

# ST HELENS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

CONVENED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL,  
14th MAY 2018 AT 7.00pm, AT ST HELENS COMMUNITY CENTRE



## **DRAFT** MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr J Robertson (Chairman), Cllr J Coleman, Cllr V Duckett, Cllr I Thomson, Cllr Hind, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Spit, and Cllr Tutton; and Cllr M Murwill (IW Council);

**Members of public:** Six;

**Also present:** R Priest (Clerk).

**Apologies:** Cllr B Tyndall

### **Welcome and introductions**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, introducing himself as the Chairman of the Parish Council, together with the attending councillors. New councillor Joost Spit was also introduced and the Chairman noted the meeting would be followed by the Parish Meeting.

### **Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting**

It was **agreed** that the minutes be signed by the Chairman.

### **Chairman's report, 2017-18**

The Chairman thanked members for their support in the previous year and during 2017, the following achievements were noted:

- The Community Emergency Plan was developed and the team added to;
- The three-year grounds maintenance contract was in place and the community had been satisfied with the service provided, although there is ongoing dialogue to maintain standards;
- The Parish Council had worked hard to address the issues created by the recent closure of the Causeway, with Cllr Coleman and IW Cllr Tyndall securing some clarity regarding the timing of closure, work programme and bringing forward opening;
- 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.
- A budget for 2018 had been set with no increase in the parish precept.
- A new clerk had been appointed by the Council, and thanked members of the personnel committee.
- A WW1 commemorative project had been developed with the School, and thanked Cllr Duckett for her work on this.

Looking forward to 2018, the Chairman reported the following intentions of the Parish Council:

- Continued developed of communications;
- A plan had been developed for the Parish, with most of its themes to be taken forward in a more pragmatic, with Key proposals, such as a parking strategy to be properly debated and consulted where necessary;
- Arrangement of Public meeting with Island Roads;
- Continue monitoring the usage of the Green and develop ways to protect it;
- Repair of the parish map was in hand.
- Develop Horticultural and community projects.
- The Council had re-adopted the General Power of Competence, affording increased powers and flexibility in decision making;
- Develop closer links with local community groups.

**Financial Summary**

The Clerk gave a summary report of the Parish Council’s finances for 2017-18.

**Public Forum**

Cllr Michael Murwill explained latest developments regarding Lynnbottom Tip and that the situation was kept under review.

A resident asked about the Council’s engagement policy, and the Chairman outlined how members of the community were actively encouraged to participate in the pre-meeting surgery, could ask for items to be on the Agenda, and there was a standing item on the Agenda for ‘public participation on matters set out below’.

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) ..... May 13<sup>th</sup> 2019