

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 December 2024 at St Helens Pavilion

Chaired by Cllr GG,

Attended by: Cllrs: SP,MC,AB,CH,PJ,JB

Clerk JM

Public 10 members present

108-24/25 APOLOGIES

Cllrs PJ & JB - joined the meeting.

109-24/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Refer: 102-22/23 12.12.22 Declarations & interests from Cllr JB & Cllr PJ as members of the IOWCouncil and St Helens PC.

No other.

110-24/25 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the PC meeting held on Monday 11th November 2024

Proposed Cllr AB, Seconded Cllr MC

Agreed by 3 Cllrs, 1 Abstained (due to not being at the meeting). **The minutes were signed by Cllr GG as Chair of the meeting.**

111-24/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Station Road Toilet block - awaiting information from the IOWC. Concern was raised re the cost of renovating the block - no costs have been discussed. Concern taking the building on without any financial consideration. No agreement has been signed.

In taking on the running of the Pavilion building, the PC recognised there was an asset that needed to be maintained for the village. If funds could be generated from the toilet block then that would help towards running the Pavilion. The other option was to do nothing and have two redundant buildings.

By keeping the Pavilion running it has enabled the village to have a useful space and also to provide Public Toilets within the Village. When the information is available re the lease for the Toilet block then the PC will look at the financial obligations & available grants before making the right decision and committing the Village.

Suggested ideas for its use would be helpful.

112-24/25 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Following a successful application & interview the PC welcomed Charity Garnett to fill the vacant Councillor role.

Proposed: Cllr AB Seconded Cllr SP All agreed

Cllr Charity Garnett gave a short introduction of her background and interests and signed the declaration.

113-24/25 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

No nominations received. Remains open.

114-24/25 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcement due to Cllr JB not being present at this time of the meeting.

115-24/25 CLERK'S REPORT

The Bell at the Community Centre is now in situ and working well. A previous request for funding from the PC was not required as a private donation had been made which covered the whole cost.

Southern Water - not started due to the recent weather.

Carriageway repairs for Upper Green Road - postponed to the New Year.

Clerk attended training on Cloud computing - operating, saving and using Documents in the Cloud.

Games afternoon - going well - dates: Tuesday January 14th please encourage those who are keen to join or would benefit from some company.. Chat, cuppa and playing tabletop games.

Christmas - a big thank you to Hugh and Paul for putting the tree up and sorting the lights
School Christmas afternoon - School event was successful. Followed by Carols, mince pies and mulled wine at the Vine, and then the lighting of the Tree. Girls who had represented St Helens at the Carnivals decided to dress up as Angels took charge in turning on the lights.

Flooding & Storm damage - if anyone requires helplines please do contact the Clerk.

Pavilion - An Electric Smart meter fitted. Gas one to be fitted in the New Year.
Notice to upgrade the meter at the Duver Toilets.

Scams - be vigilant - one is to do with support funds and cost of living - please be cautious and do not give any private information. Always better to ask before committing.

South Western Railways - work is due over the festive period

Awaiting reply on the gravel on the pathways.

Games afternoons - held in the Pavilion - warm sociable time - next two dates are:
Tuesdays 10th December & 14th January, from 2pm - 4pm open to all ages.

116-24/25 THE GREENS

Discussion about the questionnaire that was raised at the last meeting - subsequently to the meeting a few questions arose - so to get it right before moving forward.

Quote for extra cut - from our contractor. To have the grass removed would cost over £2000 per collection & disposing of it

The Greens are scheduled for one more cut this term.

Grounds Maintenance undertaken by the Contractors for areas: Nelson's Quay, Duver Road, Latimer Road Garden.

Concern was raised re The Best Kept Village - last year St Helens was successful but not this year - were the greens a factor to us not being successful.

Clerk to look into the timing of the judges visit the previous year.

117-24/25 DRAFT BUDGET

A document was circulated to the Councillors for them to view potential costs etc for the next year's budget.

Included a few items to consider - items that require renewing, and some maintenance.

Election allocation - should be kept in case of a bi-election.

Adjustments from this years budget - admin, refuse, toilets,

Proceed - ask the Councillors to view the draft figures that have been circulated.

Hold a meeting to tidy the proposal before the next meeting.

Discussion about certain items that could be included in the Budget - quotes required.

Ideas should be given, costings and ascertain reserve amounts that the PC should hold.

118-24/25 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

End of November balance & bank statement - shown, agreed by all & signed by Cllr GG
Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.

