

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 10th October 2022 at 7pm at St Helens Community Centre

Attended by: Chair Cllr JB, Cllrs: SE,SP,PJ,CH,MC.
Clerk JM
Public - 7 members.

Meeting was recorded.

Formal Condolences on the passing of HM The Queen Elizabeth and a welcome to King Charles III

63-22/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr G Gergaud

At present the Parish council is carrying a vacancy for which a candidate could be co opted onto the council. Please contact the clerk if interested.

64-22/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None received

65-22/23 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th July 2022 .

Signed by Cllr JB

Proposed Cllr PJ Seconded by Cllr SE all agreed

66-22/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 1.General Issues (15minutes)
- 2.On Matters below (15 minutes)

1.Request of any further news of Guildford Park. Nothing to report.

A request to revisit the issue of possible encroachment on the Green.

Clerk to follow up with the IOW Council.

2. Item 69-22/23

Question on the legality of planting trees on the green. The member of the public had contacted the IWC Legal dept regarding trees impeding access to the green.

Questioning the response of the consultation figures. Concern that not all households have seen the forms and had a chance to take part in the survey.

Reply: Each household within St Helens had been sent a leaflet about the consultation, explaining the forms were available in the foyer of the Community Centre and how to access online. A Form was posted into each property around the green.

The consultation was advertised within the local magazine What's On, on the PC website and also on a community Facebook page.

A suggestion was made - planting trees around the railings of the playground - there was no shelter in the heat of the summer.

Benches on the green were not being utilised for large parts of the summer because of no shade in the scorching heat.

67-22/23 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

LCWIP - the PC had agreed to take part in the plan. The draft plan has been sent through - a substantial document. Request for all Cllrs to look through the document.

Jubilee commemorative badges - the PC had agreed to purchase some badges for the Jubilee. These have been given to the School requesting all children to receive one. For any children who live in the village but do not attend St Helens School and would like a badge please contact the Clerk.

68-22/23 CLERK'S REPORT

Steps to Pavilion - these have been repaired.

Planters - placed at two entrances to the Village and on the Church Green - if anyone has spare plants or bulbs please let the Clerk know.

Rubbish bins on the seafront - for the summer period there were an extra 12 bins provided. Damage to Caravans - some vandalism to the caravans on the duver has occurred - this has been reported to the IOW Council and subsequently to the owner.

Tour of Britain - this event was cancelled due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth.

Use of a photocopier within the Community Centre - this will be in operation shortly.

Memorable bench has arrived - an old bench has been removed and this new one installed.

Bollards on West Green - letters to surrounding areas to be issued - work to commence w/b 31st October.

Website - ongoing project, work has commenced.

French drain in Station Road - an issue with it not working correctly. The drain has been cleared and a request for the pavements to be cleared has been sent.

69-22/23 ST HELENS VILLAGE GREEN PROJECT

Thank you for the consultation which ran throughout the summer. Received high approval ratings from consultation. From the results the following proposal has been put together.

Discussion on number of trees on the green, good precedence of having trees around the green. At present about 20 trees on the green

Do not discount the wildflower areas - if patches are properly managed. If not managed then return the areas to cut grass.

Advice given: Wild Flower turf sold by sq mtr - much more successful. To be laid between now and mid march.

To follow up on the legality of planting of quantities of trees.

Proposal at this point:

- Plant One Oak Tree - Commemorative tree to mark the Reign of Queen Elizabeth's life. Addition of a plaque - location for planting to be confirmed.
- One Willow Tree near Station Road to aid water from the green
- Restoration of the Horseshoe Trail and West Green Copse
- to use the trees that the local school children had planted and have been grown on, to fill in some gaps in the Horseshoe Trail.
Group Green Gym to be invited to take on this request.
- Exploratory wildflower areas on the green - costings, maintenance plan

Proposed: Cllr JB Seconded: Cllr PJ All agreed

70-22/23

ST HELENS COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE

Request that the PC should be represented on the Committee, as per their constitution.
Meetings generally Wednesday afternoons, every six weeks,

Provisionally Cllr JB or Cllr PJ or if unavailable, the Clerk

71-22/23

BEACH ITEMS

Bins - extra 12 bins for summer season - only charged for those requiring emptying rather than all bins as the forecast that was put into the budget.

