



28<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 6th March 2017, in the Elm Room at the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm. We are expecting representatives of Merseyside Police and the Police and Crime Commissioners Office.

I attach an agenda, relevant minutes, and the Clerk's Report.

Please find time to read through the information before the meeting, making any notes you need to against each item. If you have any queries prior to the meeting please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Pinder'.

G. Pinder  
Clerk to the Council



Awarded for excellence

Serving the Rainhill Community since 1894

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA**  
**6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017**

*The public will be allowed to speak on any matters of concern, subject to prior written notification being received. No such requests have been received.*

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To receive declarations of interest from members
3. To consider and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017
4. To consider future Policing in Rainhill
5. To note the contents of the Clerk's Report– for information only
6. To consider the following Planning Applications and note any actions taken:
  - P/2017/0022 - Stoney Lane Bridge over Railway, Stoney Lane, works to bridge parapets in line with electrification of railway, rather than the previous proposal to add metal to the top of existing coping stone, the proposal is to add 700mm high replacement coping stones of concrete construction.
  - P/2017/0047 - 18 Old Lane, single storey rear extension projecting 5.86m from the rear, 2.44m high overall, and 1.84m to the eaves.
  - P/2017/0056 - St Ann's C of E Church, Warrington Road, works to trees covered by a tree preservation order to crown lift one beech.
  - P/2017/0043 - Premier Lodge Travel Inn, 804 Warrington Road, works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order to prune back one poplar tree.
  - P/2017/0057 - 14 Tasker Terrace, demolition of existing single storey outbuildings and erection of single storey rear extension.
  - P/2017/0077 - 64 View Road, erection of an attached garage to the side of the property.
  - P/2017/0079 - Wylde Cop, Mill Lane, alterations to planning approval P/2016/0288/FUL for a detached dwelling, works to include a larger single storey side extension.
  - P/2017/0087 - 3 Dunbeath Close, extension of existing front and rear dormers along with front porch.
  - P/2017/0138 - 15 Victoria Place, single storey rear extension.
  - P/2017/0130 - 808 Warrington Road, erection of two storey side, and part two storey/part single storey rear extensions.
  - P/2017/0142 - 324 Warrington Road. single storey rear extension, new canopy over front door and alterations to hard landscape to provide level access to dwelling.
  - P/2017/0151 - 8 Garsdale Avenue, single storey extension to side and rear.
  - P/2017/0159 - The Spinney Mill Lane, works to 2 trees covered by a tree preservation order.
7. To authorise the accounts payable (list included in report)
8. To consider the future of the wildflower areas
9. To consider the future of the Barrier Baskets
10. To approve membership of the CPRE
11. To consider cancellation of the Clerk's membership of SLCC
12. To consider potential allotments on land to the rear of Deepdale Drive
13. To consider financial support for Heart Screening Event
14. To consider safety issues at Dane Court Precinct
15. To approve a contract for Legionella testing at changing facilities
16. To Consider Residents Comments and Complaints:
17. To receive reports from member representatives on local organisations:
  - a) Public Open Spaces
  - b) Village Hall Management Committee
  - c) Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society
  - d) Merseyside Association of Local Councils
  - e) Rainhill Gala
  - f) 4F Centre
18. Date & Time of Next Meeting:
  - Annual Parish Meeting Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017
  - AGM 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017
  - Ordinary Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**

At a meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: B. Almond, J. Carroll, M. Donovan, J. Doyle, J. De'Asha, S. Glover, D. Long, P. Long, C. Moore and W.M. Wood.

There were 48 members of the public present.

**862. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L. Glover, J. Fulham, B. Heydon, and B. Grunewald.

**863. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Non-pecuniary interests were declared by Cllrs J. De'Asha, S. Glover and D. Long – Members of Borough Planning Committee.

**864. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

The meeting was adjourned.

A presentation was made by a member of the public in relation to the St.Helens Local Plan Preferred Options Report. Concern was expressed regarding the impact the proposals would have on residents of Rainhill in terms of: traffic safety and congestion; local schools and nurseries; GP practices; dental practices; hospitals; emergency services; effect of increase pollution on health; social amenities; loss of CO2 absorption materials; and water infrastructure. Support for the campaign to preserve Green Belt areas in and around Rainhill was requested.

The meeting was reconvened.

**865. TO CONSIDER THE ST.HELENS LOCAL PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS REPORT**

Resolved that a representation be forwarded to St.Helens Council in relation to the St.Helens Local Plan Preferred Options Report indicating that:

Rainhill Parish Council deplores this Government's changed policy that requires all local councils to assign even more land for development into a 15 year local plan.

The Parish Council shares residents' concerns over the

- Traffic congestion
- Lack of infrastructure e.g. schools
- Loss of amenity

That Halsnead Village will add pressure once it starts to be developed and we are on record of expressing our concerns on several occasions and asking St Helens to prepare for the consequences of Knowsley Borough's action.

