

St Helens Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Bacon Clerk: Jacky Matthews



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Draft MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST HELENS PARISH COUNCIL Held on Monday 8th June 2026, 7.00pm, at St Helens Pavilion

Chaired by Cllr J Bacon, Cllr S Dyer

**Attended by: Cllrs: A Phillips, A Bradstock, C Garnett, B Hewiit, I Thomson
Clerk JM**

14 Public members present

29-26/27 APOLOGIES

Cllr O Boelman

30-26/27 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS and REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

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

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);

To receive requests for and if appropriate, grant dispensation to take part in debate or decisions on items.

Cllr J Bacon with regard to Planning applications for Lilac Cottage, Upper Green Road, and 43, Downsview Road, St Helens.

31-26/27 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th May 2026

One clerical error was asked to be rectified, re the Historical/Horticultural Society.

Proposed Cllr J Bacon Seconded Cllr A Bradstock All agreed.

32-26/27 MATTERS ARISING

Mural - now this is officially opened the Mural to be added to the Parish Council Asset Register.

Request for the Councillors to update their Register of Interests. Clerk to send the document to the Councillors.

The Haven Field CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) is a new acquisition for

Cllrs C Garnett and A Bradstock, who are trustees, this facility to be used as a Community Asset.

33-26/27 BEACH/DUVER

Mr A Palmer attended the meeting to give an update on the area at the Duver.

A meeting was held with A White from the IOWC Planning Department, Cllr J Bacon, Clerk J Matthews and The Beach Home Team to discuss how to move forward with the plans.

Subsequently the IOWC has been in a pre-election period where no decisions can be made.

Following the meeting an email has been received answering some questions but not all.

The Beach Home Team have begun making improvements to the first block of carriages which is looking excellent and well received. New cladding on the exterior and the inner fixings are not too bad.

Until the planning application is addressed, knowing whether the carriages can be removed and given to the Steam Railway hangs in the balance.

Cllr J Bacon as Ward Councillor was asked to follow up where the Planning item had reached.

The Carriages that are being improved will be offered for rent to those who previously held a license on the Railway carriages. The timeline - hope to complete within the next four to five weeks. Colours suggested - from the audience - multi-coloured would be preferred, but gentle on hue.

Fencing - what is the option to ensure that the area is improved and looking better.

Investigating a fabric with larger holes to allow the wind to blow through and not cause the fence to fall

Timeframe as it is the peak season, within the next week.

Is the planning application ready to go? Once received the classification it should be 4 - 6 weeks after to submit the planning application. Wishing to get sorted for next summer.

Stipulations and restraints dependent - tourism, winter birds may affect the work schedule. Every intention to be up and running next year.

Having had so much delay would it be possible to be ready to submit the application at the earliest opportunity.

From a former meeting a consideration of contributing to the cost of running the Duver toilets was raised. A Palmer - being realistic, at present ground rent on carriages is being paid but at present not receiving any income. Funds are limited but are happy to discuss and make a donation.

Cllr C Garnett replied this would be hugely appreciated by local people.

To have a conversation within the next month to come up with a plan.

To Clarify, is the plan to renovate all Railway Carriages?

The plan has been that the Steam Railway would take 4 - 6 carriages.

This summer, no more than 2 can be re-clad (or may only be one). The company will try and make the rest as tidy as possible. This is an ongoing issue as they are frequently broken into.

A new skip is present – a request please for this to moved quicker than the last one at the time of the meeting this skip was already full with fly tipped items. It was suggested to A Palmer that lockable skips are available for rent.

There are eight Railway Carriages all together, the areas between them were filled to resemble a carriage making 49 units altogether at present.
Once the whole plan is in place the number will be 35 units.

The Parish Council emphasised that the area has looked so awful for so long. This has had a huge detrimental impact on the local community and visiting tourists. A Palmer must ensure that the work undertaken is completed as swiftly as possible and the day-to-day appearance of the area is improved and kept at that level in the future.

Cllr J Bacon thanked A Palmer for attending the meeting and giving the most recent update. Please share any information with the PC on any advances.

34-26/27 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Standing Orders suspended

Prior to Part 2 of the meeting there will be an opportunity of up to 15 minutes, if required, for members of the Public to make comments and to ask questions of the Council.

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

Mural is brilliant and very well received. It must be added to the Parish Council asset register for the purpose of responsibility.

The Shelter and benches are already on the list.

A question raised any guarantee on how long it will last?

A topping was added to assist with natural fading from the sun.

