

STANDISH VOICE

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 21, 2023

The meeting commenced at 7.45pm

Management Committee present: Gill Foster, Paul Ogden, Janet Monks, Karen Bliss, Fran Aiken, Kathy Roberts, Sarah Djali, Diane Gore, Sharon Gerrard, Allan Foster.

1. **Apologies:** Nicky Ogden, Ron Wade, Ian Trafford.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of October's Management Committee meeting were passed without alteration.
3. **Update from meetings with Wigan Council:** Gill said that SV had met with Wigan Council to discuss various matters, including Kilhey Court, Robin Hill Field and Bradley Lane bridge traffic lights. All of which would be spoken about as separate items on the agenda
4. **Kilhey Court:** Attending the meeting were Sgt Nick Forshaw of Greater Manchester Police and Sarah Owen and Julie Middleton of Wigan Council. They were attending to give updates on Kilhey Court and the Britannia Hotel with reference to asylum seeker accommodation. Julie gave an update including that the council had had correspondence with Wigan MP Lisa Nandy and the owners of Kilhey Court. She reiterated that Kilhey Court would not be used for this purpose after the end of March and that numbers of asylum seekers there and also in Britannia Hotel had recently reduced. Sgt Forshaw said that all and any reports to the police regarding the two sites were followed up and that there had been misinformation about various incidents on social media. The situation was continually monitored. Gill said that the findings from the independent planning consultant which SV had employed had been sent to Wigan Council to inform their decisions on the way forward on the issue.
5. **Bradley Lane Lights:** Paul said that the council had now come back with revised plans for pedestrian safety at the proposed traffic lights at Bradley Lane bridge. Transport for Greater Manchester said a pedestrian setting on the lights was not feasible due to the length of time people take to walk through the tunnel. However, a series of safety measures would be put in place including sensor lights to alert motorists to people in the tunnel, road markings inside the tunnel and lights on red until cars had stopped at either end to discourage motorists driving at speed through it. There would be signage, including a 20mph speed limit. The scheme is due to be installed in February.
6. **Local Plan:** Gill said Wigan Council was consulting on its borough local plan and a number of the committee attended a workshop at Standish Community Centre. Gill said she and others were very disappointed that the meeting did not take Standish Neighbourhood Plan as the basis of discussion for new policies within the local plan. She said Standish Voice would be making representations to

the council to ensure Standish Neighbourhood Plan policies were incorporated into the new plan from the beginning.

7. **Update from lead committee members:** Paul said Ron was working with the council and City of Trees on tree planting at Robin Hill and also on some new walking routes that would be created with maps by the council. Kathy gave an update on Standish Christmas Market and Gill thanked her and the Market committee for their hard work on organising the day.
8. **Date of next meeting:** SV AGM on January 16th.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm