Dear Standish Voice member,

We would like to invite you to Standish Voice’s Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, November 24 at 7.45pm in the main room of the Unity Club, on Cross Street, Standish.

Come and hear what we have been doing on your behalf for the past year and listen to our plans for the future.

It is an opportunity to question us directly on our preparations for the Neighbourhood Plan for Standish, which will be a planning blueprint for the village for the next 15 years.

We will vote in the committee for the coming year, which will then select the roles of chair, vice chair, treasurer, membership secretary and minutes secretary.

Currently, all 15 positions on the committee are filled but if you would like to put your name forward for the committee, please send your details to the chair, Gill Foster, via email on standishneighbourhoodforum@gmail.com

We also have a Working Group of 15 people, who sit below the committee and who help out and add expertise. They also receive agendas of our monthly meetings and regular updates of our activities. If you would like to join the Working Group, please email Gill at the above address before the meeting.

If you were unable to attend our recent monthly meetings, you can read the minutes of them on our website here: <http://www.standishvoice.co.uk/information/management-committee-minutes/>

The minutes of the October meeting will be ratified at the AGM and posted on our website afterwards.

Also, here is a brief update on some of our activities since our last newsletter.

We wrote to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Gregg Clark, to express our disappointment and deep concern about the Planning Inspector’s decision to allow more housebuilding in Standish, further eroding the green field areas off Rectory Lane and Chorley Road.

You can read our letter and the response from the Planning Inspectorate on our website by clicking here: <http://www.standishvoice.co.uk/responses-to-planning-applications/>

On this page, you can also find our responses to the detailed plans for the housing development sites off Rectory Lane and Pepper Lane, as well as information about the proposed leisure facility on the golf course site.

The results of the survey we carried out in early summer have helped us to formulate our draft Vision and Objectives, which will be the basis from which we will develop policies and ideas for the Neighbourhood Plan.

We will be making our draft Vision and Objectives public at the AGM.

You may have seen the results of the survey’s closed questions already. If not, you can see them here:

<http://www.standishvoice.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Standish-Voice-survey-results.pdf>

At the AGM we will also report our response to Wigan’s Allocations Plan. This document is the detail of the borough’s Local Plan Core Strategy and has an important policy relating to housing in Standish.

Other issues in the document concern Standish, including retail, open space and transportation.

The public can make their own views on the plan known until December 15th. Please take this opportunity to comment.

You can see the plan here:

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/Strategies-Plans-and-Policies/Planning/Allocations-Plan/Allocations-and-Development-Management-Local-Plan.aspx>

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are in discussion with Wigan Council about improvements to cycle paths across Standish and hope to have something constructive to report in the next few months.

We do hope you will be able to come to the AGM, but if you are unable to, please keep up with our activities via our website, [www.standishvoice.co.uk](http://www.standishvoice.co.uk).

We also post something on our Facebook page every day (which you can see as a feed on our website homepage) and use Twitter too.

Best wishes

Standish Voice Committee