**866. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE WILDFLOWER AREAS**

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**

Following discussion with Mr G Stevens of St.Helens Council, it was resolved that quotes for alternative planting options be provided for discussion at a future meeting.

**867. TO RECEIVE POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS REPORT**

Resolved that the report of the crime statistics for Rainhill be noted. Cllr Wood reported that a new advisory group had been set up by the Police to advise on Police activities.

**868. CLERK'S REPORT**

It was resolved that the contents of the Clerk's report be noted and expenditure needed to facilitate the Good Citizenship Award evening be authorised.

**869. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

It was resolved that the following actions be noted in relation to planning applications:

That the following applications be left to neighbourhood consultation and that no additional comments be submitted:

P/2016/0882 - 4 Elmswood Avenue, demolition of existing detached garage and erection of a two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension

P/2016/0898 - 10 Burton Avenue, single storey rear extension projecting 4.01m from the rear, 3.65m high overall and 2.45m to the eaves.

P/2016/0918 - The Manor Farm, Mill Lane, proposed retractable roof pavilion over existing outdoor courtyard area.

P/2016/0919 - The Manor Farm, Mill Lane, Listed building consent for a proposed retractable roof pavilion over existing outdoor courtyard area.

P/2016/0932 - 11 St James Mount, Demolition of existing attached garage and erection of new attached garage along with a single storey front extension.

P/2016/0820 - 346 Warrington Road, single storey side extension

P/2016/0853 - 28 Ellon Avenue, demolition of existing attached garage and erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

P/2017/0012 21 Lawton Road, Two storey side extension

That a letter expressing concern at the loss of TPO'd trees, but endorsing the Tree and Woodlands Officer's comments was submitted on:

P/2016/0879, erection of a detached dwelling at 9 Owen Road, Rainhill.

**870. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Ref</b>
G Pinder	Telephone	15.00	
	Salary - Jan (less Tax, NI & Pens)	1161.61	
	Photocopying - Dec	18.20	
	Printer Inks	7.19	
		1202.00	TFR209
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – Jan	455.71	TFR210
Scottish Power	Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) - Jan	21.00	STO
Npower	Martin Close (Holt) - Jan	3.00	DD
United Utilities	Rainhill Park Playing Fields – Jan	75.43	DD
United Utilities	Holt Playing Fields – Jan	6.33	STO

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**

Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Holt Lane - Jan	51.00	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Rainhill Park – Jan	52.00	STO
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges – Oct-Dec	18.00	DD
St Helens Council	Footpath at Two Butt Lane	4452.00	TFR211
St Helens Council	Repair to gate at Exchange Place	91.96	TFR212
St Helens Council	TRO Remembrance day road closure	474.00	TFR213
St Helens Council	Maintenance contract for Eco Garden	456.66	TFR214
G Pinder	Telephone	15.00	
	Salary - Feb (less Tax, NI & Pens)	1068.93	
		1083.93	TFR215
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – Feb	410.50	TFR216
Scottish Power	Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) - Feb	21.00	STO
Npower	Martin Close (Holt) - Feb	3.00	DD
United Utilities	Rainhill Park Playing Fields – Feb	75.43	DD
United Utilities	Holt Playing Fields – Feb	6.33	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Holt Lane - Feb	51.00	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Rainhill Park – Feb	52.00	STO
<b>S.137 Payments</b>			
St. Ann's School	Donation – Christmas Lights Event	100.00	069
Willowbrook Hospice	Donation – Christmas Lights Event	100.00	070

**871. TO APPROVE THE RISK ASSESSMENT**

Resolved that the Council has reviewed the report on risk assessment and is satisfied it is taking appropriate steps to manage the risks it faces. The Clerk was instructed to purchase a fire resistant container to protect the Council's documents.

**872. TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO THE CLERK'S CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT**

Resolved that paragraph 5.2 of the Clerk's Contract of Employment be amended to read: ". . . Any annual increments awarded will be payable each year on the anniversary of the date of commencement." and the Chair be authorised to sign the amended version of the contract.

**873. TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT AND BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Council reviewed the current budgetary position and bank reconciliation, and resolved to approve the report.

**874. TO CONSIDER POLICE USE OF 4F CENTRE**

Resolved that the drop in facility at the 4F Centre had proven ineffective and should be ceased. Clerk instructed to write to Police requesting that use of 4F Centre cease and a replacement facility be considered.

**875. TO CONSIDER THE LOGO FOR RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

Resolved that a competition be organised to design a new logo for the Parish Council and authority be delegated to the Executive Committee to draw up a brief.

**876. TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT TIMETABLE**

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**

Resolved that the schedule set out be agreed. A meeting of the Editorial Group would be arranged.

