

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 March 2026, 7.00pm, at St Helens Pavilion

Chaired by Cllr J Bacon

Attended by: Cllrs: A Phillips, A Bradstock, B Hewitt, C Garnett, I Thomson,
O Boelman, S Dyer

Clerk JM

6 Public members present

172-25/26 APOLOGIES

G Lloyd.

173-25/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Refer: 102-22/23 12.12.22 Declaration & interest from Cllr J Bacon as member of the IOW Council and St Helens PC.

None other.

174-25/26 MINUTES

Minutes from the PC meeting on Monday 9th February 2026 had been circulated.

Proposed Cllr J Bacon Seconded Cllr S Dyer All agreed.

175-25/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Speed Monitor - what's the update. The Clerk had been in touch with the local PCSO on the process. To clarify how to record the data.

Wild Flower Planting in the area of the Green below the Car Park. Students are coming from the IOW College to carry out the preparation and planting.

Invoice for the seeds was provided.

A meeting with the Grass Contractor and S Peterson to be arranged by the Clerk.

176-25/26 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A letter of support was requested by St Helens Community Centre Committee in conjunction with a Grant Funding application from Biffa to cover works at the Centre. Cllr J Bacon to organise.

St Helens Film Club has begun - an idea derived from the Village Consultation Plan. Future film nights: 20th March, 17th April and more dates in the future. Look out locally to see what is being shown.

The Youth Club Building - an attempt to speak with the current trustees is in motion.

IOW Council Elections Thursday 7th May. The IOWC are entering a pre-election period from the 30.3.26 so there will be limited business covered until after the Election.

177-25/26 CLERK'S REPORT

Volunteers required for various events throughout the village:

- The Spring Horticultural Show - March 15th.
- **St Helens Annual Help Out Day - Bank Holiday Monday 4th May** - Meet at Pavilion from 9.30am. If you see a job that requires doing please contact the Clerk.
- St Helens Village Fayre Sunday 7th June

An enquiry about the previous use of an area of land in Station Road had been received. Had it been used as a shooting range in the past - a contaminated land query. The enquiry had also been received by The Historical Society.

A website has been launched - 'Isle of Poop' - A Dog Waste Tracker System. The finder to take a photo of dog mess using their mobile phone, this automatically captures the GPS location and logs it on an interactive map .

A dead seal had washed up on the beach - the necessary contacts had been informed - note to check that it had been collected.

Eddington Road closure - a resident had been in touch, unhappy due to the effect on the bus routes. Questions arose why another closure. The road is degrading due to a land drainage issue, a formal enquiry is underway to resolve this matter.

Nodes Point. Whilst Eddington Rd was closed some customers from Nodes Point had exited from Nodes site and driven over Church Green, then got stuck causing the ground to be turned up. The Clerk has been to Nodes Point and asked for their groundsmen to rectify the area.

Cars have been reported going too fast from Eddington Road into the village.

A message re St Helens Churchyard was read out - "After all the hard work done by the groundsmen and the local Volunteers the Churchyard is looking particularly pretty. Recommend a visit."

178-25/26 PC POLICIES

Bench Policy - draft circulated. An amendment had been made, on including all areas of Parish land rather than only the Greens.

Other details discussed and agreed

Check all details are up to date and current within the Policy.

Add - number of concrete bases.

Clerk to check the bench on Church Green abutting Nodes land.

Proposed Cllr J Bacon 2nd Cllr B Hewitt, all agreed.

Appraisal Policy

Documents circulated. Cllr A B had checked with Nettlestone & Seaview PC on their Appraisal System. They don't have an Appraisal Policy but do have a Staffing & Committee which has Terms & Reference. Would this be more streamlined? After discussion St H PC decided to remain with having an Appraisal Policy.

It is a Legal obligation for a PC to hold an annual appraisal

All Cllrs have the opportunity to feed into the appraisal process if they wish.

Agree amongst the Cllrs who would undertake the appraisal process. Nominate 2 appraisers on an annual basis.

