

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 11th September 2023 at 7pm at St Helens Pavilion**

Attended by: Chair Cllr JB, Cllrs: MC,AB,PJ,SP
Clerk JM
Public - 4 members of the public

56-23/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr SE, Cllr CH & Cllr GG sent apologies.

57-23/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None received

58-23/24 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the PC meeting held on Monday 10th July 2023 .

Signed by Chair Cllr JB

Proposed Cllr JB Seconded Cllr PJ all agreed

59-13-23/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

The Sale of Bembridge Harbour

Cllr PJ & Cllr JB declared an interest, as they are part of the Harbour Trust.

After hearing the major announcement of the Harbour is for sale - a member of the Village expressed a hope that once sold all future parties can work together to ensure the Harbour prospers. He would like to see it as a successful functioning healthy environment, a local business to full capacity and remaining a great Community asset.

As the PC has representatives on the BHAG group, the PC has a natural involvement to see how the future progresses.

The following was raised - it is on the agenda for October's meeting.

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

“Management of the Greens” - discussion was had about who is responsible for the Greens - i.e. IOWC or the St Helens PC. The idea of the group is to establish views from various users of the Greens and to formulate the best plan to put a tender out to a Contractor next Spring for caring for the different areas. Concern that the PC would be taking on more financially from IOWC. No decisions have been made at present.

Mention of the unlawful encroachment onto the Green has not had a response from IOWC as yet. It is believed this matter is still being dealt with.

60-23/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sports & Carnival Event 2023 - very successful - a lot of work but a great day for the Village. Fairground was back - only just, because of the weather. The PC would like to formally record thanks to all those who helped, took part and supported this fun, successful event.

There has been a query regarding footpaths - requiring registering, the cut off date to register has been moved to 2031.

All pathways to be investigated, conditions noted and paths registered. The R89 has unstable areas and has been re-routed. Access to areas of land adjacent to the Priory Hotel have been restricted. Further information to be investigated. Clerk to oversee.

61-23/24 CLERK'S REPORT

The Village Volunteer Group has been busy over the last month - painting the upper deck of St Helens Library School Bus and taking part in a session with the Church Eco group so children could make bird, squirrel & bat boxes which are going to be placed within the school grounds. Thank you to the Eco Church for funding the boxes and laying on refreshments.

A meeting will be held to take stock of what has been achieved over the last number of months - details to be advertised.

Carnival - The Village Events group were able to raise funds towards next year's Village Fayre by running refreshments from the Pavilion.

A Car Boot Sale has been held - raising funds for the Cricket Club and the Carnival. Very successful - sadly rain stopped play.

Greengym is booked to come and work in the Horseshoe Trail area on Wednesday 20th September.

The Isle of Wight Literary Festival - 5th - 8th October 2023, Northwood House, Cowes.

62-23/24 MANAGEMENT OF THE GREENS

There has been a fair amount of discussion re the Greens on Social Media and in the Press. When the survey was carried out in 2022, 88% of participants were in favour of wildflower meadows. Some areas have been left unmown to see what will grow in these areas naturally. The idea to form a Greens management group of people with varying backgrounds and expertise is to formulate a plan for the future management of the greens, incorporating the wishes of the Village but also to give some clarity & a consensus view on how the grass should be managed for future generations.

This plan can then be put out to tender in readiness for when the original contract finishes. More to follow in the next few months.

63-23/24 FIELD LANE

The Planning Application for Field Lane has caused much interest and distress and has not been resolved happily.

The Draft Decision to allow the permission to be granted was not known to Cllr JB, who had been in discussion with the Planning Dept and Away Resorts.

Still concerns: Field Lane Access and questions whether Aria Resorts are going to arrange access via Eddington Road.

There has been a lack of communication and the outcome most unsatisfactory. Residents are going to submit a formal complaint to the Ombudsman

Cllr SP concerned that future planning applications - once given time, thought and consideration from the PC and local residents are ignored from the Planning Dept.

The application was a flawed one from the beginning, Is it worth a meeting with the Planning Dept? When a Ward Councillor calls in a Planning Application - never known it to be turned down.

Actions: Discussion with Aria Resorts. Also a meeting with the Planning Dept.

Cllr SP to write a formal letter to state views and ask for some detail from the IOWC Planning Dept.

Cllr JB to forward any legalities.

64-23/24 BEACH & SEAFRONT

A bench is to be replaced by a family and they would like to know of thoughts on the material the bench is constructed from - namely wood or recycled materials.

Please can Councillors forward their views to the Clerk asap.

The family is happy to cover the cost of the bench and the installation.

Railway Carriages/Beach Huts have been in discussion in Social Media. The ongoing legal case regarding the leasehold of the area is due for a court date in December. A plan was to update the Caravans by the landlord but the boundaries were contested by the NT as the land is of SSSI (Site of Significant Scientific Interest).

65-23/24 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.

End of July & August balances & bank statements shown, agreed and signed by Cllr JB

Authorise Payment of Accounts.

