

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
25th July 2011

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 25th July 2011 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: B. Almond, J. Carroll, J. De'Asha, M. Donovan, J. Doyle, L. Glover, S. Glover, B. Heydon, D. Kelly, J. Kelly, P. Lynch, C. Moore, W.M. Wood.

015. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC Moore.

016. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Lynch - United Utilities

017. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20th JUNE 2011

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on 20th June 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

Cllr S Glover reported that the planters referred to in the June minutes had been removed as they had only been on lease to the Ward Committee.

018. POLICE REPORT

None.

019. CLERK'S REPORT

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

Cllr DeAsha reported the Village Hall Management Committee had removed the sign which stated toilets were not available for public use.

020. CORRESPONDENCE

Rev N Anderson	St Anns Churchyard
LALC	Legal Briefing, LALC Briefing, CiLCA
Historic Towns Forum	June Newsletter
M Perry	Thanks
St Helens Council	Decision: 2 Oakdene Court, Owen Road - Approved with conditions
St Helens Council	Decision: Land adjacent to Hill House, Mill Lane - Approved with conditions
St Helens Council	Decision: 20 View Road - Approved with conditions
St Helens Council	Decision: 3 Heyes Mount - Approved with conditions
J Parkers' Wholesale	Catalogue
LALC	Newsletter - June 2011
Vitalise	Request for contribution
St Helens Council	Precept remittance
Green Infrastructure Planning	Resources available
A Gaffney, St Helens	Re Objection to planning application

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Council	
PC Moore	Damaged wall at Old Lane recreation field
B Johnson, St Helens Council	Damaged wall at Old Lane recreation field
NALC	E-bulletin
D Broome	Steering group meeting and request for payment
A Biggs	Thanks
K Sowerby	Complaint re boundary wall with Old Lane Playing Field
NALC	Employment Tips - various subjects
NALC	Legal Briefing re Sustainable Communities Act 2007
LALC	E-bulletin
123-reg	June newsletter
C Tigwell	Copy of email to Cllr DeAsha re 'Seat'
C Dawson, Merseyside PF	Scheme Employers Contact Details
S Nuttall	Painting of Bartholomew Bretherton
123-reg	Registered Payment Details
K Patterson, St Helens Council	Rainhill Community Library Toilets
Zurich Municipal	Claim re M Fairclough
LALC	AGM 12th November 2011
The Brown Rural Partnership	United Utilities - Dee Aqueduct Phase 2 (Rainhill Park)
Merseyside Pension Fund	Beeline Issue 15
St Helens Council	Decision: 26 Galston Avenue - Approved with conditions
Sovereign	Playground Equipment
St Helens Council	Planning Committee 12th June 2011
IMI	Cenotaph & Stone Cleaning
S Fletcher	St Ann's School Brick Order
B Johnson, St Helens Council	Rainhill Park Container
J Ashton, St Helens Council	Old Lane Recreation Ground
NALC	Events Bulletin
S Fletcher	St Ann's School Brick Order
Historic Towns Forum	Maximising tourism
Porters Solicitors	Claim re M Fairclough
Clerks & Councils Direct	July 2011
D Corkhill	SWASH public meeting
NALC	E-bulletin
Northern Voice	Awards
St Helens Council	Ward Committee Agenda and Minutes
M Perry	Planning Officers Report P/2011/0319
B Johnson, St Helens Council	Rainhill Park drainage
NALC	Green Deal Electronic Research Survey
Pennine Playgrounds	Sutton in Craven Play Area Success
Came & Co	Parish Council Insurance
Merseyside Police	July Newsletter
Historic Towns Forum	Understanding Localism - Bath 21st July
Royal Mail	Machinable Letter Specifications
B Johnson, St Helens Council	Two Butt Lane Recreation Ground

