

# St Helens Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Bacon Clerk: Jacky Matthews



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## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST HELENS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Held on Monday 8th April 2024 at 7pm at St Helens Pavilion**

**Chaired by Cllr JB,  
Attended by: Cllrs: PJ,MC,CH,GG,AB,SP.  
Clerk JM  
Public 12 members present  
An introduction of the Council Members.**

### **170-23/24 APOLOGIES**

Cllr SE sent apologies.

### **171-23/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

Refer: 102-22/23 12.12.22 Declarations & interests from Cllr JB & Cllr PJ as members of the IOWCouncil and St Helens PC.

### **172-23/24 MINUTES**

To approve & sign the minutes of the PC meeting held on Monday 12th March 2024.  
Separate note on the discussion of the Seafront.

Both sections signed by Chair Cllr JB **Proposed Cllr PJ Seconded Cllr AB all agreed**

### **173-23/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 1.General Issues (15 minutes)
- 2.On Matters below (15 minutes)

Noticeboard - The Parish Council is difficult to read - the perspex is smeared. The brackets are also broken. Clerk to look into repair costs.

There will be another noticeboard fixed onto the side of the Pavilion - this is on order from The Men in Sheds.

Drain in Field Lane has a large amount of mud present - please could it be reported as it is impeding the flow of water.

### **174-23/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Beach & Duver - a very useful meeting last PC meeting. To report that it is the Environment Agency and not Environmental Health who are the relevant body to contact re the debris. Cllr PJ has arranged a meeting between Property Services Dept & St Helens Beach Hut Association - due to take place.

Cllr JB has received a call from Duver Enterprises - who have expressed an interest to resolve the matter. Undertake to meet with the IOWC Legal Department to resolve matters.

### **175-23/24 CLERK'S REPORT**

An email had been received about the water situation in Eddington Road, Clerk to ask Island Roads about the situation.

Information on Adult Learning Courses - where best to advertise for now - once the Noticeboard on Pavilion is up they will be displayed there.

NT informed the Clerk that the bridge on Gaggen Path is being fixed.

Extra Bins were brought in over the Easter period.

Footpath R89 rescues over Easter - people stuck in the mud, either from being cut off by the tide or taking the footpath. Clerk has informed the Rights of Way contacts re issues with the pathway.

Caution Signs have been put in place raising the issues of the incidents that have happened.

Asian hornets - please be aware - if seen please report - to the Clerk

Last year the Community got together to Spruce the Village up - decided to hold another event on forthcoming Bank Holiday Monday 6th May. Any jobs then please highlight to the Clerk.

A job suggested was to clean the Road name signs.

Request to ask Island Rds to be clearer about where the Road is closed rather than just having 'Road Closed'. Bembridge Road closure diversion signs are very confusing.

### **176-23/24 THE GREENS**

Thank you to Cllr AB for setting up the Greens Group to discuss the maintenance & cutting of the greens with a mission to create a better organised plan, dealing with the various areas.

A very detailed schedule of cutting was formulated.

Thank you to the Clerk for collating the information into a very detailed Tender.

Tenders were received and opened this morning.

The Company who tendered for all elements of the contract sent a covering letter stating that their quote was on the basis of not collecting the cut grass.

Having spoken to the Company they explained the process for grass collection.

If we went ahead with grass collection at St Helens on a regular basis they would have to invest in machinery to deal with the grass collection.

The process: the grass is cut and collected - the collected grass is put in a vehicle which then travels to a collection point on the Island, When it gets to this point, the vehicle is weighed before it is emptied and the cost of the deposited grass is set accordingly.

Whilst the van is off site - work on mowing and collecting the grass is compromised until the delivery van has returned.

How to work out the costing is terribly difficult - how long a cut and collection takes, how much the grass weighs and time element on travel. The whole process would take much longer.

A few suggestions were raised:

- the cut grass being collected in one area and asking locals to take to their compost heaps.

- Could a mulcher on the mower be the answer - please enquire
- If the grass is cut on a regular basis then there should not be a problem.

Cllr JB proposed - that the Council accept Tender for Cutting Schedule 2  
 Cllr JB proposed - that the Council accept Tender for the other parts to the tender.  
 Cllr PJ seconded

Councillor vote: 5 in favour 2 abstained. Proposal carried.

### 177-23/24 BEACH & DUVER

A 'new' pond has appeared on Church Green. Noticed before Christmas. Ask the National Trust and Nodes Point. It may be extra run off water from Nodes Point.

Area much neater - unsure when the Harris fencing is going.  
 One remaining caravan - if dismantled what will happen regarding the debris.  
 Now in discussion with Duver Enterprises so item can be raised. Any further work requires being overseen. A request for the rest of the debris to be taken away.

### 178-23/24 FINANCE & DATA PROTECTION

The issue with the chart from last month was rectified and had been circulated with the Cllrs.  
 End of February balance & bank statement shown and signed by Cllr JB

End of March balance & bank statement shown and signed by Cllr JB  
 Monthly Income & Expense report shared with Cllrs.  
 Authorise Payment of Accounts.

