

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 1st September 2014 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: B. Almond, J. Carroll, M. Donovan, J. Doyle, B. Heydon, J. Kelly, D. Long, P. Lynch, C. Moore and W.M. Wood.

The new Clerk Ms G Pinder and 1 resident also attended.

459. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: J. DeAsha, L. Glover, S. Glover and B. Grunewald.

460. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr P. Lynch – Cranfield Residential Homes Site (Planning Applications).

461. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 28th JULY 2014

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 28th July 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

462. POLICE REPORT

No report.

463. CLERK'S REPORT

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

It was resolved that the Clerk writes to Mr G Houghton at St Helens Council to make it absolutely clear that the problem with the Chatsworth Service Road parking relates to the taking up of parking spaces by Countryside site workers and to also suggest that the parking restriction signs should be on both sides of the road to make it clear that the regulations apply to both sides. It was resolved that the Police be copied with the correspondence so that they are made aware of the parking problems caused by Countrywide site workers.

It was further resolved that the Clerk delivers a letter to the Countrywide Site Foreman advising him that his workers are taking up valuable parking spaces and requesting his help in ensuring the problem does not continue.

464. CORRESPONDENCE

K Cowen, Zurich Insurance	Insurance Renewal
CPRE	Countryside Voice, Field Work
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS - Employer Discretions
Sgt Barcroft, Merseyside Police	Rainhill Parish Council
NALC	Updated Legal Briefing - Bribery Act 2010

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

A Haymonds, CETB	Agreement 561
L Jackson	Eco Garden - Meeting Minutes
Planning Portal	Planning Portal News: 31 July 2014
J Attwood	Eco Garden progress
D Whitley, Civic Society	Twinning
D Bate	Cranford Residential Home Site
NALC	Bulletin from Smaller Councils Committee Meeting
Public Sector Executive	PSE e-newsletter
K Cleary	Next meeting
Charity Commission	CC News Issue 47
J Carden, Merseyside Pension Fund	2013 Valuation - Deficit
P Heaton, Merseyside Pension Fund	Termination of Employment, New Clerk
D Boston	Village Hall Monthly Figures
HMRC	Successful Receipt of Online Submission
M Garlick	Issues
VIC	Veterans in Communities
Post Office	Rainhill Post Office
J Dobson	Wildflowers
A Davey, Civic Society	Twinning
NALC	Update Legal Topic Notes
Planning Portal	Planning Portal News: 7 August 2014
C Wilson, St Helens Council	Rainhill scheduled work
MPF Communications	LGPS - Annual Benefit Statement Production
J Kennedy, Merseyside PCC	Issues
Fields in Trust	August Update
M Whitehall	Agenda Rainhill Eco Garden
J Attwood	Flickr
NALC	Future Local conference
Historic Towns Forum	HTF Newsletter
Historic Towns Forum	Your Park: use it or lose it?
Public Sector Executive	PSE e-newsletter
D Oakes	Highways Rainhill
J Attwood	Twitter
F Crawford	Rounders
G Cairns	HGV Traffic
J Jones, St Helens Council	Eco Garden - wildflower areas
G Houghton, St Helens Council	Warrington Road service road
J Smith, Trinity Evangelical Church	Invitation to induction of new Pastor
G Cleary	AGM
C Tigwell (Cc)	View Road Closure
A Davey, Civic Society	Rainhill in Bloom

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

Planning Portal	Planning Portal News: 14 August 2014
M Whitehall	Rainhill Eco Garden
Public Sector Executive	PSE Online
S MacKell	Rainhill Eco Garden
NALC	E-bulletin
HMRC	Successful Receipt of Online Submission
B Walsh	Website Change
Public Sector Executive	PSE e-newsletter
123-reg	Support Query
Charity Commission	Annual Return 2014 - confirmation of receipt
Charity Commission	Charity Certificate of Registration
Zurich	Managing Volunteers
N Thompson	Rainhill Park Pitch Hire
A Haymonds, CETB	Funding Agreement
NALC	New Policy Consultation - Technical Planning
HMRC	Important Information for Employers
M Garlick	Putting Victims First
Land Registry	Notification
Streetwise	Maps
Public Sector	Latest news
Ordnance Survey	PSMA Regional Events
G Cairns	Follow-up
Planning Portal	Planning Portal News: 21 August 2014
P Champaneria, AON	Parish Council Proposal Form
123-reg	Support Query
B Miller, Rainhill Rocket JFC	Pitch Markings
MPF Communications	Members Annual Benefit Statements
Public Sector Executive	PSE e-newsletter
S Mackell	St Barts
Fields in Trust	Awards 2014
J Saunders, St Helens CCG	Membership update
D Palmer, Came & Co	Quote
J Jones, St Helens Council	Eco Garden plaque design
Planning Portal	Planning Portal News: 28 August 2014
HMRC	Successful Receipt of Online Submission
NALC	Revised Legal Topic Notes - Nuisance
NALC	E-bulletin
J Saunders, St Helens CCG	North West Ambulance Service Event

465. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

P/2014/0595, Drs McNeilly Fearon & Wardlaw The Village Surgery 529 Warrington Road, Works to trees in a conservation area to fell 1 scots pine.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

P/2014/0608, Tower Hill College Mill Lane, Erection of an additional floor to pre-prep building along with a link room connecting the two buildings.

P/2014/0641, 27 Kendal Drive, Two storey side extension.

P/2014/0642, 14 Renwick Avenue, Two storey side extension and first floor rear extension.

P/2014/0643, 3 Eden Close, Erection of one bungalow (renewal of outline planning permission of P/2011/0700).

P/2014/0653, Rainhill Railway Station, Installation of Overhead Line Equipment, required in connection with electrification of the railway.

P/2014/0672, 113 Stoney Lane, Two storey side extension

P/2014/0675, 4 Longton Lane, Variation to condition 3 on application P/2013/0643 to change opening hours of beauty salon

466. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Description	Amount	Ref
M Paton - Photocopying, Postage, Stationery, FlipChart Easel, Salary - Aug (less Tax, NI & Pens Ded)	1,131.97	TFR76
Merseyside Pension Fund - LGPS - Aug	531.20	TFR77
Scottish Power - Martin Close (Holt) Aug	40.00	STO
Scottish Power - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Aug	8.00	STO
United Utilities - Holt Playing Fields - Aug	5.45	STO
United Utilities - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Aug	61.57	STO
St Anns Church - Donation	25.00	0019
B Walsh - Consultancy and Support	50.00	TFR78
M Paton - Printer Ink. Home Office Allowance (Pro Rata 24/52), Telephone & Internet - Apr/Sep, Salary - Sep (less Tax, NI & Pens Ded)	1,100.70	TFR79
Merseyside Pension Fund - LGPS - Sep	240.60	TFR80
HMRC - Tax & NI (Jul-Sep)	953.14	TFR81
Scottish Power - Martin Close (Holt) Sep	40.00	STO
Scottish Power - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Sep	8.00	STO
United Utilities - Holt Playing Fields - Sep	6.22	STO
United Utilities - Deepdale Drive (Rainhill Park) Sep	62.49	STO

It was resolved that the Standing Order to United Utilities for Holt Playing Fields be amended to £5.78 from October onwards.

It was resolved that the Standing Order to United Utilities for Rainhill Park be amended to £62.45 from October onwards.

467. NEW CLERK

Ms Pinder and the resident left the room while this Agenda Item was discussed.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

It was resolved that Ms Pinder will be paid for any hours spent with the Clerk, prior to her commencing employment officially on 16th September 2014, up to a maximum of 10 hours.

It was resolved that The Council will pay for one year's membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) for the new Clerk and that continuing membership of the SLCC at the Council's expense will be reviewed at the end of the first year.

It was resolved that a copy of the NALC publication 'Local Councils Explained' will be obtained for the new Clerk.

It was resolved that the latest version of 'Local Council Administration will be obtained for the new Clerk but that his purchase will be delayed until Ms Pinder is ready to undertake training for the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).

It was resolved that a new Laptop and protective sleeve and McAfee Antivirus and Microsoft Office software will be obtained for the new Clerk at a total cost of approximately £608.

It was resolved that the transport of Council furniture and files from Mr Paton's home in Orrell to Ms Pinder's home in Rainhill be met by the Council.

