

PRESENT: Councillor R Dixon, Vice Chairman
Councillor D Busby
Councillor A Davies
Councillor A Gardiner
Councillor A Hewitt

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Don Stockton, Cheshire East
Craig Buckley, National Trust
Jennifer Birch - National Trust
Sue McDonald - Clerk
Members of the public

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor M Fox, Councillor C Novak

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

2.1 Declarations of Interest: None

2.2 Dispensations: None

3 MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting on 23rd January 2017. Proposed by Councillor Hewitt, seconded by Councillor Gardiner. **RESOLVED:** The minutes were accepted as a true record

4 MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising from the last meeting were either dealt with or added as items to this Agenda

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME (10 MINUTES)

Residents raised the following:

- **Boundary Farm**

Boundary Farm has been sold to the Airport. It is believed there is a 3 - 5 year lease during which time airport car parking will continue. Beyond that time the site may be developed.

Concern was also expressed about the future of front of Styal Road and down Moss Lane which may be vulnerable to being acquired for airport car parking

Councillors thanked the resident for the information and would ensure that any such move would be resisted and was intended that the Neighbourhood Plan would protect such areas

- **The Ship Car Park**

The car park at the ship is in very bad condition and could be contributing to parking problems on Altrincham Road

Councillor Hewitt reported that he had been in touch with the landlord who acknowledged that the car park is in need of repair but stated that there was a problem with blocked drains. Until the problem with drainage was resolved there would be no point in investing c £50,000, the cost of fully refurbishing the car park. The landlord was meeting with United Utilities to discuss the drainage issue

Another resident stated that a previous landlord had negotiated with the groundsman at Styal Sports and Social Club for some drainage to go through the cricket club outfield which may have implications since it is on private grounds

6 COUNCILLOR STOCKTON'S REPORT

Councillor Stockton provided the following report:

- **Cheshire East Local Plan**

The Local Plan is in front of the Inspectorate

Currently the inspector has put the draft modification out for consultation which finishes at the end of March

The plans for development at Clay Lane/Sagars Road and Little Stanneylands are still in the plan. Styal's Neighbourhood Plan, once complete, will be law and have to be treated as a material consideration when planning applications are considered. Without the plan there would be no protection from indiscriminate building by developers

- **Roads - Speeding, Parking and Speed Limits**

Councillor Stockton attended a public meeting about highways issues in Wilmslow. A highways team was in attendance and Councillor Stockton took the opportunity to put pressure on the team about the problems in Styal

A road audit is to be carried out in Styal and will look at speed, safety, collisions etc. It is anticipated that the results of the audit will be available by the end of March

- **Marketing Cheshire**

At an event aimed at increasing rural economy there was a suggestion that local attractions could be linked - e.g. Jodrell Bank and Quarry Bank with a view to increasing visitor numbers

- **Cheshire East Council Tax**

There will be an overall increase of 4.99%. A 3% figure has been set aside to ensure the budget can be balanced

7 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

Jen Birch provided the following report:

- **Opening Times**

Summer opening times will commence on 11th March

- **Car Parks**

The new car park is not quite ready.

The existing car park is free (as will be the new car park) but not currently being promoted until both car parks are available

- **Secrets of the National Trust**

This Channel 5 program, hosted by Alan Titchmarsh, will be airing an episode about Quarry Bank Mill on Tuesday 28th March.

- **A Woman's Work is Never Done Exhibition**

The exhibition about the work of women at the Mill commences on Saturday 18th March

- **Repairs**

Repairs to the upper garden path and repairs to Farm Fold, including the cobbles and kerbs, will commence shortly.

It was reported to Jen that BT were about to dig up the cobbles. Jen will report back to the NT

Craig Buckley provided the following report

- **Felling of Trees in the Larch Woods**

The area was closed off from 6 - 10 February and 95 larch trees were felled.

