

St Helens Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Bacon Clerk: Jacky Matthews

Office of the Parish Clerk,
Seaways, Eddington Road, St Helens, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 1XS.
clerk@sthelensiw.org.uk www.sthelensiw.org.uk 01983 722575



MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST HELENS PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 11th November 2024 at St Helens Pavilion

Chaired by Cllr JB,

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

Clerk JM

Public 15 members present

89-24/25 APOLOGIES

Cllr GG

90-24/25 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 IOW Council and St Helens PC.

No other.

91-24/25 MINUTES

To approve & sign the minutes of the PC meeting held on Monday 14th October 2024

**Proposed Cllr JB, Seconded Cllr PJ
Cllr SP agreed**

Abstained Cllr AB, Cllr CH, Cllr MC (due to being absent from the last meeting)

92-24/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Concern was raised about gravel from private driveways on the public pathways - causing the surface to become unsafe for public footpath users. Please can this be reported.

A question was raised re the white lines that had appeared on Upper Green Road - these are in readiness for Island Roads carrying out maintenance at the beginning of December.

Request for the paint to be cleared in front of the last beach hut on the Duver. Advice needs to be sought on how best to clear it.

The Treasurer of the Community Centre mentioned the Bell & the Bell Tower at The Community Centre is having work done in order for the bell to ring again. The Bell dates back to 1939 and was part of the original Community Centre and part of the Village. The costs involved for the work on the bell is quoted at £2000. Would the PC like to make a small donation? (Item for next month's Agenda.)

The long grass cuttings were mentioned - an issue with Jackdaws putting the grass down chimneys.

Station Road area, below the toilet block - why has this area not been cut?

93-24/25 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

No nominations received. Remains open.

94-24/25 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

A subsequent applicant - work commitments did not allow an interview before this meeting. Decided to still carry a vacancy although an active application is under consideration.

95-24/25 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Court case involving St Helens Seafront affecting the caravans & railway carriages has concluded. On advice to both parties this was settled out of Court.

The current leaseholder was granted a new lease for the area of the Caravans, Beach huts & Railway Carriages, the later two he did not want - the new lease includes a clause in respect of maintenance for the items listed. Some interesting clarification of the actual area arose. The result is not what many hoped for, but at least there is some control over the tenant that was not in place beforehand.

Further deterioration of the buildings is not acceptable. Any further issues with the area please do report to the Clerk.

96-24/25 CLERK'S REPORT

The hole in the pathway up past between the Holiday Camp and the School has been fixed, as have the ones on the Causeway.

Southern Water have informed us that they will be upgrading St Helens Treatment Works. Work due to begin 11.11.24 and finish by March 2025.

They need to be able to treat more wastewater at this site so are installing some extra equipment, called a lamella.

Island Roads have informed us that carriageway improvement works are due to take place along Upper Green Road, between Station Road and Mill Road commencing 2.12.24 for approximately 4 days. Letters with further guidelines should have been delivered to households. That part of the road will be closed to vehicles - access for pedestrians and emergency vehicles maintained.

Clerk had attended a training event covering Emergency Planning.

Games afternoons - held in the Pavilion - warm sociable time - next two dates are: Tuesdays 10th December & 7th January, from 2pm - 4pm open to all ages.

97-24/25 THE GREENS

The Contract with the main Contractors has been reviewed against the work completed so far this year and is up to date. If the Parish is not happy with this then the Contract requires to be re-written.

Proposal: we look to increase the cutting schedule and then seek information from the Contractor on cost and available labour.

If the request from the public is to increase the cuttings and collection of the grass then there would be a rise in the precept or a change to items covered by the precept.

Quotes required to go forward.

A question was raised regarding the cost of the number of cuts from previous years and the cost, to the increased costs for less cuts currently. The previous costs were based from 2016.

One of the issues with the cut grass, it collects round the edges and blows out onto nearby gardens causing it to spread and extra gardening for the residents adjacent to the Greens. Suggested a greater detailed contract - and requires input from the Villagers.

A questionnaire was proposed, to be compiled and put out to the Village, asking questions re the Greens but also the Budget, (giving an idea of the costs involved per band D household), with results received by the end of the year.

Proposed by Cllr JB, Seconded by Cllr SP, all agreed

98-24/25 BEACH & DUVER

Please see comments under Chairman's Report

99-24/25 CHRISTMAS

Tree ordered.

Christmas Event: Saturday 30th November -

1-3pm - St Helens School Fayre, 3-5pm Mulled wine & Mince Pies at the Vine.

5pm - Christmas Tree lights switch on & Carols with Goose Island Carol Singers

Village of Angels - Maps available from the Vine.

100-24/25 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

End of October balance & bank statement - shown, agreed all & signed by Cllr JB

Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.

Bench for Memorial Garden - A price of £370 +VAT has been received from Care in the Garden. Request that the bench has a dark coating.