To check details within the Standing Orders.

Proposed by Cllr J Bacon 2nd Cllr C Garnett, all agreed.

Standing Orders to be put through AI and to circulate - ready for a review.

Bring back to the next meeting.

Hire agreement for hiring the Church Green.

An in depth document has been created covering any damage or issues that could arise from hiring the area.

Costs: Produce a scale of charges.

Proposed by Cllr J Bacon 2nd Cllr A Phillips, all agreed.

For the Wedding booked in September - agreed to ask for a deposit of £500, and a charge for the land use of £500.

Proposed by Cllr C Garnett, Seconded by Cllr I Thomson, 7 in favour 1 against.

179-25/26 VILLAGE CONSULTATION PLAN

St Helens Youth Club - due to open on 23.4.26 from 3.30pm.

In the meantime equipment requires to be purchased. Training - DBS and Safeguarding to be undertaken.

Two of the leaders are to visit the School to promote the Youth Club.

For the future to hold special events, e.g, DJ practice, create podcasts, chess, cookery.

There will be a tuck shop - a pop corn machine has been acquired.

Book Swap, (not just books but jigsaw puzzles and films too) is now up and running in the Foyer of the Community Centre, which has been reorganised.

180-25/26 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN (EMERGENCY PLAN)

All papers are ready to be put to the IOWC for checking. The SSEN Grant application is open from 23rd March until 21st May. Cllr I Thomson to arrange a meeting with Bembridge PC.

181-25/26 SEAFRONT

Signage - on the Duver there are 93 signs - considered too many, often duplicated. Some signs are unreadable or make the area look tatty. If they are out of date or irrelevant please can they be removed. Who is responsible for the business signage on the corner opposite the NT house?

182-25/26 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

February's Bank Statement was checked and agreed.

Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.

Authorise payments and expenses.

Balance Sheet - end of February 2026

Current Account end of January			1879.12
Credits February	115.00		
Transfer from Savings February	2,000.00		
Expenses February		2,903.83	
Current Account End of February			1,090.29
Savings Account end of January			30,624.09
Transfers from Savings - February		2,000.00	
Credits - Interest	0.00		
Savings Account End of February			28,624.09
Current Account Balance end of February			1,090.29
Savings Account Balance end of February			28,624.09
Total Funds end of February			29,714.38

28.2.26 St Helens PC Financial Items paid month - end February 2026

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date Paid	Paymen
2.2.26	EDF - Gas Pavilion	53.78	17.2.26	DD
2.2.26	EDF Electric Pavilion	41.97	17.2.26	DD
4.2.26	IONOS - Web & email	23.40	20.2.26	DD

2.2.26	EDF - Elec - Duver Toilets	49.11	17.2.26	DD
29.1.26	EMRI IV00682	412.91	11.2.26	BACS
28.2.26	Bank Fee	6.00	28.2.26	
29.1.26	IWALC Subs	299.89	11.2.26	BACS
5.2.26	What's On Advert	45.00	11.2.26	BACS
12.12.25	S Chester - Pavilion Cleans	280.00	19.2.26	BACS
7.2.25	Business Stream - Water Pavilion	186.12	19.2.26	BACS
		£2903.83		
Income				
25.2.26	P Hewson - Pavilion Hire	80.00		
4.2.26	Pavilion Hire	35.00		
		£115.00		
To Pay				
28.2.26	S Chester February payment Bank sent through 2.3.26	650.00		
10.3.26	Community Action	1505.65		
2.3.26	EDF - Gas Pavilion	38.03		
2.3.26	EDF Electric Pavilion	33.50		
4.3.26	IONOS - Web & email	23.40		
4.3.26	EDF - Elec - Duver Toilets	50.28		
31.12.25	EMRI IV00632	412.91		
27.2.26	EMRI IV00726	412.91		
	S Chester	650.00		
	Bank Fee	6.00		
		£3782.68		

Savings Account - look for a return of 4% if possible. There are restrictions on accounts holding Council funds. Required an instant access savings account. Cllr B Hewitt to investigate.

