



# Rainhill Parish Council



Awarded for excellence

Bleed Kit Campaign  
 Christmas Tree  
 Big Scoop Campaign  
 Rainhill Rockets  
 Ukraine Refugee Support  
 Rotary  
 Scarecrow Festival  
 Litter Picks  
 St Barts Church  
 Rainhill Town Campaign  
 Bleed Kit Campaign  
 Good Citizen Award  
 4f Play Centre  
 Save Our Greenbelt  
 Good Citizen Award  
 Dog Park  
 Village Hall  
 Youth Ambassadors  
 St Anns Church  
 Signal Box  
 New Public CCTV  
 Rainhill United  
 Rainhill Awareness  
 Invisible Disability Awareness  
 Report it, Share it Campaign  
 Broadband Campaign  
 Trinity Church  
 Millennium Centre  
 St James Church  
 RAINHILL

## Annual Report 2022

# Rainhill Parish Council - Annual Report 2022

## Value For Money/ Parish Council Finances

Rainhill Parish Council has ensured a ZERO per cent increase for the THIRD year running in the cost of the Parish precept to residents. Rainhill Parish Council has set a budget for the 2022/2023 financial year that will result in a sum of £68,340 being raised by the Precept on domestic residents. This money is raised as part of the Council Tax collected by St Helens Council and then passed to the Parish Council. Copies of the audited accounts can be obtained from the Clerk in the autumn of 2022 once the external audit of accounts is completed.

## Your Parish Councillors

Names and full details of councillors are also available from the Clerk, Rainhill Library, Rainhill Village Hall and on the parish website [www.rainhillparish.org.uk](http://www.rainhillparish.org.uk)

 <b>Cllr Wil Williams, Chair</b> wilwilliams.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr Geoff Ward, Vice Chair</b> geoffward.rpc@outlook.com
 <b>Cllr Ann Daniels</b> annandaniels.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr Ian Brown</b> ianbrown.rpc@gmail.com
 <b>Cllr Ann Veronica Howitt</b> annveronicahowitt.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr Donna Greaves</b> clldgreaves@sthelens.gov.uk
 <b>Cllr David Hendrick</b> davidhendrick.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr Gordon Roberts</b> gordonroberts.rpc@gmail.com
 <b>Cllr Sandra Roscoe</b> sandrajroscoe.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr Mark Rothwell</b> markrothwell.rpc@gmail.com
 <b>Cllr Kate Stevenson-Black</b> katestevensonblack.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr James Tasker</b> cllrjtasker@sthelens.gov.uk
 <b>Cllr Graham Barker</b> grahambarker.rpc@gmail.com	 <b>Cllr Joanne Woodhouse</b> joannewoodhouse.rpc@gmail.com

Ward Councillors are available by telephone and email, and will arrange to visit residents by appointment.

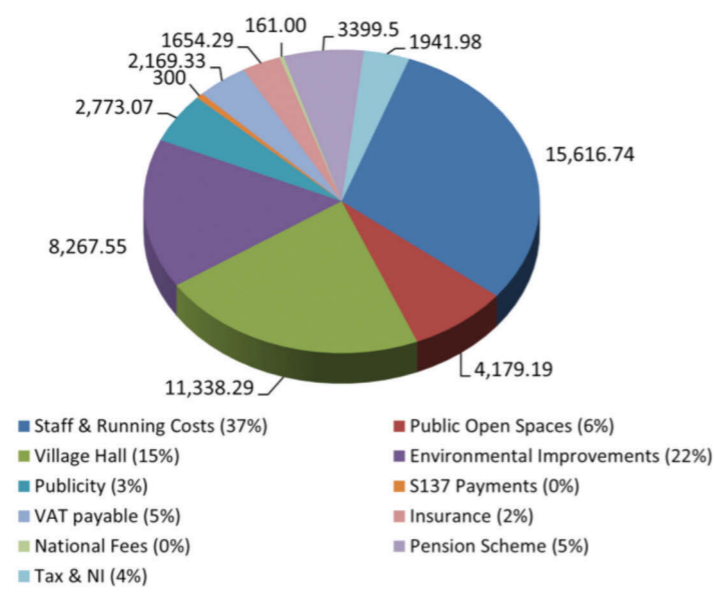
## Parish Council Meetings

9th May 2022 - 13th June 2022  
25th July 2022 - 12th September 2022  
10th October 2022 - 12th December 2022  
16th January 2023 - 6th March 2023

## Financial Statement 2020/21

The Financial Statement shown below is in the same form as the summary of accounts provided under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 for external audit.

2018/2019		2019/2020
£	<b>INCOME</b>	£
68,340.00	Precept	68,340.00
744.00	Football Pitch Hire	392.50
689.55	4F Centre Insurance Premium	710.24
	Other	367.98
4,656.90	VAT reclaimed	1,586.07
<b>74,430.45</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>71,396.79</b>
£	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	£
28,119.64	Staff & Running Costs	15,616.74
4,469.73	Public Open Spaces	4,179.19
11,869.14	Village Hall	11,338.29
17,240.03	Environmental Improvements	8,267.55
2,673.83	Publicity	2,773.07
901.22	S137 Payments including GCA costs	300.00
4,164.00	VAT payable	2,169.33
1,700.56	Insurance	1,654.29
161.00	National Subscriptions	161.00
4,158.79	Pension Scheme	3,399.50
3,038.98	Tax & NI	1,941.98
<b>78,496.92</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>51,800.94</b>
£	<b>CUMULATIVE FUND BALANCE</b>	£
82,889.84	Balance Brought Forward at 1/4/2020	78,823.04
74,430.45	Plus Total Income	71,396.79
157,320.29		150,219.79
78,496.92	Less Total Expenditure	51,800.94
<b>78,823.37</b>	<b>Balance carried forward at 31/3/2021</b>	<b>98,418.85</b>



## Surgeries

**Cllr Kate Stevenson - Rainhill** - [cllrk Stevenson@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:cllrk Stevenson@sthelens.gov.uk) - 0787488467  
Surgery Details  
The 3rd Saturday of every month, 10:00am - 2:00pm, Millennium Centre, Rainhill.

**Cllr James Tasker - Rainhill** - [cllrjtasker@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:cllrjtasker@sthelens.gov.uk) - 07864966629  
Surgery Details  
The 1st Thursday of every month, 7:30pm - 9:30pm, Millennium Centre, Rainhill.

**Cllr Donna Greaves - Rainhill** - [clldgreaves@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:clldgreaves@sthelens.gov.uk) - 07895330594  
Surgery Details  
The 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9:30am - 11:30am, Millennium Centre, Rainhill.

Your local member of Parliament is: **Marie Rimmer, MP**  
2nd Floor, Century House, Hardshaw St, St Helens, WA10 1QU  
Tel: 01744 752075 - Email: [marie.rimmer.mp@parliament.co.uk](mailto:marie.rimmer.mp@parliament.co.uk)

## Welcome to our 2022 Annual Report

## Chair's Report



Thank you Rainhill. What a 12 months we have had! The fight against COVID continues and although life has returned to normal for most, it remains a threat to many. We have seen Rainhill flourish since the lifting of restrictions, with new businesses opening, community groups re-engaging and our community coming back

together. A highlight of this for me was seeing the large crowds for Christmas Lights switch on in the Village, with Rainhill Rotary and St Barts School Choir participating in the event. As a Parish Council we have continued to support our residents, businesses, and the community at large. For the third year in a row Rainhill Parish Council has NOT raised our Council TAX Precept as we are fully aware the impact of COVID, increases in living costs and the rise in utilities are having on our residents. A common subject of conversation is Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in the Village area, as a Parish Council we are in continued talks with Merseyside Police, Businesses and Residents. We are planning an additional CCTV camera within the village and will be shortly launching a 'See it, Report it' campaign aimed at asking witnesses to report all ASB incidents to Merseyside Police. We have Zero Tolerance for any ASB in Rainhill. Rainhill Parish Council are committed to maintaining Rainhill as a fantastic area to live, work and study. We have big plans for the future of Rainhill and thanks to a lot of hard work we are beginning the grant application process for large scale projects the likes of which Rainhill hasn't seen for 40+ years. The recent Ukraine Crisis appeal conjunction with Polskie Merseyside, donations collected at St Anns Millennium Centre were incredible and witnessing the volumes of people giving their time and hard work was truly humbling. We Are Rainhill.

