

# **STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Update from the clerk 3rd September 2026**

### **Stalmine Play Ground Area**

Playground inspections for August 2026 shows no issues, apart from the rope is slightly worn on the cone climbing frame, and is now being monitored.

### **Plants Man's**

The plants man has done P.R.O.W work next to the woodside caravan park, from Back Lane to Grange Lane, White Moss Lane and Sower Carr Lane, clearing vegetation and making the Bridle way clear for use. He has been trimming hedges near the play area under health and safety along with his usual duties. I have asked him when the weather turns cooler to remove all plants from the planters where they have died off, for them to be replaced next year. I have also asked him to clean the bus shelters before the seasons change in preparation for winter.

### **Memorial Project**

The planning application for the flagpole will be paid in September's finances; I will update accordingly with any details from Wyre. I have also spoken to Preesall's lengths man over the installation of the flagpole, and he is happy to help. I have met with the plants man to discuss tidying up the memorial with decorative stones around the large centre stone, and to tidy up any weeds. I will chase up the contractor to dig out the land adjacent to the memorial so the plants man can put fresh soil down and lay the turf before the weather turns cold.

### **Stalmine Wood Survey**

The second woodland survey was taken on August the 26<sup>th</sup>. I have requested the invoice so the surveyor will be paid in September. He has informed me that some trees will need to be removed due to the Ash Die Back disease, once I receive the report I will coordinate with the tree surgeon for the works required following the resolution from July's meeting, minute reference 42.8(2026 27).

### **Hedge on the Woodland that Backs onto the Playing Field**

I have spoken to the chair over the hedge planted by the council, as the plants man has informed me it requires to be cut for health and safety reasons as it is encroaching onto the playing field where the public walk. The plants man has informed me as it is a new hedge it should not be layered, only cut back. I have contacted a local contractor and he has now cut the hedge for £100 plus VAT the invoice will be provided later on in the year for the works.

As this work must take place under health and safety and must be completed before the ground becomes too wet for the heavy machinery to access the field, which is likely to occur before October's meeting. I have followed the SwSPC financial regulations:

- 5.15. Individual purchases within an agreed budget for that type of expenditure may be authorised by:
- the Clerk, under delegated authority, for any items below £600 excluding VAT.

It will be recorded within the October's minutes.

### **External Audit**

PKF Littlejohn LLP has now concluded the audit year end 31 March 2026. I can confirm that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit, along with certified AGAR (sections 1,2, &3), was placed on the council's website and notice boards on the 17th of August 2026 for the recommended time of 14-days.

### **Lengths Man**

The lengths man has completed his usual duties, along with repairing and treating benches. He has repaired the bin at The Heads, and re-fit it on its stand. He has refitted the catch on the gate at the play area, and repaired two rails around the base of the zip-wire at the play area. He has treated the wood on the raised bed at Carr Lane.