

# St Helens Parish Council

Ordinary meeting, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 7.00 pm at St Helens Community

Paper A



Centre

**Present: Councillors: Chairman J Robertson, J Coleman, M Anderson C Hind, J Spit, K Tutton, and I Thomson**

**Clerk: R Priest**

**Public: Fourteen**

## Minutes

Action

### 88/18/19 Apologies-

Apologies received from IW Cllrs M Murwill and B Tyndall.

### 89/18/19 Declarations of interests and requests for dispensation-

There were none, and members noted their contact details were in the public domain in respect of the GDPR.

### 90/18/19 Minutes-

Cllr Robertson referred to the minutes and Cllr Hind proposed, seconded Cllr Anderson, that the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 be approved as a true and accurate record.

**Resolved** – Minutes approved unanimously, Cllr Duckett abstained due to not being present at meeting.

### 91/18/19 Chairman's Announcement-

Cllr Robertson thanked local residents and fellow councillors for their work ensuring the completion of works on the Causeway Bridges within the timeframe, and noted that there was an official opening earlier; Cllr Robertson also noted that the Parish had received the Silver Award from South East England In Bloom for the appearance of the Village; and also reported back on the recent meeting of IW Council Cabinet in Brading, attended by Cllr Coleman and Spit, and members noted this provided an opportunity for senior IW Councillors to hear local concerns and current issues.

RP

### 92/18/19 Public participation-

Mr Dyer outlined asked about possible changes in parking provision along the Lower Green, Cllr Tutton updated members that further to the previous meeting, Island Roads had provided indicative costs in the order of £17,000 for signage and lighting, which the Parish did not have the resources to fund or consider, it was agreed that consideration of options could not go forward at this stage and that the report would be available for future reference if appropriate; it was noted that there could be consideration of residents parking permits, although this would need to be supported by 70% of residents in that area and subject to IW Council taking forward.

RP

### 93/18/19 Report of Isle of Wight Ward Councillor-

Both IWC Councillors sent apologies.

### 94/18/19 Consultation on proposals for Combined Fire Authority

Members discussed the proposals and the possible impact on local services, especially in context of recent major incident in Sandown, and members agreed to comment of ensuring the continuation of the quality of service, protecting smaller stations and rural services, and ensuring capacity meets the seasonality of the Island, together with the incidence of traffic related issues.

**95/18/19 To note and comment as appropriate on the Local Government Boundary Commission's draft recommendations for Ward Boundaries on the Isle of Wight**

Members discussed the recommendations and noted that although Bembridge Harbour, and similar areas, was an interest for adjoining wards, the new proposals would still ensure that residents from St Helens, Brading and Bembridge could contact more than 1 Councillor to take forward any concerns.

**Resolved:** Cllr Robertson Proposed and Cllr Thomson seconded, commenting in support of proposed Boundary Changes; 7 Councillors in Favour and 1 against.

**96/18/19 To note arrangements for resurfacing Lower Green Road, and development of Parking Strategy**

Cllr Tutton outlined the background to the development of the draft strategy, jointly commissioned with IW Council, and noted that the indicative costs were escalating to the point that the Parish would not have the resources to take forward any proposal if appropriate, and that the initial guidance was that the possible scheme may not be able to realise the number of additional spaces originally suggested. Cllr Tutton recommended that the document was kept for future reference, for example when the IWC Resolved the issue of Station Road Toilets, and that the project did not continue at this stage.

**Resolved:** Members thanked Cllr Tutton for bringing forward the options in line with the development plan; and Cllr Tutton proposed, seconded by Cllr Robertson that the project did not continue, and this was unanimously agreed.

**97/18/19 Finance-**

a/ The RFO presented the following invoices for authorisation which were **agreed**:

<b>Chq No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
300180	DARES (Duver Toilets Drainage)	72.00
300181	Islnd Highways and Transport Consultants (Parking)	2040.00
300182	Biffa Waste	21.00
300183	Community Action (Aug))	732.08
300184	Clerk Expenses (inc Duver/Station Rd Electric)	326.40

b/ The RFO updated members on correspondence with the External Auditors, and noted the report would be on website and circulated as soon as received.

**98/18/19 Planning applications received-** the Council considered the following applications:

a/ CP/33588-P/01021/18103 Downs View Road, St Helens, PO33 1YD. Proposed installation of platform lift enabling access from pavement level.

**Resolved:** Members noted the need to ensure accessibility, and Cllr Robertson proposed supporting the application, Cllr Thomson seconded, and unanimously approved.

**99/18/19 Notifications received from Planning Authority –**

a/ Members noted decision previously made and circulated by the planning authority.

**100/18/19 Maintenance –**

Cllr Thomson raised concerns regarding the appearance of the Station Road Toilets and surrounding area, members noted that the Toilets were subject to a consultation by IW Council and that any costs incurred by the Council could be lost if the IW Council were not in a position to take forward options for future usage. Cllr Thomson also expressed concern regarding Latimer Road garden, and would supply a quote for consideration at next meeting. Cllr Hind and Spit would visit the site as soon as possible to help inform future decisions. Cllr Duckett noted the condition of plants in tubs by the Barn, and would replace the bulbs.

**101/18/19 Member Matters-**

a) The Clerk had not received any questions on the work of the Council by noon 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

- b) Cllr Coleman updated members on initial discussions with stakeholders to take forward options to better protect the Green in the longer term, a meeting was planned for later in the Autumn.
- c) Cllr Tutton updated members of arrangements for Commemorative events to mark the Centenary of the end of WW1, and members discussed the paper that had been circulated. Cllr Tutton proposed, and Cllr Spit seconded, that £500 budget be allocated for events, and this was unanimously approved.
- d) Cllr Coleman presented the due diligence paper on the background and proposals in respect of the Duver Toilets, and that, further to comments from Parish Councillors, options considered included upgrading existing provision with off-Island providers, commissioning a bespoke new facility, or investing in a significant renovation and re-instatement of external tap. Members discussed the possibility of third party contributions, and it was noted that a commitment from the Parish would help future discussions with third parties, and that any work would need to be undertaken over the Winter, and toilets re-opened by Easter. Quotes had been received for the various options, and to enable the renovation project to proceed a budget of £15,000 would be required and was available from reserves. Members noted that the alternatives were to return the Toilets to IW Council who would close them, or to take no action would only escalate maintenance costs due to age of amenity and the condition reports previously received and circulated, and that previous consultations with residents supported continued opening and upgrade.

**Resolved:** Cllr Colman proposed, Cllr Spit seconded, that the Parish Council take on the Freehold of Duver Toilets from IW Council as soon as practicable, seven councillors supported and Cllr Thomson voted against.

Cllr Coleman proposed, and Cllr Spit seconded, that a budget of £15,000 be allocated for the project, and that there would be regular progress reports, seven councillors supported and Cllr Thomson voted against.

- e) Cllr Spit noted future development of Bench Policy, given number of benches in Village, and would report further at future meeting
- f) Cllr Coleman updated members on initial discussions re Christmas 2018 projects and that a stakeholders meeting planned for later in the month/early November. Members thanked Chairman for securing indication of a grant to help fund celebrations.
- g) Cllr Spit reported that Emergency Team were due to meet, and any need for Defibrillator Training needs would be discussed at meeting later in the month.
- h) Cllr Anderson noted the condition of the shelter and need for volunteers to undertake maintenance work, Cllr Coleman reported on discussions with Probation Service and possible way forward.

#### **102/18/19 Key Messages**

Cllr Tutton noted the key messages and would forward to local magazine and media.

#### **103/18/19 Date of next meeting-**

The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed ..... (Chairman) 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018