**Cllr. Wil Williams**  
Chair of Rainhill Parish Council

## Cover Story

The 'word cloud' on the front cover represents some of the initiatives and organisations that are important to Rainhill and supported by the Parish Council. They are placed within the shape of the Rainhill boundaries.

## Local Support Networks

<p><b>Post Office</b> Address: 509 Warrington Road, L35 4LP Number: 0151 426 4145 Sara and her team of volunteers can collect shopping (up to £20), prescriptions for those in isolation or can just give you a call for a quick chat.</p>	<p><b>The Samaritans</b> Free Number: 116 123 Website: <a href="http://www.samaritans.org/">www.samaritans.org/</a> Get in touch about anything that's troubling you no matter how big or small the issue is.</p>
<p><b>NHS 111 Online</b> Use if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days. Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.</p>	<p><b>Lloyds Pharmacy</b> Address: 473 Warrington Rd, L35 4LL Number: 0151 430 9888</p>
<p><b>Heath Pharmacy</b> Address: 18-20 Elephant Lane, St Helens, WA95QW Number: 0151 426 4145</p>	<p><b>Longsters - Alphega Pharmacy</b> Address: 578 Warrington Rd, L35 4LZ Number: 0151 426 2122</p>
<p><b>Rainhill Village Surgery</b> Address: 529 Warrington Rd, L35 4LP Number: 0151 511 5672</p>	<p><b>Longton Medical Centre</b> Address: 451 Warrington Rd, L35 4LL Number: 0151 290 4700</p>
<p><b>Crossroads Surgery</b> Address: 450 Warrington Rd, L35 4LL Number: 0151 430 9989</p>	<p><b>Rainhill Clinic</b> Address: View Rd, L35 0LE Number: 0151 289 2021</p>
<p><b>Tesco Pharmacy</b> Address: Cables Retail Park, Prescot Number: 0151 331 1638</p>	<p><b>I Care Opticians</b> Address: 128 Thatto Heath Road, WA9 5PE Number: 01744 811 890</p>
<p><b>R D Wilkes Optometrist</b> Address: 15 Dane Court, L35 4LU Number: 0151 426 2214</p>	<p><b>Police Community Support Officers</b> Sarah Smith Community Support Officer w/Powers Merseyside Police Direct Line Tel: 0151 777 4032 Please note this is not to be used to report crime, reporting is still done via 101 or 999 or online.</p>
<p><b>St Helens Mind</b> Number: 07912 059 881 Website: <a href="http://www.sthelensmind.org.uk">www.sthelensmind.org.uk</a> Providing support to people aged 18+ who</p>	<p><b>Dementia UK</b> Website: <a href="http://www.dementiauk.org">www.dementiauk.org</a> Number: 0800 888 6678</p>
<p><b>St Helens Floating Support Services</b> Number: 01744 451624 - SHAP Number: 01744 605043 - St. H Gateway Providing mental health support.</p>	<p><b>Refuge</b> For women and children. Against domestic violence. <b>Domestic Abuse 24/7 National Confidential Helpline</b> Freephone Number: 0808 2000 247 Website: <a href="http://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk">www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Childline</b> Free Number: 0800 1111 Website: <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a> Childline are there for children and young people whatever they're going through.</p>	<p><b>Chrysalis Centre for Change</b> Number: 01744 451 309 Email: <a href="mailto:chrysaliscentreforchange@gmail.com">chrysaliscentreforchange@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.chrysaliscentreforchange.co.uk">www.chrysaliscentreforchange.co.uk</a> Address: 1st Floor, Beacon Building, 25 College St, Saint Helens WA10 1TF Women's support service only. Including counselling, confidence and assertion courses, CBT for depression, grief support programmes, therapeutic art and crafts sessions and domestic abuse support.</p>
<p><b>St Helens Foodbank</b> Number: 01744 26414 Email: <a href="mailto:info@sthelens.foodbank.org.uk">info@sthelens.foodbank.org.uk</a> Address: Atherton Street, St Helens, WA10 2DT Opening Hours: Tuesday and Friday 11:00 - 14:30</p>	<p><b>Kooth</b> Website: <a href="http://www.kooth.com">www.kooth.com</a> An online digital counselling and wellbeing platform for children and young people aged 11 to 25 years. Provides young people with instant free and anonymous access to selfhelp materials, live moderated discussion forums and tools such as online journals and goal trackers.</p>
<p><b>Child Bereavement UK</b> Number: 01744 26414 (based in Widnes) Fantastic free service working with the whole family. No limit to number of sessions.</p>	<p><b>Enquiries at Making Space</b> Number: 01744 675 255 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@makingspace.co.uk">enquiries@makingspace.co.uk</a> Council Tax support for those on low income</p>
<p><b>Applying for Free School Meals</b> Number: 01744 676 666 Use the following link based on the postcode of your home address: <a href="https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/schools-education/school-meals/free-school-meals/">https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/schools-education/school-meals/free-school-meals/</a></p>	<p><b>St Helens Citizens Advice</b> Number: 01744 751380 Website: <a href="http://www.sthelenscab.org.uk">www.sthelenscab.org.uk</a> Address: Millennium Centre, Corporation Street, St Helens, WA10 1HJ Provide free, confidential information and advice to assist people with money, legal, consumer and other problems.</p>
<p><b>Prescot Salvation Army</b> Debt Advice Service Number: 0151 426 2278 Email: <a href="mailto:prescot@salvationarmy.org.uk">prescot@salvationarmy.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/prescot">www.salvationarmy.org.uk/prescot</a> Address: Warrington Road, Prescot, L35 5AD</p>	<p><b>Universal Credit Claim Helpline</b> Free Number: 0800 1448 444</p>