A request from the PCC for funding towards the upkeep of the printer in the Community Centre had been received. A suggested amount of £30 per quarter (£120) on top of the printing and copying charges. As the annual cost of printing had been under £25 plus the one off VCP, the PC did not see this as an agreeable item.

Proposed by Cllr JBacon Seconded Cllr S Dyer All agreed.

183-25/26 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

25/01812/FUL Guildford Park Camp, Guildford Road, St Helens PO33 1UH
Self build 4 bed detached house- link attached 3 car garage.

Awaiting Decision

26/00153/3/MAPA Ganders Restaurant, Upper Green Road, St Helens, PO33 1UQ
Prior approval for alterations and change of use from restaurant to create 1 residential flat.

26/00156/FUL 19 Lower Green Road, St Helens PO33 1UB
Proposed alterations and conversion from dwelling house (C3) to a mixed use of C3/E to include a commercial unit at ground floor level; new shop front; replacement windows and doors. SDD 28th April

26/00216/HOU 1, Port St Helens, Embankment Road, Bembridge PO33 1XG.
Proposed single storey side extension with roof terrace and external staircase; alterations to fenestration; cladding; alterations to vehicular access.

184-25/26 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

26/00077/HOU 4, Yar Quay, Latimer Road, st Helens PO33 1XL. Proposed extension and new balcony at first floor level on rear elevation. **Awaiting Decision**

25/01586/HOU St Helens Mill, Mill Road, St Helens PO33 1YH. Demolition of existing single storey outbuilding; Proposed replacement single storey outbuilding to provide home office. **Granted**

25/01559/RVC Land adjacent to 32, St Michaels Rd, St Helens. Variation of conditions 2,5,7,8 and 9 on 22/01582/FUL to allow amendments to approved scheme **Granted**

25/00779/FUL Land To The North Of Station House, Station Road, St Helens, PO33 1YF Proposed residential development comprising 5 dwellings,access road,garages,parking and landscaping. **Awaiting Decision**

185-25/26 PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

BHAG - Meeting covered many boat related items. Dredging is planned for after Easter, 3 weeks in total. Currently the overflow from Bembridge is blocked so SW tankers are working to accommodate the issue. The pipe is old and too short so requires replacing. Cllr O Boelman to investigate. The River Yar - Discussion about the issue with flooding from the River Yar, sluice gates and the RSPB land. A group has been formed to work towards a solution to the flooding.

IWALC - Nothing to report.

186-25/26 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr J Bacon mentioned the road closures through Brading - greater pre-organisation is required. Shuttle buses had been put in use - unfortunately 16 bus drivers were off the Island for training, leaving the service under staffed. Cllr Surgeries are held on the Tuesday morning following a PC meeting, unless within a pre Election period. The Clerk also is in attendance. Please publicise this information within the local magazines.

187-25/26 OPEN QUESTION TIME

Pot Holes in Eddington Road are still evident. Cllr I Thomson offered to remove the broken bench at the top of Duver Road. He enquired who the plaque was for - EJC - family of this gentleman have long left the village. PC Noticeboard at the Post Office - Cllr A Philips would like to refurbish the board. To bring costings to the next PC meeting. The Village Map will be removed for a short time to have more work carried out on it. It was suggested a maintenance list for the Village Assets was created and circulated to the PC members. Mural - The workshop to create the design was held in the school. The children were very enthusiastic. The Mural Company would like to begin the installation between May & June, with an unveiling at the Village Fayre, on 7th June. It was suggested that the area is painted with a basecoat by the volunteers on the Bank Holiday Help Out Day. A good return of sponsors but do require a few more. Decided that a plaque should go by the side of the design with the details of those who have donated to the fund.

188-25/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

PC Meeting - Monday 13th April 2026 7.00pm at St Helens Pavilion. Meeting concluded at 8.40pm

AGM date - Monday 11.5.26 APM date - Monday 18.5.26

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

JM