35-26/27 ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR

Cllr J Bacon formally resigned, stating that now as the Leader of the IOW Council he felt it incorrect to continue as Chair of the Parish Council, as there could be a conflict of interests.

Nominations for a new Chair;-

Cllr I Thomson nominated Cllr A Phillips, who declined the nomination. Cllr A Philips explained that he would want to give the job his full attention and attend all meetings but due to his work schedule this would not be possible.

Cllr I Thomson nominated Cllr S Dyer. Seconded by Cllr C Garnett.

Cllr S Dyer accepted the nomination but did explain that he had concerns that full training hadn't been completed to date.

Council all agreed to the nomination.

36-26/27 CIVILITY AND RESPECT

Code of Conduct - Nolan Principles

Cllr A Phillips raised an issue of derogatory comments on Social Media from one Councillor about another Councillor, he feels that this does not represent the Parish Council in a good light. He personally would like any differences to be addressed directly and away from the public gaze.

Cllr S Dyer suggested that all Councillors re-read Code of Conduct, the raised issue comes under integrity and mindfulness.

37-26/27 CLERK'S REPORT

Report re NT land, The Duver. There was a tent on the NT land at the Duver. Whether bad weather or a request to leave but the tent has now gone. PCSO S Hull and the NT were contacted, to report the incident but also to ask as to the protocol with an event like this.

The footpath to the Church, across the field had been ploughed. After contacting the Pathway department, they in turn contacted the Farmer. Some attempt has begun to re-establish the path.

To check the pathway continues to be reinstated. Update next month

Speed monitor. St Helens Parish Council have borrowed a monitor from Brading ready to carry out speed and traffic surveys on some roads within the village. An initial monitoring session had taken place. Updates to follow once data has been gathered. Future surveys should be carried out on a regular basis.

The sign for St Helens at Eddington Road will be put back any day.

Unwanted visitor in Duver Road, this person was reported to the police. The Police are actively patrolling.

Any information to identify the visitor would be most helpful. The Police were also concerned about the messages on FB from local residents. Clerk to ask PSCO S Hull for an update.

The next Film Club is planned for Friday 26th June.

Suggestion: having an Internet connection for the Pavilion. To research costs. Cllr SDyer to ask the WightFibre rep who attends the Digi Drop In in the village.

38-26/27 "WE THE 33 / TOGETHER FOR MISSION ZERO"

An explanation was given from Cllr A Bradstock of who "We The 33" are and for what they stand for. A power point had been shared with the Council prior to the meeting to explain further. This was the one used at the Annual Parish Meeting, when the representative Lucy Hardy gave a talk. A request for St Helens Parish Council to formally endorse the project. As a group they can advise on how to heat our homes cheaper, how to deal with Climate issues, how to encourage Community food growing and promoting activities for younger people and how to get them involved. Some funding is available.

The "33" stands for the 33 Councils across the IOW. St Helens is one of the pilot villages that the group wish to work alongside.

From the Annual Parish Meeting – a local person volunteered to become involved and is being trained with regard to ways of heating.

No costs to the Parish Council are involved.

Proposed by Cllr A Bradstock, Seconded by Cllr B Hewitt, 5 Cllrs agreed 1 Cllr abstained.

39-26/27 ADOPTION OF POLICIES

There are a number of similarities between two proposed policies - to be postponed and make clear what is involved. Clerk to investigate what advice and templates available. Parish Council Privacy Policy GDPR & Data Protection Policy

The IT Policy can be formally adopted once the new Website is up and running.

The Document Retention Policy which had been circulated prior to the meeting to the Council members was agreed.

Proposed; Cllr SDyer, Seconded; Cllr J Bacon, all agreed.

40-26/27 WEBSITE & EMAILS

Update - the company, Aubergine, who specialise in Council websites and .gov.uk email accounts. These are being set up - have already asked several questions. This is an ongoing project, updates to be given regularly.

Agree Clerks time allocation towards training and setting up the new website.

41-26/27 RESILIENCE PLAN

The application for the SEEN grant has been submitted. The amount on the application was for just over £3k. Information used within the application has been saved in readiness for future reference.

As from this morning Cllr IThomson wishes to resign from anything to do with the resilience plan. No reason given.

A discussion ensued about the list of equipment and finding a secure place to store and be accessible.

Also, how this plan goes forward and keep it up to date and not dropped, was discussed.

Require extra guidance from; IOW Council, Bembridge Parish Council. 'We the 33' and Community Climate Action who produce a Climate Action Plan which would have resources available to draw upon.