# We Are Rainhill - 2021/2022



Parish Councillors and the Rainhill Community were some of the first to set up a centre to collect, sort and pack generous donations for Ukraine. Parish Councillors also supported the depot at Huyton.



A number of residents got in touch concerned about cars speeding along Warrington Road. Rainhill Parish Council contacted Merseyside police and arranged for Police Community Support Officers to come out and monitor the road. A number of warning letters were issued.



During the school autumn half term Parish Councillors were out supporting 'Rainhill Chasing Rainbows' Group's work to complete litter picks across Rainhill to make a difference to our community and environment. The children, often with support of parents, made an amazing effort during their half term break, and collected over 30 bags of rubbish right across Rainhill.



Cllr Wil Williams, Chair of the Parish Council, presents Vera Helsby with a card, certificate and cake on the occasion of her 100th birthday. If you know of any resident who will be celebrating their Centenary, please contact our Parish Council clerk, rainhillpc@hotmail.co.uk



9 representatives from Rainhill Pub Watch along with members of the Parish Council attended a "Bleed Prevention" training course provided by North West Medical Solutions and supported by the Daniel Fox Foundation. The training covered how to use bleed prevention kits in different scenarios, such as stab wounds, amputations, and accidents. Acting quickly and with the right equipment, could save a life.

Each of the venues in attendance, now has a bleed prevention kit, provided by Rainhill Parish Council, and the knowledge to use them. If you're interested in holding a kit and completing the free training, please get in touch with us.



Attendees were privileged to see a number of demonstrations of amazing riding skills. East Liverpool RDA are looking for volunteers to help children and adults with physical and/or learning difficulties around the stables and help those who ride for therapy, achievement and most of all, fun. Whatever your skills you have something to offer. Contact Natalie at eastliverpoolrda@gmail.com or telephone 07305 287 287 to find out more about how you can help.



Following concerns from a number of residents about levels of anti-social behaviour and low level crime in the area, Rainhill Parish Council worked in partnership with Merseyside Police to address those issues of concern. On a typical busy Saturday morning a Mobile Police Unit was positioned on the Commercial Public House car park. Merseyside Police PCSO Andy was on hand along with a number of Rainhill Parish Councillors to listen to resident's concerns and offered support as well as providing advice and reassurance.



