

# **STANDISH VOICE**

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 17TH, 2026

**The meeting commenced at 7.45pm**

**Management Committee present:** Paul Ogden, Allan Foster, Gill Foster, Sarah Djali (not quorate)

1. **Apologies:** Karen Bliss, Fran Aiken, Sharon Gerrard, Ron Wade, Ian Trafford Kathy Robertson, Nicky Ogden, Diane Gore.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of November's Management Committee meeting were passed without alteration.
3. **Update:** There was no update on meetings with Wigan Council as the next meeting was due on February 24<sup>th</sup> (this was subsequently moved to March 16<sup>th</sup>).
4. **Planning applications:** The application to expand Wood Fold primary school was discussed. The committee's view was that expansion was inevitable due to the increase in population but that the transport plan was totally inadequate and its conclusion that increases in congestion would be 'minimal' was not realistic. The committee recommended a decision not to object to the application but to write to the local authority asking for a new transport plan to address legitimate concerns of parents and residents about congestion and parking.
5. **Wigan Local Plan:** Wigan planning department's request about changes to policies in Standish Neighbourhood Plan as part of the emerging Wigan Local Plan was discussed. Gill said that a meeting had taken place with the Neighbourhood Forum in Lowton, which had had a similar request from the council. Gill has discussed the situation with Locality, who were very interesting in the issue. More information would be forthcoming and no decision from Standish Voice would be made. Paul said the request to include Green Corridor and Local Green Space policies in the Local Plan would be put again to the council.
6. **Quakers Place car park:** Paul said a request to SV from an individual to maintain planting at the car park had been passed to the council but this would not be possible as a maintenance contract was in place for a further 18 months. Paul said that feedback on the car park, via social media, had been overwhelmingly positive.
7. **Pepper Lane development:** Paul said that work on the Persimmon site had begun and SV had written to the council asking about plans for deliveries to the site before the site opens at 8am. Paul said delivery vehicles could block Pepper Lane at rush hour and inconvenience drivers and residents.
8. **Standish Christmas Market:** Paul said the after party thanking volunteers went well; the first SCM committee meeting would take place on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and the next Market would be on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event.

9. **Update from lead committee members:** None.
7. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday, March 17th.

**The meeting ended at 8.35pm**