**877. TO APPROVE THE FUTURE MEETING DATES**

It was resolved that the following meeting dates for 2017/18 (all Monday 7:30pm unless stated otherwise) are approved:

Annual Parish Meeting Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (already approved)

AGM 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (already approved)

19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

24<sup>th</sup> July 2017

4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

16<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Finance 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (not published in Annual Report)

11<sup>th</sup> December 2017

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018

5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

The following dates will not be published in the 2017 Annual Report:

2018 Annual Parish Meeting Wed 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018

2018 Annual Parish Council Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**878. TO CONSIDER THE FORMAT OF THE GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARD SCHEME**

Resolved that the Council will keep the Scheme under review.

**879. TO CONSIDER THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS IN RAINHILL VILLAGE**

Resolved that local businesses will be invited for discussion around June time. Cllr DeAsha to pursue further details of provision with St.Helens Council.

**880. TO CONSIDER RESIDENTS' COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS**

Resolved that:

Broadband Speed in Rainhill - The Clerk was instructed to write to BT indicating concern and requesting details of the roll out of super-fast broad band. Complainant to be updated on action taken.

G R Motor Vehicles being used as advertisements – Clerk to request further action against unauthorised advertisements, both in this location, and elsewhere.

Lack of bins provided for dog waste – Issues arise in the positioning of such bins, which are better located on grassed areas than outside residential property. Opinions would be canvassed on the need for additional bins, but no further action was proposed at present.

Cllr Doyle reported that the bollards on Warrington Road were suffering from damage. This had been noted by Cllr DeAsha and reported to St.Helens Council. Cllr Wood reiterated this issue, and it was resolved that the Clerk follow up the complaint with St.Helens Council. Cllr Doyle reported that the barrier basket at the Skew Bridge had been damaged, Clerk to investigate. Further, a complaint had been received regarding the future of land to the rear of Deepdale Drive, it was resolved to bring this issue back to a future meeting for discussion about potential allotments.

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**

Cllr Moore reported a complaint regarding detritus blocking the road gullies on Warrington Road and close to the junction of St.James Road, Clerk to report to St.Helens Council for unblocking.

Cllr DeAsha reminded everyone that St.Ann's Church were organising a clean-up on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**881. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Resolved that the Council noted the following reports:

- Public Open Spaces: All issues had been covered in the agenda.
- Village Hall Management Committee: meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January. There had been no progress on the issue of pensions, or on finding a new Treasurer. There were known to be issues with the boiler but this had not been resolved. The foyer had now been repainted by volunteers and Kendricks Cross WI had donated £200 for new tiles in the kitchen. The Mayor and Mayoress had been in attendance. Cllr Moore expressed his thanks to the Luncheon Club for their recent invite.
- Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society: The speaker programme was now mid-season with the most recent talk being Women in the Mines. The next talk was scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> February on Steam in the North. The summer outing would be to the Severn Valley Railway.
- Merseyside Association of Local Councils: Cllr Wood reiterated the constitution of MALC and its affiliation to LALC. The AGM had been held on 7<sup>th</sup> December and the next meeting was 1<sup>st</sup> March. The expenses for the Spring Conference this year would be met from existing funds.
- Gala Committee: An invitation to submit an article for the Gala Programme had been received. Authority was delegated to the Executive Committee to agree the wording.
- 4F Centre: Cllr DeAsha requested that a letter of thanks be sent to the volunteers at the 4F Centre for all their hard work.

**882. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was resolved that the next ordinary meeting would be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017, starting at 7:30pm, the venue being Rainhill Village Hall.

**883. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items for the reason stated:

<u>Minute</u>	<u>Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)</u>
884	Exempt information concerning the financial or business affairs of any particular person (Para 3 of Schedule 12a).

**884. PRECEPT**

It was resolved that St Helens Council be advised that the Precept for 2017/18 will be £63,400.

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

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

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Chair of the Parish Council  
6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

#### **4. TO CONSIDER FUTURE POLICING IN RAINHILL**

Following a complaint from a local resident it was considered that the future of policing in Rainhill should be brought for further discussion. The complainant observed: "I've lived in Rainhill most of my life, apart from when I was a Soldier, so I've seen changes. Rainhill has lost 2 police stations, council tax we pay 2% for the police & crime Commissioner, who I've never see and don't know what they do they will be a waste of money. So my point, so because there are no police in Rainhill I've only see a police officer in Tesco's in Prescot buying food, never on the streets where we want them."

Mike Berry from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and Sgt. Nicola Buckney will be in attendance at the meeting to discuss crime figures for Rainhill and across Merseyside together with the restructure of stations. The following issues have been raised:

- i. As previously agreed, the Police drop-in facility as now ceased at the 4F Centre, and has returned to the library. Agreement is needed with Sgt. Buckney whether this facility is to remain at the library, if so, at what time, and what publicity is to be provided.
- ii. The usual report of crime statistics is included below for discussion, it is hoped that comparison statistics for St.Helens/Merseyside may be available by the meeting date.
- iii. The Rainhill Police/Community Compact, originally agreed in 2015 and amended in 2016, is again due for review. A copy of the original compact and the amendments agreed in 2016, are attached below the statistic tables.