The COVID-19 pandemic had a tragic impact on Merchant Navy communities, and many continue to need urgent support. This Merchant Navy Day on 3rd of September, we flew the Red Ensign to remember the sacrifices of the often forgotten and invisible Merchant Navy community.



Rainhill Parish Councillors were in the Co-op to help raise awareness of Invisible Disabilities Week. The idea behind Invisible Disabilities Awareness Week is to help people understand that not all disabilities are visibly obvious.



On the 11th February, Parish Councillors attended the opening of the new library at Rainhill High School, with author Anthony McGowan and Marie Rimmer MP. Year 7 students took part in talks from Mr McGowan and received an insight into the life of a published author whilst Year 8 students took part in a 'book tasting' event to expand their reading horizons. It is a wonderful space for the children to have access to, and following the opening, Rainhill Parish Council agreed to donate £1,000 to help with book provisioning and fill the shelves with much needed books.



In December and February this year, a number of Parish and Borough Councillors accompanied our Police Community Support Officer, Sarah, to look at some areas of concern following a rise in anti-social behaviour, especially around the village area. The aim of the walk was to show Sarah where the trouble spots are and what the community are saying about them.

It is essential that all anti-social behaviour is reported directly to the police so resources can be deployed to tackle it in targeted hot spot areas. If it's an emergency, always use 999, or dial 101 if it is not an emergency. If you have Facebook, you can report it directly through the Merseyside Police Contact Centre page, or use Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Rainhill BIG Scoop

**WHY SHOULD WE SCOOP THE POOP?**

- 1. The Law**

It is the law that dog owners have to pick up their dog's poo in public places.

**Owners can be fined up to £1000 if the poo is left behind!**
- 2. Health**

Dog Poo can make people sick as it can contain nasty bacteria such as E-coli and parasites like roundworms, the larvae of which can cause loss of vision.

Dog poo can also spread illness and disease to other dogs and wildlife.
- 3. People it affects**

There are people in our community who are more at risk of coming into contact with dog poo and putting their health at risk.

  - Babies and toddlers who love to explore the world with their hands.
  - Disabled people, people using walking sticks, crutches and wheelchairs.
  - People using buggies and prams.
  - Visually impaired people - may not be able to avoid stepping on dog poo on the footpath and an unscoped poo can make their guide dogs sick.

**Be kind to your Community  
Bag it, Bin it or Face a Fine**

[www.rainhillparish.org.uk](http://www.rainhillparish.org.uk)

We launched 'Rainhill Big Scoop' a dog fouling campaign started by The Dogs Trust. Dog fouling is a human problem, and we want to see dog owners take responsibility by picking up after their dogs and reducing the amount of dog mess being left in public spaces. Not cleaning up after you dog is criminal offence which can lead to a fine of up to £1000. It also comes with health dangers and negatively affects many people in our community.

