

St Helens Parish Council

Minutes of the planning meeting held at 6.45PM on the 10th February 2014 at St Helens Sports Pavilion.

In attendance:

Mr Earnshaw, Mr Thomson and Mr Campbell.

14/2014 TCP/ 31748 51 Downsview Road, St Helens, PO33 1YE.

Retention of decking at rear of bungalow.

No Comment.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 7PM on the 10th February 2014 at St Helens Sports Pavilion.

In attendance:

Chair: Mrs Parker

Councillors: Cllr Bacon, Mr Campbell, Mr Cleaver, Mr Earnshaw, Mrs Russell, Mr Thomson.

Clerk: Mrs Dyer

5 members of the public.

15/2014 Apologies for Absence.

None received.

16/2014 To receive any declaration of Interests.

None received.

17/2014 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th January 2014.

Mr Campbell proposed the minutes be approved as true and correct.

2nd Mr Cleaver.

RESOLVED. Minutes signed as true and correct.

17/2014 Public Forum.

Mr Dyer reported on the need for a pavement to be installed between Carpenters Road and Laundry Lane. He also enquired as to who had refused the plans when they were proposed before.

The Clerk explained that the plans were rejected due to cost by the IW Council.

Concerns were also reported over:

- Potholes
- Flytipping on the Car park.
- The planned works to Duver Rd.
- The sea overtopping the seawall during the recent tidal surges.

Mr Williams asked about whether the Parish Council set out their aims and objectives?

The Clerk reported that there were plans previously to undertake a Parish plan but that had been put on hold. She reported that she would put this back on the agenda.

18/2014 To discuss producing a bi-annual newsletter.

Mr Earnshaw outlined his idea for a bi-annual parish newsletter. He believe it valuable to keep people informed of the parish council's activities and would help encourage people to attend meetings and enable them to have their say in the business of the parish council.

Mr Campbell proposed the parish council produced a biannual newsletter with an initial mail out to every house in the village. Then biannually issuing an online newsletter with a number of paper copies being held in local shops for those without internet access.

2nd Mrs Parker

RESOLVED – Mr Earnshaw to write initial newsletter and Councillors to deliver.

***It was agreed to change the order of the agenda as the report on the Youth Service Consultation would possibly have a bearing on the budget.**

19/2014 To receive a report on the Youth Service Consultation.

REPORT FROM THE CLERK

I attended a meeting at County Hall last Tuesday to discuss the Council's proposals for Youth Services on the Island.

There are a few factors prompting the review namely

- *Disproportionately high number of post 13's in Care services*
- *Damning OFSTED report*
- *Budgetary restrictions*
- *Partnership with Hants county council.*
- *Poor education results.*

Local town and parish councils have powers to provide Youth Services and many do on the Island already, therefore the Council's proposal is to joint fund projects for local children with local town and parish councils.

The balance of joint funding is yet to be decided, each area will be allocated an amount to be used for services. I have included £1000 in one of the budget options to cover a contribution from the Parish Council, I hope to be able to obtain other donations from other organisations. The IW Council are agreeable to this as long as they receive one payment from the Parish Council and the parish council has contributed along with other organisations. To get round this organisations would need to donate to the Parish Council and then the Parish Council make one payment to obtain match funding.

The proposal is to commission community interest and volunteer groups to run services in the local area. The IW Council would be responsible for contract management, but would welcome the local Parish Council's input into what, where and how services are provided. The IW Council would like services to reflect the needs of the local area and therefore wish to work closely with towns and parishes to achieve this.

These proposals are in a period of consultation and the finer details will be finalised after the results of consultation are collated.

The deadline for comment is 28th Feb.

Hope services to be operational by October 2014.

Councillors broadly welcomed the proposals.

Mr Thomson wanted it noted that he believed that the Parish Council should make this an objective to deliver this for young people.

20/2014 To agree a budget for 2014/15

She explained that she had outlined two budget options for Councillors consideration. One included some optional items of expenditure such as a contribution towards the Youth Offer and the printing costs of the newsletter. She explained that she had not included any monies for taking on the discretionary services at risk from IW Council budget cuts as there had been no hunger from Councillors to take over any further services. The Clerk also explained that in addition to the planned expenditure a number of other factors had influenced budget setting this year.

These were:

- Previously utilising some reserves in 2013/14 enabling the parish council to avoid an increase in 2013/14.
- The loss of the £2179 Council Tax Support Grant in 2015/16.
- The Council's agreement to install new bins on the seafront.

