

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 9th October 2023 at 7pm at St Helens Pavilion

Chaired by Cllr SE,
Attended by: Cllrs: MC,AB,PJ,GG
Clerk JM
Public - 3 members present

72-23/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr JB, Cllr SP sent apologies.

73-23/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr PJ expressed an interest in Item no 78-23/24 Parking Meters. Cllr Jordan agreed to offer information but would not contribute with any decisions.

74-23/24 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the PC meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023 .

Signed by Chair Cllr SE

Proposed Cllr SE Seconded Cllr MC all agreed

75-23/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

A member of the public wished to thank the Parish Council for what they have done regarding the issues with Guildford Park - the Member of Public felt it was the correct result.

Parking Meters - thank you for adding it to the Agenda - becoming increasingly concerned about that cashless parking meters are becoming the main way to pay for parking on the IOW. A mention of the cost of Parking.

It was highlighted that Newport has free parking for the first hour in a number of car parks. Also Ryde has free parking for an hour on Union Street

76-23/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

77-23/24 CLERK'S REPORT

Asset Register - De Fibs will require new pads and new batteries soon.
Ensure any maintenance required is scheduled to be sorted.

French Drain - tried to enhance what is there - explanation of how it is at present
Causing a hazard on the pavement. Concern on safety.
Clerk to find out who is responsible for the workings of the drain. To contact IWC.

Community Fridge - placed in the foyer of the Community Centre and open to all.
A meeting was held re St Helens Community Fridge - the idea is that surplus food from shops, allotments, preserves are given and placed in the fridge and foyer area and then available for use by the public.
A grant has been received to aid funding for a year. Fridge footfall evidence will be a good indicator and help towards future grant applications.
Requires a rota of volunteers to help to make the system work: check dates, clean fridge, pick up the donations.

Health & Hygiene Certificates - funding for training is available for the Level 2 Hygiene Certificate. - Homemade preserves can be donated but must have a list of ingredients on the products - as per Natasha's Law 2021.

From the meeting - a request for the Parish Council to consider providing funds for bins - cardboard recycling & waste bin.
It was suggested an approach to IOWC to supply recycling bins. Check if the Community Centre pay Business Rates - also ask how Aspire deal with their rubbish from their Community Fridge?
Commercial Waste. Clerk to enquire.
IOWC have a Community Grant Scheme - out at present - does this meet the criteria?

Re Volunteers List - suggested that there is an online sign up system, which would be easier for those who can't commit on a regular basis to add when they are available. The Volunteer list would have to be managed taking in those who are not able to access on line items. Any offers of help are most welcome. Looking for volunteers to help run this scheme - the more the easier for all.

Best Kept Large Village 2023 -

Having been invited to attend the BKV IOW Annual Event, on behalf of the Village the Clerk received the **Best Kept Large Village 2023 Award**.
The last time that St Helens won was in 2016,
Well done and a huge thank you to all those involved in keeping the village looking lovely.
The Village Volunteer Group, Steve and individuals.

A Shield, Certificate and a cheque of £150 was received. Suggested homes for housing the Shield & Certificate - to be decided. Clerk to ask the Community Centre.

78-23/24 PARKING METERS

Insight into whether the meters will change - Cllr PJ to ask for a report on the types of meters presently on the IOW - Cllr PJ has not received any official complaints so far this year.
Discussion on cashless society. Considered an equality issue.

79-23/24 REMEMBRANCE DAY

A Wreath has been ordered and a donation of £50 as agreed in the budget.
Cllr SE to lay the wreath at the:
Remembrance Service on Sunday 12th November 10:50am St Helens Church.
Clerk to inform Cllr SE of these details.

80-23/24 CHRISTMAS

Tree - Clerk has enquired re cost - awaiting a reply.

FOSH (Friends of St Helens School) are organising the Village of Angels 2023.

Angel entry forms in by 24.11.23 Judging 1.12.23

The Christmas Event, Angels winner announcement and lighting of the Village Christmas Tree is to be held on Saturday 2nd December, venues: the Community Centre, the School, the Vine and the Green.

A request for the PC to fund the wooden Angels for the tree was made - requiring at least 100.

Cost in the past was approx £60 and was covered within the event expenses.

- if this is not possible this year then to come back to the PC.

A request to use the Pavilion for the Charity Spina Bifida had been received. *Subsequent to meeting this has moved to the Community Centre.*

Goose Island Carol Singers - to be confirmed.

81-23/24 THE GREENS

A group has come together to work on a management plan for the greens. The first meeting was a very productive meeting - sharing views & hopes. The idea is to come up with a plan ready to put to the Council and then out to tender for the new year.

Clerk to share the reports of the meetings with the Cllrs.

A plan for the future and include some younger people from the village.

Oak & Willow Trees - Willow Tree is thriving - the Oak is not good - a replacement has been offered. Planting is required during the Autumn. Place on Agenda for next month.

82-23/24 PAVILION

Keysafe is now in place and working well.

Noticeboard - update required - Clerk to follow up.

Flooring in the accessible toilet is still outstanding - Cllr SE offered to share a contact.

