

St Helens Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Bacon Clerk: Jacky Matthews
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MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST. HELENS PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 5 July 2021 at 7pm at St Helens Community Centre

19-2021/2022 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Jordan. **Present:** Chairman Cllr J Bacon (JB), Cllrs Elliott (SE), Gergaud (GG), Hewitt (CH), Pope (SP) and Thomson (IT). T Clerk J Matthews, Locum clerk L.Allen and three members of public.

20-2021/2022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

(Members are reminded of the need to maintain their register of interests)

1. To invite Members to declare any pecuniary or other prejudicial interest they might have in the matters on this agenda (Members with pecuniary or prejudicial interests must leave the room for the relevant items);
None received.

2. To receive requests for and, if appropriate, grant dispensation to take part in debate or decision on items.
None received.

21-2021/2022 MINUTES

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18 May 2021 (Paper A).
Prop: GG 2nd: SE. Resolved to approve Minutes subject to two minor errors being corrected. 4 in favour – 2 abstentions (not at the meeting).

22-2021/222 DECLARATION OF OFFICE

To receive signed declarations of office from the newly elected councillors.
The Declarations for Cllrs Hewitt and Pope have been returned to the Returning Officer.

23-2021/2022 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman confirmed that the process for filling the three vacancies after the previous Parish Council meeting was followed after 10 members of the public requested an election. Only two nominations were received and therefore Cllrs Hewitt and Pope were elected unopposed. The same process now has to continue until the last vacant seat is filled. Clive Joynes will shortly send out the appropriate documentation.

Most Covid restrictions will end shortly so the Parish Council will be returning to monthly meetings, (with the exception of August) and will be held on second Monday in the month.

The previous Clerk had applied to the IW Council as part of the "Welcome Back Fund" for funding, but the **Parish needs to specify the amount of money and what it is to be used for by 16 July.**

24-2021-2022 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE MATTERS SET OUT BELOW

(For up to ten minutes)

Members of the public are invited to ask questions or make representations. (Note: this item is only for questions or representations on any matter set out. New Business cannot be raised but should be requested for a future agenda to a councillor or the parish clerk outside this meeting).

Brian Williams concerned about car parking charges on St Helens Duver during winter months. JB will discuss with the IWC as StHPC share the cost of responsibilities such as bin emptying, toilets, Long Church green upkeep. Other Parishes do not have these charges imposed.

25-2021/2022 UPDATE ON APPOINTMENT OF CLERK

Jacky Matthews has been appointed but as this is her first meeting, a locum clerk is in attendance to take Minutes.

26-2021/2022 FORT WALK TRAFFIC

It is anticipated that Fort Walk is to take place around 2nd week of August. Parking in Duver Road to be restricted. In previous years traffic cones have been placed around the East Green, to try to prevent unauthorised parking on the green and the football/cricket pitches. **JM to liaise with the IWC** so better parking facilities are provided – possibly on West Green. Members were against the provision of cones on the highway as this prevents residents from parking outside of their properties, and in previous years residents have received parking fines.

JB concerned that St Helens PC should not be seen to be organising the event, and that any physical barriers round the greens would intimate that the Parish were involved in the organisation of the annual event, inviting possible litigation implications.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

Paul Knowlson (member of public) commented that last year Duver Road was closed which had implications for business operators.

Brian Williams commented that the Bembridge Lifeboat requested the cones at last year's event.

27-2021/2022 PARKING

Cllr Pope concerned that contractors vehicles are using roads and the greens for parking instead of the car park, in which they have to pay.

28-201/2022 SEAFRONT BIN PROVISION

Paul Knowlson and Cllr Phil Jordan (not present) have proposed that two further bins should be placed on the seafront. At present IR empty weekly, then after half term emptied twice daily at 9 am and 5pm. Ideally timings need to be changed to prevent over filling – perhaps to 9am and 2/3pm.

Cllr Thomson feels that there should be three bins – one at Church, one at café, and one at end of beach huts. PK has offered to lock the bins overnight.

Cllr Pope asked if cost of bins (quote from Onward Waste Ltd) could be recovered through Welcome Back fund. TC to liaise with IWC by 19 July.

Prop: JB 2nd: GG – unanimously resolved to provide three new bins and emptying charges

STANDING ORDERS REINSTATED

29-2021/2022 STATION ROAD WATER LEAK

The leak has been reported again to IWC (not Southern Water) and a response is still awaited. **JM to chase.**

30-2021/2022 TOILET BLOCK ON GREEN

JB confirmed that IWC have secured adverse possession of the land so the Parish Council can discuss the opening of the WC's with IWC. **Waiting for notification of this, and JM to put on next Agenda.**

31-2021/2022 REPORT OF IW WARD COUNCILLOR

1. Closure of Broomlands Close – this has been cleared today and is now passable.
2. Laundry Lane/ Quay Lane Brading – old railway line – is to be closed throughout September to accommodate Wightfibre who are laying their cable to join with the new cable in Quay Lane. Complete closure required to limit timescale for least disturbance of winter nesting birds on RSPB Reserve. Wightfibre will upgrade and reinstate the existing poor surface as part of their contract.
3. The unauthorised overnight parking of vehicles (especially camper vans) has been raised with IWC parking enforcement.
4. The IWC are proposing to remove the old railway carriages on seafront in order to create 32 new 10 year Leases for new beach huts at £12,000 each, with a £700 per year ground rent. **JM to put on next Agenda.**

32-2021/2022 FINANCIAL AND DATA PROTECTION

1. To authorise the payment of accounts

No accounts have been received from the previous Clerk

2. To approve the Quarter 1 Bank reconciliation (Paper B)

No Bank Reconciliation has been received from the previous clerk.

Report to be presented to next meeting. JM

33-2021/2022 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

To note applications made and decisions notified by the LPA.

No planning applications have been recorded so JM to check LPA website and circulate all decisions.

34-2021/2022 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

To receive decisions made. **No Decisions have been recorded from the LPA.**

35-2021/2022 MAINTENANCE

To receive notice of defects or maintenance required. **No notices of defects have been recorded.**

36-2021/2022 MEMBER MATTERS

(Note: These matters are not for discussion at this time. At the Chairman's discretion, an interim answer may be put pending further research for either written response or Agenda item).

IT – residents are concerned about grass cutting and StH PC should meet with contractor. **JM** to revert back to Cllrs with details of contract and contractor.

GG – StHPC should be able to liaise with the public in respect of parking, to discuss the best way forward. JB said it had previously been proposed that there was a Residents Parking scheme. **JM** to find the report (from Peter Hayward) and circulate to members.

SE – nothing

SP – nothing

CH – nothing

37-2021/2022 KEY MESSAGES

To agree those matters discussed for inclusion in an article for the Parish Magazine, County Press and Parish website, and interim arrangements.

1. **Items that should be included are updates in respect of newly elected councillors, appointment of JM as Clerk, waste bins, and the water leak.**
2. **JB reported that the High Court action in respect of Guildford Park has been issued for November, on whether the road is for all or restricted access for residents only. The IWC need evidence for their barrister – they accept that it is a private road but they can make an order over it.**

38-2021/2022 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

1. To confirm that dates of the next ordinary meetings at 7pm on the following dates:
Monday 13 September 2021
Monday 11 October 2021
Monday 8 November 2021
Monday 13 December 2021
Monday 10 January 2022
Monday 7 February 2022
Monday 14 March 2022
Monday 11 April 2022
Monday 9 May 2022
2. To confirm that the 2022 Annual Parish Meeting to be held at 6pm on:
Monday 9 May 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated