. Councillors **resolved** that the budget be considered further at the December meeting.

#### **143(2012-13) Code of Conduct – Registration of Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Councillors considered a number of non-pecuniary interests which should be registered in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct. Councillors **resolved** to approve the following non-pecuniary interests:

- Bodies of which the councillor is a member or has a position of general control or management and to which the councillor has been appointed or nominated by the Council
- Bodies exercising functions of a public nature of which the councillor is a member or has a position of general control or management

- Bodies or organisations directed to charitable purposes of which the councillor is a member or has a position of general control or management (does not have to be a registered charity)
- Bodies or organisations whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which the councillor is a member or has a position of general control or management
- Details of any gifts or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £50 which the councillor has received in connection with their role as a member of the Council, including the name of the donor

#### **144(2012-13) Cleansing of Wardley's Lane**

Cllr Anderson reported that Wyre Council had attempted to sweep the lane but could not access the whole lane as there is still one hedge not cut. A local farmer had scraped the mud off the remainder of the lane but vehicles that are too wide for the road had subsequently damaged the banks and the road was covered in mud once again. Councillors agreed that legally enforceable width restrictions are required and Cllr Anderson confirmed that Lancashire County Council is planning to erect width restriction signs in the near future. Councillors **resolved** that the remaining landowner whose hedge had not been cut be asked again to cut the hedge as a matter of urgency and road safety and that the matter be kept on the agenda until such time as all the issues had been resolved.

#### **145(2012-13) Community Engagement Strategy**

Councillors resolved to approve the Community Engagement Strategy as part of its bid for Quality Status.

#### **146(2012-13) Parish Plan Refresh**

Councillors considered the actions in the current Parish Plan and **resolved** that those which had been completed or were no longer appropriate should be removed and that the small number of remaining actions should roll forward into the new Plan. Councillors noted that a proposed methodology will be put to the next meeting.

#### **147(2012-13) Preesall Underground Gas Storage**

Cllr Jackson reported that she had represented the parish council at the open floor hearings which had taken place in October and had circulated a written note to councillors. Councillors noted that the decision of the inspectors is now awaited.

#### **148(2012-13) Halite CCTV Cameras**

Cllr Jackson reported that Halite has installed CCTV cameras on a number of sites in the parish without, it appears, the necessary planning permission. Councillors noted that Wyre Council's Enforcement Officer had conducted a site visit and measured and photographed the cameras and their response is awaited.

#### **149(2012-13) Christmas Tree Lighting**

Councillors noted that arrangements for the lighting ceremony on 3<sup>rd</sup> December are complete, that new lights have been purchased and that a reminder of the date and time will be placed in the parish news and the Green Book. Cllrs considered three posters advertising the event designed by Cllr Jackson and **resolved** that the one chosen be placed on the notice board and that copies be sent to the church and the school.

#### **150(2012-13) Flood Forum Representative**

Councillors noted that the Council has two places at the Flood Forum and, at the Annual Meeting, councillors had resolved to nominate Cllr Jenkinson and Mr M Tucker as the Council's representatives. As Mr Tucker cannot speak on behalf of the Council councillors **resolved** that Cllr

Jackson replace Mr Tucker as the Council's representative and hoped that Mr Tucker would continue to attend as an interested and knowledgeable resident.

#### **151(2012-13) Electoral Review of Wyre**

Councillors noted that the Local Government Boundary Commission has announced the start of the first stage of the electoral review of the authority and is consulting on a proposal to reduce the number of seats on Wyre Council from 55 to 50. Councillors **resolved** not to respond to the consultation.

#### **152(2012-13) Request for Donation by St James' Church**

Councillors considered a request from St James' Church for a contribution to the cost of a new roof. Councillors noted that the project will cost £80,000 and **resolved** that, using the powers conferred by S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and, being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, the Council approves a grant of £500.

#### **153(2012-13) Verge Cutting on behalf of Lancashire County Council**

Councillors noted that, in response to a question as to whether the Parish Council could take over verge cutting from Lancashire County Council, the Public Realm Manager has indicated that it would be possible but that he could not, at this stage, advise the Council on the rate per m2 per cut for the next financial year. Councillors **resolved** that the Council continue to pursue the matter and that the Clerk work with Lancashire County Council and the Council's own contractor to identify the verges which the County Council currently cuts and the potential costs and financial contribution to offset those costs.

#### **154(2012-13) Neighbourhood Planning – Getting Started Workshops**

Councillors noted that LALC and the Campaign to Protect Rural England are holding a free one day workshop on 19 January 2013 and resolved that the Clerk attend. Councillors noted that travel costs will be shared with Preesall Town Council.

