

St Helens Parish Council.

Minutes of the planning committee meeting held on the 14th July 2014 at St Helens Sports Pavilion.

In attendance:

Chair: Mr Earnshaw

Councillors: Mr Cleaver, Mrs Shaw and Mr Thomson.

81/2014 TCP/25872/B, P/00537/14 The Limes, Lower Green Road, St. Helens, Isle Of Wight, PO331TH.

Proposal: Householder Application Proposed replacement roof with side dormer and gable to rear. (revised scheme) (readvertised application).

No Comment.

82/2014 TCP/22739/A, P/00406/14 1 Yar Quay, Latimer Road, St. Helens, Isle Of Wight, PO33 1XL.

Proposal: Householder Application Proposed conservatory on south elevation.

No objection.

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 14th July 2014 at St Helens Sports Pavilion.

In attendance:

Chair: Mrs Parker

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

Clerk: Mrs Dyer

83/2014 Apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Mr Campbell who was unable to attend due to work commitments.

84/2014 Declarations of interest.

None received.

85/2014 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th June 2014.

Mr Thomson proposed that the minutes be signed as true and correct.

2nd Mr Cleaver.

RESOLVED – Minutes signed as true and correct.

86/2014 Public Forum.

A question was raised about the proposed Marine Conservation Zones and what the Parish Council where doing about the proposals.

The Clerk reported that the zones were not yet in the consultation phase and that the Parish Council would discuss and respond when the consultation was underway.

Cllr Bacon suggested that the Parish Council contact Andrew Turner and John Metcalfe at the IW Council to ensure that the Parish Council are kept informed of any developments.

Mr Anderson reported that the top of Latimer Rd looked untidy and needed some upkeep.

Clerk to contact Martin Rivers and request he cuts back shrubbery.

Mr Wade asked whether St Helens would be considered for the Superfast Fibre Optic Broadband that is being rolled out to rural areas? The Clerk agreed to contact the IW Council to find out whether St Helens was included in the plans.

Mr Dyer expressed his disappointment that only 55 Parish Plan questionnaires were returned and believed that a collection point should have been available at the community centre. He stated that the Parish Council had a collective responsibility to ensure that collection points were available.

Mr Dyer also said that the Parish Council should not pay for the Village Fayre programmes as it had always been self funding in the past.

87/2014 To receive report on the Parish Plan questionnaire.

Please see attached report.

88/2014 To appoint a Parish Plan committee to plan the way forward.

The Clerk suggested that a Parish Plan committee be formed that included all Councillors and some members of the public. They would then appoint working parties to work on defined areas of the plan.

Cllr Bacon suggested that Ollie Boulter at the IW Council be contacted and invited to a meeting to help the Council plan the best way forward.

Cllr Bacon also stated that as there may be a conflict of interest with his IW Councillor role that he should step back from the Parish plan committee.

Mrs Shaw proposed that all members bar Cllr Bacon form the initial Parish Plan committee and proceed to book the community centre and invite Oliver Boulter from the IW Council and the public to an initial Parish plan meeting.

2nd Mr Cleaver

RESOLVED

89/2014 To discuss moving the Parish Bank account to another bank.

The Clerk reported that there had been many issues with Lloyds bank recently and that they were failing running the Parish account properly.

The Clerk explained that she had explored other bank accounts suitable for Parish Councils and recommended that the Parish Council change their bank and start an account with Unity Trust Bank who offered a tailored account especially for Parish Councils.

The Clerk explained that much of the banking with unity trust was done online so the signatories would have to be confident using the internet.

Cllr Bacon proposed that the parish council move their banking to unity Trust bank and that Mr Earnshaw, Mrs Parker and Cllr Bacon are appointed signatories.

2nd Mrs Russell.

RESOLVED

90/2014 To discuss the employment of a private Parking enforcement company to enforce parking regulations on West Green.

Mrs Parker reported that she had been in contact with Justin Thorne from IW Council legal services department. He had reported that neither of the Byelaws gave powers to the parish council to clamp or remove vehicles as the IW Council was the enforcement authority.

IW Council Environment Officers have the power to enforce parking on the Green but their services are being dramatically cut back due to budget cuts. There is an option to buy Environment Officer time next year, which could be used specifically in St Helens.

Mr Thomson stated that he was unhappy to buy into the IW Council services.

It was agreed to discuss this further after consultation with the Parish Plan Committee.

91/2014 To discuss contributing to the installation cost of Grasscrete on the West Green.

The Clerk explained that the IW Council had asked for a £300 contribution towards the cost of laying Grasscrete at the entrance and exit points of the car boot sale on the West Green. She also clarified that no provision was made for this expense in the parish council budget. The IW Council receive an income from the car boot sales which could be used for the maintenance of the Green.