The trees were originally planted as a cash crop in the 1930s and, and although it is sad to see them go, it will enable other trees, such as oaks, to flourish

The timber will be left on the ground until the summer, when the ground will be dry, to make easier to remove and also minimise damage to the area

8 WEBSITE

8.1 General Report

The website is still out of date but the web designer is preparing a set of instructions to enable the Clerk and Councillor Fox to update the website directly

8.2 Website Enquiries

No enquiries were received

9 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

9.1 SEMMMS A6 Relief Road

It had been reported to the Council there was a proposal to relocate and extend the bunds and the Council would be invited to submit comments to a consultation which would take place prior to the planning application is submitted.

The Council has since learned that a planning application has already been submitted, but has not had any details. The Clerk will contact SEMMMS

9.2 Speed, Parking and Speed Limits

Councillor Stockton covered much of this topic in Item 6.

However the Council is anxious to pursue the possibility of having a maximum two hour stay on Altrincham Road; an initiative supported by the NT. Councillor Stockton was asked to take the matter up with Cheshire East

9.3 Airport Parking in Styal

Councillor Novak was unable to attend the meeting thus no updates were available

9.4 Other Highways Matters

9.4.1 Clink Sign

HMP Styal has arranged for the fallen sign to be removed. It was intended for this to be completed today, 20th February

9.4.2 Station Road/Sagars Road

The Clerk had reported the poor state of this corner to Highways but had been advised that the area was on an unadopted road and thus not a matter for Highways the junction of Station Road/Sagars Road was in a very bad state of repair due to cars using it as a turning circle

10 VILLAGE MATTERS

10.1 Styal in Bloom

The application form for the 2017 competition has been received

Kate Leigh, who was in charge of the competition's pre-requisites, had previously stated that she no longer wished to carry on due to the significant amount of time and effort involved.

The Council would be disappointed it was not possible to enter the forthcoming competition and asked the Clerk contact the other main participants to explore whether or not they would be interested in continuing preparing for the competition. If not it was suggested that the Clerk produce a poster asking for volunteers from the community

10.2 Bollin Wall

It was agreed that Councillor Hewitt would obtain quotes for the repointing of the wall by experienced painters. Concern was expressed, however, because the work could prove to be very expensive. Councillor Gardiner was of the opinion that it could cost as much as £50 per square metre and there was approximately a 56-60 metre length that required pointing.

10.3 Other Village Matters

- **Litter Pick**

Councillors agreed that the date of the next litter pick in Styal would be 9th April 2017

Dave Beardall had offered to sponsor a skip

The Clerk was asked to contact HMP Styal to ask if there was anyone available to assist with this year's litter pick as their previous help had been invaluable

- **Litter**

Councillor Davies was concerned about the amount of litter on Moss Lane and Holly Lane.

There is a particular problem in a lay-by at the top of Wilkins Lane and Councillor Davies wondered if the posts could be moved forward to make it a less attractive place to litter. Unfortunately this was not a viable proposition because the lay-by was present to enable farm vehicles to turn into nearby farm.

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

11.1 Authorisation of Payments

To authorise payments falling due since the last meeting

£180.00	Ray Britland	Hedge Cutting on Hollin Lane
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£ 62.39	S McDonald	Reimbursement for website domain and Styal in Bloom award lunch
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Proposed by Councillor Gardiner, seconded by Councillor Hewitt. Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the above will be approved for payment

11.2 Grants

A decision about the grant application from Parents of Styal, for the Steel Band, in the sum of £1,000 had been deferred from the previous meeting.

Concern had been expressed that there was insufficient information provided on which to make a decision. The Clerk had obtained additional information but Councillors were still concerned about the size of the grant for comparatively few people

The Clerk advised that the Steel Band was in danger of folding without a grant and, under these conditions, the Council is able award a grant especially because the band played at events which benefitted the Styal Community

Councillors agreed that the grant should be awarded but thought that Parents of Styal should also explore other avenues for future funding, such as The Manchester Airport Community Fund

Councillor Busby wanted additional information on the financial aspects of the application. The Clerk would contact the applicant for more details and the grant application will be discussed at the next meeting

11.3 Other Financial Matters

None

12 PLANNING MATTERS**12.1 Planning Applications to be Considered**

To consider the following planning matters

17/0573M	<p>Oversley Lodge Farm, Altrincham Road, Styal, Cheshire, SK9 4LJ Change of use from office space to dwelling house</p> <p><i>Styal Parish Council had neither objections to, nor comments upon, this planning application especially as it used to be a dwelling house</i></p>	09/03/2017
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12.2 Other Planning Matters**12.2.1 16/5555M 1 Oak Brow Cottages**

Objections had been lodged over concerns that the plans were out of keeping with the other buildings and the garage was too big

Amended plans were submitted on or about 24/01/2017 (after objections were lodged) which reduced the height of the garage ridge.

