

ST HELENS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

CONVENED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL,
13th MAY 2019 AT 7.00pm, AT ST HELENS COMMUNITY CENTRE



MINUTES

Present: Cllr J Robertson (Chairman), Cllr J Coleman, Cllr V Duckett, Cllr Hind, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Spit, and Cllr Tutton; and Cllr B Tyndall;

Members of public: Ten;

Also present: R Priest (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllr I Thomson and Cllr M Murwill (IW Council).

Welcome and introductions

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, introducing himself as the Chairman of the Parish Council, together with the attending councillors.

Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

It was **agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2018 be signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's report, 2018-19

The Chairman thanked members for their support in the previous year and during 2018, the following achievements were noted:

- The Parish renovated the Duver Toilets within budget and within timescales, one of the biggest projects undertaken by the Parish, and in response to the needs of the community, and the project will continue to be developed in the coming year, with thanks to Cllr Coleman;
- Improvements to the grounds maintenance contract was secured to protect the Greens and ensure better use of the investment;
- The Parish Council had organised several public engagement events, including repair works on the Causeway and negotiating a reduced period of closure, and a consultation on the Guildford Park development proposals, which continues to be subject to local scrutiny;
- Ward walks had been held with Island Roads identifying key issues;
- Toilets remain open and work was being undertaken to enable a permanent decision to be made in the Autumn, with electrical certification completed; and thanked Cllr Coleman for his work on this.
- The Parish had secured funding to support Grounds Maintenance, undertake a Parking Strategy project thanks to Cllr Tutton, and funding for a Heritage Trail, thanks to Cllr Spit.
- A new working arrangement had been negotiated with the National Trust with Cllrs Duckett and Hind leading on this, with progress already being made.
- WW1 commemorative projects had been developed with the School, involving the local Church, Community Centre and Historical Association, and the School had also been proactive in developing projects with the Parish.

Looking forward to 2019, the Chairman reported the following intentions of the Parish Council:

- Continued developed of communications;
- A plan had been developed for the Parish, and recently reviewed, with most of its themes to be taken forward in a more pragmatic, with Key proposals, such as a parking strategy taken forward and helping inform future decisions, such as protection of the Greens:
- Securing outside funding for specific projects, such as a defibrillator;
- Continue monitoring the usage of the Green and develop ways to protect it;
- Review of the use of Church Green as part of the Duver project;
- Develop Horticultural, such as Latymer Road, and community projects.

- The Council had re-adopted the General Power of Competence, affording increased powers and flexibility in decision making;
- Continue to develop links with local community groups;
- Continue to speak for the community proactively on planning issues.

Financial Summary

The Clerk gave a summary report of the Parish Council's finances for 2018-19, and the bank reconciliation, budget and expenditure papers were available to members of the public, and members noted the additional income secured by the Parish Council.

Public Forum

One member of the public asked about Station Road Toilets, this would be answered in Ordinary Meeting; one member of the Public asked if the Parish Council could review the Public Forum section of meeting to allow any issues to be raised by the Public, even if not on agenda; there were positive comments about the maintenance of the Green and quality of Duver Toilets; and one member of the Public asked about the ongoing issues with the National Trust.

The Chairman thanked those attending, encouraging all to follow the work of the Parish Council and to attend its meetings.

Meeting closed 7.30pm

Signed (Chairman) June 10th 2019