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J Skinley, St Helens Council	Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2011
Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority	£20,000 waste prevention fund for community groups
Zurich Municipal	Claim re M Fairclough
NALC	Briefings
St Helens Council	Decision: 148 St James Road - Approved with conditions
St Helens Council	Decision: 23 Longton Lane - Refused
St Helens Council	Decision: Land fronting Stoney View - Approved with conditions
NALC	Consultation on Business Rates
B Johnson, St Helens Council	Rainhill Park railing repair
B Johnson, St Helens Council	Rainhill Park drainage
Royal Mail	New mark
123-reg	Website passport
NALC	Future of standards of conduct
NALC	E-bulletin
Weightmans	M Fairclough
Weightmans	M Fairclough
NALC	Consultations
PC Moore	Apologies
Knowsley Council	Consultation on Local Development Framework Core Strategy
St Helens Council	Decision: 1 Loyola Hey - Approved with conditions
St Helens Council	Decision: 9 St Davids Close - Approved with conditions
St Helens Council	Decision: 1 The Meadows - Approved with conditions
T Clemson	Trip Railing along Warrington Road
D Broome	Lych Gate Steering Committee minutes

021. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

At the June meeting the Clerk had been instructed to check whether an objection already submitted is still valid if there are amendments to the application after the objection has been submitted. The Planning Office advises that any objection submitted continues to stand, regardless of any amendments to the application, unless the objection is withdrawn in writing.

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

P/2011/0534, Longton Lane CP School, Extension to car park and installation of a disabled ramp.

P/2011/0577, Rainhill High School, Construction of two access ramps to school entrances and a two storey extension to create an external lift shaft (Block 1)

P/2011/0586, HSL Buildings 437 Warrington Road, Installation of roller shutters to front elevation

022. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

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Description	Amount	Ref
St Helens Council - Contribution Holt & Rainhill Park Changing Rooms	7,500.00	3090
St Helens Council - Contribution Drainage Works at Rainhill Park 2009/10	2,328.00	3091
M Paton – Photocopying, ink and June salary	1,115.27	3092
Merseyside Pension Fund - LGPS - June	332.08	3093
Post Office Ltd - Tax & NI (Apr-Jun)	1,085.74	3094
St Anns Church PCC - Lych Gate Project	6,000.00	3095
Churchyard Maintenance July	180.00	STO
Scottish Power - Martin Close (Holt) - July	40.50	STO
Scottish Power - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) - July	56.00	STO
United Utilities - Holt Playing Fields - July	101.57	STO
United Utilities - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) - July	73.37	STO

023. BARNARDOS 4F CENTRE

Cllr S Glover reported that the play equipment destroyed in the fire was insured by Barnardos and needed to be replaced. He advised that the group working towards achieving a satisfactory ongoing use of the centre will raise this with Barnardos.

024. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

It was resolved that the Council endorses the ‘Nolan Principles’ of public life. The Clerk was directed to include a statement to this effect on the Council’s website.

It was further resolved that the Council’s amended Complaints Procedure is approved.

025. LYCH GATE PROJECT

The Chair reported back on the Lych Gate Steering Committee meeting.

It was resolved that a payment of 50% of the maximum approved by the Council will be made immediately. It was further resolved that the Clerk requests the amount of the fixed price contract agreed is clearly stated in the Steering Committee minutes and that, on an ongoing basis, budgeted, actual and forecast amounts are recorded. The Clerk was also instructed to remind Mr Broome that the promised document that included timescales for the project had not been received by the Council.

026. RAINHILL PARK DRAINAGE

After considering the proposals for a further drainage scheme at Rainhill Park and a request for a contribution to funding made by St Helens Council, Cllr DeAsha and Cllr S Glover agreed to set up a meeting with Mr Johnson. This meeting will determine if the new scheme covers the poorly drained area reported by Rainhill Recreation Club, whether the club has been consulted and whether this is the final part of the solution to the drainage problems.

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027. NALC CONSULTATION – BUSINESS RATES

After consideration of the NALC request for views regarding their proposals for a re-distribution of business rates, it was resolved that the Clerk responds by stating the Council is opposed to any such re-distribution.

028. PUBLIC MEETING

It was resolved that the Council fully supports Mrs Corkill and SWASH in their plans to hold public meetings throughout the areas covered by Whiston and St Helens Hospitals and specifically for their desire to hold a public meeting to be held in Rainhill.

029. WASTE PREVENTION FUND FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

It was resolved that the Council will submit an application for funds through this scheme to improve the appearance of one of the public open spaces the Council is responsible for. Cllrs DeAsha and Lynch offered to help with the submission.

030. RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Damage to sandstone wall at Old Lane

Following the repair made at Old Lane at the back of Mr Sowerby's property, he had complained that the repair had resulted in 'hand holds' being left. It was resolved that the Open Spaces Committee will inspect the repair. The full condition report is still awaited.