Mr Thomson proposed that the parish council refuse to contribute towards the cost of laying Grasscrete.

2nd David Cleaver

3 in favour.

Councillor Bacon proposed that the parish council contact the IW Council and state that we can not afford to contribute towards the costs but would like to insist that the work is undertaken anyway.

2nd Mrs Shaw.

RESOLVED

92/2014 To receive a report on the Emergency Planning and Island Resilience meeting.

On Tuesday the 8th July 2014 the Clerk attended a meeting with the resilience team at County Hall.

The IW Council outlined what they did and the sort of risks they have to cover.

They plan for all large scale emergencies from pandemics to terrorist attacks.

At present only 2 Island parishes have emergency plans Bembridge and Chale. After the flooding last winter some parish and town Councils are now developing flood plans.

Emergency plans cover emergencies where there is any risk to life, property, livestock or the natural environment. Having an emergency plan wouldn't mean we would have to "take care" of ourselves in case of an emergency it would just aid any action needed, help identify those at risk, inform the community of any action they can undertake to protect themselves and allow communities to be better prepared and to recover more quickly from an emergency situation.

Emergency plans locally should identify local risks and list the skills and resources available locally. For example chainsaw operators, 4x4 owners/drivers, medical practitioners

The emergency resilience team have promised to help local communities develop plans.

Emergency plans should not be costly and would rely on skilled volunteers to help in the event of an emergency.

The Clerk recommended that an Emergency plan be included in the Parish Plan. A working party should be set up to formulate the plan.

Mr Thomson expressed an interest in being involved in the formulation of an emergency plan.

93/2014 To discuss the Parish Council contributing towards the cost of the Village Fayre programmes.

Mrs Parker reported that the Village Fayre had made an operating profit this year and a contribution towards printing costs wasn't required. She will soon be issuing formal accounts for the village fayre and would welcome suggestions from Councillors regarding a local charity that they would wish to benefit from the profits.

94/2014 Clerk's Report.

The Clerk reported the following:

The Village has won the IOW Best Kept Village competition, large village category.

The notice board was vandalised and the mounts were snapped off, it appeared someone had been jumping on it. I have repainted with varnish and my father is replacing the supports. Thank you to Mr Dyer and Mr Wade for collecting the board and preventing any further damage.

The toilets were again blocked up by vandals, this seems to happen on a Sunday afternoon after the toilets have been replenished following the car boot sale. I have instructed Sue not to replenish the toilet rolls on a Sunday for a while, to see if this deters them.

Plans have been received for the redevelopment of the harbour, and extraordinary planning meeting will be organised for next week.

95/2014 Financial report – To receive report and approve any payments due.

The Clerk reported that the balance stood at £34394.76 and that spending was currently running within budget expectations.

Finances due July 2014

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|---------------|------------------------------|---------|
| Mrs S Chester | Toilet cleaning | £606.67 |
| Mr M Rivers | Landscaping/ grass cutting. | £240 |
| Mrs L Dyer | Backdated pay rise (Apr/May) | £22.97 |
| Dares | Drain clearance | £90 |
| Mrs L Dyer | Refund for varnish | £31.60 |
| Mrs L Dyer | Refund for electricity bill | £79.76 |
| Mrs L Dyer | Mileage (resilience meeting) | £9.02 |

Mr Thomson proposed all payments be approved as per report.
2nd Mr Cleaver.

RESOLVED - all payments approved as per report.

96/2014 Councillor's reports and requests for items on future agenda.

Mr Thomson reported that:

- The benches on old Church Green will need to be moved for the wedding that takes place in August. The Clerk will inform the organisers of the code for the padlocks. Those that won't open will need to be cut off and replaced at the organiser's expense.
- He had received an enquiry regarding permission to plant up one of the planters at the top of Duver Hill. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council did not own the land and therefore could not grant permission.
- Mr Thomson also enquired whether any news had been received about the possibility of a drop kerb on Downsview Rd. Clerk to liaise with Matt Shaw from Island Roads.

Mrs Shaw reported that:

- The newly repaired kerb stones at the bottom of West Green had again been damaged by a coach.
- She also wished to express congratulations to the Vine Inn for raising £600 for the Joe Ellis Foundation.

Mr Cleaver reported:

- Downsview / Station Rd signage was still very confusing.
- Ongoing issues with layby at the top of Station Rd - poor parking and the Cleaner is struggling to get access.

Mr Earnshaw reported:

- Shrubby outside Doctor's surgery is still overgrown and dangerous.

Mr Bacon reported that:

The Stonewood Gate planning application had been refused.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.