It was resolved that Ms Pinder authority be added to the Council's bank account with Unity Trust. It was further resolved that Cllr Long's authority will be added to the Unity Trust account.

To ensure no break in continuity Mr Paton's authority will be removed from the Unity Trust account immediately Ms Pinder has the full use of the Unity Trust banking facilities.

It was resolved that the new Clerk be supplied with a Unity Trust 'Alto' Card, with an initial pre-authorized limit of £200, to be used for the purchase of administrative sundries including postage, stationery and computer supplies.

As it is not possible for the new Clerk to attend the Council meeting scheduled to take place on 26th January 2015, it was resolved that this meeting be brought forward one week to 19th January 2015 and that this change is immediately publicised via the Council website.

It was resolved that Ms Pinder will maintain the Council's web pages and that the Council will continue to employ the Consultancy and Support services of Mr B Walsh on the existing basis. It was further resolved that this situation will be reviewed as required with the fall-back position being that Mr Walsh will carry out all website maintenance at a cost to be agreed.

468. INSURANCE

It was resolved that the Council's insurance policy with Zurich will be renewed for a 5-year period at an annual cost of £932.63 per year.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

469. MERSYSIDE PENSION FUND

It was resolved that, following changes to pension regulations brought about by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 legislation, the following policy statement are published:

Regulation 30 - Early Payment of Pension

Whether to grant application for early payment of deferred benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60. Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to deferred benefits paid early under Regulation 30(2).

It was resolved that the Council will not exercise these discretions under any circumstances.

Regulation 30A (3) & (5) [B] - Early Payment of Pension (Tier 3 ill health)

30A (3) Whether to grant application for early payment of a suspended tier 3 ill health pension on or after age 55 and before age 60. 30A (5) Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits paid early under Regulation 30 A [B].

It was resolved that the Council will not exercise these discretions under any circumstances.

Regulation 16 (2)(e), 16 (4)(d) - Funding of Additional Pension

An employer may fund wholly, or in part, a member's additional pension contract (APC). The payment can be made by regular contributions or a lump sum.

It was resolved that the Council will not normally exercise this discretion but may consider its use in exceptional circumstances, having regard to the business case being in the interest of the Council and the pension fund strain charge being considered affordable by the Council.

Schedule 2 Paragraph 2 - To apply the 85 Year Rule before age 60

Whether to "switch on" the 85 Year Rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60. Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits from pre 01/04/2014 membership where the employer has "switched on" the 85 Year Rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.

It was resolved that the Council will not normally exercise this discretion but may consider its use in exceptional circumstances, having regard to any pension fund strain charge being considered affordable by the Council.

Regulation 30 (6) - Flexible Retirement

Employers may give consent for a member, aged 55 or more, who reduces their grade or hours of work (or both) to receive all or part of their LGPS benefits immediately even though they haven't left their employment.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

It was resolved that the Council will not normally exercise this discretion but may consider its use in exceptional circumstances, having regard to any pension fund strain charge being considered affordable by the Council.

Regulation 30 (8) - Waiving of Actuarial Reduction

Whether to waive, in whole or in part, actuarial reduction on benefits which a member voluntarily draws before normal pension age.

It was resolved that the Council will not normally exercise this discretion but may consider its use in exceptional circumstances, having regard to the business case being in the interest of the Council and the pension fund strain charge being considered affordable by the Council.

Regulation 31 - Awarding Additional Pension

Employer may increase a member's benefits by awarding additional pension up to a maximum of £6,500 p.a. from April 2014.

It was resolved that the Council will not normally exercise this discretion but may consider its use in exceptional circumstances, having regard to the business case being in the interest of the Council and the pension fund strain charge being considered affordable by the Council.

It was further resolved that no policy statements will be published, at this time, relating to items where the formulation of policy statements is optional

It was resolved that the under- funding relating to the 3-year period immediately prior to the latest triennial actuarial re-evaluation is met by making additional payments of £16.67 per month until further notice and subject to further review at the next triennial actuarial re-evaluation.

It was resolved that the new Clerk, Ms Pinder, will be enrolled into the Local Government Pension Scheme run by the Merseyside Pension Fund.

470. DIRECT DEBITS

It was resolved, in principle, that Direct Debit payments will be allowed for regular payments to utility companies.