In discussion with Nodes Point and hopeful for a donation towards the costs of the extra bins.

Nodes Point staff have taken part in a litter pick along the beach.

A report from the organisation who deal with the Seaside Award has been received. The report mentioned that the Seaside flag was not flying, (flagpole belongs to the Cafe), no notification on site of any discharge into the sea, stickers on the bins were not present and the toilet sign was pointing in the incorrect direction.

This has led to a suggestion of having a flag pole situated on the Church Green - the fixings expenditure approx: £300 - £400. The design of the flagpole to have the cord inside the pole. Clerk to contact Ryde Council Clerk as Ryde Council have recently had flagpoles installed.

Proposal of costs to bring to the next meeting.

Bin Signage - Clerk to follow up on exact bin signage required and ask the relevant body to organise.

Beach signage is due to be renewed next year, IOW council.

Toilet block maintenance - thinking of the lifespan of the units used after the last refit - what path should the PC follow for the future, work in a reactive or proactive way and forecast work to be carried out.

A local firm wishes to operate a mobile tea & coffee van on the Duver once the Cafe closes for the season - advised to contact the IOW Council, re the location & in regards to obtaining a licence.

72-22/23

SOUTHERN WATER

Cllr CH reported that there is waste water discharge from SW, seems any time it rains - 59 incidences this year, not good for the environment. Increased level of building work may be part of the cause.

All local parties, SW, PC, NP work towards preventing this happening and ensuring the area is a safe place to bathe.

Prevention - project 'Storm Overflow Taskforce', supplying Leaky Waterbutts from SW

Cllr JB & Cllr PJ due to attend a meeting covering this item - will report back to the PC.

73-22/23

PAVILION & STATION ROAD

In order to move the plan on for the Sports Pavilion the IOW Council has suggested to take on a 'Tenancy at will' for the Pavilion at this present time, and look after it as a tenant pending formal steps.

Station Rd Block: - by taking on the Station Rd toilet block, changing its use in order to let and gain an income to assist running costs of the Pavilion.

The suggestion here is to assure ourselves of the state of the building. Access to the building and conduct a survey. As a potential purchase, seek legal advice re any liabilities - e.g business rates, stamp duty etc.

Question - what timespan for the tenancy of will? Work swiftly, and during this time explore the idea of the lease agreement and possibility of acquiring the freehold of the premises.

Financial - timeline with regard to the financial costs of running the pavilion until the Station Road part is up and running.

Cllr PJ would prefer the acquisition of the Pavilion to be freehold and begin with a clean start. The concern is should the tenancy of will not be implemented then the IWCouncil would close the building.

Standing Orders upheld: - query re the purchase of Station Rd Toilets, when this matter arose previously there was an issue found because the building is built on Common Land. Since then this position has been corrected with the land registry.

Proposal: Accept a tenancy of will for the Pavilion & pursue Station Road project appropriately.

Proposed: Cllr JB Seconded: Cllr PJ all agreed.

74-22/23 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In light of a difficult financial time ahead for local people this winter, what support could the PC offer?

Suggestions: -

1.set up a helpline - advertise through a facebook page, posters, website to share information and contacts of who to ask and where to get help.
2.PC - to set up & hold drop in sessions - weekly, invite contacts to come to the sessions. Check what is already provided in the village. Suggested a warm area offering tea & coffee, mugs of soup.

Time effort and expense required. Contacts - Cllr SE, has contacts.

To ask The Footprint Trust to visit the Village.

Community Kitchen - explore if this could work in St Helens

Set some funds aside to get this off the ground - Teas & Coffees (power to allocate up to £500),

Ask allotment holders for any surplus vegetables / fruit.

Enquire about financial donations, backers, grants.

All of the Parish Council to share ideas and information.

75-22/23 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

A survey from the Local Council Tax Support office was received - regarding a consultation on increasing the max level of support for those in need by reducing the Council Tax percentage.Cllrs were asked for their opinion and agreed.

