

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 27th July 2009 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: J. Carroll, J. DeAsha, J. Doyle, L. Glover, S. Glover, B. Grunewald, G. Jamieson, J. Kelly, W.M. Wood.

Also present: Mr. D. Clarke and Mr. T. Jones (NO2masts Campaign).

Mr. K. Williams (Barnardos St Helens Area Manager) was invited but did not attend.

690. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllr. D. Kelly.

691. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

692. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29TH JUNE 2009

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on 29th May 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

693. REPORTS:

- Public Open Spaces: No report.
- Churchyard Committee: Cllr. Carroll reported it had been agreed that estimates be sought for cutting back overgrown hedges behind a row of graves. This was in response to a request by Mrs M. Jamieson.
- Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr. J. Kelly reported all was running smoothly. Cllr. Doyle commended the voluntary committee and support workers for their excellent and continuing hard work.
- Rainhill Heritage Society: No report.
- Merseyside Travel Advisory Panel: No report. It was agreed that Cllr. Doyle would be the Parish Council's representative for the current year.
- St. Helens South & West Crime Prevention Panel: Report from Cllr. Wood. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Crime Prevention Team to confirm Cllr. Wood is nominated as the Parish Council representative and to the St Helens Area Commander for Merseyside Police to question the amendment to the Constitution of the Panel preventing reports to third parties.
- Merseyside Association of Parish & Town Councils: Report from Cllr. Wood.

- Rainhill Ward Committee: Report from Cllr. Wood and Ward Councillors. See also Agenda Item 707.

694. POLICE REPORT

No police officer present. Apologies and updated crime statistics have been received.

695. CLERK'S REPORT

Following the earlier presentation to the Council by Mr. D. Clarke (NO2masts campaign), it was agreed that the Clerk would write to O2 and Samuel Strettle Farmers indicating support by the Parish Council for the actions of Mr. Clarke in finding an alternative to the proposed Rainhill Forge site.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mrs. Dickinson to confirm approval of the funding requested by Mrs. M. Dickinson for the Rainhill Music Festival. The festival will be included in the Annual Parish Magazine (Annual Report) and the Parish Council Chairman will present the main prize. A copy of the Music Festival accounts must also be forwarded to the Council.

696. CORRESPONDENCE

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| St Helens Council | Decision: 26 Ellaby Road - Approved with conditions |
| St Helens Council | Decision: 68 View Road - Approved with conditions |
| St Helens Council | Decision: 3 Mill Hey - Appeal against refusal to grant outline planning permission dismissed |
| LALC | Invoice for Planning Workshop 25/6/09 - £20 |
| St Helens Council | Annual Report of the Standards Committee 2008/09 |
| G Power | Complaint re Rocket planning decision |
| Weightmans LLP | Request for documents |
| United Utilities | Receipt for £410.55 payment – Holt Playing Fields |
| United Utilities | Receipt for £138.09 payment – Rainhill Park |
| St Helens Council | Ward Committee Agenda & Minutes |
| St Helens Council | Application P/2009/0373 100 Blundells Lane - Granted |
| St Helens Council | Application P/2009/0380 Fairchild Farm Foxs Bank Lane - Granted |
| St Helens Council | Application P/2009/0397 44 Old Lane - Granted |
| LALC | July Newsletter |
| LALC | Details of 'Community Engagement with Case Studies' Workshop 23/9/09 |
| LALC | Details of 'New Councillors & Clerks' Training 3/10/09 & 17/10/09 |
| | |

697. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P/09/0561 Rainhill Community Nursery – Create woodland area and track.

Redevelopment of playground

The Council submitted a comment indicating positive support for the application.

The Council considered the following applications but did not feel it appropriate to make any observations:

P/09/0541 174 Two Butt Lane – Demolish side garage; erect two storey side and rear ext.
P/09/0546 Laurel Mount, Mill Lane – Certificate of Lawful Use - extension to rear
P/09/0564 15 Bishopdale Drive – Demolish existing extension. Erect single storey side ext.
P/09/0566 674 Warrington Road – Part two storey and part single storey extension
P/09/0570 Brydon Norlands Lane – Single storey extension to the side
P/09/0582 60 View Road – Erection of 2m high boundary fence to side
P/09/0593 21 Bexhill Gardens – Work to Protected Trees (Pruning)
P/09/0615 Land adj 25 Bartholomew Close – Substitution of house type on previous app.

698. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

| Description | Amount | Ref |
|---|---------|------|
| Cleaners wages - June | 64.27 | 2882 |
| 5000 Annual Report | 1155.00 | 2883 |
| Planning Applications workshop at LALC | 20.00 | 2884 |
| Cleaners Wages - April and May (less Tax) | 128.54 | 2885 |
| Cleaners Wages - July (less Tax) | 64.27 | 2886 |
| Cleaners Wages - August (less Tax) | 64.27 | 2887 |
| HMRC Tax - Cleaner April to July | 64.28 | 2888 |
| HMRC Tax/NI - Clerk June & July | 691.20 | 2888 |
| Photocopying (112 A4 D/S) | 13.44 | 2889 |
| Salary - June and July (less Tax, NI and Pens Ded) | 1575.50 | 2889 |
| Telephone | 16.96 | 2889 |
| Local Gov Pension Scheme – April to July | 785.23 | 2890 |
| Martin Close (Holt) - June & July | 75.00 | 2891 |
| Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) - June & July | 75.00 | 2892 |
| LALC and NALC subscriptions 2009/10 (see Agenda Item) | 828.14 | 2893 |
| | | |
| Churchyard Maintenance July | 359.00 | STO |
| | | |

699. APPROVAL OF 2008/2009 ACCOUNTS

The accounts, prepared by Mr. Blanchflower, were approved.

700. ATTENDANCE

Cllr. Denton has been automatically de-selected and the required notice will be displayed advising electors of the vacancy.

701. BARNARDO'S 4F CENTRE

It was agreed that Mr Ken Williams would be invited to speak at the next meeting on 14th September.

702. LALC

It was agreed that the invoice for NALC/LALC membership will be paid and that continuing membership will be subject to an annual review. It was agreed that the number of copies of the Local Council Review requested would be reduced from 15 copies to 3.

703. RETIRING CLERK

It was agreed that a meal would be organised for later in the year to celebrate the excellent work carried out by Mr. Blanchflower during his many years in the role.

704. CHURCHYARD

As well as the request from Mrs. Jamieson to cut back an overgrown hedge a Mrs. Evans had complained about the dirt on the churchyard paths. She was particularly concerned about the car park area and the path from the car park leading to St Ann's school. She was also concerned about the lych gate area. Revd Anderson has confirmed that both the Millennium Centre Car Park and the adjacent path are the sole responsibility of St. Ann's Church and he has already planned a clean up morning for Saturday 1st August. The Parish Council's contractor has confirmed he will try to keep the lych gate area clear of dirt but has advised there will continue to be a problem until the drains stop flooding.

705. GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARD

It was agreed that any nominations from last year be considered with any new nominations from this year. The same timetable will be used with one change; the Awards evening will take place in February and the event will be reported on in the Annual Parish Magazine (Annual Report).

706. EXCHANGE PLACE LAND/PARKING

It was acknowledged that there is a concern about lack of free parking in the village. Every effort is being made to help resolve this issue with the Parish Council working with the Ward Committee and St. Helens Council. It was agreed that any questions to Parish Councillors regarding the use of the Exchange Place land, for any reason, cannot be answered until the Parish Council become legal owners of this land. This will not happen before 2012.

707. LETTERHEAD AND PRINTING

Carried forward to the next meeting on 14th September.

708. RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Overgrown Hedge in St Ann's Churchyard

It was agreed the Clerk would obtain estimates and make arrangements for the hedge to be cut back. The instructions of Revd Anderson will be taken into account when the work is carried out. See also Agenda Item 694 – Churchyard Committee.

Elan Avenue Road Surface / Christmas Tree

Mr V Humphries has complained about the poor road surface in Elan Avenue. He has since been advised that the road had not been brought back to a 'finished' condition as gas works were planned to take place.

Mr Humphries also complained about the village Christmas tree. He was advised that it was an attempt to brighten the village up but that the council had limited resources. Cllr. De'Asha asked for support in principle for the village Christmas lights to be improved. Carried forward to the next meeting on 14th September.

Annual Report

It was agreed that the Millennium Centre would be included with other organisations listed in the Annual Report (space permitting). It was also agreed that the details of every organisation listed would be checked before the next Annual Report to ensure accuracy.

Churchyard Paths

See Agenda Item 705.

Rocket Beer Garden

Mr. G. Power complained about the decision on the retrospective planning application made by the Rocket public house to clear some land at the back of the pub, including removing a number of mature trees and putting a large fence up. He was advised of the latest position after a discussion with the Case Officer at St. Helens Council.

CCTV Camera

Cllr. De'Asha received support in principle for the provision of a CCTV camera in the vicinity of the Shell garage on a shared funding basis. It was agreed that this would be discussed in more detail at the next meeting on 14th September.

Dane Court Waste

Cllr. Grunewald has received complaints about the amount of waste being generated by specific shops in Dane Court and advised the Council that he is dealing with it.

Rainhill Railway Station

Cllr. Doyle has received complaints about the state of Rainhill Railway Station. Cllr. De'Asha will make contact with relevant people who may be invited to a future Council meeting.

Notice Boards

Cllr. S. Glover has received requests for notice boards to be made available in outlying areas of the Parish. Cllr. Glover received support in principle for the provision of notice

boards on a shared funding basis. An Agenda Item will be listed when more details are available.

709. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 14th September 2009, the venue being Rainhill Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman of the Parish Council
14th September 2009