

Stalmine-with-Staynall Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the Stalmine-with-Staynall Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall, Stalmine on Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr Phil. Orme (Chair)

In Attendance: Debbie Smith, Clerk to Stalmine with Staynall Parish Council

1 Apologies for Absence

Three members of the public were in attendance.

2 Annual Report of the Parish Council

The Chair gave a report on the activities of the Parish Council over the last year.

Overview

This civic year the council has welcomed two new council members Cllr Peter Muirhead and Cllr Chris Mills via Co-Option in April, but unfortunately the council lost two members Cllr Paul Franks in May 2024, and Vice Chair Cllr John Bell-Fairclough in January 2025. Cllr Peter Muirhead filled the Vice Chair position. The Council recognises that it needs members from the Stalmine and Staynall area to enhance its work within the parish, and will be making positive strides in the next civic year to engage with residents, to hopefully Co-Opt more Council members.

The Council opted into the biodiversity grant from LCC in the civic year 2023/24 and used the money to purchase 100 hedgehog highway packs to be distributed at Stalmine Primary School, to allow hedgehogs in the community to roam for food and mates, which was a great success. The Council also opted into the biodiversity grant again in 2024/25, and matched the grant amount with Council funds to purchase 100 flat pack bird boxes. The bird boxes were used at Stalmine Primary School and were incorporated into forest school lessons to be placed around the school grounds. Some, were taken home by the children to be placed at their homes. The Council have found using this grant a great way to engage the local community, and improve its biodiversity within the parish borders.

The Council were given some YUK signage (anti dog mess signs) from Wyre Borough Council to be disrupted within the community, along with litter signage to be placed around the village to discourage littering.

Projects were completed from the 2023/24 year, such as the swing barrier at Stalmine bowling green carpark to deter antisocial behaviour, and the SPIDS located at Carr End Lane, Moss Side Lane and Smithy Lane to reduce speeding within the village.

At the Annual Meeting Cllr Phil Orme was elected chair, Cllr John Bell-Fairclough was elected vice chair, and later in the year Cllr Peter Muirhead undertook the roll. Cllr Chris Mills was elected Planning Ambassador.

The Council received a much-improved internal audit report, due to having a permanent clerk in post. The Council would like to thank the Clerk for all her continued hard work. The Council also resolved to provide the Clerk a debit card, to ensure proper financial procedures were followed.

The Council entered the Best Kept Village for the second time, but unfortunately did not get passed the first round, the Council are looking to improve on this over the coming years.

The Council spent funds on equipment for the Lengths Man, a new drill, a new blower and purchased a storage unit within the village for the Lengths Man to store his tools and equipment in. The Council also renewed the Plants Man's contract for a further 12 months, and purchased him, along with the Lengths Man a Hi Vis jacket with the Council's name on, so residents will know and recognise the Parish Council's staff and what up-keep the Parish Council provide for the community. The Council would like to thank the Lengths Man, and Plants Man, for all their hard work throughout the year keeping the village looking neat and tidy.

The Council had its annual woodland survey, and unfortunately it confirmed that the woodland has a great deal of the tree disease 'Ash Die Back'. This meant that a felling licence had to be purchased, and a number of trees were felled in October 2024. The felled trees were chopped up and re-used to provide habitat for the woodland inhabitants, some of the trees were chipped and laid on the woodland floor to improve the walk way for residents.

The Council made some donations within the year. In November the Council purchased two poppy wreaths via the Royal British Legion in honour of Remembrance Sunday. One was placed on the woodland gate at Hall Gate Lane, and the other was taken to Saint James' Church by Cllr John Bell-Fairclough, who attended the service.

In December the Council contributed to the annual Christmas community switch on, and gave £125.00 to provide refreshments for residents attending the event. The Council donated £75.00 to Over Wyre Brass who performed at the event, and provided the community with a Christmas tree and lights.

Projects for 2025/2026

The Council have a memorial bench policy in place, and will continue to see if any residents are interested in having a memorial bench placed within the village.

The Council have requested permission from the authority to have an area dedicated to commemorating 80 years since the end of World War II. If permission is granted, the Council want to have a paved area surrounded with shrubbery, with a feature stone and plaque. There will be a flag pole and benches so residents are able to sit, and contemplate. The Council are hoping this area could be used for other ceremonial purposes as they arise.

The Council are also wishing to install electricity to the Lengths Mans storage unit.

Any local issue causing concern to residents

The Chair asked residents in attendance if they had any issues. One member of the public spoke about the carpark barrier, and how it is shut at present. The public member spoke of concerns that there is no over flow parking in the event of services at the Church.

The Chair listened to the public member, and confirmed it was shut at present as the authority have asked it to be. It was discussed that the small fence and gate that lead directly onto the playing field could have boulders placed within this area for additional security, and that the gate was more secure in the future. This is something the Council may consider when discussing the budget for the next civic year.

Contacting the Parish Council

There are a number of ways in which you can contact the Parish Council. There is an email address clerk@stalmine-with-staynall-pc.gov.uk . The Clerk will respond to and emails as soon as possible. You can also contact any parish councillor and their contact details are on the website <https://www.stalmine-with-staynall-pc.gov.uk/>

The Chairman closed the meeting closed at 6.50pm.