**Following discussion with Police representatives Members should consider if any further action is needed.**



**Merseyside Police Report for Rainhill Parish Council Meeting Monday 6th March 2017**

**Area: Rainhill**

**Month: January 2017**

	2016	2017	Diff	% Diff	Description
Burglary Dwelling	0	5	5	100.0	1)Rear patio window smashed - jewellery stolen from upstairs bedroom - Warrington Road 2)Rear patio doors smashed - untidy search - nothing stolen - Vincent Road 3)Rear double glazed kitchen window removed - untidy search - nothing stolen - Millom Avenue 4)Brick used to smash rear patio pane - disturbed by a neighbour - no entry gained - Martin Close 5)Side window smashed - Jaguar motor vehicle stolen - Warrington Road
Burglary Other Than A Dwelling	0	1	1	100.0	1)Red diesel and excavator batteries stolen from building site during Christmas break - Warburton Hey
Criminal Damage	9	3	-6	-66.7	1)Criminal damage to motor vehicle - object thrown from Junc. 7 Rainhill motorway bridge 2)Ornament thrown at front UPVC door - Warrington Road 3)Resident in care home pulled down curtains & blind - Rainhill Road
Drugs	1	1	0	0.0	1)Driver of vehicle in possession of cocaine - Watkinson Way
Other Theft	8	9	1	12.5	1)Disagreement over cash - Rainhill Post Office 2)Texaco garage - making off without payment x 2 - part offence - vehicles using false plates 4)Light up garden ornaments stolen - Bartholomew Close 5)Bag of charity clothes stolen from outside of home address - white van used Dunbeath Avenue 6)Discrepancy over bank account - relative possibly responsible - Stoney Lane 7)Blackmail following facebook incident - Warrington Road 8)Satellite dish stolen - The Meadows 9)Gas meter stolen - Warrington Road
Theft From Person	0	0	0	0	
Theft Bike	0	1	1	100	1)Pedal cycle stolen - one cycle wheel left attached to the chain - Honiston Avenue
Theft Shop	3	5	2	67	1)McColl's x 3 - Warrington Road - fabric softeners & other items stolen 4)Co-op x 2 Warrington Road - Medication & Ariel gel's stolen
T.F.M.V.	7	2	-5	-71.4	1)Vehicle accessed by unknown means - items stolen - Mooreway 2)Vehicle seen insecure following return home from holiday - items stolen - Honiston Avenue

Theft Of Motor Vehicle	2	6	4	200	1)Pizza delivery - van engine left running & stolen - St. Winifred Road 2)Motor cycle stolen - ridden then left abandoned close by - Warrington Road 3)Theft of motor vehicle overnight by unknown means - owner still has keys - Heskin Close 4)Theft of motor vehicle from driveway - Warrington Road 5)Theft of motor vehicle - grey Audi used to transport thief to this location - Stephenson Grove 6)Motor cycle taken from behind gates of garden - Rainhill Road
Vehicle Interference	2	0	-2	-100.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3.1</b>	
<b>ASB</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>40.0</b>	

# Rainhill's Police/Community Compact

Rainhill is a large and growing community with specific needs, such as a much older population who need to feel the Police will continue to serve the community - visibility and accessibility are key aspects of that service.

To work towards a safer, more secure Rainhill for our residents, we propose that:

- Rainhill Parish Council and Merseyside Police develop a Police Community Compact to build on the innovative work on policing already present in St Helens

The compact would be an organic partnership which would develop over time. The initial components are:

- RPC to provide a location in Rainhill, such as the 4F Centre, where the PCSO will be for a given period in a day - possibly with a locker and the opportunity for a surgery and secure storage
- RPC to offer structured (i.e. agreed frequency) communications for the Police to our residents via the website, annual meeting and possibly the annual report, in return for formal briefing /attending a Parish Council meeting say, every quarter
- RPC to agree with the Police a schedule of key places considered to be vulnerable which would benefit from regular visits during a quarter for visibility purposes
- PCC or Area Commander would be invited to speak at next Rainhill Annual Parish meeting
- A joint review of ways to enhance crime prevention in the village

Signed .....

Signed .....

on behalf of Rainhill Parish Council

on behalf of Merseyside Police



Extract of report to May 2016 Parish Council.

**TO CONSIDER THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW OF THE POLICE/COMMUNITY COMPACT**

A meeting was held on 30 March 2016 to review the Police/Community Compact. The commitments in the compact were assessed for effectiveness, with the following outcome:

