

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15 October 2012 at 7pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllrs W McCann (Chairman), D Anderson, J Jackson, A McCann and, after Item 5, Cllr G Mason

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Council, PC Stuart Thompson (Item 4) and one member of the public.

115(2012-13) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Jenkinson and the reason accepted.

116(2012-13) Declaration of Interests

None.

117(2012-13) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2012 be agreed as a true record.

118(2012-13) Public Participation (Including Police Report)

Councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow Mr M Tucker to provide an update on flooding issues, particularly in light of the recent heavy rain. He reported on United Utilities' plans to replace pipework and to create a reservoir to capture water during times of heavy rain that would then be fed into the Grange Pool watercourse. The Environment Agency class this watercourse as a main river and they are therefore responsible for its maintenance but they assess it as low risk. They last inspected it in 2009 but do flail and de-weed it annually. Cllr Jackson commented that one of the problems is that Natural England do not participate in the Flood Forum and prohibit anyone from clearing channels which leads to problems further along the chain of flow. Councillors also commented that, although many landowners understood and accepted their responsibilities for keeping dykes and ditches clear, others were either unaware of their responsibility or were not prepared to do the work.

Mr Tucker reported that the excavations to install a new gully on Lynwood were abandoned on the second day as a result of heavy rain, that preparations were underway to replace the 9" pipe on the greensward and that there were emissions from the foul sewer on Smithy Lane/Grange Lane during the rain on 24/25 September. Cllr Jackson reported that a house on Stricklands Lane had been flooded and that she had contacted LCC who had cleared the gullies out. She had reported the issues to Ben Wallace MP who had agreed to take it up. She also felt that both LCC and UU did not clear gullies on a regular basis.

PC Thompson gave a short update on the very small amount of crime and antisocial behaviour in the parish during September. .

Following these updates councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.

Referring to the flooding issues councillors **resolved**

- a) That the Clerk write to Natural England to express the Council's concern at the lack of representation on the Flood Forum and to ask for an explanation of the policy in relation to clearing main watercourses when the outfall crosses areas of saltmarsh and the resulting problems

- b) That the letter be copied to Ben Wallace MP and that he be asked to use his good offices to encourage attendance and to ensure that the policy of Natural England did not compromise flood prevention efforts
- c) That landowners' responsibilities for keeping ditches and dykes clear be publicised and
- d) That the Council writes to any landowner not doing so to explain the knock on effects and to encourage them to comply with their responsibilities

119(2012-13) Parish Councillor Vacancy

Councillors met the candidate prior to the meeting and **resolved** that Gill Mason be co-opted as a parish councillor until the next elections in 2015.

120(2012-13) Cleansing of Wardley's Lane

Following the last meeting Cllr Anderson reported that Cllr Jackson had identified the landowners and that she had contacted some of them and asked them to cut the hedges. She had had a mixed response but the hedges had now been cut except for those bordering two fields and she asked the Clerk to contact the remaining landowner. She also reported that, although LCC were responsible for cutting the verges twice a year, they had only done one cut this year despite her contacting them a number of times. Councillors **resolved** that LCC be asked if they would be prepared to make a contribution if the Parish Council were to take over responsibility for cutting the verges.

121(2012-13) Draft List of Projects for 2013/14

Councillors identified the following possible projects for inclusion in next year's draft budget

- Feature beds at the entrances to the village
- Costs of taking over LCC responsibility for verge cutting (subject to 120(2012-13))
- Potential loss of rural grant

122(2012-13) Publication of Draft Minutes

Councillors **resolved** that, given the facility to upload the minutes in draft onto the website, the draft minutes be published once they had been cleared by the Chairman.

123(2012-13) Audit for the Year Ended 31 March 2012

The external audit has now been completed and councillors **resolved** to accept and approve the Annual Return and the issues Arising Report noting that no action was required. Councillors noted that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit will be displayed on the notice board and the Annual Return and Issues Arising Report uploaded on to the website.

124(2012-13) Location for Jubilee Maple

Councillors **resolved** to ask Wyre Council to plant the Jubilee maple on the grassed area on Douglas Avenue/Smithy Lane.

125(2012-13) Christmas Tree

Councillors **resolved** that the lighting of the Christmas Tree be on Monday 3 December at 6pm and asked the Clerk to order the tree and arrange for the Over Wyre Band to play. Councillors further **resolved** that new lights be purchased as many had been damaged by the weather last year.

126(2012-13) Bus Shelter – Neds Lane

Further to a request by two residents councillors **resolved** to ask Lancashire County Council to erect a bus shelter at the junction of Neds Lane and Carr Lane.

127(2012-13) Lancashire County Training Partnership

Councillors noted that the Partnership is running a Chairmanship workshop on 21 November (7-9pm) at a cost of £25 and a Finance workshop on 12 December (7-9pm) at the same cost.

