

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 July 2023 at 7pm at St Helens Pavilion

Attended by: Chair Cllr JB, Cllrs: SE,CH,MC,AB,GG,PJ
Clerk JM

Public - 5 members of the public

Meeting was recorded to assist the writing of the minutes.

41-23/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr SP sent apologies.

42-23/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None received

43-23/24 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the PC meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023 .

Signed by Chair Cllr JB

Proposed Cllr SE Seconded Cllr JB all agreed

44-13-23/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Concern re the issue of Pay & Display Parking Meters over the Island - including the one on the Duver. Discussion was about the meters moving to non cash payments, this will be discriminating against those without a smartphone or an on - line bank account facility Item to be included on the next Agenda and the PC to note their views and report back to the IOWC.

Discussion regarding why Island Roads had not tarmaced right to the verge on certain roads - causing ditches either side of road. The area around Asheys has now been rectified.

Question of Southern Water using the closure time of local roads for longer than required causing timely detours. The system stands at present: SW apply for Road Closure, the job is completed but the opening of the Roads is delayed until the end of the 'permission to close' period. The Highways Authority have very little power in changing the way the system operates.

Request to have a live Island Emergency contact which could tell you up to date information about road closures etc.

45-23/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Field Lane - At present a strong application is to go before the Planning Committee, Away Resorts have been in touch with Cllr JB asking how they can be more responsive to the village concerns.Cllr JB shared views with the Director of Away Resorts. Awaiting further information.

White tape on West Green - this was put in place as an indication to the Grounds contractor what area should be left unmown.

A Greens management group of local people is being established, ready to formulate a plan for the future management of the greens. This plan can then be put out to tender in readiness for when the original contract finishes. No mow May has given interesting feedback.

Fort Walk - no date set as yet, Same scheme as last year with IOWC, Duver Road monitored and East Green available for parking.

46-23/24 CLERK'S REPORT

Cllr AB & Clerk met with the present Greens contractor. The present contract has been in place since 2017. Good discussion on understanding how their business operates and advice given, in order for St Helens to establish a maintenance plan, bring it to the Council and put it out to tender in readiness for Spring 2024.

Daishy's Lane - a request to have the verges cut was submitted - it seems they have been cut but sometime ago - to follow up.

A leak through the tarmac has been noted in Vine Rd & reported in Island Rds

A number of benches have been varnished by a couple of local volunteers.

Some items have been broken within the village - these will be fixed in due course, subject to materials and labour.

A replacement noticeboard for the side of the Pavilion is due to be made, making it an accessible item for Village events to be advertised.

The camera on the PC's laptop is not working - go ahead to get it investigated and fixed at a reasonable cost.

47-23/24 REPORT ON TRAFFIC ISSUES

Lots of concerns re the traffic speed within the village. No easy solutions. A review of speed levels over the Island is being carried out. Once the findings have been published then the Council to investigate any suitable solutions for St Helens.

Further discussion required.

48-23/24 STATION ROAD & PAVILION PROJECT

A meeting of the Pavilion Management Committee took place to discuss hiring terms, costs and agreements. Facility will not break even in running costs until the Station Rd part of the project is operational.

At present The Pavilion is providing central Village Public conveniences and a place for the community to hold various activities, whilst supporting the Sports: i.e Cricket & Football.

49-23/24 BEACH & SEAFRONT

Bins are present at the moment. Maybe an issue with the bin company with emptying times.

3 x wheelie bins at present - require sorting the capacity required and animal proof.

A Litter picking session was held by Green gym who cleared a large amount of brambles from the beach, along with many bags of rubbish.

Village Volunteer group due to attend the area and have a tidy, clean the signs, clear brambles & dead foliage from the plant area.

A quote for extra bins over the school holidays had been received. This was considered too high and a lower quote was requested if possible. Cost should be kept within the budget.

Suggested to follow up the cost of larger bins.