- (i) RPC to provide a location in Rainhill, such as the 4F Centre, where the PCSO will be for a given period in a day - possibly with a locker and the opportunity for a surgery and secure storage  
Outcome: Use of the 4F Centre has not been effective and would be ceased. All local organisations contacted to assess level of interest in attendance of PCSO at their meetings.
- (ii) RPC to offer structured (i.e. agreed frequency) communications for the Police to our residents via the website, annual meeting and possibly the annual report, in return for formal briefing /attending a Parish Council meeting say, every quarter  
Outcome: Police promoting MerseyNow as new communication tool, details forwarded to all organisations and added to web site.
- (iii) RPC to agree with the Police a schedule of key places considered to be vulnerable which would benefit from regular visits during a quarter for visibility purposes  
Outcome: Specific areas can be included if suggested by RPC or community.
- (iv) PCC or Area Commander would be invited to speak at next Rainhill Annual Parish meeting  
Outcome: PCC unable to attend due to purdah, Police in attendance.
- (v) A joint review of ways to enhance crime prevention in the village  
Outcome: A future strategic discussion was agreed to share perceptions of crime problems. If Police could share geographical data, and overall priorities, RPC and Ward Councillors would seek to help in any way possible

As a result of the meeting it was decided that no amendments were needed to the compact, however, it would be subject to further reviews in the future.

Minute of May meeting:

**756. TO CONSIDER THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW OF THE POLICE/COMMUNITY COMPACT**

Resolved that the outcome of the review be approved.

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL - CLERK'S REPORT  
MARCH 2017**

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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**

**5. CLERKS REPORT**

All actions resulting from resolutions made at the 23<sup>rd</sup> January ordinary meeting have either been completed or are in progress. Additionally I can report the following:

**5.1 INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Clerk took part in the half yearly internal audit of financial procedures on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017. The SLCC Governance and Accountability (England) Practitioners Guide now recommends much more detailed testing in order to cover everything required in the Annual Return. The Audit followed the Testing of Key Internal Controls document approved in December, no problems were highlighted and the internal audit will be concluded at the end of the financial year.

**5.2 NATIONAL PAY RISE**

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services agreed a national salary award in May 2016, the second part of which is to be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. The Clerk's salary will be adjusted accordingly.

**5.3 KNOWSLEY SPD - HALSNEAD GARDEN VILLAGE**

Knowsley Council issued a Supplementary Planning Document on the proposed development at Halsnead. The purpose of the SPD is to set out a clear framework for development. Once adopted planning applications will be expected to comply with the framework, consultation ended on 23<sup>rd</sup> February. A letter of objection was submitted on behalf of the Parish Council, copy available on request, as it is considered that the SPD does not sufficiently address the needs of future residents, or the impact of the proposed development on Rainhill.

**5.4 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

Members will recall that that we opted-in to the SAAA procurement process for external auditors. The company appointed for the Lancashire area are PKF Littlejohn LLP. The new appointments only become effective for the five year period in relation to accounts for the financial year beginning on 1 April 2017.

**5.5 CORRECTION TO JANUARY MINUTES**

At the January meeting the maintenance contract for the Eco Garden was reported as £456.60, and should have been £456.66. The minutes recorded £456.66.

**5.6 BROADBAND SPEEDS IN RAINHILL**

At the January meeting I reported a resident's complaint regarding slow BT broad band speeds opposite Tower College. As instructed, I contacted BT to request action. Unfortunately BT will only deal with existing customers, and as account details were not available progress was slow. It later transpired that the complainant was not a BT customer. Openreach, the company responsible for the fibre broad band connection, have indicated that the provision of fibre broad band in this area is in the design stage. I requested further details of when this might be delivered and Openreach have confirmed this should be October 2017, but include the caveat:

"which may change in future depends on the physical amount of work left. However we are hoping that this will be the date that you can order as long as all goes according to plan."

The complainant has been informed and is very grateful to the Parish Council, as he had been unable to resolve this himself. However, given the caveat, would the Council wish to apply any further pressure to Openreach to commit to such provision?

#### **5.7 PARKING ON ST.JAMES ROAD**

Confirmation has been received from Parking Services at St.Helens Council that enforcement action will commence to resolve illegal parking along St.James Road. The Officers have been asked to attend on a Monday evening when the issue causes particular problems. The officer can issue a ticket to any vehicle found to be in contravention, but there is a 15 minute observation time before a ticket can legally be issue.

#### **5.8 REGISTERING OF LAND AT OLD LANE**

Confirmation has been received that the land at the 4F Centre, Old Lane has been successfully registered to the Parish Council. We now have the title deeds.

#### **5.9 ACTION ON 'A' BOARDS IN THE VILLAGE CENTRE**

Following complaints regarding 'A' boards in the village centre, notice was served on GR Motors and the Post Office on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. The notice required removal within 24 hours, or recharge costs could be incurred for removal. The boards outside the Coop and Beauty on View were found not to be on the adopted highway.

#### **5.10 NEW PARKING RESTRICTIONS – ENTRANCE TO COOP CAR PARK**

A resident had noted that new double yellow lines had appeared at the entrance to the Coop car park in View Road, Rainhill, without the relevant Traffic Management Order notice. After checking with St.Helens Council, it was found that the lines are not on the public highway and were not subject to TMO. Enforcement of any transgression of the lines will be an interesting situation, but will not fall under the jurisdiction of St.Helens.

