



Little Stanney & District Parish Council

(parishes of Croughton, Little Stanney, Stoak and Wervin)

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 28 June 2022 in Little Stanney Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Michael Todd (in the Chair), David Astbury, Paul Carter, John Jones, Peter Hartshorn, Clive Lipscombe, Peter Mountford and Mark Parry

In Attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk)

22.69 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Linda Carter and Judith Thomas

22.70 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

22.71 VACANCY IN WERVIN PARISH

No applications had been received to fill the vacancy in Wervin parish. The deadline for applications would be extended until a suitable candidate was found.

22.72 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

No members of the public were present

22.73 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 24 May 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

22.74 PLANNING

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The following applications relating to Little Stanney & District received by CWaC since the last meeting of the Parish Council be noted:

Application No.	Subject	Location
22/02100/P14	Installation of 220kW solar PV comprising of 579 x 380w Canadian Solar panels.	Mercedes-Benz Cheshire Oaks, Longlooms Road East, Ellesmere Port CH65 9LF
No comments to be made		

- (2) The decision made by CWaC to APPROVE the following application be noted:

Application No.	Subject	Location
21/05078/FUL	Extension to parking area providing an additional 28 car parking spaces with associated vehicle charging points and accessible bays	Progroup Ltd, South Road, Stanlow, Ellesmere Port CH65 4LD

- (3) The following applications awaiting a decision by CWaC be noted and Ward Cllr Heatley be requested to find out from CWaC Planning why they were taking so long to make a decision on them

Application No.	Subject	Location
21/01494/FUL	Single storey extension to rear, first floor loft conversion with roof terrace, porch to front and modernisation to front elevation.	Belden Strawberry Cross Whitby Lane Backford Chester CH1 6PH
21/01523/HED	Removal of Hedgerow to increase security at the Farm	Lime Tree Farm, Stanney Lane, Little Stanney, Chester CH2 4HT
21/01530/FUL	Change of use of agricultural land to car sales and erection of a fence - retrospective	Lime Tree Farm, Stanney Lane, Little Stanney, Chester CH2 4HT
21/03108/FUL	Free standing rear timber sundeck- retrospective	Stoak Cottage, Little Stanney Lane, Stoak, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4HW

21/03611/FUL	Erection of six commercial buildings (use classes E, B2 and B8) together with the creation of accesses, parking and associated works.	Land Off New Bridge Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire
22/00024/FUL	Extension and alterations to existing dwelling to provide a large family home	The Paddock, Wervin Road, Wervin, Chester CH2 4BP
22/00272/FUL	Change of Use of Existing C3 residential Dwelling and redundant agricultural Barns into (Class C1) Holiday Cottages and (Class E(b)) Cafe/Tea Rooms	Top Farm, Croughton Road, Croughton, Chester CH2 4DA
22/01150/OUT	To erect two portal-framed buildings comprising cafe, offices, toilets/changing and storage facilities, together with ancillary structures, site works and landscaping	Cheshire Oaks Fisheries, Strawberry Way West, Backford, Chester CH1 6PN

22.75 FINANCE

RESOLVED: That

- (1) expenditure from 17 May to 21 June 2022 be noted as follows:

26.05.22	BACS	Zurich Insurance	364.43
31.05.22	SO	Parish Clerk-salary May	203.42
31.05.22	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages May	343.20
06.06.22	BACS	Amenity Cleaner-expenses May	47.25
08.06.22	BACS	Hadfield Photography-website assistance	20.00
08.06.22	BACS	Hadfield Photography-website domain and annual support	225.00
			1,203.30

- (2) income received since 17 May 2022 be noted as follows:

08.06.22	HMRC-Refund of VAT	237.64
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Reconciliation: Opening Balance	22,565.07
Add Income	237.64
Less Expenditure	<u>1,203.30</u>
Closing balance	<u>21,599.41</u>

22.76 AUDIT

The issues with regard to income tax had not yet been resolved as HMRC had only just authorised Barnes Cooper Ltd to act on behalf of the Parish Council. This meant that the AGAR documents could not be signed off at this meeting. The external auditors had been informed of the current position.