Clerk to follow with Nodes Point to see what rubbish provision has been set up for the summer.

Discussion on the amount of waste that is created with the take away items from the cafe - a number of people at the meeting had been to the County Show and the packaging used for food items was much less wastage.

An observation had been raised about the Church Green Tower and some loose masonry. This has been reported to the IOWC who were responsible for investigating the matter.

50-23/24 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.

End of June balance & bank statement shown, agreed and signed by Cllr JB

Authorise Payment of Accounts.

External Auditor - BDO - Councillor declarations of Interest.

St Helens PC Financial items paid month - end of May 2023

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date of payment	Method of Payment
4-June-23	Direct Debit (1:1 Internet Ltd)	11.99	21.6.23	DD
4-June-23	S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL	1227.48	12.6.23	SO
13-June-23	J Matthews - Expenses	134.58	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	Zurich Insurance	563.32	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	S Wilson	134.89	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	E-on Gas	150.22	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	E-on Electric	120.59	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	IW Green Gym	90.00	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	Eazi Clean S Chester	277.00	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	Lake Cleaning Services	98.52	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	Lake Cleaning Services	59.88	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	Lake Cleaning Services	59.88	13.6.23	BACS
13-June-23	Focus Plumbing & Heating	4397.17	13.6.23	BACS
21-June-23	Corona Energy	60.54	21.6.23	DD
28-June-23	S/O S Chester	600.00	28.6.23	SO
30-June-23	Bank Charge	18.00	30.6.23	
		£8004.06		
Paid				
6.7.23	A Elliott	455.00	6.7.23	BACS
6.7.23	A Elliott - materials	53.27	6.7.23	BACS
To Pay				
13.6.23	Lake Cleaning Services	8.34		
15.6.23	Lake Cleaning Services	6.67		
26.6.23	Lake Cleaning Services	59.88		
6.7.23	Lake Cleaning Services	59.88		
28.6.23	Business Stream - Water Pavilion	101.59		
28.6.23	IdVerde	1016.40		
10.7.23	J Matthews - clerk expenses	37.58		

Proposed: Cllr JB seconded Cllr MC all agreed.

Bank Statement 30.6.23

End of May			£64,813.80
Income June	0.00		
Expenses June		£8004.06	
End of June			£56,809.74

End of May balance & bank statement shown, agreed and signed by Cllr JB.

Clerk Expense claim - checked - Proposed by Cllr JB all agreed.

The External Auditors for St Helens Accounts changed this year to BDO Accountancy Company.

The Clerk asked if any of the Councillors had any Conflict of Interest with the company.

No Cllrs declared any Conflict of Interest so the form was signed and dated by the Chairman and Clerk in readiness to return to the Auditors BDO.

51-23/24 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

23/01106/FUL Flats 1 & 6 Pavilion House, Lower Green Road St Helens

The application is for window replacements from wood to UVPC, the design to remain the same.

52-23/24 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

None received

53-23/24 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

BHAG - none to report

IWALC - Cllr JB attended the AGM, a formality meeting for the reappointment of Officers.

54-23/24 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Request for a section in the Agenda for Councillors to ask Questions. The Clerk to check if this is an approved item.

Questions raised:

Who is responsible for insuring the Pavilion? IOWC for the building.

IWALC produces a newsletter. Please could St Helens submit content.

Change of MPs and split on IOW:

Long awaited the IOW to have 2 MPS - line being drawn roughly from Wootton to Chale.

At present the IOW is the largest Constituency - there are 77,000 for one MP, this is deemed too many.

Idea to have a Devolution - suggestion was proposed in 2014. An authority covering Hampshire & the IOW. Portsmouth, Southampton, District Councils & Borough Councils.

Not a popular view - IOW Portsmouth & Southampton not keen. Not universal in agreement.

55-23/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

PC Meeting - Monday 11th September 2023 7pm at the Pavilion

Meeting concluded at 8:10 pm

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