#### **5.11 CHANGES TO PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS**

Notification has been received from Merseyside Pension Fund that the Fund Actuary has now completed the 2016 Triennial Valuation. The result of this is that Employer contributions will be reduced from 25.2% to 17.7%, and the deficit currently being paid at £16.67 per month will now be nil. These contribution figures will remain valid for the next three years, and should realise a saving of approximately £100 per month.

**PART 2 - AGENDA ITEMS – SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES****6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following applications have been assessed and comments submitted as indicated:  
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/2017/0022 - Stoney Lane Bridge over Railway, Stoney Lane, works to bridge parapets in line with electrification of railway, rather than the previous proposal to add metal to the top of existing coping stone, the proposal is to add 700mm high replacement coping stones of concrete construction.

P/2017/0047 - 18 Old Lane, single storey rear extension projecting 5.86m from the rear, 2.44m high overall, and 1.84m to the eaves.

P/2017/0056 - St Ann's C of E Church, Warrington Road, works to trees covered by a tree preservation order to crown lift one beech.

P/2017/0043 - Premier Lodge Travel Inn, 804 Warrington Road, works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order to prune back one poplar tree.

P/2017/0057 - 14 Tasker Terrace, demolition of existing single storey outbuildings and erection of single storey rear extension.

P/2017/0077 - 64 View Road, erection of an attached garage to the side of the property.

P/2017/0079 - Wylde Cop, Mill Lane, alterations to planning approval P/2016/0288/FUL for a detached dwelling, works to include a larger single storey side extension.

P/2017/0087 - 3 Dunbeath Close, extension of existing front and rear dormers along with front porch.

No comment has yet been submitted for the following application, the closing date for comments will still be open at the time of the meeting:

P/2017/0138 - 15 Victoria Place, single storey rear extension.

P/2017/0130 - 808 Warrington Road, erection of two storey side, and part two storey/part single storey rear extensions.

P/2017/0142 - 324 Warrington Road. single storey rear extension, new canopy over front door and alterations to hard landscape to provide level access to dwelling.

P/2017/0151 - 8 Garsdale Avenue, single storey extension to side and rear.

P/2017/0159 - The Spinney Mill Lane, works to 2 trees covered by a tree preservation order.

**7. TO AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Payee	Description	Amount	Ref
G Pinder	Telephone	15.00	
	Salary - March (less Tax, NI & Pens)	1069.13	
	Photocopying - Jan	21.60	
	Laminating Pouches	9.99	
	Home Office Allowance	978.00	
	GCA expenses – shown below S.137	103.70	
	Copier Paper	2.50	
		2199.92	TFR218
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – Mar	410.50	TFR219
HMRC	Tax & NI (Jan - Mar)	694.14	TFR220
Rainhill Village Hall	Contribution	6872.57	TFR221
LALC	NALC & LALC Subs, Area Sec, LCR	929.49	071
Scottish Power	Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) - Mar	21.00	STO
Npower	Martin Close (Holt) - Mar	3.00	DD
United Utilities	Rainhill Park Playing Fields – Mar	55.04	DD

United Utilities	Holt Playing Fields – Mar	6.33	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Holt Lane - Mar	51.00	STO
Hydraclean	Legionella Testing Rainhill Park – Mar	52.00	STO
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges – Jan-Mar	18.00	DD
<b>S.137 Payments</b>			
G. Pinder	Good Citizenship Buffet inc. in TFR218	103.70	TFR218
J&C Catering	Good Citizenship Buffet	207.00	TFR222
Mma Recognition Plaques	Good Citizenship Award Plaques	134.40	TFR217
CPRE	Annual Membership	36.00	072

**The Council should consider approving the above payments.**

## **8. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE WILDFLOWER AREAS**

Members will recall that Gary Stevens attended the January meeting to discuss the future of the wildflower areas. It was resolved that quotes for alternative planting options be provided for discussion at a future meeting (MIN 866: 23.1.17).

The current contract with St.Helens Council covers 1,500 sqm of wildflower planting along Warrington Road. This was previously supplemented by 90 sqm of bedding plants, which are no longer planted. The cost of the wildflower planting is £2,814 for a two year programme, therefore £1,407 per year.

The current seed mix used is a native wildflower seed, however, as certain stretches of wildflower planting were considered to be under-performing, the option of Pictorial Meadow seed has been investigated. The additional cost for the area currently covered would be £1,280 per year, comprising £780 cost of seed, £488 ground preparation, almost doubling the current expenditure.

As we are mid-way through our current two year contract, I have agreed some amendments with St.Helens, to try to improve the performance of the wildflowers, within the confines of committed expenditure. If we assess performance this year, using the existing seed mix in different locations, a decision on Pictorial Meadow seed could be considered when renewing to contract.

