

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 November 2015 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stalmine

Present: Cllrs K Jenkinson (Chairman), S Pelham and A Wallace

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

060(2015-16) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Jackson and the reason accepted.

061(2015-16) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

None.

062(2015-16) Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2015 be agreed as a true record.

063(2015-16) 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.

Councillors noted the police report and summary of crime and anti social behaviour in the parish and made reference to the small increase in the number of incidents.

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

064(2015-16) Draft Budget for 2016/17

Councillors considered the draft budget for next year, noting that it could not be finalised until the council tax base for next year is known. Councillors **resolved** to consider the final budget at the first meeting after the local council tax base is known.

065(2015-16) Pensions Auto Enrolment

Councillors **resolved** to defer this item to the next meeting so that it would be considered by a greater number of councillors.

066(2015-16) Casual Vacancy

Councillors noted that Wyre Council has confirmed that the vacancy should be filled by co-option. Councillors **resolved** to advertise the vacancy with a closing date of 21 December.

067(2015-16) Planning Applications

15/00818/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for a residential development (access applied for as a reserved matter)

Location: Land Rear of Trevelyan, 19 Stricklands Lane, Stalmine

It was agreed that the parish council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00856/COUQ

Proposal: Prior notification for change of use of existing agricultural storage building to form one dwelling (under Class Q of the GDPO)

Location: Agricultural Building at Carters Farm, Old Toms Lane, Stalmine

It was agreed that the parish council has no objections to the proposal.

068(2015-16) Finance**a) Receipts this month**

High Interest Account interest	£0.57
LCC (PROW)	£85.00

b) Payments to be approved:

1268/69/70	Staff costs	£883.72
1268/69	Staff expenses on behalf of the Council	£32.49
1271	Over Wyre Brass	£50.00
1272	Preesall Town Council	£14.35
1273	Royal British Legion	£17.00
1274	David Murphy	£576.00

Payments by Standing Order for Noting:

Easy Websites (monthly hosting fee)	£24.00
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c) Statement of Accounts – October 2015

The statement of accounts for the month ending October 2015 shows

Business Current Account	£87.95
Business High Interest Account	£13,071.45
General Reserve Account	£3,369.16

d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 2

Councillors considered the Quarter 2 budget monitoring report and noted that spending as in line with expectations. Councillors particularly noted that 90% of the Insurance, Audit and Subscriptions budget had been spent and the Clerk explained that all spending on this budget head took place at the beginning of the financial year.

Councillors **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment and noted the receipts, the payment by standing order, the statement of accounts and the Quarter 2 budget monitoring report.

069(2015-16) Reports from Outside Bodies (for information)

The Clerk reported that she had attended the LALC Wyre Area Committee where Philippa Davies had explained the budget position at Wyre Council and the Geographic Police Inspector talked about resourcing in light of the funding formula.

070(2015-16) Clerk's Report (for information)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Proposed Refurbishment of Play Area

A Wyre Council portfolio holder report is proposing that renovation works be carried out at the play area including renewing the safety surfacing, painting the equipment and installing a new play panel. The cost of the work is estimated at £18,000.

Lancashire Care Services Directory

Following the success of the first edition of the Lancashire (including Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool) Care Services Directory orders are now being taken for the second edition in 2016. Anyone wanting to receive copies of the directory which are available free of charge should call Care Choices Ltd on 01223 206953. This comprehensive guide lists all registered care homes and home care providers. There is also advice in the form of expert editorial including choosing the appropriate care option, paying for care and legal considerations. The publication can also be found on the website (www.carechoices.co.uk) and a Browsealoud option for those requiring the information in the spoken word is available too.

For any questions please contact David Mulry me on 01223 206953 or e-mail david.mulry@carechoices.co.uk

Walney Extension Community Fund – Community Consultation

The online community consultation survey has now closed and the 392 responses summarised. Almost 47% of people surveyed favoured supporting environmental and wildlife projects. This was closely followed by a response rate of 45% for both community building provision / improvements and grants for social and community enterprise initiatives. Projects targeted towards parks and open spaces also received strong backing (44%) as did sports and recreation schemes (41%) and job creation / apprenticeships (41%). The survey results indicate a clear preference for the Fund to support local voluntary and community groups, with over 87% selecting this option. This is followed by almost 74% in favour of supporting local charities. Funding for school and education facilities was also well received (48%) as was supporting Social Enterprises (47%) and projects being delivered by Town and Parish Councils (44%). The survey results show a very clear preference for funding to be made available for both capital and revenue funding (70% of respondents). One recurring comment was that the Fund was an opportunity to support projects that would provide a legacy for the future. Over 86% of respondents indicated that the Fund should award medium grants between the range of £5,000 and £50,000. 65% of people surveyed supported a Fund that awarded small grants between £500 and £5,000. Support for large projects between £50,000 and £100,000 was lower at 43%, and support for flagship projects (projects over £100,000) was lower still at 25%. The survey therefore clearly shows that a Fund offering grants up to £50,000 is considered to be the priority by respondents. When asked if groups applying to the Fund should be required to secure other sources of match funding for their projects a clear preference was shown by respondents. Almost 7 out of every 10 respondents believe that match funding should be required. There will be additional consultation undertaken by the end of December 2015 with Local Authorities and the community and voluntary sector. Public events will also be held early next year, which all members of the community are invited to attend, to find out more about the Fund and to further share their views on where and who should benefit. Details of the events will be announced on the GrantScape website and circulated to all contacts on our distribution list nearer the time.

Stronger Protection Against Unauthorised Occupation by Caravan Users

Special planning rules designed to support England's travelling community will only apply to those who lead a genuine travelling lifestyle, under changes that came into force at the end of August. The measure is part of a wider crackdown on unauthorised occupation of sites, to ensure all communities are required to abide by the same planning rules. Under a new package of reforms there will also be greater protection for the countryside and Green Belt, while councils will continue to have a range of powers at their disposal to tackle the illegal encampments that make their law-abiding neighbours' lives a misery. The new policy makes clear the need to ensure fairness in the system, with planning policy reflecting the requirement that caravan sites should be made available for those who travel permanently. In addition, it will mean any application for a permanent site, including caravan sites, by someone who does not travel will be considered in the same way as an application from the settled population – rather than being considered under policies relating to travellers.

The changes also tackle the current situation, where councils without an up-to-date supply of caravan sites can find that protections of the Green Belt can be eroded. The new planning policy ensures this is no longer the case where proposed developments are in protected areas – such as Green Belt land, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or National Parks. In addition, where previously councils were required to provide sites for people evicted from large-scale unauthorised encampments that happened to be in their area this will be removed.

071(2015-16) Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 8 December 2015** at 7.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.