Mr Earnshaw proposed that budget A be approved.

2nd Mr Campbell.

5 for

2 against.

Mr Cleaver proposed budget B be approved.

2nd – Not received.

Mr Thomson stated that he would not vote for an increase and thought we should make cuts to avoid the precept being increased.

RESOLVED – Budget A approved.

21/2015 To agree on the precept request for 2014/15.

Mr Campbell proposed that a precept of £23881 and Council Tax support Grant of £2179 be requested from the IW Council for 2014/15.

2nd Mr Cleaver

RESOLVED.

22/2014 To discuss works to Old Church Green.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Bacon had agreed that his gardener would cut the existing boundary posts down to enable the boulders to be delivered.

It was agreed that the Clerk would meet with the Gardener one Friday afternoon after she returned from holiday and that Mr Thomson would remove the chain and the Parish Council would sell the chain for the best price.

23/2014 To discuss removing the Air Ambulance and Recycling bins.

The Clerk reported that following a number of complaints from the public regarding fly tipping on the car park the Environmental Health Service had agreed that the recycling bins should be removed.

Mr Thomson proposed that the Parish Council request the bins to be removed.

2nd Mr Cleaver

RESOLVED

24/2014 Clerk's report and update on outstanding issues.

- Alex Minns from the IW Council's parks department has confirmed that the letters due to be sent out to householders around the Green regarding parking on the Green have now been approved by the legal department with a few minor amendments. They will be posted shortly.
- Dog Orders – The Clerk met with representatives of parks and beaches, legal services and the environment/dog wardens last Thursday. The IW Council are unwilling to consult on a total dog ban as they have consulted twice before and people were overwhelmingly against the proposal. They have also had very few complaints about dogs reported to them. They have agreed to consult on a Dog on Lead order, which was felt to be a compromise between local dog owners and beach users. A dog on a lead order would ensure that dogs are kept under control in the height of the season which should avoid many of the issues caused by loose dogs i.e. knocking people over, stealing food and fouling.
- Potholes – The Clerk reported that she had reported a number of potholes again this month. She requested that Councillors and members of the public report any potholes spotted to Island Roads. She had also reported concerns over the quality of repairs undertaken.
- A Formal query has been raised with legal department over ownership of memorial shelter.
- No Parking Signs - St Michaels Road turning area this has been chased again with Island Roads and reported to Marc Griffin at the IW Council.

25/2014 Financial Report – To receive report and approve any payments due.

Invoices due for payment.

Chq685	St Helens Sports Association	Hall hire	£54.00
Chq686	Lisa Dyer	Mileage	£27.58
Chq687	IWALC	Facing the future conference	£25.00
Chq688	St Helens Mums and Tots	Village of Angels Contribution	£200.00
Chq689	IWALC	Membership fees	£170.28
SO	Easycleaners	Toilet Cleaning	£606.67

Cllr Bacon proposed all invoices be agreed for payment for payment as per report.

2nd Mr Campbell

RESOLVED

26/2014 Councillor's reports and items to be included on future agenda.

Mr Thomson reported that a 4x4 had been driven onto the Old Church Green and had to be towed off causing damage to the turf and ground and the driver had also dumped an old carpet on the Old Church Green. He had taken down the number plate of the vehicle.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact the Police and report the damage and request that the driver pay to repair the damage.

Mr Cleaver – asked whether there was any news on the parking order that was proposed for Station Rd and Latimer Rd.

The Clerk reported that she had not heard of any progress and agreed to chase the matter up with County Hall.

Mrs Parker reported that she had been informed that the responsibility for maintenance of the Mill Wall had been taken over by the IW Council.

Mr Campbell reported that the free bus to Tesco that operated on a Monday had been cancelled. He would like the Clerk to contact Morrisons to see if they would be happy to put on a free bus service on a Monday to their store instead.

Cllr Bacon would like the formulation of a Parish Plan to be put on the next agenda.

He also asked that the trustees of the Youth Club be formally invited to a Parish Council meeting so an update can be received over the progress made with the Youth Club building.

Cllr Bacon also reported that he had attended 3 meetings regarding flooding – he asked that if anyone was aware of flooding issues they should report them to the Council to enable them to ensure that problems are tackled.

Mr Earnshaw would like the lack of a pavement between Carpenters Road and the Laundry lane footpath put on the next agenda.

Meeting closed 9.01pm.