#### **155(2012-13) Planning Applications**

##### **12/00694/FUL**

**Proposal:** Change of use of buildings A, B and C from B1 (light industrial) to B8 (storage and distribution) and Building F to be used as B8 (storage and distribution), B1 (light industrial or B2 general engineering)

**Location:** Long Acres Farm, Back Lane, Stalmine

It was unanimously agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the following grounds:

- The application is made in the wrong name – Long Acres Farm is a residential property. The application is for Long Acres Business Park
- There are a number of conditions attached to previous applications which are either being ignored or have not yet been met, for example significant noise is being generated from a joinery shop on site at weekends when conditions require that work does not continue after 2pm on Saturdays
- There are already significant highway safety issues from the number of large articulated vehicles using a country lane which is simply not wide enough to accommodate such vehicles
- Access to the site is inappropriate for its current and intended uses
- The road access has suffered extensive flooding this year as a result of the increased building and hard standing on the site

##### **12/00730FUL**

**Proposal:** Erection of two-storey rear extension

**Location:** 1 Moor End Cottage, Stricklands Lane, Stalmine

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

**02/12/0753**

**Proposal:** Proposed waste water detention tank compound with associated access, electrical control kiosk, vent stack and fencing

**Location:** Grange Lane, Stalmine (GR: 336888 445305)

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

**12/00770FUL**

**Proposal:** Conversion of a barn to two holiday lets

**Location:** Cobblestone Barn, Staynall Lane, Stalmine

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

### **156(2012-13) Finance**

**a) Receipts this month:**

Cancel cheque 1007	£137.75
Sale of book	£35.00

**b) Accounts for payment:**

Staff costs	£506.53
Staff expenses on behalf of the Council	£55.10
Preesall Town Council (printing)	£13.16
Stalmine Village Hall (room hire)	£80.00
Royal British Legion (wreath)	£17.00
Wyre Building Supplies (Inv 92302)	£5.40

**c) Statement of Accounts – October 2012**

The statement of accounts for the month ending October 2012 shows:

Business Current Account	£716.90
Business High Interest Account	£17204.68
Playing Field Account	£3318.95

Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment (including the sum of £17 using the powers conferred by S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being satisfied that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section) and noted the statement of accounts.

### **157(2012-13) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)**

As Cllr Jackson had reported matters relating to the Protect Wyre Group earlier in the meeting (minute 147(2012-13 refers) there were no reports.

### **158(2012-13) Clerk's Report (for information)**

#### **Wyre Together Awards**

These are awards for individuals and groups who deserve to be recognised for their work in the community. There are various categories – Best Volunteer, Best Young Volunteer, Best Volunteer Team, Best Neighbour, Best Community Group and Volunteering Despite Adversity. Nomination forms

and guidance can be found on the Wyre Together website ([www.wyretogether.org](http://www.wyretogether.org)) and the closing date for nominations is 14 December with a special awards ceremony taking place in January.

### **Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm - Supplementary Documents Consultation under 42 of the Planning Act 2008**

DONG Energy is currently consulting on a proposal for an additional cable route option detailed in a landfall memorandum and related maps as route 2a. In addition to this, a briefing paper has been produced on the scope for land restoration, landscaping and mitigating measures for impacts on natural habitats associated with the Project. Both documents can be found on their website at:

<http://www.dongenergy.com/walneyextension/downloads/pages/default.aspx>

All comments must be received on or before **23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012**. Feedback and comments can be sent to DONG Energy Walney Extension (UK) Ltd, 33 Grosvenor Place, London, SW1X 7HY

### **LCC – Prospective Candidates Information Evening**

LCC will be holding a Prospective Candidates information evening on **Wednesday 28 November, 5.30pm – 7.30pm**, at County Hall Preston. Prospective candidates will have an opportunity to find out more about the work of councillors, ask questions about the election process and informally speak to council staff about the role and what support is available. Anyone interested in becoming a County Councillor can attend to find out more and places can be booked using the link

<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/delegate/conferenceDetails.asp?cid=6276>.. Further information about becoming a councillor (including a video, Prospective Candidates information booklet and key contacts) can be found at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/beacouncillor](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/beacouncillor).

### **Online Flood Portal**

There is a new interactive online portal which has been launched by the Flood Protection Agency for people at risk of flooding – [www.thefpa.org.uk](http://www.thefpa.org.uk)

### **Jubilee Maple**

Alan Wallbank at Wyre Council has been advised of the location and has confirmed that it was planted on 7 November. The Lengthsmen will be asked to keep an eye on it.

### **Strategy for the Provision of School Places and Schools' Capital Investment 2013/14 to 2015/16**

LCC is currently consulting on its Strategy for the Provision of School Places and School's Capital Investment 2013/14 to 2015/16. The Strategy, comments on which are required by 14 December can be viewed on the LCC website ([Lancashire.gov.uk/atoz/search](http://Lancashire.gov.uk/atoz/search) by directorate/children and young people then scroll down to find the document). Written comments should be returned to [cyp.schoolreviews@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:cyp.schoolreviews@lancashire.gov.uk), or posted to: Provision Planning Team, Directorate for Children and Young People, FREEPOST PR503, Preston PR1 8RJ

### **159(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.

### **160(2012-13) Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 17 December at 7pm

### **161(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 employment matters.