

STALMINE-WITH-STAYNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 8 September 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom video conference.

Present: Cllrs T Williams (Chairman), D Booth, S Pelham, F Cardwell, J Wilson.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the council.

32(1) Apologies for absence

Cllr A Morton.

33(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations

None.

34(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Councillors **resolved** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2020.

35(4) Public participation

No members of the public were present, the council **resolved** to move to agenda item 5.

36(5) Finance

Councillors **resolved**:

a) To note no receipts were received in August.

b) To approve the following payments:

Via Zoom conference – September

	Chqs	
August Payroll.....	00028,00029, 00031	1123.21
Clerk's July expenses (on behalf of council).....	00030	58.35
Lengthsman's July expenses (on behalf of council).....	00032	41.20
Plantsman (MS) invoice.....	00033	253.35
Cancelled (completed in error).....	00034	Nil
Wyre Building Supplies Ltd (Inv. 253052, 253054.....	00035	102.05
253067, 253173, 253388, 253840)		
C&C Supplies Ltd (IN623834, 624803).....	00036	90.10

c) To note the following payments by direct debit:

Easy Web Sites (monthly hosting fee) August 39.60

d) To note the statement of accounts for month ending 31 August 2020 could not be completed as the bank statement had not been received.

37(6) Footpaths and rights of way

The clerk made councillors aware that a number of signs are on order from Lancashire County Council. There is a delay in production as the team there is prioritising Covid-19 signs and catching up with the backlog from lockdown.

Resolved that once signs are available, extra signs be allocated to the Wyre Way on Brown's Lane and for additional signage to be provided where landowners are having issues with irresponsible owners allowing their dogs to run free through fields and not picking up and removing excrement.

38(7) Inappropriate parking on the bowling green car park

Councillors considered possible deterrents, but each was not without problems for other legitimate users of the car park. Closing the car park on the council's land would still leave a wide area in the opening for offenders to congregate, so would not eradicate the problem. There is also the issue of who would close the gate and reopen it each day throughout the year and the problem of the wide pavement area between the hedges adjacent to the road.

Resolved that the council would write to the police asking whether any formal action had been taken against the offenders. Issues with inappropriate behaviour on the car park are a police matter and all incidents should be reported for appropriate action.

39(8) Government's planning consultation – paperwork provided by NALC

Resolved that councillors do not have the technical knowledge to respond to PC10-20, However, with more time they may be able to formulate a response to PC 11-20 white paper: planning for the future and PC 12-20 transparency and competition: data and land control. The council to hold a separate working group to discuss the response and for the findings to be presented to full council at the October meeting for ratification.

40(9) Issues with the pond in the wood

Resolved that advice be sought from Wyre Council as to the correct approach. As an interim measure signage warning of the dangers of water to be considered and in the longer term possibly fencing. Advice to be sought from the council's insurer.

41(10) Hedge planting around the wood

Resolved that councillors available on Thursday 10 September would meet the clerk and Wyre Council's woodland officer – on site – to discuss suitable planting arrangements.

42(11) Projects for 2021/22

Resolved that councillors would bring proposals to the October meeting.

43(12) 2020/21 Pay award and expenses

As no members of the public were present the meeting was held in open session.

Resolved to accept the new pay structure issued by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and for this to be applied to staff salaries, backdated to 1 April 2020.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

44(13) Reports from outside bodies/councils

i. Feedback from biosecurity workshop in July

Cllr Booth provided a verbal update and asked for her report to be circulated to councillors.

A plan is expected from the steering group shortly.

45(14) Clerk's report

Road closures

Details of a proposed temporary road closure on Back Lane, Stalmine with Staynall on 19.10.20 to 21.10.20 to enable new connection works by Network Plus on behalf of United Utilities can be found on the council's website.

New accessibility-friendly website

The council commissioned a new website from its existing supplier, Easy Websites, in order to ensure that it is compliant with the new disability accessibility regulations that come into force on 23 September 2020. The clerk has worked with the supplier to ensure documents relevant to the council are visible and loaded in the correct part of the website. An accessibility statement will also be posted on the site.

Tree work

The work planned to take place in August has been postponed as a result of the heavy rainfall causing the land to be unsuitable for maneuvering the heavy tree-removing equipment.

Lengthsman and plantsman

The lengthsman has reported that the mower worked for a short period and then failed again. It has been returned for further investigative works.

The plantsman has continued to trim a number of public footpaths within the parish and to carry out repair works to stiles and bridges. Reports have been received from farmers regarding the inconsiderate behaviour of some walkers leaving gates open when animals are in fields. There is also concern regarding owners believing that it is acceptable to leave dog waste on pasture land. This is toxic and can result in livestock miscarrying.

Footpaths

The clerk has walked a number of footpaths, identifying issues. Where these continue into neighbouring parishes reports have been sent to the clerks.

Ornamental feature on A588

The waterwheel, kindly donated by the family of a deceased resident, has been installed and a planting bed created. This will be planted up in the autumn.

Switch to cycling campaign

Time to get on yer bike!

'Switch to Cycling' is a new campaign from Lancashire County Council aiming to build on the momentum of those who have started cycling during lockdown and encourage more people to take up cycling for short journeys.

It promotes the benefits of cycling including fitness, saving money and beating the traffic as well as providing advice and information on starting cycling, cycling routes and free training sessions. This is part of the council's [Active Travel](#) work to encourage walking and cycling instead of using the car or public transport where possible, which is aligned with current government advice.

Now is an ideal time to start cycling with the school run starting up again and more cars on the road. The county council has put in a range of measures including temporary pop up cycle lanes throughout the county to help people get around by bike.

For more information and advice about making the switch to cycling, visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/cycling

46(15) Questions for councillors

Cllr Williams asked Cllr Wilson when would be a suitable time to install the new bird boxes in Stalmine Wood. She responded that it would be later in the season once the leaves have fallen.

47(16) 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 the meeting or by notifying the clerk at least 10 days prior to the next meeting (**Friday 2 October at the latest**), with a summary of the reason for raising the matter. Item suggested - issues around complaints received about gym on Brickhouse Lane pending response from borough councillor.

48(17) Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the parish council will be on **Tuesday 13 October 2020** at 7.00pm.