Sensor lights are required - Clerk to follow up

Lighting outside near steps required.

83-23/24 BEACH & SEAFRONT

An issue with the Urinals this year - the plumbing is questionable - some work may be required.

A maintenance plan is required to secure the building for the future.

Plan to be drawn up, include photos and then get some quotes.

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.

After discussion it was decided to request a bench similar to the one recently placed on the main green, which is made from wood and maintenance free. All agreed.

Extra bins to cover the summer season have now been removed, awaiting an invoice.

84-23/24 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.

End of September balance & bank statement shown, agreed and signed by Cllr SE

Authorise Payment of Accounts.

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

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date of payment	Method of Payment
27.7.23	Ringway Roads - Refuse	1351.68	13.9.23	BACS
17.8.23	Thalia refuse bin collections - Duver July 20 lifts	140.00	13.9.23	BACS
31.8.23	Business Stream - Pavilion Water	27.78	13.9.23	BACS
14.8.23	Lake Cleaning Supplies	15.02	13.9.23	BACS
4.9.23	MJC Plumbing	90.00	13.9.23	BACS
30.9.23	J Matthews Expenses	161.55	13.9.23	BACS
11.9.23	S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL	1227.48	11.9.23	S/O
13.9.23	E.on Next	93.05	13.9.23	BACS
13.9.23	E.on Next	111.51	13.9.23	BACS
13.9.23	E.on Next	98.60	13.9.23	BACS
18.9.23	Corona Energy	77.53	18.9.23	BACS
20.9.23	Direct Debit (1:1 Internet Ltd)	11.99	20.9.23	DD
28.9.23	S/O S Chester	600.00	28.9.23	S/O
30.9.23	Bank Service Charge	18.00	30.9.23	
		£4024.19		
Income				
7.9.23	Vectis	150.00		
25.9.23	Vectis	50.00		
		£200.00		
To Pay				
21.9.23	SLCC annual subscription	177.00		
26.9.23	BDO External Auditors	252.00		
28.9.23	IdVerde July - Sept contract	1016.40		
28.9.23	IW Green Gym	90.00		
2.10.23	E.on Next Elec	60.46		
2.10.23	E.on Next Gas	96.14		
4.10.23	Direct Debit (1:1 Internet Ltd)	11.99		

J Matthews - Expenses		
12.8.23	Booker - 4 x Toilet Rolls - Duver	71.95
26.9.23	Booker - 4 x Toilet Rolls - Duver	53.96
23.9.23	Tesco bleach for Pavilion	2.78
24.9.23	B&Q Lock safe	35.00
24.9.23	B&Q Toilet symbols Pavilion	9.06

24.9.23	B&Q Enamel paint for ramp Accessible toilet	13.00
30.9.23	Mileage Sandown & Whitwell Event	15.74
		£201.50

Proposed: Cllr PJ seconded Cllr GG , all agreed.

Bank Statement 30.9.23

End of August			£50,278.49
Income September	£200.00		
Expenses September		£4024.19	
End of September			£46,454.30

End of September balance & bank statement shown, agreed and signed by Cllr SE.

Clerk Expense claim - checked - Proposed by Cllr SE seconded Cllr GG all agreed.

AGAR finalised item, all signed off for 2022/23,

Request to purchase a new printer - the original printer is obsolete, the cost of HP cartridges are exorbitant. Cheaper cartridges have been used but this is causing issues with the printer.

A suggestion was for the Clerk to use the printer in the Community Centre. Agreed, for certain items but also having a printer in the office is more convenient.

To purchase a Printer was proposed. Proposed: Cllr SE Seconded Cllr PJ

School bus - grant for reading books - to be followed up.

Request for funding a further visit from Greengym to continue the great work that has been accomplished on the Horseshoe Trail/West Green area, Cost per visit £90.00.

Proposed: Cllr SE Seconded Cllr PJ all agreed.

85-23/24 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

23/01567/TW The Castle, Duver Rd, St Helens - Tree works

23/01649/TW 5 Stonewood Gate St Helens - Tree works, Black Poplars.

23/01666/HOU Conifers Field Lane St Helens - replacement garage, access the same, the new garage is higher and larger. In terms of traffic no change or view from the Road no change.

23/01642/HOU St Catherines Cottage, Upper Green Rd, St Helens -

Plan to add a lean-to at the back of the Cottage. No issues with the application but this application has raised questions on the Conservation Plan used as being out of date - PC need to look at the document and update.

86-23/24 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

APP/P2114/W/20/3250542 Guildford Park Camp, Guildford Rd, St Helens

This appeal has been dismissed.

87-23/24 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

BHAG - no report

IWALC - no report

Request that if representatives cannot attend please send apologies & inform other Councillor Representatives in time so they can attend.

88-23/24 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

No report given.

89-23/24 OPEN QUESTION TIME

Any developments on Station Rd toilet Block. Waiting to hear back from the IOWC Legal team. This needs to be pushed as using the building was in the plan to finance the Pavilion. Cllr PJ offered to follow up.

90-23/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

PC Meeting - Monday 13th November 2023 7pm at the Pavilion

Meeting concluded at 8:15 pm

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