Bank Balances end of November 2024

End of October			£1091.30
Credits November	£ 124.00		
Transfer from Savings	£ 6000.00		
Expenses November		£ 6405.48	
End of November			£ 809.82
Savings Account - End of November			£44,867.77
Transfers to Current Account - November		£6000.00	
Credits	£0.00		
Savings Account end of November			£37,776.47
Current Account end of November			£809.82
Total funds end of November			£38,586.29

St Helens PC Financial items paid November 2024

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date of payment	Method of Payment
11.11.24	Community Action	£1344.18	11.11.24	S/O
7.10.24	E.on Next Gas - Pavilion balance of Oct payment	£0.09	11.11.24	BACS
5.11.24	Corona Energy	£40.25	15.11.24	BACS
15.10.24	St Helens Cricket Club - greens Contract	£2060.00	18.11.24	BACS
18.10.24	Lake Cleaning Supplies	£7.09	18.11.24	BACS
6.11.24	E-On Next Elec - Pavilion -	£95.52	18.11.24	BACS
6.11.24	E-On Next Gas - Pavilion -	£57.00	18.11.24	BACS
29.10.24	IdVerde	£2079.37	18.11.24	BACS
11.11.24	J Matthews - expenses, training, cleaning item, wood filler	£50.38	18.11.24	BACS
4.11.24	Ionos Webmail	£15.60	20.11.24	BACS
11.11.24	Royal British Legion	£50.00	11.11.24	CHQ
28.11.24	S Chester	£600.00	28.11.24	BACS
30.11.24	Bank Charge	£6.00	30.11.24	DD
		£6405.48		

Income				
5.11.24	Vectis Football Club	12.00		
5.11.24	Vectis Football Club	12.00		
19.11.24	Vectis Football Club	100.00		
		£124.00		
Paid				
7.11.24	Business Stream Water	£126.24	4.12.24	BACS
To Pay				
3.12.24	E-On Next Elec - Pavilion -	£68.07		
	E-On Next Gas - Pavilion - awaiting invoice	£107.22		
4.12.24	Corona Energy	£40.25		
13.11.24	Thompsons - Christmas Tree & Delivery	£335.00		
27.11.24	Greengym	£90.00		
1.12.24	Community Action - backdated national pay award	£1645.90		
4.11.24	IONOs Webmail	£15.60		

Clerks Expenses -

22.11.24	Corporate Christmas Tree - Lights	£65.89		
8.12.24	De Fib - pads	£96.00		
		£161.89		

Proposed: Cllr GG, Seconded Cllr SP. All agreed

Clerk awaiting a new invoice for the Bins including Broomlands which wasn't in operation for a while.

119-24/25 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN (Emergency Plan)

Cllr MC update re The Emergency Plan: agreement from County Hall. Suggested that a list of facilities available at the Community Centre and Pavilion be created.
More Volunteers required. Nearly ready to go.

120-24/25 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

24/01742/TW Ivy House, Lower green Road, St Helens, PO33 1UF. Bramley Apple Tree - remove some lower branches to allow light, pruning back to previous pollarding points.
Plum Fruit Tree - re shaping and removal of dead branches. - No issues.

24/01693/HOU 4, Westfield Road, St Helens, PO33 1UZ. Demolition of existing extension proposed single storey replacement rear extension. - No issues.

24/01261/DIS 34, Station Road, St Helens PO33 1YF - Condition 3 (Design & construction) Driveway. - No issues

24/01584/FUL 5, Pavilion House, Lower Green Road, St Helens, PO33 1T. Proposed replacement UPVC double glazed windows. - No issues

24/01556/HOU 1 Melbourne Villas, The Diggings, St Helens, PO33 1UN. Demolition of existing canopy, proposed single storey side porch extension. - No issues

24/1771/HOU Mill House, Mill Lane, St Helens, PO33 1YH. Proposed alterations to the existing house, including replacing the roof, changing the fenestration and entrances, and installation of an air source heat pump.

Re configured house. The rebuild is more in keeping with the original building. A Bat Colony was observed in the roof - the roof is to be replaced - so concern re the environment for the bats. Consideration is being given.

The Causeway: there may be some minimal closure during some of the works for safety reasons. The project should be a quality one with eye for detail if the developer uses the same team as other work on Castle Cottage.

121-24/25 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

24/01556/HOU Christmas Cottage, Newlands, St Helens, PO33 1TT. - Demolition of 2 outbuildings, proposed single rear extension. Alterations to include new windows to the side elevation - Granted

24/01670/FUL Bembridge Boat Storage, The Duver, St Helens - application withdrawn

24/01475/HOU 2, St Michaels Rd, St Helens PO33 1TT - Property built in stone - changes to make it more appealing - felt it is a considered application, changing the layout and updating the property - Refused planning.

122-24/25 PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

IWALC - no report
BHAG -

123-24/25 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Hall is quiet at present - working on the budget. Working with the Schools Proposals.

The Island Plan is now in inspection mode, a Government inspector has been appointed. Section 19 Flood/brading Marshes A review of the water levels should start early next year.

Lease on the Duver - now complete. Awaiting news of Duver Enterprises plans - neither IOWC or Duver enterprises got the outcome they had hoped for from the Court Case. IOWC waiting to hear of the next move.

2025 is an Election year on the Island. Purdue / pre-election period from 18.3.24 only core business occurs. Limits number of meetings, therefore the last PC meeting could be in March.

124-24/25 OPEN QUESTION TIME

The Station Rd block - financial implications are taken on board. Still awaiting news on the lease. To be considered; the terms of the lease, finances, how the Parish is to benefit from the building, the state of the building and capital outlay - appropriate due diligence to cover and protect the Villagers before proceeding..

Beach front - the lease rear of the caravan was on NT land. This is an issue between the NT and Duver Enterprises, hopefully will be resolved before the summer.

125-24/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next PC Meeting - Monday 13th January 2025 7pm at The Pavilion

Meeting concluded at 8:15 pm

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