

STANDISH VOICE

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2025

The meeting commenced at 7.45pm

Management Committee present: Fran Aiken, Karen Bliss, Kathy Robertson, Gill Foster, Allan Foster.

1. **Apologies:** Nicky Ogden, Sharon Gerrard, Judith Atherton, Paul Ogden, Ron Wade, Andrew Holliday.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the July Management Committee meeting were passed without alteration.
3. **Update of Meeting with Wigan Council:** Fran & Paul met with Planning Officer (David Proctor) and Highways Officer to discuss centre of Standish village centre.
Council suggested there were too many bollards and street furniture
Suggested installation of refuge island near old police station - David Proctor to report back to us.
Focus on the conservation area to include:
 - More signage, seating and planting
 - Informal zebra crossing near Bargain Booze
 - Better shop fronts
 - Seating around tree adjacent to Co-op
 - Improvements to car park on Pole StreetNext meeting for general update is 20 October.
4. **Planning Applications:** SV not advised of any new applications.
5. **Pepper Lane Planning Appeal:** The appeal date had been set for September 23rd at Wigan Town Hall. Gill will attend meeting.
Wigan Council refused to collaborate on a joint statement to submit to planning Inspector.
It was asked 'How can we be sure that all information is submitted to the Planning Inspector? Can we ask for a list of all information submitted? Gill asked to be copied with any private submissions to council so she can check with the council.
Gill reported that the appeal meeting should be open to the public, but no notification has been received.
6. **Wigan Local Plan:** There is no update on timescales, but we hope it is still on track.
7. **Friends of Ashfield Park:** Gill reported that a number of people have come forward and 11 people have expressed interest in forming a committee.
Two meetings held with Council to decide geographical limits and how to format group.
SV asked to donate £200 to help establish a Bank Account and help group set-up.
(Meeting not quorate so no vote taken. Karen suggested this can be done by e-governance.
8. **Standish Christmas Market:** Kathy reported the market is fully booked up and majority of vendors have paid up. SV need to provide own street signs at a cost of £600
Need to buy own street cones at a cost of £400. We will not be using the Community Centre this year. Free First Aid being provided by Sentinal First Aid. Event insurance now in place to cover inclement weather.
9. **Update from lead committee members:** None
10. **Any Other Business:** Quakers Place car park improvements to start later this month. Re-surfacing of Quakers Place to occur during Half-Term and road will be adopted by Council.
Council is discussing options for Preston Road redevelopment site.
11. **Date of next meeting:** October 21st.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.