471. STEPHENSON'S RESOURCE CENTRE

It was resolved that a grant of £30 be made to Stephenson's Resource Centre for the purchase of plants for the barrier containers located opposite the Resource Centre.

It was further resolve that the Clerk contacts Cllr S Glover to determine if it is too late to get value for money on what will be a very short-term display and whether this sum should be allocated instead for a winter display.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

472. RAINHILL GALA

It was resolved that this item be carried forward to the next meeting on 20th October 2014.

473. 4F CENTRE

It was resolved that this item be carried forward to the next meeting on 20th October 2014.

474. RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Cranford Residential Home Site

Ms D Bate followed up her previous complaint about the Cranford Residential Home site by writing to Cllr S Glover, copying the Parish Council and indicating “nothing has yet been done” and asking whether “pressure can be brought to bear from the planning department at St Helens to not consider any application from the land owner until the site is cleared and made safe.”

It was resolved that the Clerk contacts Cllr Glover to determine the latest position and whether further contact needs to be made by the Parish Council with St Helens Council Planning / Environment Officers regarding enforcement and the obvious Health and Safety issues.

Wildflowers

Ms J Dobson commented:

”I believe the wildflowers on Warrington Road were planted by the Parish Council. I would like to thank you for brightening up the village. They look fabulous and hopefully will for many years to come.

Ms Dobson has been thanked for her comments.

Cllr Carroll had suggestions for improving the effectiveness of the wildflower planting, the future of which is an Agenda item for the November Finance meeting.

Highways

Mr D Oakes wrote to a number of recipients, including the Parish Council, making observations about highway problems he believes could cause “a dangerous incident”. In brief the problems he mentions are:

1. Rainhill Junction 7 Roundabout.
2. 20 MPH in the village.
- 3 Traffic Signals Eltonhead Road/Rainhill Road.
- 4 The Dales estate 20 MPH restriction on speed.
- 5 Foxwood estate roundabout.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

Mr Oakes was advised that St Helens Council has responsibility for highways in Rainhill and that he had therefore taken the correct action in also writing to St Helens Council.

HGV Traffic

Mr G Cairns complained about problems with HGV traffic in Chapel Lane.

Mr Cairns was advised to also contact St Helens Council as it has responsibility for highways in Rainhill and, together, St Helens Council and Merseyside Police have the powers necessary to change and enforce restrictions on roads or carry out more major changes. It was pointed out that this is of course subject to them agreeing there is a case for change and having the funds and manpower to make and monitor any changes.

Warrington Road

Cllr Lynch reported that complaints were being made about the work being carried out during the night on Warrington Road by COLAS and particularly the taking of photographs at this time.

Cllr Lynch is taking up the matter himself.

Coylton Avenue

Cllr Doyle complained that the road surface in Coylton Avenue was deteriorating and that the top layer of tarmac had gone.

Cllr Carroll reminded her that Cllr S Glover had previously given out a telephone number to be used in such circumstances.

Stoney Lane Dog Nuisance

Cllr Donovan advised complaints were being made about the constant barking of a dog on Stoney Lane.

After discussion it seems that this is a possible case of neglect and Cllr Donovan agreed to contact the RSPCA to investigate the problem.

475. REPORTS

- Public Open Spaces: No report.
- Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr Moore advised there had been no meeting since the last Council meeting.
- Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society: Cllr Wood advised there was a Committee meeting on 18th August and that the Speaker schedule starts on 6th October.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
1st September 2014

- Merseytravel Customer Forum: Cllr Doyle reported she had received no further news about the one meeting a year in St Helens and suggested this item be taken off 'Reports'. It was resolved that the item remains at least until this meeting has taken place.
- Merseyside Association of Local Councils: Cllr Wood advised the last meeting took place at the new Prescott Town Hall on 6th August and the AGM takes place on 15th October.
- St Helens District Sports Council: Cllr Lynch advised he is now receiving some information from the Secretary but that no meeting had taken place since..
- Rainhill Gala Committee: No report.
- 4F Centre: No report.
- Exchange Place Project: No report. It was noted that visible progress is being made on site.

476. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the next ordinary meeting will be held on Monday 20th October 2014, starting at 7:30pm, the venue being Rainhill Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:52 pm.

Chair of the Parish Council
20th October 2014