

St Helens Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Committee held at St Helens Sports Pavilion on the 11th March 2013.

In attendance:

Chair: Mrs Parker

Mr Campbell, Mrs Shaw, Mr Earnshaw and Mr Cleaver.

1. TCP/31363 Clara Cottage, The Diggings, St. Helens, Isle Of Wight, PO331UW.

Householder Application: Demolition of single storey extension, proposed two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation.

NO COMMENT

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at St Helens Sports Pavilion on the 11th March 2013.

In attendance:

Chair: Cllr Bacon

Mr Campbell, Mrs Parker, Mrs Parker, Mrs Shaw, Mr Earnshaw and Mr Cleaver.

Clerk: Lisa Dyer

2 Members of the public and Cllr Joyce.

15/2013 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies from Mrs Russell she is stuck in Shanklin due to the snow and difficult driving conditions.

16/2013 To receive any declarations of interest.

Mr Bacon said he would leave the room for item 7, however, his reasons for this are personal and not a formal declaration of interest.

17/2013 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 28th January 2013.

Mrs Parsons suggested there was an omission from the January minutes and that the Parish Council had requested that volunteers be sought to help out with village projects during item 14.

Mr Bacon proposed that the minutes be approved subject to the addition above.

2nd Mr Campbell

RESOLVED

18/2013 Public Forum.

Q. Why wasn't the planning application for the Solar Farm more widely advertised?

A. The application was more widely advertised within the village than usual with extra posters and public meetings.

19/2013 Chairman's report.

- Telegraph poles are being replaced on Upper Green Road.
- Bembridge and St Helens Harbour Association meet this Saturday the 16th March.
- Nomination packs for anyone wishing to become a Parish Councillor are now available from either the Clerk or Clive Joynes at County Hall. The closing date for applications is the 5th April.
- The election affects the Parish Council meetings and from the 26th March the Council must operate under electoral regulations and therefore must not discuss or decide on any matters

that may give anyone a political platform. Therefore the April meeting will be for urgent procedural business only and no debates will be entered into.

20/2013 To discuss and approve the 'Licence to Occupy' the toilet block on St Helens Green.

Councillor Bacon reported that he had been in discussions with the IW Councils solicitors regarding the Licence to Occupy for the toilet block on the Green. The contract stated that the Parish Council would be responsible for "other impositions" as this term has not been defined on the license it has been referred back to the IW Council for a full list of what "other impositions" may be or for the term to be removed from the license.

Cllr Bacon proposed that the Parish Council wait until a revised license is received and discuss again at the next meeting.

2nd Mr Earnshaw.

RESOLVED

21/2013 Adoption of Habitual and Vexatious Complainants Policy.

Cllr Bacon and Cllr Cleaver left the room.

Mrs Parker took the Chair.

Mrs Parker explained that she had drawn up the policy which mirrored closely similar policies in place in other town and parish councils across the country.

Councillors confirmed that they had all read the policy and were happy with its content.

Mrs Parker proposed that the policy be adopted.

2nd Mr Campbell

RESOLVED

22/2013 To agree budget for Laptop purchase.

The clerk reported that the laptop was not working properly and crashing frequently. Due to the battery being exhausted the laptop regularly overheated and shut down. She had had it looked at and was told that it was not powerful enough to operate modern programmes and this was also contributing to the problem.

Mrs Parsons proposed that £600 be allocated for the purchase of a new laptop and professional software.

2nd Mr Cleaver.

RESOLVED.

23/2013 To discuss and agree projects and expenditure for any volunteer projects.

The Clerk reminded Councillors that at the last meeting they had suggested that volunteers be recruited for village projects as they had voted against hiring an Environment warden/litter picker. £1500 was allocated in the budget for that role but that money was now able to be used to increase reserves or fund some projects for volunteers. The Chairman invited ideas for projects from Councillors.

Ideas included.

- Beach clean.
- Improvements to Horseshoe Trail
- Replacing the posts on the Old Church Green.
- Bench repairs.

Cllr Bacon proposed that £500 be allocated in the budget to cover any expenditure incurred by volunteer projects.

2nd Mr Cleaver.

RESOLVED

24/2013 Clerk's report.
Clerks report March 2013

- External Audit Fees have been reduced as new auditors have been appointed. New Cost will be £100.
- The work on toilet block now finished. However, toilets will need a full electrical test before re-opening.
- Environment Officer has given assurances that rubbish on the car park, will in future, be collected with bins.
- Dog Bin on Esplanade has been added to the PFI Contract and will no longer be billed to the Parish Council from 1st April.
- Election costs for the May Elections will be shared between the IW Council and the Parish Council.
- Sign on Eddington was cleaned and Brambles cut back by Martin Rivers. The first grass cut of the year had been undertaken.
- Have been made aware of some lack of co-ordination with bus services to schools in the Newport area, will investigate further and report back to Council.
- Have had complaints about the change of status of Hillgrove Park and planning office are now investigating.

25/2013 Finance -To receive financial report and to approve payments due.

Balance noted as £17443.62.

Toilet refurbishment works had finished under budget.

Finances Due March 2013

Chq 645	Lisa Dyer	£45	Broadband/office use.
Chq 641	Urbaser	£15.60	Dog Bin Emptying.
Standing Order	Martin Rivers	£240	Landscaping.
Chq 640	IWALC	£100	Councillor Training Fees.
Chq 644	Mr M Shiner	£2262.42	Toilet refurbishment.
Chq643	Mr P Wade	£1000	Toilet refurbishment.
Chq 642	Southern Electric	£73.19	Electricity Bill.

Cllr Bacon proposed that all payments be approved as per report.

2nd Mr Campbell

RESOLVED

26/2013 Councillor's reports and matters to be included on future agenda.

Concerns raised by Councillors:

Mr Earnshaw

- Signs on Downsview Rd have still not appeared – Clerk to chase again.
- He reported that he had looked at the guidance regarding the 20mph zones and there was really no change from the current rules.
- The Sports Association would like a letter formally requesting that they maintain the doors to the cricket store.

Mr Campbell reported that there is a sign on Station Rd banging and waking residents – Clerk to report.

Mrs Parker asked that the Clerk find out what the fines are for owners that fail to clear up after their dogs. As there is an increasing amount around the village and signs advertising the possible fines may help deter offenders.

Mrs Parsons reported that the bin near the parliament bench had fallen over and come unstuck from its mount – Clerk to report to IWC.

Cllr Bacon reported that the Parish Council would soon be re-elected and took the opportunity to thank all of the Councillors for their hard work over the years.

Meeting Closed at 8.41pm.