

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3rd February 2014 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: B. Almond, J. Carroll, J. DeAsha, M. Donovan, J. Doyle, L. Glover, S. Glover, B. Heydon, J. Kelly, C. Moore and W.M. Wood.
Also present: Mr D. Long.

363. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr Lynch too late to be considered at the meeting. No other apologies received.

364. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr S. Glover - Planning Applications.

365. CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

It was resolved that Mr. Derek Long is co-opted onto the Parish Council.

366. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 16th DECEMBER 2013

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16th December 2013 were agreed as a correct record.

367. POLICE REPORT

Sgt Barcroft was unable to send anyone to the meeting but supplied a brief report which was passed on to the Council.

In a separate meeting, immediately prior to the Council meeting, the Council had welcomed the information and opinions provided by Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner Jane Kennedy and OPCC Community Engagement Officer for St Helens Mr Matt Garlick.

368. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on actions taken relating to resolutions made and issues raised.

369. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that the amount of incoming correspondence listed would be reduced as follows:

- Where several items are received on the same topic, only the first item will be listed
- No advertising / catalogues will be listed
- Regular financial information requested will not be listed
- Routine planning correspondence will only be listed if there is a specific point to raise with the Parish Council

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

- Correspondence copied to the Council will only be listed if there is a specific point to raise with the Parish Council (this will mostly affect Rainhill ECO and Rainhill Civic Society correspondence)

It was resolved that the course of action taken by the Clerk is approved.

Navigus Planning	Journal of Local Planning
M Dickinson	Rainhill Music Festival
K Cleary	Autumn Statement 2013
P Sung	Consultation: Holt Lane Playing Field
Public Sector Network	Latest update
P O'Neill, Murphy Group	MR1315 Rainhill Cutting Access
B Walsh	Rainhill Parish Council Website
S Cooper, Network Rail	Rainhill Cutting MR1315
A Pitts	Consultation: Holt Lane Playing Field
NALC	Finance Briefing - EU VAT Rules for Public Sector Bodies
Merseyside Pension Fund	New Auto Enrolment Guide
Blackburn Cathedral	Invitation to Lancashire Civic County Carol Service
B Kenrick, St Helens Council	Casual Vacancy
Merseyside Pension Fund	2013 Triennial Valuation
D Rothwell	Shale Gas & Oil Extraction - Rainhill
NALC	Communications Briefing - LCR & DIS Pricing 2014/2015
T Kelly	Checklist for Internal Audit meeting
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGC Award
T Clarke, St Helens Council	Compound Licence
NALC	DCLG Local Government Finance Statement
NALC	Job Advert - Chief Executive Officer, NALC
123-reg	Mobile Websites
LALC	Buckingham Palace Garden Party
LALC	E-bulletin
Sgt Barcroft, Merseyside Police	Council Meetings
S Mackell	Communications Plan - Eco Garden
J Fairclough	December 2012 Newsletter
L Cahill	Consultation: Holt Lane Playing Field
Merseyside Pension Fund	Newsletter and e-Poster
J Clark, BIS	PAF Public Sector Licence Update
Rev N P Anderson	St Ann's Churchyard
S Johnston, St Helens Council	Indicative Council Tax Base 2014/15
V Cassidy	Rainhill Park
Cllr M Quinn	Merseytravel Customer Forum Dissatisfaction
A Sanderson, St Helens Council	Maintenance of a closed churchyard
J Fulham, Merseytravel	Merseytravel Customer Forum Dissatisfaction
M Garlick, Merseyside	Contact Details

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

PCC	
Merseytravel	Customer Forum
NALC	2014 Events Calendar
L Herron, Merseyside PCC	Invitation to Merseyside PCC Commissioner
C Reddecliffe, Riverside	Corner plot at junction of Rainhill Road and Warrington Road
United Utilities	Change to United Utilities Banking Details
L Chandler, Merseytravel	Customer Forum Complaint
C Tigwell	cc Skew Bridge eastern parapet vegetation
K Cook, Fields in Trust	January e-zine
B Kenrick, St Helens Council	Casual Vacancy
I Watkin	Current Problems
Rainhill Civic Society Heritage Group	WW1 Exhibition
D Long	Co-option
Merseyside Pension Fund	Triennial Valuation - Rainhill Parish Council 00147
D Bott, St Helens Council	Rainhill Precept Calculations
LALC	Chairmanship Workshop
W Bloor, St Helens Council	Rainhill War Memorial
P O'Neill, Murphy Group	Rainhill Key
K Cleary	DCLG Local Government Finance Statement
F Crawford	New St Helens DSC Website
NALC	E-bulletin: Various
NALC	What next for Localism Conference - London
LALC	Insurance Workshop and NALC E-bulletin
HMRC	Successful Receipt of Online Submission
T Robinson, Recognition Plaques	Good Citizenship Award Plaques
Merseytravel	Merseytravel Customer Feedback
F Crawford	EGM & Open Meeting
T Robinson, Recognition Plaques	PDF Proofs
Merseytravel	Chat Moss line electrification
D Heyes	40s 50s Maps
G Murphy	Rainhill Social Club

370. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was resolved that comments be submitted for the following application indicating the recommendations of the Tree Officer will be accepted:

P/2014/0039, 517 Warrington Road, Works to 1 beech, eucalyptus, silver birch, cherry, acer, and plum trees along with 3 cypress trees in a conservation area.

It was resolved that the following applications be left to neighbourhood consultation and that no additional comments will be submitted:

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

P/2014/0003, 26 Sandhurst Road, Single storey rear extension projecting 3.4m from the rear, 3.6m high overall, and 2.7m to the eaves.

P/2014/0011, Land adjacent to 645 Warrington Road, Erection of new dwelling (all matters reserved).

P/2014/0043, 16 Stapleton Avenue, Loft conversion incorporating hip to gable roof extension and dormer window to the rear with Juliet balcony.

P/2014/0056, Bryn Awel 33 Mill Lane, Removal of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension projecting 3.98m from the rear, 3.8m high overall, and 3.4m to the eaves.

371. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was resolved that the following items are approved for payment:

Description	Amount	Ref
St Helens Council - Grounds Maintenance - Exchange Place	240.96	TFR44
M Paton - Salary - Jan (less Tax, NI & Pens Ded)	1,017.14	TFR45
Merseyside Pension Fund - LGPS (Jan)	325.05	TFR46
M Wright - Churchyard Maintenance January	176.30	STO
Scottish Power - Martin Close (Holt) Jan	40.00	STO
Scottish Power - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Jan	8.00	STO
United Utilities - Holt Playing Fields - Jan	4.96	STO
Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Jan	57.89	STO
Oakdene Primary School - Donation	100.00	0012
LALC - NALC & LALC Subs, Area Sec, LCR	895.62	0013
MMA Recognition Plaques - Good Citizenship Award Plaques	134.40	TFR47
M Paton – Photocopying, Salary - Feb (less Tax, NI & Pens Ded)	1,032.44	TFR48
Merseyside Pension Fund - LGPS (Feb)	325.05	TFR49
M Wright - Churchyard Maintenance February	176.30	STO
Scottish Power - Martin Close (Holt) Feb	40.00	STO
Scottish Power - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Feb	8.00	STO
United Utilities - Holt Playing Fields - Feb	4.96	STO
United Utilities - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Feb	57.89	STO

It was resolved that the Standing Orders to United Utilities need to be amended as the recipient bank details have changed.

372. PRECEPT

It was resolved that St Helens Council be advised that the Precept for 2014/15 will be £49,400.

It was resolved that the Budget paper, submitted by the Clerk and supporting the above Precept amount, is approved.

