

News from St Helens Parish Council – January Meeting

The latest meeting of **St Helens Parish Council** was held on the 14th January and discussed a range of local topics, including the ongoing preparation to acquire the **Duver Toilets** on freehold from the IWCC and to undertake a conventional toilet model refurbishment as soon as practicable. The proposed **Historical Trail** (utilising QR codes) was also discussed with positive support progressed with the local School and Historical Society.

The key topic of the evening was the **IWCC's Island Planning Strategy** development plan. This is a very important consultation (due by 25/2) as it will impact everyone, so the Community are encouraged to have their say – please see IWCC home web page. The Parish Council agreed the following key aspects of the consultation they wish to focus on with the local Community and the IWCC;

- evaluation of housing stock requirements (+9000 households)
- strategies to address affordable housing
- depth of detail of Policy e.g. alignment with public services
- principle of decision making by default i.e. 'presumption in favour'
- influence of local Community views and needs
- designation of the St Helens area
- specific development site for St Helens (+100 households)
(Guildford Road Camp Site and Fakenham Farm).

The **next meeting of the Parish Council, set for Monday 11th February, at 7.00pm** in the Community Centre, will include the following important topics;

- **Island Planning Strategy consultation response**
- **Parish Budget Precept proposal for 2019/20**
- **National Trust community dialogue on the topic of the Duver.**

Members of the public are most welcome and encouraged to attend to meet the Councillors (including the IW Council Ward Member) and discuss their concerns and ideas for the Parish. An informal Members' Surgery is held before each Council meeting, commencing at 6.40pm.

See the parish website for more information on all the news above.

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Chairman : Cllr. Joe Robertson