This does not have any effect on the PC precept.

76-22/23 WAYS OF WORKING

Cllr CH - suggest the PC use a repository e.g. Google - in order for documents to be held in one place for Councillors to view, reducing the number of emails sent to Cllrs.

Costs per annum £15 per for 100gb of storage.

Proposed: Cllr CH Seconded Cllr JB all agreed

77-22/23 FINANCE AND DATA PROTECTION

Bank Statement : end of September balances & bank statement shown, agreed and signed by Cllr JB.

St Helens PC Financial items paid this month:

Approval sort for those marked *

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Method of Payment
7.7.22	Lake Cleaning Supplies	£59.88	BACS
17.7.22	Lake Cleaning Supplies	£119.76	BACS
31.7.22	S Chester cleaning Sports Pavilion	£351.00	BACS

August.22	Lake Cleaning Supplies	£421.13	BACS
11.8.22	AMEY Waste collection	£435.00	BACS
11.8.22	AMEY Waste collection	£165.00	BACS
16.8.22	Rodfather	£100.00	BACS
15.8.22	Bembridge Parish Council Jubilee badges	£150.00	BACS
23.9.22	PKF Littlejohn	£240.00	BACS
26.9.22	J Matthews - DeFib Store Pads for Pavilion DeFib	£64.80	BACS
30.9.22	Lake Cleaning Supplies	£59.88 £59.88	BACS BACS
1.10.22	SLCC - annual membership fee	£144.00	BACS
8.10.22	T Elliott - work on bench	£80.00	BACS
29.9.22	IDVerde (July - September)	£1016.40 *	agreed
	LCWIP	£2000.00 *	agreed
9.9.22	AMEY Waste collection	£1033.50 *	agreed
	Monies due to be spent in October /November	Amounts all previously agreed	
	Bollards - West Green Received contribution St H to pay and claim back	Total £8845.63 From IOW Council £3686.00 St H Contribution £3686.00 VAT £1474.27	
	LCWIP - St Helens contribution see above.	£2000.00	

LCWIP - waiting for instruction on payment percentages.

Originally Bembridge & Brading agreed 40% each and St Helens 20%

Need to revisit the agreement as Bembridge agreed 40%, St Helens 20%, currently Brading only agreeing to pay 33%

PC Clerk to check audit trail sought approval from Councillors, and contact Brading Clerk regarding the request for a % increase from St Helens from £2000.00 to £3316.66

Budget: Cost centres some overrunning some under running.

Opportunity to train for bid £95 - check who is providing the training, check and inform Cllr PJ

78-22/23 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

22/01628/DIS 42, Station Rd, St Helens a new application has been submitted showing plans for a driveway where a car can turn and not required to reverse onto the highway.

22/01726/TW T237 - Oak tree , St Helens Coastal Resort to be felled due to a split in trunk.

22/01722/HOU Kings Keep, Duver Road, St Helens - (application came through after the Agenda was printed but the reply date is pre the next meeting.)

Considerable building works but not obtrusive from the road Cllr SP to circulate the information for Cllrs to view and forward any comments to the Clerk, before 31.10.22

79-22/23 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY
22/01279/HOU Four Seasons, Latimer Road, St Helens (revised plan).

80-22/23 PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS:
BHAG - meeting on 8.9.22, Cllr CH gave a brief outline of the items discussed at the meeting. A request that the minutes be sent to the Council as Cllr CH felt an item of interest for the Parish Council should be looked into. Cllr CH requested that the Clerk obtain a copy of the Commercial document regarding dredging protocol from the IOW Council, The next meeting to be held on 14.11.22

IWALC - all Cllrs welcome to attend the meetings.

81-22/23 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT
Ongoing Draft Island Strategy - halted and opposed at full council meeting. Alternative ideas to be brought back to a subsequent meeting.

82-22/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 14th November 2022 7pm

Main meeting closed at: 20:34

Signed:..... Date.....

83-22/23 TO RESOLVE THAT:
In accordance with S.1(2) of the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, the public and press will be excluded from the following items due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Clerks Contract