373. RISK ASSESSMENT

It was resolved that the changes put forward by the Clerk, affecting the first (Business Continuity) and fourth (Council Records – electronic) items on the schedule and

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

concerning an additional means of providing a back-up for the Council's working data, are approved.

It was further resolved that the existing Risk Assessment Schedule is approved without any further change.

374. STANDING ORDERS / FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

It was resolved that the changes put forward by the Clerk, affecting sections 5 (Banking and Cheque Arrangements) and 6 (Payments of Accounts) and concerning changes to the authorisation mechanism required to accommodate online banking, are approved.

It was further resolved that the existing Standing Orders / Financial Regulations document remains appropriate without any further change.

375. ST ANN'S CHURCHYARD

The Clerk advised that a formal letter had been received from Rev Anderson, on behalf of St Ann's Parochial Church Council, requesting the Parish Council takes over responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard 3 months from the date of his letter, i.e. from 21st March 2014, under Section 215 (2(a)) of the Local Government Act 1972. The Clerk also advised that no other Parish Council in St Helens currently has a closed Church of England graveyard.

It was resolved that St Helens Council be requested to take over responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard subject to 3 months' notice from the date of the Parish Council's letter under Section 215 (3) of the Local Government Act 1972. It was further resolved that St Ann's Parochial Church Council be advised of the action taken.

The Clerk advised that the existing contract with Mr M Wright ends on 31st March 2014.

It was resolved that Mr Wright be invited to continue with the basic duties defined in his contract until an agreement is reached regarding responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard. It was further resolved that a 3-month contract extension be offered to Mr Wright covering the period from 1st April 2014 to 30th June 2014 and that Mr Wright be advised that payments due under this contract will be honoured regardless of when St Helens Council takes over responsibility for maintenance.

376. HOLT PLAYING FIELDS CONTAINER

The Clerk gave the results of a preliminary Parish Council consultation which had taken place with the immediate neighbours closest to the changing rooms at Holt Playing Fields.

It was resolved that the request to provide a storage container adjacent to the changing rooms at Holt Playing Fields is declined.

377. RAINHILL UNITED JFC

It was resolved that the Parish Council will support any request made by Rainhill United JFC to have Rainhill Park Playing Fields renamed in recognition of the lifelong

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

contribution that Albert Fellowes OBE has made in actively supporting sport for the youth of Rainhill.

378. RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Shale Gas & Oil Extraction - Rainhill

Mr D Rothwell is concerned about which areas of Rainhill “are going to be licensed for Shale Gas & Oil extraction”.

The Clerk had been promised that Mr Bob Hepworth from St Helens Council would provide information to be used in reply to Mr Rothwell but nothing had been received to date.

Mill Lane Issues

Mr Watkin, from Mill Lane, raised issues regarding street lighting and bin collections and was directed to St Helens Council which has responsibility for both.

Mr Watkin also raised a concern regarding the status of the land in the immediate area. It seems that a neighbour had been incorrectly asked to produce a contaminated land release certificate when trying to sell their property and that their solicitor had written to the Environment Agency. He was advised that the correct course of action had already been taken in raising the matter directly with the Environment Agency which should be able to confirm that either:

- the Environment Agency records are correct and, if so, explain why the area in question is recorded in the way it is or,
- there is an error and their records will be corrected.

Rainhill - 40s 50s Maps

Mr D Heyes was doing some research and asked for copies of any relevant maps held by the Parish Council. He was advised of the excellent historical research carried out by Rainhill Civic Society and it was suggested he contact them direct to see if they could help.

Rainhill Social Club Car Park

Ms G Murphy commented on the “outside appearance of the car park” at Rainhill Social Club and had suggestions for its improvement.

She was advised to discuss the problem directly with the club in the first instance.

Cllr Almond also added that there are plans to improve this area and that this will be done when funding allows.