Warrington Road Trip Rail

Mr T Clemson advises that although two sections of a wooden trip rail, that were destroyed some time ago, have been replaced there are still two sections that still need to be replaced. It was resolved that the Clerk writes to Mr Johnson at St Helens Council to determine what is happening regarding the two remaining sections of trip rail.

Ex Substation on corner of Old Lane and Warrington Road

Cllr D Kelly complained about the state of the ex-substation site and advised that the most recent attempt to approve the appearance of the site has been to simply trim the tops off weeds.

Cllr DeAsha offered to speak to Cllr Grunewald, the Council's Gala representative, in an attempt to resolve the situation.

Benches near the Victoria

Cllr Doyle asked who owns and maintains these benches as she is concerned that they are maintained in a good condition. Cllr Wood advised the provision of the benches was a project sponsored by the Ward Committee and also advised the Civic Society then put the plaques on the benches.

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Cllr DeAsha offered to speak to J Dentith, the Ward Committee Support Clerk, regarding maintenance of the benches.

Bench opposite Marian Close

Cllr Wood referred to the question regarding this missing bench, raised by Mr C Tigwell at the Annual Parish Meeting. Both the Clerk and Cllr DeAsha had made enquiries regarding the removal of the bench but St Helens Council have no knowledge of its removal. It was noted that the bench is still missing but that there are no plans for its replacement.

Cathy Wilson

Cllr Wood suggested a plaque be added to the disabled access gate giving access to the Liverpool bound platform at the Railway Station as a fitting memorial to Cathy.

It was resolved that the Clerk make enquiries about the provision of a plaque.

Flower Bed – Warrington Road

Cllr Donovan reported that excavation work close to Oak Tyres (opposite the Chip Shop) had destroyed a flower bed and that it had not been re-instated following the work.

Cllr Lynch offered to take the matter up with United Utilities who were responsible for the original excavation work.

Road Sign entering Rainhill from Whiston direction

Cllr Donovan had received comments from residents regarding this road sign. The feeling was that 'Rainhill' should be much more prominent as currently there is more emphasis on the fact this is also the St Helens boundary. The Council noted that this was not the original road sign that had been sponsored by the Railway & Heritage Society but a replacement sign erected by St Helens Council.

Coylton Avenue

Cllr Doyle reported that a hole in the road in Coylton Avenue had been reported to St Helens Council who had filled it in the same day it was reported. However, there are signs that the surface is sinking again.

Cllr Lynch offered to take the matter up with United Utilities who were responsible for the original excavation work.

Parking

Cllr S Glover was pleased to report that Merseytravel is providing funds to acquire the Dane Court car park (adjacent to the Village Hall). The site would be resurfaced and adequate lighting provided. The site would be shared with St Helens Council who would need to police the use of the site. A number of places would be reserved by

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Merseytravel for 'Park & Ride' transport users with the remainder being available to shoppers free for 2 hours. The small parking areas at the back of the shops were also being taken over by Merseytravel but it is not clear yet who these will be made available to.

Cllr Glover also mentioned that the St James Road parking scheme would not be going ahead.

031. REPORTS

- Public Open Spaces: See items 026, 029 and 030. No additional report.
- Churchyard Committee: No report.
- Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr DeAsha could not attend the last meeting but advised the Council a letter had been sent by the Management Committee to Rotary International referring to Rainhill Parish Council without the permission of the Council. It was resolved that the Clerk writes to the Management Committee expressing concern that the Council had been referred to in this matter without the prior approval of the Council and that in future the permission of the Council must always be obtained.
- Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society: No report.
- Merseyside Travel Advisory Panel: See item 030. No additional report.
- Merseyside Association of Local Councils: Next meeting is on 3rd August.
- Rainhill Ward Committee: Cllr Wood gave a short report including mention of a possible initiative to provide a permanent planter to replace the ones recently removed by St Helens Council.
- St Helens District Sports Council: Cllr Lynch reported the Sports Council was trying to roll out new schemes including one re 'healthy eating'. He also mentioned the possibility of some development grants and will try to obtain more details for the next Council meeting.
- Standards Committee: No report.
- Rainhill Gala Committee: No report.

032. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that next ordinary meeting will be held on Monday 5th September 2011, starting at 7:30pm, the venue being Rainhill Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:33 pm.

Chair of the Parish Council
5th September 2011