

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STAPELEY & DISTRICT PARISH
HELD ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT STAPELEY COMMUNITY HALL, PEAR TREE FIELD, STAPELEY**

Presiding: Councillor S Gwinn-Freemantle Chairman of the Parish Council

Parish Councillors: Councillor S Clough (for part of meeting)
Councillor M Docker
Councillor J Davenport
Councillor P Groves
Councillor J Hillman
Councillor K Lawrence (for part of meeting)
Councillor M Malbon
Councillor M Theobald

Members of the public/residents: There were 34 members of the public/residents in attendance;
23 of these were local government electors for the parish and entitled to vote.
The following (also included within the 34) were key stakeholders.

Andrew Cliffe	Head Teacher, Brine Leas School
Ian Shackleton	Head Teacher, Stapeley Broad Lane Primary School
Sue Pritchard	Business community representative
Pat Cullen	Protect Stapeley
Noel Wagstaff	Stapeley Parish Action Group
Sue Sherwood	Stapeley Parish Action Group
Borough Councillor A Martin	Nantwich South and Stapeley

In attendance: John Heselwood Policy & Development Manager
Cheshire Community Action

1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOLME

Councillor Sandy Gwinn-Freemantle, Chairman of the Parish Council, opened the meeting and invited parish councillors to introduce themselves to those assembled.

2 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chairman then deferred to members of the Neighbourhood Plan working group [comprising six parish councillors] who led the presentation on Neighbourhood Planning and its relevance to Stapeley and Batherton. If the parish supported the preparation of a Plan, the aim was to reach referendum stage by September 2015.

Members of the public were able to ask questions and these were responded to as appropriate.

John Heselwood from Cheshire Community Action (CCA) outlined the role of CCA and its Cheshire-wide support for groups involved in the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. He also emphasised the difference between Parish Plans (which had no legal or formal status in the town and country planning system) and Neighbourhood Plans (which attained the same legal status as the Local Plan, once it had been agreed at referendum stage and brought into legal force by the Local Planning Authority, i.e. Cheshire East Council).

CCA was currently supporting 20 Neighbourhood Plan groups across Cheshire. Support was provided by way of; for example, helping to set up groups, community engagement; and applications for funding; and was available as a source of advice when needed.

The meeting was invited to vote on whether the Parish Council should prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the area.

RESOLVED [UNANIMOUSLY]: That the Parish Council prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the area (comprising Stapeley and Batherton).

3 RESIDENTS/KEY STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Following the formal part of the meeting, residents participated in an information-gathering exercise covering the following:

- Description of Stapeley and Batherton as it was in 2014.
- Vision for the parish in five or 10 years' time.
- What is positive about –
 - (i) Living in the parish
 - (ii) Working in the parish
 - (iii) Visiting the parish
- What do residents dislike/fear about the parish?

A 'skills board' was displayed at the meeting identifying the various skills required to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Residents who had any particular experience or expertise in the areas listed, and were willing to become involved in the preparation of the Plan, were invited to provide their contact details.

At the conclusion of the exercise, the meeting was advised that the information gathered would be analysed to establish if there were any general themes which required addressing as part of the Neighbourhood Plan. This information would be issued to all present who provided their contact details.

4 MULLER HOMES PUBLIC INQUIRY

It was reported that although a decision by the Secretary of State had been expected on 1 September 2014, he had delayed his decision and had given no indication of the date it would be published.

5 CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked all for their attendance, commenting that it had been a positive meeting with all residents being fully engaged in the process.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and concluded at 8.10 pm