22.77 UPDATE REPORT ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS

- (1) **Little Stanney Village signs:** The Parish Council had received a response from Stuart Bateman, CWaC Principal Engineer, who had sent his apologies that things had taken so long to resolve. Due to limited resources the scheme had to go back on CWaC's small works schemes list for which there was a backlog. However, the scheme designs based on the Parish Council's response in April had been amended and reviewed. Location 1 had been amended to be positioned adjacent to the incoming 30mph sign on Strawberry Way West, opposite the Mast. Locations 1,2,4 & 5 had been forwarded for quotation. The additional sign outside Caradoc had been passed to the Street Lighting team to check they were happy to install on their apparatus. Once approved, this would be forwarded for quote. Regarding the sign proposed on Stanney Mill Road, confirmation was required on which lighting column was the correct location

RESOLVED: That CWaC be informed that

- (1) the revised location for Location 1 is approved
- (2) the location of the sign on Stanney Mill Road is on lighting column No.13

- (2) **Licence to permit planting and maintenance of the Highway verge:** CWaC had been asked to send a final Licence for the Parish Council's signature
- (3) **Licence to site a bench on the grass verge on Stanney Lane:** CWaC had been asked to draw up a Licence for the siting of a bench on the grass verge on Stanney Lane, the details to be confirmed with Mr Willis.
- (4) **Green Corridor:** Cllr Parry had met with Cllrs Malcolm Padmore and Ian Jones from Mickle Trafford & District Parish Council to discuss land ownership with regards to the green corridor plan. A meeting had been arranged with Hannah Brookes (Chester Zoo) on Thursday 30 June.

22.78 VANDALISM

The Amenity Cleaner had reported that the Parish Council's bench opposite Stanney Woods had been vandalised by the addition of a small amount of graffiti. As the bench belonged to the Parish Council it was the Council's responsibility to maintain it.

RESOLVED: That CWaC be asked to provide the name of the company that undertakes graffiti removal from their property.

22.79 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

There were a number of outstanding issues relating to highways and it was proposed to ask an officer from the CWaC Highways team to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council so that these could be discussed.

RESOLVED: That an officer from the CWaC Highways team be invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council on 26 July.

22.80 PLAYING FIELD AND NATURE PARK

Cllr Jones reported that

- (1) the fence between Bunbury Close and the Playing Field was now being propped up by a single piece of wood from the Playing Field side. This was not satisfactory especially as use of the Play Area was likely to increase in the coming weeks when the school holidays started. Sanctuary Housing had been asked to repair the fence on more than one occasion but had so far failed to do so.
- (2) The swing in the Play Area needed painting.
- (3) The Nature Park was attracting people who used portable barbeques. Two had been found in the woods and two on the picnic tables. This was potentially dangerous as a fire could be started in the wooded areas. It was suggested that a notice was needed asking people not to build any kind of fire, including a BBQ, in the Nature Park.
- (4) the picnic tables needed to be sanded back and re-varnished/repainted.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Chief Executive of Sanctuary Housing, Mr Craig Moule, be informed of the difficulties being experienced by the Parish Council in getting essential work done by their housing officers;
- (2) a Notice Board be approved for the Nature Park welcoming users but listing restrictions on use, including no fires (including barbeques), no motorbikes, no horses, dogs to be kept on a lead.
- (3) CWaC be asked to recommend a person/organisation to remove the graffiti from the bench and to do other handyman work for the Parish Council including painting the swings and the picnic tables.

22.81 PROTOS COMMUNITY FORUM

Cllr Parry reported that there was still money available from the Community Benefit Fund and suggested that the Parish Council submit a bid for funding for Village Signs and Notice Boards for Croughton and Wervin as soon as final details had been confirmed with CWaC.

Cllr Parry also reported that the Protos Energy Recovery Facility was being built on the Protos site and they wished to create a small informal committee that would include representatives from the local community to promote a two-way discussion between the project and local people. Parish Councils were invited to register interest in participating

in the Local Liaison Committee. The committee would meet quarterly, most likely via Zoom or MS Teams.

Members felt that the site was too far away to generate interest locally.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Parish Clerk circulate the information about costs as soon as they become available so that Members can decide with which options they would like to proceed.
- (2) Protos be informed that the Parish Council did not wish to join the Local Liaison Committee for the Protos Energy Recovery Facility.