Proposed Cllr JB Seconded Cllr PJ all agreed

Bank Balances end of October 2024

End of September			£1726.45
Credits October	£ 300.00		
Transfer from Savings	£ 2500.00		
Expenses October		£ 3435.15	
End of October			£1091.30
Savings Account - End of September			£46,276.47
Transfers to Current Account - October		£2500.00	
Credits	£0.00		
Savings Account end of October			£43,776.47
Current Account end of October			£1091.30
Total funds end of October			£44,867.77

St Helens PC Financial items paid October 2024

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date of payment	Method of Payment
4.10.24	Community Action	£1344.18	10.10.24	S/O
4.10.24	Corona Energy	£47.77	14.10.24	BACS
15.10.24	PCC St Helens Printer - costs	£9.46	16.10.24	BACS
3.10.24	SLCC Subs	£183.00	16.10.24	BACS
7.10.24	E-On Next Elec - Pavilion -	£120.33	16.10.24	BACS
7.10.24	E-On Next Gas - Pavilion -	£50.01	16.10.24	BACS
9.10.24	Durham Electrical - circuit & PAT testing Pavilion	£434.40	16.10.24	BACS
23.9.24	Nettlestone & Seaview Men In Sheds	£625.00	16.10.24	BACS
4.10.24	Ionos Webmail	£15.60	22.10.24	DD
28.10.24	S Chester	£600.00	28.10.24	S/O
31.10.24	Bank Charge	£ 5.40	31.10.24	
		£3435.15		

Income				
	Cricket Club - Pavilion Hire	300.00		
		£300.00		
To Pay				
5.11.24	Corona Energy	40.25		
7.10.24	E-On Next Gas - Pavilion - balance on Oct invoice	£0.09		
6.11.24	E-On Next Elec - Pavilion -	£95.52		
6.11.24	E-On Next Gas - Pavilion -	£57.00		
18.10.24	Lake Cleaning & Catering Supplies	£7.09		
29.10.24	IdVerde - Grounds Maintenance	£2079.37		
15.10.24	St Helens Cricket Club - Grass cutting	£2060.00		
4.11.24	IONOs Webmail	£15.60		

Clerks Expenses -

10.7.24	Spinnaker Chandlery - Noticeboard cleaner	£3.16		
22.10.24	Evenbrite Training - Emergency Plan	£39.22		
10.11.24	B&Q Wood Filler	£8.00		
		£50.38		

Proposed: Cllr JB, Seconded Cllr PJ. All agreed

101-24/25 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN (Emergency Plan)

Cllr MC updated with news that there had been a change to Martyn's Law - House of Commons new Act stating that public places could hold more than 200 people in one event before extra security measures are put in place. This had risen from 100 people. A fact sheet re Martyn's Law was given to the Clerk.

102-24/25 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

24/01261/DIS 34, Station Road, St Helens PO33 1YF - Condition 3 (Design & construction) Driveway.

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 - No objections.

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.

- No objections.

24/01556/HOU 1 Melbourne Villas, The Diggings, St Helens, PO33 1UN. Demolition of existing canopy, proposed single storey side porch extension.

- No objections.

24/01584/FUL 5, Pavilion House, Lower Green Road, St Helens, PO33 1T. Proposed replacement UPVC double glazed windows.

- No objections.

103-24/25 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

24/01368/TW West Green Lodge, West Green, St Helens PO33 1XA - Pollarding of Lime tree to previous pollarded areas - ongoing item annually. Granted

24/01373/FUL The Old Boat House, The Duver, St Helens PO33 1YB - no concerns. No objections. Extension of existing building for boat storage. The Environment Agency had concerns re risk of flooding.

104-24/25 PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

IWALC - no report

BHAG - Cllr CH gave a brief update from The Bembridge Harbour Authority- The PMSC compliance check has been completed. In September a vessel sank off Fisherman's Pontoon, Numbers attending rallies had increased this year. The New Harbour Office are waiting for building regs to be signed off before fully utilising. Dredging ongoing. Events for 2025:

Bembridge Gig Festival - 14th & 15th June

Rock The Boat - 28th June

Bembridge Harbour Family Fun Weekend - 25th - 27th July

105-24/25 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Seafront questions - reported earlier.

Vehicles on Bembridge Point dispute - the vehicles have now moved onto Bullys Hill. Quiet at County Hall.

106-24/25 OPEN QUESTION TIME

Greens - Further discussion about the greens, cutting schedule, costs of cutting the sports areas - should the village be subsidising the grass being cut for sports?

Discussion re taking full control of the Commonland - implications of managing the

area. Controlling of parking on the Greens, insurance, maintenance. What is involved. This subject was considered pre 2019 by the then current PC.

Acquiring and replacing assets - e.g benches - a maintenance plan should be set up with costs at the beginning.

Work on the War Memorial has been completed - an invoice will be raised for the contribution of £1000.00 the PC had previously agreed May 2023 item 19-23/24.

There is a new Vicar, Rev. Karen Wilson for St Helens, Seaview, Brading and Yaverland. A service to celebrate was held at Brading and was attended by members of the Council.

107-24/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next PC Meeting - Monday 9th December 2024 7pm at the Pavilion

Meeting concluded at 8:18 pm

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