STANDISH VOICE

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 21, 2016

**The meeting commenced at 7.45pm**

**Management Committee present:** Paul Ogden, Gill Foster, Allan Foster, Ron Wade, Fran Aiken, Janet Monks, Brian Jones, Karen Bliss, Heidi Lipscome

1. **Apologies:** Nicky Ogden, Diane Gore, Sarah Djali.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of May’s Standish Voice meeting were passed without alteration
3. **Update**: Gill said that the Housing Needs Survey for the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) had been completed and was waiting to be signed off. It was due in the coming couple of weeks. She said that once the report is signed off by Locality, Standish Voice (SV) could apply for funding for the next six months of the NP. The items needed to continue with the NP were discussed at length and the type and depth of consultation needed was also considered. After the discussion and suggestions put forward, Gill said she would try to get costings for a list of items, including planning consultants to write and policy-check the plan, which could be submitted for grant funding by the next meeting.
4. **Community events:** Paul and Heidi outlined the progress made on the Christmas Market day, set for December 3. They said Wigan Council had reconsidered the closure of Cross Street for the day and had now agreed this could be done without a diversion being put in place. Therefore, permission for the road closure had been given at no cost to SV. The Mayor had been invited to open the day and other preparations were progressing well. Local organisations had been given two weeks to apply for stalls and then these would be offered generally.
5. **Fracking:** Paul, Diane and Gill said they attended a public meeting in Standish given by an anti-fracking pressure group. They said the meeting was well attended and it outlined the processes involved, the planning permissions required, and the possibility of fracking being considered for the Neighbourhood Area (NA). It was agreed that SV should not form a decision on fracking until there was a possibility of it being sought in the NA. But it was agreed that wide-ranging consultation would be necessary and the community engaged in any decision on the issue.
6. **Energy policy:** Paul said that the NP should include ideas on energy production and conservation, including solar, wind and fracking, though government policies took precedence in some instances. After discussion, it was agreed that Paul would draft an energy policy and circulate it to the committee ahead of the next meeting.
7. **Working groups:** Gill thanked the working groups for continuing their work and it was agreed to hold a meeting of the committee on Saturday, July 2 or 9, to discuss progress.
8. **AOB:** Gill said a meeting between SV (Gill, Paul and Fran) and lead officers in public health and inspiring healthy lifestyles teams had gone well and would help in the construction of the NP.