Require a leader from the PC to carry this forward.

A clear direction on what is required and how to work with other local villages and towns.

Read the Plan and decide the direction of what is required. Firstly, organise an informal meeting to discuss the next directions.

42-26/27 VILLAGE CONSULTATION PLAN

Youth Club Building; communications between Cllr A Bradstock and the Trustees have not been profitable. One of the Trustees offered the information that a surveyor's report has been conducted on the building, and they were awaiting the results.

The Parish Council Working Group are to request a meeting with all three trustees with the hope that an informed conversation about the history and the most recent issues could be addressed.

The St Helens Youth Club that began in April this year and is thriving.

If the building is repaired or sold the place could become the home for the present Youth Club or the funds could certainly help with ensuring this Club continues once the present grant funding has finished.

Cllr B Hewitt to meet with Youth Club Leader to discuss the history.

43-26/27 FINANCE

St Helens Insurance Renewal. It was agreed to remain with Zurich as the premium had only risen this year by 53p. Clerk to check if there is any difference with having the Mural included.

Proposed by Cllr S Dyer Seconded Cllr J Bacon, all agreed.

St Helens Finance Risk Assessment annual review. Cllr S Dyer asked the Councillors to read the document in readiness for the July meeting.

May's Bank Statements were checked and agreed.
 Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.
 Authorise payments and expenses.

Balance sheet end of May 2026

Current Account end of April			3,311.38
Credits May	410.00		
Transfer from Savings May	3,500.00		
Transfer to Savings May		0.00	
Expenses May		7,095.21	
Current Account End of May			126.17
Savings Account end of April			76,952.30
Transfers from Savings - May		3,500.00	
Transfer to Savings - May	0.00		
Credits - Interest	0.00		
Savings Account End of May			73,452.30
Current Account Balance end of May			126.17
Savings Account Balance end of May			73,452.30
Total Funds in Bank Accounts end of May			73,578.47
Mural Donations			1135
Wedding Deposit			500
			71,943.47

31.5.26 St Helens PC Financial Items paid month - end May 2026

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date Paid	Payment
17.4.26	BetaPak	155.88		
28.4.26	Focus Plumbing & Heating	234.00		
28.4.26	Focus Plumbing and Heating	94.80		
28.4.26	Focus Plumbing & Heating	99.00		
22.4.26	IW GreenGym - Litter Pick	90.00		
24.4.26	G Hughes - Internal Auditor	150.00		
30.4.26	Community Action (DBS x 1) for Youth Club.	15.50		
30.4.26	ERMC IV00851	1526.54		

	Youth Club Purchases - see attached sheet, to be covered by grant	1035.74		
5.5.25	Community Action	1505.65		
5.5.26	EDF - Gas Pavilion	41.07		
5.5.26	EDF Electric Pavilion	37.35		
5.5.26	IONOS - Web & email	37.79		
5.5.26	EDF - Elec - Duver Toilets	57.25		
20.5.26	S Chester	80.00		
20.5.26	Business Stream - Water Pavilion	152.64		
20.5.26	Community Murals	1125.00		
28.5.26	S Chester	650.00		
30.5.26	Bank Charge	7.00		
		£7095.21		
Income				
5.5.26	Youth Club Grant - 1st payment	£270.00		
7.5.26	P Hewson - Pavilion Hire	£80.00		
15.5.26	Donation for Mural Plaques	£60.00		
		£410.00		
To Pay				
18.5.26	S Chester Pavilion Cleans	270.00		
28.5.26	Signpost - mural signs	28.56	3.6.26	BACS
31.5.26	EMRC Inv 908	650.32		
25.5.26	S Wilson - Electrical	113.08		
12.5.26	Community Action	1505.95		
27.5.26	Memorial Sign renovation Tuesday Sunshine	180.00	3.6.26	BACS
27.4.26	Lake Cleaning Supplies	23.78		
26.5.26	Aubergine - Website & Emails	670.00		
1.6.26	EDF - Gas Pavilion	38.10		
1.6.26	EDF Electric Pavilion	59.81		
1.6.26	EDF - Elec - Duver Toilets	56.80		
30.6.26	S Chester	650.00		
30.6.26	Bank Charge	7.00		
3.6.26	St Helens Community Fridge - Waste donation	500.00		
4.6.25	Island Roads, Winter bin collection	378.00		
		£5131.40		

Section 1 (Accounting Statements) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for year ended 31.03.2026

Section 2 (Accounting Statements) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for year ended 31.03.2026

Agreed and signed by Chair Cllr S Dyer

44/25/26 SPEED MONITOR EQUIPMENT

A proposal of St Helens Parish Council purchasing their own Speed Monitor device was discussed and the decision was not to follow this up, but to continue to borrow the kindly loaned equipment from Brading Town Council.