#### St Helens PC Financial items paid month - end of March 2024

Inv Date	To Whom	Amount	Date of payment	Method of Payment
11.3.24	S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL	1,227.48		S/O
12.3.24	E.on Next Gas	57.77		BACS
12.3.24	E.on Next Electric	92.09		BACS
12.3.24	Business Stream - Water Pavilion	85.08		BACS
12.3.24	J Matthews: Printer & Paper	187.98		BACS
12.3.24	J Matthews: Draught Excluder - Pavilion	5.99		BACS
18.3.24	Corona Energy - Duver Electricity	32.06		DD
21.3.24	Direct Debit (1:1 Internet Ltd)	11.99		DD
27.3.24	J Matthews: Soap Dispenser - Duver	17.99		BACS
27.3.24	J Matthews: Hand dryer - the Duver	157.48		BACS
27.3.24	J Matthews: Hand Dryer - Pavilion	110.91		BACS
27.3.24	S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL	1117.85		BACS
27.3.24	S/O to: COMMUNITYACTIONISL	196.80		BACS
28.3.24	S/O S Chester	600.00		S/O
31.3.24	Bank Charge	18.00		
		<b>£3919.47</b>		
<b>Income</b>				
	IOWC - Contribution to the Greens maintenance	1500.00		

	Cllr J Bacon - Ward Surgeries - Pavilion hire	125.00		
		<b>£1625.00</b>		
<b>To Pay</b>				
13.3.24	Island Roads Bin contract	345.60		
15.3.24	Lake Cleaning Supplies Ltd	7.09		
15.3.24	PCC - Community Printer	16.76		
21.3.24	Lake Cleaning Supplies	8.34		
20.3.24	Focus Plumbing Annual Boiler service Pavilion	94.80		
20.3.24	Focus Plumbing Legionella Risk Assessment Pav.	234.00		
20.3.24	Focus Plumbing - Legionella RA Duver Toilets	99.00		
26.3.24	IDVerde Jan - Mar	1016.40		
22.3.24	Beta Pak - Toilet Rolls	221.22		
22.3.24	Toilet Roll Dispenser	24.00		
	<b>J Matthews - Expenses</b>			
27.3.24	Bookers - Sweets - Community Easter event	12.83		
20.3.224	Sheet Plastics - Perspex for Map	44.83		
		<b>£57.66</b>		

Proposed: Cllr GG seconded Cllr PJ , all agreed.

End of November			£39,404.80
Income December	£0.00		
Expenses December		£2845.08	
End of November			£36,559.72

Proposed Cllr JB Seconded Cllr PJ,all agreed

Discussion on opening a Savings Deposit Account - application has been submitted. Once the account is open and functioning, funds will be put across and earn interest.

PC Financial Risk Assessment - any suggested updates to the document. To add in that should any cash need handling there should be 2 people present.

#### **179-23/24 APPLICATIONS MADE TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY**

24/00411/HOU Station House, Station road, St Helens PO33 1YF. Revised scheme.

Original application was withdrawn - PC concerns about original application - and the original canopy that was to be removed.

A letter was sent to the Planning Dept, asking for consideration given to the piece of Railway History.

The property is quite run down and is going to be modernised.

Cllr SP to view original email and see if anything else is required.

**180-23/24 NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY**

24/00119/TW Smugglers, Upper Green Road, - tree works granted.

**181-23/24 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS:**

BHAG -Cllr CH spoke about a Harbour Safety Meeting that had been held. If any details required then please follow up with Cllr CH.

IWALC - Discussing the Island Planning Strategy. Concern of time issues and items going out of date.

**182-23/24 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT**

IOWC - move to create an Island Planning Strategy which has been blocked a number of times, coming close to expiry dates where if cancelled cause a great loss of funds & time. Change in method of Governance in Council - items in the Press - please ask if want to know more.

West Green - increased parking on West Green off Field Lane. Would be difficult for Emergency Vehicles to access the lane. Maybe extra yellow lines?

**183-23/24 OPEN QUESTION TIME**

On Duver Fencing an issue - is it going to be moved - what is the plan for the Summer?  
Railway Carriages - not looking weather worthy Presently not able to be utilised.

Mill Wall and Cyclists - conflict with pedestrians. No Lifebuoys along the Causeway.

Noted that some dog owners allow their dogs to run along without being on a lead.  
No sign for Dogs. Sign for Cyclists but difficult to enforce. It was felt that there should be a cycling prohibited sign at both ends of the Causeway.  
Raise safety on Wall.

D Day celebration - formal invite from Bembridge Parish Council. Event on Culver Down, lighting a beacon.

Noticeboard on Pavilion - for Community use. Idea to go for a grant to cover the cost of the Community Board and therefore releasing funds towards a new Parish Council board.

West Green to Laundry Lane - section of the footpath. Key part of connecting St Helens with Brading. This was classed an urgent issue on the LCWIP (Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan) which is a wish list for the future - when grant funding is available, then the plan is in readiness.  
Continue to be proactive before any issues happen.

The Bishop of Portsmouth is coming to the Service at St Helens Church on the 28th April. A request for a representative from the Council will be in attendance.

**184-23/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**PC AGM Meeting** - Monday 13th May 2024 7pm at the Pavilion

PC Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 20th May 7pm at The Community Centre.

Meeting concluded at 8:20 pm

Signed:..... Date.....