128(2012-13) Planning Applications

12/00643/FUL

Proposal: Erection of disabled ramp and steps

Location: Stalmine Village Hall, Carr End Lane, Stalmine

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

12/00692/FUL

Proposal: Erection of new single residential dwelling following demolition of the former Wardleys Hotel

Location: Former Wardleys Hotel, Wardleys Lane, Stalmine

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

129(2012-13) Finance

a) Receipts this month

Cheque from Parish Champion	£400.00
Interest	£6.73

b) Accounts for Payment:

Staff costs	£522.18
Staff expenditure on behalf of the Council	£ 53.65
Preesall Town Council (printing)	£9.10
Preesall Auto Discount July/Aug	£100.20
Easy Websites	£598.80
David Murphy (grass cutting)	£806.40
BDO LLP (external audit)	£162.00

Councillors also approved the setting up of a Standing Order in the amount of £36 in relation to the website hosting fee.

c) Statement of Accounts – September 2012

The statement of accounts for the month ending September 2012 shows

Business Current Account	£1290.71
Business High Interest Account	£19204.68
Playing Field Account	£3318.95

d) Quarterly Budget Monitoring

Councillors noted the second quarter budget monitoring report.

130(2012-13) Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)

Councillor Jackson reported on the LALC Wyre Area Committee held on 9 October 2012. The main issues raised were that responsibility for flood defence was transferring to LCC and more details would be provided when they were available. Garry Payne, Chief Executive at Wyre Council, informed the meeting of the possibility of Wyre withdrawing the rural grant. If this happened the Parish Council would need to increase the precept by £3.94 per household to make up the shortfall of £2353.

131(2012-13) Clerk's Report (for information)

Gambling Act 2005

Wyre Council is conducting a 3 yearly review of the Gambling Act Licensing Policy. The draft policy can be seen on Wyre Council's website www.wyre.gov.uk. All responses must be received by 5pm on 23 November 2012.

Precept and Grant Notification

Wyre Council has indicated that it should be notified of the Precept for 2013/14 in advance of Friday 18 January 2013. The Corporate Director of Resources has also stated that Wyre Council will now pay a Rural Parishes Grant, irrespective of the value councils decide to pay the Clerk. The grant is calculated on the latest Register of Electors data multiplied by £1.94 which is unchanged from last year.

Winter Services Conference

The Lancashire and Merseyside County Training Partnership in association with LCC is holding a Winter Services Conference at the Leyland Hotel on Saturday 20 October 10am to 3pm.

Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Submission of Major Modifications to the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies and Proposals Map

LCC, Blackpool Borough Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council have prepared the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies document as part of the Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan. This document is the mechanism to deliver the Core Strategy and it contains policies that set out the criteria against which planning applications will be considered. It also allocates sites for the treatment of waste or extraction of minerals. The Proposed Major Modifications to the Local Plan, and associated supporting documents, were submitted to the Secretary of State on Thursday 20th September 2012. These additional submission documents are:

- Proposed Major Modifications to the Local Plan
- Major Modifications Sustainability Appraisal Report
- Major Modifications Habitat Regulations Screening Report
- Major Modifications Health and Equalities Impact Assessment
- Consultation Statement – Major Modifications Consultations
- Summary of Comments – Major Modifications Consultations
- All Representations received

Copies of the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies, Proposals Map and background papers are available for viewing at: Lancashire County Council at County Hall, Pitt Street, Preston, PR1 8XN, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council at Town Hall, King William Street, Blackburn, BB1 7DY and Darwen Town Hall, Croft Street, Darwen, BB3 1BQ, · Blackpool Borough Council at Customer First Centre, Municipal Building, Corporation Street, Blackpool, FY1 1NF, · Information Centres and Public Libraries

A list of all the inspection points is available on the LCC website. The documents are also available for viewing and download on our website www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf.

Following submission the examination will recommence. If the Inspector finds the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies sound, it is expected that it will be adopted by the Joint Authorities in July 2013. The Public Hearing into the Site Allocation document is expected to begin on 6 November 2012.

Wyre Council – Remembrance Services 11 November 2012

Notification has been received of the various Remembrance Services to be held in the Borough. The nearest service is Preesall where the procession will assemble in the Preesall Youth and Community Centre Car Park at 1.45pm followed by a service at St Oswald's at 2.30pm. The Mayor of Wyre and the Chief Executive will attend.

High Gate Lane

The Public Realm Manager has confirmed that LCC had not yet fully assessed what is required to for the road or calculated the overall cost. He stated that the current budget situation is such that it is very unlikely that LCC will be able to achieve any more than what is required to keep the road in a safe condition. Owing to substantial issues relating to highway flooding across the area, it is likely to be some time before LCC will be able to assess the road surface.

Website

The website is now live.

132(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.

- Winter planting
- Ideas for/cost of new beds
- Ditches

133(2012-13) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 19 November at 7pm

134(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.