22.82 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

At the last meeting it was resolved that Members consider appropriate areas of responsibility to be allocated to individual Councillors and send suggestions to the Parish Clerk for the next meeting. No suggestions had been received.

RESOLVED: That no further action be taken at the present time but that Members be encouraged to take responsibility for areas of interest as they arose.

22.83 HYNET STATUTORY CONSULTATION

A letter had been received from Liverpool Bay CCS Limited in relation to their proposals to develop, install and operate a new carbon dioxide (CO₂) pipeline between Ince, near Stanlow, and Flint, and to repurpose an existing 24-inch natural gas pipeline between Flint and Point of Ayr Terminal for transportation of CO₂. The Parish Council had been identified as a statutory consultee and a copy of the new proposals had been circulated to Members.

RESOLVED: That no action be taken in relation to the proposed changes in Little Stanney & District.

22.84 FULCRUM BIOENERGY

Fulcrum BioEnergy was a pioneer in the production of low-carbon transportation fuels from municipal solid waste. The company had been working in the USA but had now announced that a site had been selected in the UK to launch its first UK residual waste to low-carbon, Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) plant. The "Fulcrum NorthPoint" biorefinery was to be located at the Essar Oil (UK) Ltd refinery at Stanlow, Ellesmere Port. Subject to planning permission and financing, construction on Fulcrum NorthPoint, was expected to begin in late 2023 and would take approximately 18-24 months to complete. Fulcrum NorthPoint would convert several hundred thousand tons of pre-processed waste, which would otherwise be destined for incineration or landfill, into around 30 million gallons of low-carbon Sustainable Aviation Fuel annually. The proposal, if it went ahead, would bring 800 jobs initially and 200 long term.

RECOMMENDED: That the proposal by Fulcrum BioEnergy to establish a biorefinery on the Essar Oil site at Stanlow be noted.

22.85 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER INITIATIVES

- (1) **Rural Crime Survey:** Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Cheshire, John Dwyer, had launched a survey for people living and working in rural communities to better understand their policing needs. The feedback would be used to hold the police to account on tackling criminal activity in rural areas. Around two thirds of Cheshire is classed as rural and protecting these communities was a priority in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan. The survey would be open throughout the summer by visiting www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ruralcrimesurvey2022.
- (2) **Community Cashback Fund:** PCC for Cheshire, John Dwyer, had launched a new £90,000 'Community Cashback Fund', which would see money taken from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) spent on projects to improve local communities. Each of Cheshire's nine Local Policing Units (LPUs) would be given £10,000 from the Community Cashback Fund and residents would be able to vote on how the money was spent. A 'Community Conversation' would be held by the police in each area to identify what provisions and offerings were currently available in the community, what might be missing, and what people hoped to see

in the future. After each Community Conversation, a steering group would be set up to co-ordinate any agreed actions and consider the issues raised. The group would also carry out further research into potential solutions which could be implemented with the funding. Local people and groups could then submit bids to the Community Cashback Fund for their area, after which a further 'Participatory Budget' event will be held where residents would be able to vote on which projects they felt deserved to go ahead.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Police & Crime Commissioner's initiatives be noted, and every opportunity be taken to ensure the Parish Council can benefit from them.
- (2) The provision of a reactive speed monitoring sign for Whitby Lane be put forward for funding from the Community Cashback Fund.

22.86 SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

CWaC had been awarded £12.6m from the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund, £1.5m of which would be used for Multiply, the Government's adult numeracy programme. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was part of the Government's Levelling Up agenda. The national £2.6 billion funding was for local investments by March 2025. The funding was aimed at investing in local priorities and targeting funding where it was needed most to increase pride in places, support high quality skills training, support pay, employment and productivity growth and increasing life chances. It replaced the funding that was previously available from the European Union.

RESOLVED: That the Shared Prosperity Fund be noted and CWaC and Highways England be asked to look again at the signage around Junction 10 of the M56 which was still causing difficulties for road users.

22.87 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Village Hall had confirmed the dates for meetings of the Parish Council on 28 June, 26 July, 27 September and 22 November in 2022 and 24 January, 28 March and 23 May in 2023. However, the Hall was not available on 25 October and the Parish Council would need to either select a different date or find an alternative venue. Further consideration would be given to this at the next meeting which would be held on Tuesday 26 July 2022 at 7.15pm in Little Stanney Village Hall.