

# **STANDISH VOICE**

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JULY 15, 2025

**The meeting commenced at 7.45pm**

**Management Committee present:** Fran Aiken, Nicky Ogden, Ron Wade, Sharon Gerrard, Kathy Robertson, Allan Foster, Gill Foster, Paul Ogden.

1. **Apologies:** Karen Bliss, Ian Trafford, Diane Gore, Judith Atherton.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the June Management Committee meeting were passed without alteration.
3. **Update:** Gill said that SV and Standish councillors met council representatives and a rep from the local NHS, Jonathan Kerry. The meeting discussed primary care, including GP services, in Standish. She said the pressure on services from the large increase in the Standish population was discussed and we made it clear that the situation was at a critical point. Mr Kerry said that no new funding was available but a new NHS initiative to focus on community services could help ease this pressure over time. The group agreed to meet again to discuss the issue.
4. **Rowton Rise:** Paul said that SV had submitted a request to the council that an Environmental Impact Assessment was necessary for this proposed housing site. Seddon Homes had asked the council if one was needed.
5. **Pepper Lane Planning Appeal:** Paul said the appeal date had been set for September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Wigan Town Hall. SV would attend and ask to address the inspector during the appeal. SV had sent in its submission asking for the appeal to be refused.
6. **Wigan Local Plan:** The next stage of this was now being worked on by Wigan Council. The council is currently organising a transport assessment on traffic and highways capacity across the borough. SV agreed to ask the council more detail on this and what it would highlight in Standish.
7. **Friends of Ashfield Park:** Paul suggested that SV should ask the community if it wanted to establish a group to push forward improvements to Ashfield Park. Recent posts by SV on social media on play area improvements had sparked interest which he said SV should channel. Paul agreed to support the creation of a 'Friends of' group.
8. **The Line upgrade:** Paul said the council had agreed to instal bins during the summer at the start and end of the new phase of The Line and two in the middle. He said there had been some objections by householders to some sections of the planned Phase 4 of The Line. The council was looking at this.
9. **SV redesignation:** Paul said the council had ratified SV's redesignation as a Neighbourhood Forum for the next 5 years. He said around 80 submissions were made to the council with all but one supporting redesignation.
10. **Standish Christmas Market:** Kathy said preparations were going well, with attractions booked, traders coming forward overwhelmingly and positive results

with sponsorship, with £10,000 already raised. Standish councillors had agreed to give SV £400 each for new reusable cups for mulled wine. The committee agreed to pay for event insurance which Karen had sourced and Kathy said represented good value for money.

11. **Update from lead committee members:** Fran asked what the situation was on the future of the ambulance station site in Standish, with housing construction stalled. Gill agreed that we would ask the council this at our next meeting with them. Ron reported that the wildflower area near Robin Hill Ponds had been mown in error by the council, setting back the successful seeding of the area. He had complained about this and would continue to have a dialogue about it.
7. **Date of next meeting:** September 16th.

**The meeting ended at 9pm.**