The data can be used towards any traffic enforcement.

Data collected to be shared with the Councillors. To confirm how to use the data.

45-25/26 ST HELENS GRAVEYARD

The Parish Council agreed to accept the application and contribute £1000.00 to cover the cost of the Ash Die back tree works.

Proposed Cllr A Bradstock, Seconded Cllr I Thomson, 3 Cllrs agreed, 2 abstained,

46-26/27 CONTINGENCY FUND

Crossing Idea/Patrol – update, no news at moment Clerk to follow up.

47-26/27 MAINTENANCE

Remove the bench at the top of Duver Road.

To take on bench maintenance; Cllr S Dyer and Cllr A Phillips agreed.

Agree funding for essential maintenance once the work to be done is assessed.

48-26/27 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

The Parish Council can make a representation to the Planning Authority on behalf of the whole Council or individual Councillors can make their own representations.

26/00633/HOU Lilac Cottage, Upper Green Road, St Helens, PO33 1UG.

Proposed cladding to the side elevation. Public Consultation End Date is 19.6.26.

26/00717/DIS St Helens Mill, Mill Road St Helens Ryde Isle Of Wight PO33 1YH

[Condition compliance application on 25/01586/HOU relating to condition 5 \(Protected Species\) to be discharged](#)

49-26/27 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

26/00425/TW Nodes Point Holiday Centre, St Helens PO33 1YA. T3 - Pedunculate Oak, dismantle to ground level.

26/00467/TW St Helens House, Duver Road, St Helens PO33 1XY. T1 Mulberry Tree. 30% crown reduction back to good growth. The tree has subsequently fallen.

26/00520/TW 43, Downs View Road, St Helens. PO33 1YE. Reduce over the garden of 43 by approximately 40%. Reason- rebalance crown and reduce overhanging into garden.

25/01812/FUL Guildford Park Camp, Guildford Road, St Helens PO33 1UH

Self build 4 bed detached house- link attached 3 car garage.

Granted

50-26/27 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Questions raised; the pathway crossing Eddington Road, concerns about overgrown hedges and visibility. Rights of Way are going to rectify this issue.

The pathway by the school there is an overhanging tree. Again Rights of Way are going to deal with the issue.

The steps from Downsview Road are overgrown. Island Roads agreed to undertake some maintenance

The piece of land to the righthand side has a gully which is very overgrown. Ownership of land is unknown and there is a water course that requires clearing.

Concern from Cricket balls into properties on Downsview Road. Should some more netting be set up. Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Cricket Club.

Brading Town Council had been in touch about the link from Brading to St Helens, as mentioned in the LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan). To widen the highway on one side in order to allow the pathway to continue on the opposite side from Carpenters Road to Laundry Lane. Suggest the PC would like to support this plan. Details to be shared with Councillors, then respond with a supporting letter.

51-26/27 OPEN QUESTION TIME

A question was raised about having a bench on the Green. It is now the responsibility of the applicant. Any restrictions on the style and material of the benches? Referred to the Bench Policy.

Discussion about the black strips used with traffic – what do they measure, Cllr J Bacon to investigate.

Station Road Toilet block – any further developments? Cllr J Bacon to find out where we stand with the IOWC.

The issue of Sewage and run off water, emergency overflows from Southern Water into the sea. Plans to lay a new pipe from the Pilot Boat out to sea by SW had caused major concern about the amount of discharge. There is an existing pipe in situ but this had been blocked for about 30 years.

Approved by the Environment Agency and the Marine Maritime Agency. No authority had been in touch with either Bembridge or St Helens Parish Councils re the matter. Practical actions – object to the plan. Clerk to contact Bembridge Parish Council and Nettlestone & Seaview. .

Thank you to all those who supported the Mural, all paid. Also a press release in the local paper.

The Haven Field have taken over the ownership of the Scout field opposite the church, open evening for neighbours and then an open occasion on Saturday 4th July, from 12 – 2 bring your own picnic. Charitable area for the benefit of local people.

Request from Cllr I Thomson for the minutes of the last informal meeting to be sent to him.

52-26/27 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Councillor Working Party - Monday 22nd June Pavilion.

Public PC Meeting - Monday 13th July 2026 7pm - Pavilion

Meeting closed at 9:25pm.