The following beds will be removed from the contract for the reasons given:

Location	Reason
Land close to junction 7 roundabout	Flowers self-seed and do not need maintenance
760 Warrington Road to 1 Toftwood Avenue	Underperforming due to ground conditions
710-732 Warrington Road (wider corner area at Dunbeath Avenue to remain)	Underperforming - Trampled by school children
684-698 Warrington Road	Underperforming – under trees
SW corner of Old Lane/ Warrington Road junction	Didn't show, put down to ground conditions

Additional compensatory planting will be provided in the following locations:

Location	Change
734-758 Warrington Road	existing bed extended;



415-435 Warrington Road	New bed, replaces former bedding planting outside bungalows;
401-411 Warrington Road	planting moved forward to clear tree canopy and be more visible;
385-391 Warrington Road	new wildflower bed introduced;
347-383 Warrington Road	will be continuous strip along whole length, currently separate beds;
390 Warrington Road to entrance of Stephenson Grove	to be continuous strip, currently separate beds.

Together with the rationalisation agreed above, it is recommended that bulb planting be introduced along the wildflower beds retained. The cost of a 1m bulb strip along the beds would be £749.00, including labour, this would be a one-off payment as future maintenance is not required, barring the need for replacements.

All of the former bedding plant beds not incorporated above would be lost and returned to grass.

**Members should consider the following recommendations:**

- (i) **That the rationalisation of planting beds be approved as above;**
- (ii) **That a 1m spring bulb planting strip be introduced during Winter 2017 along the wildflower beds at a cost of £749.00**
- (iii) **That use of Pictorial Meadow seed be deferred until renewal of the contract, or ruled out due to expense.**

#### **9. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE BARRIER BASKETS**

Members will recall that last year, following no summer provision of barrier baskets, the number of baskets paid for by the Parish Council was reduced from 26 to 13, for the Winter season, at a cost of £1,242 +VAT. An instruction will shortly be needed by St.Helens Council as to our intentions for the forthcoming Summer season.

Quotes obtained last year indicated that the provision and maintenance of 13 baskets for summer/winter season for 2017/18 would be £3,838.64 +VAT. The quoted price will be subject to annual inflation and increases from plant supplier as at 1st April 2017.

In order to ensure a decision is taken before the planting season commences, members should consider if the 13 baskets provided are sufficient, and whether planting and maintenance is to be financed for the coming year.

Currently the 13 unfilled baskets remain in place. The cost of removal £152.53, together with the cost of their possible reintroduction, led to a decision to leave them in place. The status quo can be maintained, however, if members feel that the empty baskets detract from the flowering ones, and that they will never be refilled, their removal can be arranged. Alternatively, if the empty baskets are not causing offence, then I would recommend they are left in place.

**Members should consider if 13 barrier baskets are to be refilled for the 2017/18 season, and whether to remove the unfilled baskets.**

#### **10. TO APPROVE MEMBERSHIP OF CPRE**

Notice has been received for renewal of membership of the Campaign to Protect Rural England. In previous years the renewal fee has been authorised without discussion. The

cost of membership this year has remained at £36. I have included the renewal fee in the table of payments for authorisation for consideration.

**Members should consider if they wish to retain membership of CPRE and if so authorise payment of the renewal fee of £36.**

#### **11. TO CONSIDER CANCELLATION OF CLERK'S MEMBERSHIP OF SLCC**

The Clerk has been a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) for two years with subscriptions being paid for by the Parish Council. The membership is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> April at a cost of £139.00. SLCC is the professional body for Clerks and provides training, briefings for their membership and an advice centre. As SLCC work closely with NALC there is much cross over in the advice provided.

During the Clerk's period of study for the CiLCA qualification, it was considered that continued membership was beneficial, however, as this has now been completed the benefits are limited. The Clerk has called upon their legal advice twice. Given the renewal cost it is considered that the society does not offer good value for money, and membership should be cancelled.

**Members should consider cancellation of membership of SLCC**

#### **12. TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL ALLOTMENTS ON LAND TO THE REAR OF DEEPDALE DRIVE**

At the January Parish Council meeting there was a brief discussion about the issue of allotments, and this was linked to land at the rear of properties in Deepdale Drive, further discussion was deferred to this meeting.

Since the last meeting, the land in question has been 'tidied up' by its owner Mr Jones, who has indicated that the works were prompted by problems on the site, where a claim had been made against the company, and so they were advised by their insurers to look at site security and management. The land had been cleared and fencing erected.

The actions prompted many residents to consider that Mr Jones was preparing the land for development. Several responses have been needed to residents to indicate that there are no proposals currently in the public domain.

The owner has been contacted to assess if there is any interest in providing allotments on the land. He has confirmed that his initial intention is to rent out the land for grazing. A sign has been erected on the land seeking enquiries for grazing. The land is within the Green Belt and development in the near future is unlikely.

**This item is included to facilitate further discussion.**

#### **13. TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR HEART SCREENING EVENT**

Rainhill United JFC are organising a heart screening event in Rainhill, and have requested Parish Council support. On average 12 fit and healthy young people die each week of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. A charity Vital Signs Foundation (VSF) provide free heart screening events for the reduction of Sudden Cardiac Arrest in young people aged 15-35.