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

| Inv Date | To Whom | Amount | Date of payment | Method of Payment |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 6.7.23 | A Elliott | 455.00 | 6.7.23 | BACS |
| 6.7.23 | A Elliott | 53.27 | 6.7.23 | BACS |
| 10.7.23 | S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL | 1227.48 | 10.7.23 | SO |
| 28.6.23 | Business Stream - Water Pavilion | 101.59 | 11.7.23 | BACS |
| 10.7.23 | J Matthews - clerk expenses | 37.58 | 11.7.23 | BACS |
| 13.6.23 | Lake Cleaning Services | 8.34 | 11.7.23 | BACS |
| 15.6.23 | Lake Cleaning Services | 6.67 | 11.7.23 | BACS |
| 26.6.23 | Lake Cleaning Services | 59.88 | 11.7.23 | BACS |
| 6.7.23 | Lake Cleaning Services | 59.88 | 11.7.23 | BACS |
| 4.7.23 | Direct Debit (1:1 Internet Ltd) | 11.99 | 20.7.23 | DD |
| 24.7.23 | Corona Energy | 57.67 | 24.7.23 | DD |
| 28.7.23 | S/O S Chester | 600.00 | 28.7.23 | SO |
| | | £2679.35 | | |
| Paid | August | | | |
| 28.6.23 | IDVerde | 1016.40 | 1.8.23 | BACS |
| 30.6.23 | Onward Waste Ltd (Apr - Jul) | 126.00 | 1.8.23 | BACS |
| 30.6.23 | Onward Waste Ltd (Apr - Jul) | 88.20 | 1.8.23 | BACS |
| 20.7.23 | Onward Waste Ltd (Apr - Jul) | 142.20 | 1.8.23 | BACS |
| 6.7.23 | E on Gas | 124.50 | 1.8.23 | BACS |
| 6.7.23 | E on Elec | 151.79 | 1.8.23 | BACS |
| 25.7.23 | The Rodfather | 100.00 | 1.8.23 | BACS |

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------|---------|------|
| 7.8.23 | Corona Energy | 61.57 | 17.8.23 | DD |
| 10.8.23 | S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL | 1227.48 | 10.8.23 | SO |
| 22.8.23 | Direct Debit (1:1 Internet Ltd) | 11.99 | 22.8.23 | DD |
| 22.8.23 | ICO - Information Commissioner's Office | 35.00 | 22.8.23 | DD |
| 29.8.23 | S/O S Chester | 600.00 | 29.8.23 | SO |
| 31.8.23 | Cant & White Ltd The Vine | 105.50 | 31.8.23 | BACS |
| 31.8.23 | S Chester - Cleaning materials | 61.27 | 31.8.23 | BACS |
| | | £3851.90 | | |
| To Pay | | | | |
| 27.7.23 | Island Roads - Refuse | 1351.68 | | |
| | SLCC Membership | 150.00 | | |
| 17.8.23 | Thalia refuse bin collections - Duver July 20 lifts | 140.00 | | |
| 31.8.23 | Business Stream - Pavilion Water | 27.78 | | |
| 14.8.23 | Lake Cleaning Supplies | 15.02 | | |
| 4.9.23 | MJC Plumbing | 90.00 | | |

| J Matthews - Expenses | | |
|------------------------------|--|----------------|
| 25.7.23 | Booker Ltd. - Soap Dispenser Duver | 17.99 |
| 31.7.23 | Booker Ltd - Black Sacks | 6.59 |
| 31.7.23 | Amazon - 15M grass edging for French drain | 26.99 |
| 4.8.23 | Booker - 2 x Toilet Rolls - Duver | 35.98 |
| 4.8.23 | Car Park - SW Meeting Duver | 2.05 |
| 26.8.23 | Booker - 4 x Toilet Rolls - Duver | 71.95 |
| | | £161.55 |

Proposed: Cllr JB seconded Cllr PJ, all agreed.

Bank Statement 30.6.23

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------|------------|
| End of June | | | £56,809.74 |
| Income July | 0.00 | | |
| Income August | 0.00 | | |
| Expenses July | | £2679.35 | |
| Expenses August | | £3851.90 | |
| End of August | | | £50,278.49 |

End of August balance & bank statements shown, agreed and signed by Cllr JB.

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

66-23/24 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

23/01448/HOU 6 Yar Quay, Latimer Road, St Helens.

22/01739/FUL Land between 2, Rochford & former St Helens Service station, Latimer Rd, St Helens - revised application

67-23/24 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

22/01921/HOU Iona, Lower Green Road, St Helens PO33 1UF

68-23/24 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

BHAG - none to report

IWALC -Clerk to obtain the minutes of the last meeting.

69-23/24 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

The Leader of the IOW Council has resigned and therefore there will be an election for a new leader. Scaremongering commentary on bankruptcy after news from Birmingham County Council. IOW council - finances not rosy but ok.

IWC & the Chief of OfGem due to meet to view the Islands consumer activity.

The green energy surplus cannot be exported to National Grid. Two new Wind Farms approved for the Island.

70-23/24 OPEN QUESTION TIME

Comments regarding the areas of Scrub land left on the Greens - they look awful and need to be addressed correctly.

Field Lane - A member of the Village who lives in the vicinity has not received any notification of the issues with Field Lane & Away Resorts. They have seen an issue with a delivery truck having issues trying to deliver the lodges within the small tight road system. The arctic low loaders go far too close to the residential buildings along Field Lane.

The roundabout in the Playground has been fixed.

The tap on the Duver is fixed.

A new Community Noticeboard is being constructed by the Men In Sheds in Seaview ready to go on the side of the Pavilion - its use is for local people to advertise events within the Village and local areas.

Cllr SP suggested that the PC minutes be posted on FB

71-23/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

PC Meeting - Monday 9th October 2023 7pm at the Pavilion

Meeting concluded at 8:15 pm

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