Heritage was still concerned about the height of the ridge, but less so because the garage will no longer dominate the main building.

The final decision (26/01/2017) was made based on the amended plans

13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Busby provided feedback from a workshop which took place at Quarry Bank Mill on 24th January 2017

It was a successful venue and it was agreed that future consultations would also be held at the Mill

- **Attendees**

All residents and businesses had been invited and 14 people attended along with attendance from Councillors and the NT

- **Recap on Progress to date**

- A working party had been set up and is actively progressing the Neighbourhood Plan
- The Neighbourhood Plan Boundary had been agreed
- A questionnaire had been circulated to residents and the results of the questionnaire had been analysed

- **Areas of Discussion**

The workshop covered many aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan including:

- Benefits and disadvantages of living in Styal and what a Neighbourhood Plan would strive to retain or resist
Benefits included a thriving village community, the heritage of Styal, a rural environment
Disadvantages included traffic speed and volume, airport parking and the threat of airport expansion

- **Maps**

Several maps, such as footpaths and important sites were made available to, and examined by, the attendees

14 COUNCILLOR SURGERY

Councillors Davies and Dixon attended the Councillor Surgery on 4th February 2017 at which the following points were raised:

- **Is there any possibility of gritting Altrincham Road in winter?**

It is possible although unlikely on a regular basis because road gritting has to meet a number of criteria such as the status of the road (is it a major or emergency services route).

- **Could the Council employ someone to clear the paths along Altrincham Road?**

It would not be financially viable for the Council to offer such a service because if the service were offered on one road then, in the interests of fairness to the community, it would have to offer the same service to all roads in Styal

- **The poor state of the car park at the Ship was mentioned twice**

This matter was covered under Item 5 - Public Participation

- **The ugly crime scene tape in the hedge along Hollin Lane**

Highways have been in contact with the Incident Report Unit to arrange for the tape to be moved

- **The pothole near the junction of Altrincham Road and Hollin Lane**

This matter has been reported to Highways

- **There is a damaged lamp post outside 52 Hollin Lane**
Highways have reported this matter to the Incident Report Unit

The next Councillor Surgery will take place on Saturday 4th March 2017 and Councillors Hewitt and Davies will be in attendance

15 MANCHESTER AIRPORT

15.1 General Report

No reports or updates from the Airport were available

15.2 Manchester Airport/Parish Council Meeting

This meeting will take place on Tuesday 7th March 2017 and Councillors Dixon and Novak will attend on the Council's behalf

16 CORRESPONDENCE

Emails: All forwarded to Councillors apart from the invitation to obtain a copy of the electoral roll which cannot be circulated

Post::

Commercial Mail shots

17 SHARED ITEMS

None

18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (10 MINUTES)

Residents raised the following:

- **Dog Fouling**

There is a significant amount of dog fouling on Styal roads especially in the Altrincham Road area. There are no bins in which to throw the waste and the fine for fouling seems paltry

Councillors agreed that this was a problem and dog waste bins should be made available although one source of the problem appeared to be some professional dog walkers who showed little regard for the environment. Councillors also agreed that fines for dog fouling should be more significant although this was outside the Council's remit.

Councillor Stockton was asked to take this matter up on the Council's behalf

- **Gritting on Altrincham Road**

The presence of a school on Altrincham Road may be a factor to enable gritting to take place

The Clerk was asked to contact Highways

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th March 2017 at 7.30 pm in Styal Methodist Church

20 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55 pm

Signed: _____ Chairman 20th March 2017