

STANDISH VOICE

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

The meeting commenced at 7.45pm

Management Committee present: Fran Aiken, Gill Foster, Karen Bliss, Sarah Djali, Kathy Robertson, Sharon Gerrard, Judith Atherton, Allan Foster, Ian Trafford.

In attendance - Cllr Ray Whittingham

1. **Apologies:** Janet Monks, Nicky Ogden, Paul Ogden, Ron Wade, Diane Gore, Andrew Holliday.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of July's Management Committee meeting were passed without alteration.
3. **Update:** Gill said that she, Paul, and Ron had had a meeting with Wigan Council to discuss various issues and updates are as follows:
 - Red Rock traffic lights - now open but a head-on collision happened within 2 hours, and a further head-on collision within 2 weeks.
 - Wildflowers & sites around Standish - Ron is to meet with council officers to determine where these are to be established.
 - Bradley Lane Tunnel - additional lighting requested but British Rail have turned this down. Wigan Council asked to look at it again. Ray suggested installing same lights as at Wigan NW station bridge/tunnel.
 - Standish traffic Lights - Wigan Council reassured Gill/Paul that the new lights are 'smart' with a 70m range. We will continue to monitor.
 - Roadworks in Standish - Wigan will send notice and link to Council website for any future roadworks.
 - Public Rights of Way - Wigan Council apologised that only 2 applications are being processed each year but rejected Ron's offer to review practices.
 - Bridleway - Boars Head to Standish Wood Lane now underway.
 - Bee Network - Standish to Wigan Ph2 details requested from Wigan along with details of phasing.
 - Quaker Place Car Park - options now being drawn up following 2nd visit to site. Appointed person now in place to look after Standish in general but first job is car parking.
 - Allotments - amendments to proposals now approved and works are required to complete within 22 weeks.
 - Ashfield Park - Wigan Council were asked what Section 106 improvements are to be done.
 - Land at Preston Road - Wigan to speak with owner (new planning officer)
 - Planning Framework - Consultation now underway including:
 1. Different way of assessing need

2. New policy of 'Greybelt' - no size criteria or clarity. Local plan on pause till the above is sorted.
3. Wigan hopeful housing numbers will remain the same.

4. Planning Update:

1. Cricket Club recommended for approval.
 2. Pepper lane - amended application for 57 new homes. Standish Traffic Lights are officially 'at capacity' which will preclude further major housebuilding until infrastructure is improved.
 3. Chorley Council has received a planning application to construct an anaerobic digester at Chorley Road. Although outside our boundary we have lodged a complaint and a request that lorries going to or from the site are directed through Chorley.
5. **Robin Hill Field & Walkways:** Guided walks have been arranged and maps are available to download or collect from Church Hall & library soon.
6. **Church Video:** Now on YouTube. £1,000 received to date. Sold out of calendars and tea-towels. Gill to ask if new ones will be available for 2025. Karen suggested the church prepares 'gift packs' for sale at Christmas Market.
7. **Poppy Appeal:** Karen stated that everything was organised. Volunteers meeting to be held on 24th September at 7.45pm at the Unity Club for anyone interested. The appeal to run for 2 weeks from 28 October. Vote of thanks to Karen & Phil.
8. **Standish Christmas Market:** Trader applications now closed. Event is full, including the Community Centre. Volunteer appeal has started to help deliver leaflets to new estates. Kathy requested that social media posts are liked and shared. Raffle will be on-line this year - draw will be done electronically on the following weekend. It was suggested that a link was put on QR code. We will have 'real' reindeer on Gilmore Vets car park. There will be a dog "Mutts" Xmas photo competition - prizes already sorted. Both event stages are almost full. There will be no cocktail bar this year. Xmas market 'merchandise' will be 'printed while you wait!' The council application for an events licence is far now more complicated with the introduction of 'Martin's Law' but CrowdGuard - a company in Bradley Lane - has offered their services for free. They will take care of the licence application, security and road-closures. Meeting for new volunteers to be held at the Library on 07 Oct at 7.00pm. Safety briefing on 24 November.
9. **Any other business:** Ray asked if there had been any further interaction with the medical practice - Gill confirmed not but that it is still on Wigan's radar.
8. **Date of next meeting:** October 15th.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm