

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL

AGENDA 22nd JUNE 2015

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To receive declarations of interest from members
3. To consider and agree the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 22nd April 2015
4. To consider and approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 11th May 2015
5. To consider and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th May 2015
6. To note the contents of the Police Report
7. To note the contents of the Clerk's Report
8. To note the correspondence received
9. To consider the following Planning Applications and note any actions taken:
 - An objection has been submitted to the following applications:
 - P/2015/0306, 800 Warrington Road, Erection of six dwellings on the grounds of highway safety and overdevelopment.
 - P/2015/0348, 52 Stapleton Road, Erection of two dwellings and single storey rear extension, on the grounds of infill and overdevelopment.
 - No comment has been submitted for the following applications and the closing date for comments will have passed at the time of the meeting:
 - P/2015/0341, 116 St. James Road, Work to trees in a conservation area.
 - P/2015/0355, 20 Stonecross Drive, Alterations to existing roof to partially convert from hipped to gable along with dormer window to the front and velux windows to the rear.
 - No comment has been submitted for the following application but it will still be open for comments at the time of the meeting:
 - P/2015/0425, Rear of 574 Warrington Road, Erection of a two storey dwelling on land to the rear of The Village Butcher.
10. To resolve to pay the accounts payable (list attached)
11. To consider the recommendations to changes in procedure as a result of CiLCA training
12. To consider the response from Insp. Collins, Merseyside Police, in relation to attendance at meetings
13. To note the actions taken by the Twinning Working Group and consider the provision of signage at the entrances to the village
14. To note the actions taken by the Rainhill Trials 200 Working Group
15. To authorise expenditure on materials to repaint the container at Rainhill Park
16. To consider the future letting agreement for Holt Playing Fields.
17. To consider approval of the 2014/15 Accounts and Annual Return for signing by the Chair on behalf of the Council
18. To note the date of the proposed tour of Public Open Spaces
19. To agree the location of proposed defibrillator at Village Hall and authorise its provision
20. Residents Comments and Complaints
21. Reports:
 - a) Public Open Spaces
 - b) Village Hall Management Committee
 - c) Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society
 - d) Merseyside Assoc. of Local Councils
 - e) St Helens District Sports Council

f) Rainhill Gala

g) 4F Centre

22. Date & Time of Next Meeting:

Ordinary Meeting 7:30pm, Monday 27th July 2015

The Clerk's report is in two parts:

- The first part relates to actions that have already been taken. These items will not have a corresponding Agenda item and shouldn't need any further discussion.
 - The second part relates directly to Agenda items and is intended to assist any discussion of Agenda items. These notes are for information only and should only be discussed as each Agenda item is reached.
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PART 1 - ACTIONS TAKEN

All actions resulting from resolutions made at the 11th May ordinary meeting have either been completed or are in progress. Additionally I can report the following:

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 22ND APRIL 2015

The minutes of the annual Parish Meeting have been circulated to all those who registered their attendance on the night. No amendments have been received. The minutes are now presented to be accepted as a true record, though they will only be signed at next year's meeting.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

All points raised have been actioned, I have provided a brief summary of the more significant actions:

Railway Station works – Contact established with Network Rail and St.Helens Council.

Letter sent to A Wilkinson but action still ongoing.

Bus shelters in village – Merseytravel contacted but response indicates that provision is not feasible. Letter sent to Mr Bennett.

Road surface Derwent Road – Cllr De'Asha emailed relevant officer at St.Helens Council.

Theft of coping stones Rainhill Road – No roving camera available to monitor unauthorised activities.

BARRIER PLANTING

As instructed, the Clerk contacted St.Helens Council to have the 7 barrier baskets at Kendal Drive, Rainhill removed from the overall bill as these will be tended by Stephenson's Centre.

HOLT LANE CHANGING ROOM FACILITIES

An email has been sent to St.Helens Council, to estimate the cost of the preparation of a schedule of works for the provision of changing facilities at Holt Lane playing field.

Unfortunately no response has yet been received. If a response is received before the meeting I will provide an update.

REPLACEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD

The new noticeboard is in place, lettering to indicate 'Rainhill Parish Council' along the top is currently being investigated.

A quote was received to date is from Vinylite for cut vinyl letters supplied on release paper for application. The cost for this option would be £25.00 + VAT.

Hi Signs have suggested a coated aluminium sign panel in white with black vinyl lettering applied, finished with anti-graffiti film. The cost for this would be £60 which includes installation. I have requested details of its appearance. Would the Parish Council wish to pursue other options?

INTERNAL AUDIT

Internal Audit day was 20th May and 1st June and the Council's accounts and financial processes were inspected and reviewed. No problems were highlighted and the internal audit section of the Annual Return was completed and signed off as fully meeting all requirements. A number of recommendations were made for improvements to current practice which I will ensure are undertaken:

- Develop budget monitoring arrangements so that progress against the budget is reported to and monitored by members at regular intervals during the year (e.g. quarterly)
- Ensure the Clerk's salary is approved and minuted by the Council each year
- Record payments from the Alto card within annual expenditure.

LAND AT JUNCTION OF RAINHILL ROAD/WARRINGTON ROAD

At the last meeting it was reported that the Eco Group were not interested in taking over maintenance of this piece of land but that Rainhill High School may be looking for a voluntary project to undertake. As instructed I wrote to Alison Anders at the school who has offered to make enquiries with the school management team to see if this is something which may be of interest. She also thanked us for offering the opportunity. I will report when a further response is received.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

A signing ceremony for the Armed Forces Community Covenant has been arranged for Wednesday 24th June at 5.30pm at the Village Hall. Members of the Armed Forces, Community Organisation and Borough Council have been invited to attend the ceremony. Councillor Doyle will sign the Covenant on behalf of the Parish Council.

PART 2 - AGENDA ITEMS – SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES**CORRESPONDENCE**

Please ask if you want to see any correspondence listed.

D Boston x 2	Village Hall Bill for payment
LALC	CiLCA training course
Rainhill Civic Society/M Berry, PCC	Availability of Dane Court Premises
HMRC	Abolition of Paper Driving Licence
B Gaskell	P/2014/0921 - Countryside Development
Rainhill Civic Society	Req't for Update for Committee Meeting
Unity Trust Bank	Changes to operating procedures.
St.Helens Planning	Consultation on P/2015/0355 20 Stonecross Drive
LALC	Letter from NALC Chairman to all Councillors
Helping Hands	Dementia Care Online Live Chat 20 May 2015
H Woods	4F Centre Minutes
J Davies	Painting of container at Rainhill Park
S Hurst	Pdf of Annual Report
H Woods	4F Payment for Room Rental
Planning Portal	Newsletter 14/5; 21/5; 28/5; 4/6; 11/6; 15/6
Local Life	Request for article for magazine on Rainhill Trials 200
Liam Mitchell, Breeze Development x2	Request for feedback
SLCC	Leadership in Action Course 18/19 June
PSMA	May Update
Laura Watkins, NALC	Update on national developments & recent meetings
Mr B Gaskell	Update on Countryside Development
Mr S Clarke	Req't for Chair to open Rainhill Gala
K Burrows, St.Helens Planning	Weekly List 18/5; 26/5; 1/6; 8/6; 11/6; 15/6
Public Sector Executive	Newsletter 18/5; 26/5; 1/6; 8/6; 11/6; 15/6
A V Howitt	Twinning - Joint Ceremony
Historic Town Forum	Newsletter May 2015
Various Eco Group Members	Printing & Mares tail
Equality & Diversity	Training 25/11/15
Seneley Green Parish Council	Internal Audit Letter
MPF Communications	Employers' Conference 26/11/15
Local Govt News	Update 21/5; 29/5; 5/6; 12/6
Hydraclean	Planned Visit
S Frayne, St.Helens Council	Mayors Availability 28/6
Rev A Conant, St.Ann's Church	Proposed Ceremony 28/6
Rainhill Civic Society	War Memorials Workshop 17/6
B Rushton & C Tigwell	Educational Material for Rainhill Trials 200
Pension Regulator	Funding Statement for Defined Benefits
National Railway Museum	Request for Working Replica of Stephenson's Rocket
L Shardalow	Contract Risk Management
D Bloor	Barrier Baskets at Kendal Drive, Rainhill
NALC	Direct Access Scheme/Legal Briefing Paper Religious Observances
T Kelly, Billinge Parish Council	Documents for Internal Audit
J Tierney	Request for info on Holt Lane Playfields
A V Howitt & Others	Proposed Ceremony 28/6

Clerk's Report June 2015

S Waine, Community Payback Team	Partnership Working Form
G Clery	Agenda 3/6/15
NALC	Working with larger councils
L Jackson	Eco Garden Minutes 15/4/15
C Tigwell	Stephenson Museum in Liverpool
HMRC	Expenses and Benefits Deadline 6/7/15
C Borg, NALC	Community Ownership & Management of Assets
D Boston x 2	Village Hall Monthly Figures
St.Helens Planning x 2	Consultation on P/2014/0921 - Countryside Developments
B Miller, Rainhill Rockets	Use of Holt Lane Playing Fields
NCE Flood Management	2015 Summit
Local Govt News	Update
A V Howitt	Letter to Mayor of Latour
J Owen, NALC x2	Bulletin on National Developments and Meetings
A Whitehall	Eco Garden Agenda
Major J Price	Attendance at signing of armed forces community covenant
J Bruce & L Speed	School Response to Rainhill Trials 200 offer
A Anders, Rainhill High	Potential Project for land at Warrington Road/Rainhill Road
Equality & Diversity	National Equality Standard
Public Sector Executive	Update 1/6; 4/6; 15/6
S Mackell	Posters for Noticeboards
S Frayne, St.Helens Council	Mayor not available 20/9/15
Rev A Conant, St.Ann's Church	New date for Ceremony OK but time an issue
K Cook	Fields in Trust June Update
M Atherton	C Keith Unit to Let - Not for food use
N Webster & Hisigns	Signage for Parish Council Noticeboard
S Cousins	Attendance at signing of armed forces community covenant
N Hamilton, St.Helens Planning x 2	Repainting storage container at Rainhill Park
NALC	Newsletter 19/5; 26/5; 1/6; 8/6; 15/6
C Borg, NALC	Councillor Participation 4/6 - My Community Rights Just Act
J Waddelow, St.Helens Planning	Unit for Let and restrictions on use
HMRC	Successful submission of FPS
D Bloor	Planning Permission for Storage Container
Mr B Gaskell	Letter to St.Helens Council re: Countryside Development
Cllr McCauley	Attendance at signing of armed forces community covenant
M Hale, St.Helens Planning	Response to Mr Gaskell re: Countryside Development
SLCC Bookstore	Confirmation of Book Order
Inspector Collins	Attendance at Parish Council Meetings
St.Helens Planning	Update on Countryside Development
HMRC	Grants for Business Broadband
Rainhill Village Hall x 3	Room Bookings
J Saunders, CCG	Local Update
SLCC	News Bulletin 5/6
St.Helens Planning	Consultation on P/2015/0425
Historic England	Newsletter 5/6
L Mitchell Breeze Development	Request for Update on offer of help
N James	Historic Town Forum Green Events
N Clack CPRE	Invite to community energy workshop 14/7/15 London
Eco Group	Comments on P/2015/0425
HMRC	Toolkit for Expenses and Benefits
SLCC	Update on recent legislation and regulation conference Oct 15

Clerk's Report June 2015

Hisigns	Request for update on signage
Merseytravel x 2	Customer forum 29/6/15
N Thompson	Request for info on Rainhill Park Playing fields.

I can make the following additional comment on listed correspondence:

Liam Mitchell, Breeze Development

The Executive Sub-Committee were considering Mr Mitchell's offer of assistance with web design and promotion. Feedback has been requested, do we wish to pursue this option?

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications with an asterisk (*) have either been referred to the Planning Applications Working Group or members have made unsolicited comments to the Clerk.

An objection has been submitted to the following applications:

P/2015/0306, 800 Warrington Road, Erection of six dwellings on the grounds of highway safety and overdevelopment.

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No comment has been submitted for the following applications and the closing date for comments will have passed at the time of the meeting:

P/2015/0341, 116 St. James Road, Work to trees in a conservation area.

P/2015/0355, 20 Stonecross Drive, Alterations to existing roof to partially convert from hipped to gable along with dormer window to the front and velux windows to the rear.

No comments have been submitted for the following applications but they will still be open for comments at the time of the meeting:

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ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Payee	Description	Amount	Ref
United Utilities	Holt Playing Fields – June	6.33	STO
G Pinder	Photocopying	23.80	
G Pinder	Printer Paper	2.50	
G Pinder	Telephone	18.50	
G Pinder	Salary - June (less Tax, NI & Pens Ded)	1000.09	
		1044.89	TFR121
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – June	368.48	TFR122
Scottish Power	Martin Close (Holt) – June	40.00	STO
Scottish Power	Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) June	9.00	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Holt Lane June	51.00	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Rainhill Park June	52.00	STO
Rainhill Village Hall	Fire Alarm Maintenance	494.55	
Rainhill Village Hall	Intruder Alarm Maintenance	762.48	
		1257.03	TFR120
HMRC	Tax & NI (Apr-Jun 2015)	375.32	TFR123
LALC	Spring Conference	35.00	027
SLCC	Publication: Local Council Administration	69.00	TFR124

NALC	Publication: Local Councils Explained	20.99	028
S.137 Payments			
4F Centre	Police Room Rental 52 x £12.50	650.00	TFR119
ALTO Card			
Cartridge World	Ink Refills	36.95	ALTO

The Council should consider approving the above payments.

CiLCA TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS

The Clerk commenced training for the Certificate in Local Council Administration on 27th May 2015. The first training session was very informative and highlighted many areas where the Council's current procedures were not following best practice.

I have noted the areas where current practice does not follow the Local Govt Act 1972 and made recommendations for change. The Council should consider making the following changes to current practice:

Layout of agenda

The agenda must specify the business it is proposed to transact. Our current practice of using only headings does not comply with the requirements. I propose to specify any decision that may be required on the agenda itself. This will be made public on the noticeboard, and in future on the website. Any project/working group updates can be included and marked 'For information only'. The background information will continue to be provided in a following report (currently the Clerk's Report Part 2).

The Council should consider approving the new layout of the agenda

Confidentiality of Clerk's Report

It is recommended that all information that leads to a decision is made publicly available. We currently maintain the Clerk's Report as a confidential item, not made available to the public. This is not considered transparent. If there are confidential matters to be discussed, the Council may propose a resolution to exclude the public for part of the meeting. Reports on such items would be kept as confidential issues, not publicly available.

The Council should consider making non-confidential parts of the Clerk's Report available to the public on request, and at a reasonable cost.

Correspondence list

The list of correspondence received currently occupies a number of pages in the Clerk's Report and minutes, even with the filtered version that the Clerk provides. The recommended practice is for the Clerk to treat correspondence as follows:

- All advertisement, updates from other bodies, e.g. CCG, etc. to be recorded on a spreadsheet, which is available on request;
- Information that could be considered of interest, e.g. NALC newsletters and legal topic updates, to be circulated electronically to all members with an email address. Members can then request an agenda item, if further discussion is considered necessary;
- If correspondence is relevant to a select number of Councillors e.g. Open Spaces, Twinning, it would be circulated only to those members; and
- Complaints, requests made of the Councillors, etc., to be circulated with an indication that an agenda item will be added.

How do members wish to proceed? Inclusion of the correspondence list as currently undertaken, is not unlawful, and can be continued if that is the preferred method. However, given the amount received and the limited space available for explanation, it is possibly not the best way to deal with communications.

The electronic circulation of correspondence would mean that Councillors would receive a lot more information, which would be informative but could be time consuming. The removal of the correspondence list would cut down on paper usage.

The Council need to consider how it wishes to receive correspondence.

Payments for Authorisation

The recommendation is that the table of payments for authorisation is included in the agenda front sheet, and is therefore all transactions are available to the public on the noticeboard.

Today's agenda has kept the table in the Clerk's report for two reasons:

- i. Space on the Notice for the noticeboard.
- ii. To ensure the Council are happy with this practice before implementing it.

Practically, irrespective of good practice, this approach would be continued if the payments table is lengthy.

The Council should consider approving inclusion of the financial transactions in the publicly available agenda.

Public Participation

It is considered good practice to set aside a period when the public can ask questions or even make statements. If this practice is adopted, meetings are formally adjourned for a set period to allow public participation. It must be made clear that the public must not take part at any other time.

Examples of how this is incorporated at other Parish Councils vary. One example is to include a statement at the beginning of the agenda:

'The public will be allowed to speak on any matters of concern but the Council may not make any lawful decision during this session.'

A more comprehensive way is to include an agenda item, for example:

'Item 4. To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion.

At each Council meeting a period of 30 minutes is set aside to enable members of the public to make representation on any agenda item or raise issues which affect the parish.

Any member of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes within the overall time allocated.

Please note that any representation or matter raised does not require any response from the Council and should not be debated since no decision can lawfully be made during this time.

A member of the public is any person present other than a member or official of the Council. In respect of any matter raised which is not already on the agenda, a member or official of the Council may (after the meeting) request a future agenda item be placed setting out specifically what it is the Council is being asked to consider and decide upon.'

If the Council chose to adopt the practice of public participation, it then needs to decide how it would be incorporated into meetings. If a full agenda item is to be introduced, with all the details as above, I would introduce from the July meeting. If a statement at the beginning of the agenda is used, I would prepare an information card with wording similar to that above to set out the limitations of the practice. This would then be available at each meeting should the public attend.

The Council need to consider whether to include a period of public participation, and then whether it wishes to see this as a separate agenda item.

Approval of Minutes

Currently, minutes of meetings are prepared immediately following a meeting, but are not circulated until the following meeting. Good practice is to circulate the draft minutes, for an accuracy check, as soon as they are prepared. This would be done by email. Any amendments can then be incorporated before the minutes are attached to the next agenda for approval and signing.

The Council need to consider if they wish draft minutes to be circulated for checking following a meeting.

Two publications have been ordered, to facilitate the CiLCA training, as agreed in September 2014 (Minute 467). These are included in the table of payments for authorisation. The next training session is on 14th July in Preston.

POLICE COMPACT

As instructed at the last meeting I wrote to Insp. Elaine Collins: to request Police attendance at Parish Council meetings; to requested statistics on the number of visitors to the drop in facility; and chase up the posters to advertise the location of the drop in facility. Inspector Collins responded as follows:

“Can you forward details of the dates of the meetings please?”

Whilst I appreciate your request, I am unable to provide a guarantee of somebody attending every meeting due to the numbers of staff and shift patterns. However, I will endeavour to have some representation wherever possible as you have kindly agreed to ensure that the attendee will provide their update and then leave. As previously, if the meetings are always held on a Monday evening, I will be in difficulties as I have no PCSOs available on any Monday evening and their shifts cannot be changed.

In relation to the posters, I have spoken to Ken Dearing who advised that we did have some delivered in A3 size and the local shops etc. were unhappy about accepting them as they were too big. Unfortunately, there was also an error in relation to the telephone number printed on them. The neighbourhood staff have recently moved across from Thatto Heath Police Station and are now co-locating with Helena Housing staff at Helena West (a couple of hundred yards away from the police station). Therefore I know that Sgt. Barcroft has arranged for new posters to be made in a smaller size, detailing the new contact numbers. Hopefully these will be with you very shortly.”

The meeting dates have been provided and figures for the drop in centre pursued. The posters had not arrived to date.

The Council should consider the response.

TWINNING

A meeting of the Twinning working group took place on 20th May. Further communication has been sent to Market Weighton Town Council to assess their interest in Twinning. An article has been added to the Parish Council website to highlight our gratitude to the people of Latour-en-Woerve for honouring our fallen resident. A ceremony is planned to be held simultaneously at St. Ann's Church and in Latour-en-Woëvre, the proposed date is Sunday 20th September 2015 at 1pm (or alternative to be agreed). Churches within Rainhill will be invited to the service, and requested to give thanks in their services and prayers for the people of Latour. Letters will be sent to community organisations operating in Rainhill to encourage contact with similar organisations operating in the Latour region. An article is to be prepared for inclusion in the St. Helens First magazine, this will be published in October. Rainhill Gala Committee are to be approached to include a stall at next year's event to

publicise the work being undertaken, and seek greater community involvement. An approach has been made to the organisers of the Beer Festival, to include a spot on Twinning/ link initiative in the rolling slide show. Councillor De'Asha is investigating the possibility of acknowledging the 'Twinning/Linking' on road signs at the entrances to the village. A further meeting of the group will take place on 21st July.

The Council should note the actions taken and consider the provision of signage at the entrances to the village.

RAINHILL RAILWAY & HERITAGE SOCIETY

A meeting was held 21st May to discuss the 200 year celebration of the Rainhill Trials. Progress has been made on contacting local schools to encourage participation in educational visits to the museum, with some success.

Contact has been established with the National Railway Museum to loan the working replica of the Rocket on the significant anniversaries. Work is ongoing to build up the content of information available and to involve local organisations in themed activities e.g. performing groups and the beer festival.

The next meeting is planned for 23rd July.

This item has been included for information only.

RAINHILL PARK

A form has been completed to apply for the Community Payback Team to undertake repainting of the container which recently suffered graffiti. Rainhill United have expressed an interest in displaying soccer related artwork on the box, along with their logo/shield. The finished container would then be treated with anti-graffiti paint to preserve its appearance. Whilst the Community Payback Team would provide the labour, the Parish Council are expected to pay for the materials needed to under the work, i.e. brushes and paint. Whilst these have not yet been costed, authorisation for this expense is sought.

Further investigation was undertaken into whether the addition of a logo and artwork would require consent, an email was sent to St.Helens Council. Whilst consent for the logo was not considered necessary, the temporary planning permission for the container had expired in 2012, and it was now unauthorised. As the previous permission had been obtained by B.Johnson, St.Helens Council, its renewal will also be sought by them. The Clerk will continue to progress resolution on all aspects of this issue.

The Council should consider authorising payment for materials to undertake repainting of the container.

HOLT LANE PITCH HIRE

An enquiry was received, from a new football team, regarding the hiring of football pitches at Holt Lane. Holt Lane site contains 3 x 11 aside pitches, 1 x 9 aside and two mini soccer pitches and is currently used by Rainhill Rockets.

Rainhill Rockets (senior) currently hire one senior half share. The Council has an agreement with Rainhill Rockets JFC to have full use of pitches and changing facilities, free of charge, in exchange for undertaking cleaning, caretaking and key holder responsibilities.

However, my understanding, after reading through the contract, is that this was not intended as exclusive use, as one of the conditions of this agreement is 'Other users of the Holt POS facilities have the right to use the facilities, by agreement with Rainhill Parish Council.'

When the new request was received, an email was sent to Rainhill Rockets to ascertain if there was capacity at the site to accommodate the potential new user. Rainhill Rockets have provided the following response:

"We currently use all the pitches, next season it is looking like we will have the following-

Five teams using two mini soccer pitches

Three teams using one nine a side pitch

Five junior teams and one senior team using the three full size pitches

The academy only train therefore they do not actually use a pitch

We carefully manage the pitches during the season especially the winter months as they have continual drainage issues which appears to get worse every year, if they are over used then they all become unplayable.

Further issues having another club sharing the facilities are:

- *All the equipment in the changing rooms belongs to our club*
- *We understand the necessity to clean the changing rooms when used by our club but we have had issues in the past with the condition that other clubs leave the changing rooms in*
- *We purchase cleaning equipment, toilet rolls, etc.*
- *We litter pick the field at least once a week*
- *In the past other teams have left the changing rooms unlocked and lent their keys to other teams they may be associated with leaving our equipment at risk*
- *The issue over parking will be increased and become unmanageable.*

We had a verbal agreement with Malcolm that we would receive the same terms and conditions as Rainhill United who use Rainhill Park, as this was not always the case We also agreed that as long as the Parish Council received a fee from our senior team the junior teams would have free use of the pitches and the most practical option for our club, the parish council and the local residents and community was to allow us as a club to manage the facilities.

We have worked extremely hard to develop the club to its current status and would be disappointed to put this in jeopardy by experiencing the potential issues that would arise by sharing the facilities."

I am seeking the Parish Council's wishes on the future use of Holt Lane Playing Fields. Do we wish to restrict Holt Lane playing fields to a sole user - Rainhill Rockets? If so, are they paying the correct fee? They appear to be building a decent club, and we would not wish to discourage them, but we may be unfairly restricting other users and we may be losing out on potential income. If a request to hire pitches is received from the new football team, would the Parish Council wish to try to accommodate them?

Whilst the pitch hire form requires the submission of a fixtures list to secure the pitch, I have not been able to locate these for previous years. I cannot confirm if capacity exists, both in terms of free weekends and in the condition of the pitches to accommodate a further team.

The Council needs to consider the future letting agreement for Holt Playing Fields.

2014/15 ACCOUNTS AND EXTERNAL AUDIT

Following the successful completion of the Internal Audit on 1st June 2015, the BDO submission is ready for approval by the Council and signing by the Chair. I attach a copy of the main page of the submission together with accounts summary and separate spreadsheet extracts of income and expenditure.

The timetable for all the stages in this process is as follows:

Approve Accounts at this meeting
Submit to BDO by 29 June
Display Accounts Notice 18 May to 31 May (done)
Make Accounts Accessible 1 June to 26 June
Publicise Audited Accounts by 30 September

The last step is dependent on the BDO approving the submission.

The Council should consider approval of the Accounts and Annual Return for signing by the Chair on behalf of the Council

TOUR OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

It is proposed to hold the tour of public open spaces on Saturday 18th July meeting at 11am at the Village Hall Car Park. If possible could Councillors indicate, either by email or at the meeting, if they are able to attend as this will determine the size of vehicle to hire.

The Council should note the proposed date of the tour of open spaces and indicate if they wish to attend. Also authorise the expenditure to hire a vehicle.

PROVISION OF DEFIBRILLATOR AT VILLAGE HALL

At the last meeting it was resolved that the Village Hall Management Committee would be asked to find a position for the defibrillator inside the Village Hall. If confirmation of agreement on its location has been received, the Clerk should be authorised to order the defibrillator from N W Ambulance team.

The Council should agree the proposed location of the defibrillator and authorise its provision.

RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

M Atherton – Vacant Coop Unit, Warrington Road

You may recall an email from Mr Atherton, detailed on the previous agenda, regarding the vacant Co-op building at 560 Warrington Road, now occupied by Carl Keith. A further email was received 2 June as follows:

"I was interested to see the notice in the window of the new Carl Keith salon (acquired from the Co-operative): "unit for let. Must be non-food."

As mentioned in my original email, I am very concerned with the lack of competition to the Co-Operative which has been the only supermarket in Rainhill since 2009 and is unaffordable for a lot of local people. Could you please investigate why/how there is a retail unit for let in Rainhill as long as it doesn't sell food?

Thank you in advance."

I have consulted with colleagues in St.Helens regarding possible planning restrictions, however no restrictions are known to exist. I suspect that this restriction is a private covenant which are beyond our jurisdiction. I have informed Mr Atherton of the outcome.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

27th July 2015

7th September 2015

19th October 2015