To date they have organised around 20 screenings, with over 1500 young people benefitting. Almost 4% of those people screened had life-threatening heart conditions that they were completely unaware of.

As yet a date has not been confirmed for the event, but it would be held in the Village Hall and members of the Rainhill Football Teams, together with Rainhill residents would be eligible to apply for the screening.

Parish Council support is sought to fund the hire of rooms in the Village Hall. Whilst this is still at the planning stage, it is anticipated that the room hire would be approximately £200. The Parish Council are requested to authorise a £200 grant, and any excess would be met by Rainhill United.

Further information on the screening event will be available at the meeting.

**The Council should consider authorising a £200 grant towards the cost of room hire for a heart screening event.**

#### **14. TO CONSIDER SAFETY ISSUES AT DANE COURT PRECINCT**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017, during storm Doris, a piece of metal fell off the advertisement totem pole within Dane Court. Cllr Moore was close by at the time and reported that the aluminium section at the top of the pole had sheered off, fallen within the gantry and crashed to the floor. Thankfully, no one was hurt. The agents for Dane Court were contacted and came to inspect the following day and confirmed that they were aware of the fault. Whilst on this occasion no one was injured, had the metal fell in any other direction the consequences may have been different.

It has been suggested that the Parish Council write to the agents, expressing concern at the potential danger to the public, requesting regular inspections and remedial action where necessary, given the potential that this fault had been previously identified and not addressed.

**The Council should consider writing to the agents of Dane Court to raise concern at the incident and draw attention to the need for regular maintenance.**

#### **15. TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR LEGIONELLA TESTING AT CHANGING FACILITIES**

The current contract for Legionella Testing at Holt Lane and Rainhill Park is with Hydraclean and expired in February. A new contract is required to start in March.

I have obtained quotes from two companies as follows:

<b>Hydraclean (1 year contract)</b>		<b>Price per month inc VAT</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
- Monthly hot and cold water temperature checks. - Monthly flush of the showers - Quarterly clean & disinfection of shower heads - Annual Calorifier Flush - 6 Monthly TMV Checks (Rainhill Park only)	Holt Lane	£51.00	£510.00 + VAT (Per Annum)
	Rainhill Park	£52.00	£520.00 + VAT (Per Annum)
<b>Total for Year</b>			<b>£1030 + VAT</b>
<b>Risk Assessment due every two years (last undertaken 2016)</b>			<b>£100 + VAT per site</b>

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<b>GMS Services Ltd (1 year contract)</b>		
To supply all the necessary materials, skilled and unskilled labour, tools, tackle, insurance and transport to carry out the work as outlined below		Annual Cost
Risk Assessment - Holt Lane Changing Rooms	£120.00	£120.00
Risk Assessment - Rainhill Park Changing Rooms	£120.00	£120.00
Monthly Temperature Monitoring Holt Lane Changing Rooms Per Month	£ 20.00	£240.00
Monthly Temperature Monitoring Rainhill Park Changing Rooms Per Month	£ 20.00	£240.00
Quarterly Shower Disinfections Holt Lane Changing Rooms Per Quarter	£ 50.00	£200.00
Quarterly Shower Disinfections Rainhill Park Changing Rooms	£ 50.00	£200.00
Six Monthly and Annual Inspections Holt Lane Changing Rooms Per Visit	£ 50.00	£100.00
Six Monthly and Annual Inspections Rainhill Park Changing Rooms Per Visit	£ 50.00	£100.00
<b>Total for First Year</b>		<b>£1320.00 (+ VAT)</b>
Reduction on future years		
Risk Assessment Review Annually - Holt Lane Changing Rooms	£ 75.00	
Risk Assessment Review Annually - Rainhill Park Changing Rooms	£ 75.00	

**Hydraclean**

Annual cost of Legionella testing = £1236  
 Cost of Risk Assessments p.a. = £120

**GMS**

Annual cost of Legionella testing = £1296  
 Cost of Risk Assessments (first year) = £288  
 Cost of Risk Assessments (subsequent years) = £180

As Hydraclean are providing an adequate service and remain the most competitive I would recommend that the contract is renewed with Hydraclean.

**The Council should consider renewing the contract for Legionella testing with Hydraclean.**

**16. TO CONSIDER RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS**

The Clerk has dealt with correspondence relating to:

Several enquires relating to how to become a councillor, the election process and timing of next elections;

Several enquiries relating to the clearance of land to the rear of Deepdale Drive, details at item 12.

The loss of clinical services from Rainhill health centre.

Transference of mud by football players onto Deepdale Drive.

The loss of Police services in Rainhill.

Overgrown trees behind Sherwood Avenue.

A letter of thanks has been received for the donation to Willowbrook Hospice.

**17. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

- a) Public Open Spaces
- b) Village Hall Management Committee

- c) Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society
- d) Merseyside Assoc. of Local Councils
- e) Rainhill Gala
- f) 4F Centre

**18. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETING**

Annual Parish Meeting Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
AGM 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
19<sup>th</sup> June 2017