Circular Plaque – Houghton Street

Cllr Carroll questioned whether this circular plaque should have been cleaned at some point and whether it has been included in the Houghton Street refurbishment plans.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

It was suggested that the Councillor Improvement Fund might now be used for this purpose.

379. REPORTS

- Public Open Spaces: As previously approved by the Council Murphys Group, subcontracted by Network Rail, have been given permission to access the railway cutting via the Old Lane Playing Field next to the 4F Centre. Cllr Carroll reported on the degradation inspection which had been carried out 14th January. The Clerk advised a Land Access agreement had been signed and that Mr O’Neill (Murphys Group) had been loaned a key giving access to the barrier adjacent to the 4F Centre. The Land Access agreement included the need for protective matting to be laid over the area of the Old Lane Playing Field to be used for vehicles and this includes protection of a turning area by the railway cutting access point. The Clerk had since checked that the matting had been installed. Also, as agreed, Murphys Group will be making a donation direct to the 4F Centre.
- Churchyard Committee: See item 375. No other report.
- Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr Moore gave a brief report on the last meeting including the fund-raising activities taking place and the fact that the committee were appreciative that the Parish Council had only made a small reduction in the annual grant made to them.
- Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society: Cllr Wood gave a brief report.
- Merseytravel Customer Forum: The Clerk updated the Council on responses he had received from Cllr M Quinn and L Chandler regarding a previous complaint submitted to Merseytravel.

Cllr Doyle advised there had been some new people at the last meeting and that she thought some of the responses were better. She also advised that for the first time there had also been a couple of Rainhill residents in attendance. Cllr Doyle had asked the Head of Asset Management to write directly to the Clerk with details of the railway electrification that had been discussed at the meeting and the Clerk confirmed that an email regarding ‘Chat Moss Line electrification’ had been received.

It was resolved that the Clerk thanks Merseytravel for their response to the complaint but advises that a meeting will not be necessary. It was further resolved that Merseytravel be requested to distribute minutes and other feedback to those attending before the next meeting takes place and that for those attending who are not on the internet these items should be posted out.

- Merseyside Association of Local Councils: Cllr Wood advised the next meeting would take place on 5th February.
- St Helens District Sports Council: No report.
- Rainhill Gala Committee: No report.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
3rd February 2014

- 4F Centre: Cllr DeAsha reported on a Big Lottery application and the decorating of the 4F Centre being carried out by people from the Prince's Trust. It was resolved that the Clerk writes to Lynn Clarke to thank her for accessing the Prince's Trust for this help. Cllr DeAsha also advised that the handover at the 4F Centre following the redecorating would take place on 13th February at 12:30pm.
- Exchange Place Project: Cllr S Glover reported that Rainhill ECO currently had to manage without Joanne Jones, from St Helens Council, who was on compassionate leave and that the sympathies of the Council were with her. He advised that Cory had indicated initial approval of the CETB grant application and that there would be a 'first sod cutting' event at 11am on Saturday 1st March which the CEO of MerseyWaste would be attending. Cllr Glover also advised the next meeting takes place on 5th February.

380. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the following meeting dates for 2014/15 (all Monday 7:30pm unless stated otherwise) are approved:

AGM 12th May followed by Ordinary Meeting (previously approved)

23rd June 2014

28th July 2014

1st September 2014

20th October 2014

17th November 2014 - Finance Meeting

15th December 2014

26th January 2015

16th March 2015

Wednesday 22nd April 2015 - Annual Parish Meeting.

It was resolved that a final decision would be made regarding a date for the 2015 AGM when more information was available regarding the 2015 election dates.

It was noted that the District Councillors may not be able to attend the 1st September 2014 meeting but it was resolved that the meeting should go ahead on the scheduled date.

It was resolved that the next ordinary meeting will be held on Monday 24th March 2014, starting at 7:30pm, the venue being Rainhill Village Hall.

The 2014 Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 23rd April 2014.

The meeting closed at 9:24 pm.

Chair of the Parish Council
24th March 2014