# Rainhill Organisations and Useful Contacts

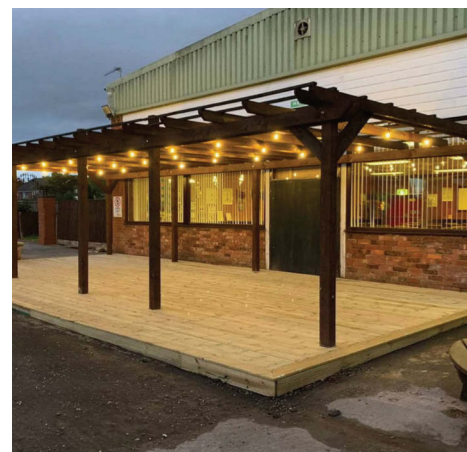
<p><b>Clerk to the Parish Council</b> Kathryn Adamson 5 Regal Drive Windle, St.Helens WA10 6BJ</p>	<p><b>Girl Guides &amp; Brownies</b> Diane Davies Tel: 07768 063564</p> <p><b>Rainhill Scouts</b> Mr. M. Gilsenan Tel: 07722 403621</p> <p><b>4th St Helens Scout Group</b> Mr. B. Lowe 20 Old Lane Tel: 0151 430 7988</p>	<p><b>Rainhill Women's Institute</b> Meet at Rainhill Ex-Services Club Mrs. E. North Tel: 0151 426 3730</p> <p><b>Kendrick's Cross Women's Institute</b> Mrs R. Proffitt every 4th Tuesday at St Anns Millennium Centre Tel: 0151 430 0696</p> <p><b>Rainhill Old People's Luncheon Club</b> Mrs. E. Benson Tel: 0151 430 9276</p> <p><b>Royal British Legion</b> Tom Blackburn Tel: 07742 591610</p> <p><b>Rainhill Ex-Services Club</b> Bill Devlin Tel: 0151 426 4625</p> <p><b>Civic Society</b> Ann Davey Tel: 0151 426 3367</p> <p><b>Railway &amp; Heritage Society</b> Mrs. B. Nixon Tel: 0151 426 1315</p> <p><b>Rainhill Garrick Society</b> Judith Martindale Tel: 07772 963172</p> <p><b>Rainhill Musical Theatre Company</b> Philippa Bradshaw Rainhillmtc@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>Rainhill Rotary Club</b> John Chapman Tel: 0151 426 1151</p> <p><b>Rainhill Model Railway Club</b> Brian Davies Tel: 01925 226266</p>	<p><b>Indoor Bowling</b> Rainhill Village Hall</p> <p><b>Rainhill Gala</b> Steve Clarke Tel: 07951 324 599</p> <p><b>Rainhill Rocket JFC</b> Charter Standard Club Bob Miller Tel: 01514939010 or 07702736984</p> <p><b>Rainhill Town FC</b> Charter Standard Club Mr N. Thompson Tel: 07539104337</p> <p><b>Rainhill United JFC</b> Charter Standard Club Mike Travis Club Secretary Tel: 07870249236</p> <p><b>Stephenson Model Railway Group</b> Tom Lowton Tel: 0151 430 6883</p> <p><b>Probus Club Rainhill &amp; Prescott</b> Chris Bean c.bean118@btinternet.com</p> <p><b>Rainhill Bowling Club</b> Crown Green Bowls At Rainhill Cricket Club Eric Davies Tel: 0151 426 5818</p> <p><b>Rainhill 'Forget-Me-Not' Dementia Awareness Support Group</b> St Anns Centre View Road Margaret Lutner Tel: 0151 426 8040</p>
<p><b>4F Play Centre</b> (owned by Parish Council) Available for Sessional Hire Contact Anita Hoey (manager) anita.4fcentre@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 07948 729588</p> <p><b>Rainhill Village Hall</b> Weaver Avenue Tel: 0151 430 9338 rainhillvillagehall@gmail.com</p> <p><b>St.Helens Council, Town Hall</b> Victoria Square, St.Helens Tel: 01744 456789</p> <p><b>St. Ann's Centre and Parish Office</b> View Road Tel: 0151 493 9350</p> <p><b>Rainhill Community Library</b> View Road Tel: 01744 677822</p> <p><b>St. Ann's Church</b> Warrington Road Tel: 0151 426 4666</p> <p><b>St. Bartholomew's Church</b> Warrington Road Tel: 01744 812127</p> <p><b>St. James Methodist Church</b> St James Road Tel: 0151 424 2494</p> <p><b>Trinity Evangelical Church</b> Longton Lane Tel: 0151 426 7794</p>	<p><b>Kidzone</b> Longton Lane Pre-School Tel: 0151 430 0990</p> <p><b>Say and Play</b> Carolyn Whitehead Tel: 07702 286493</p> <p><b>Little Explorers</b> Diane Davies Scout Hut, Old Lane Tel: 07768 063564</p> <p><b>Rainhill Recreation Club</b> Mr. J. Rotherham Tel: 0151 426 2507</p> <p><b>Rainhill Swimming Club</b> Jane Bowyer Tel: 07974 731377 Tel: 07377 697707 Jean Barratt Tel: 07863 821648</p> <p><b>St. Helens &amp; Rainhill Junior Alliance Football League</b> Stacey Savage Tel: 07852 656442</p> <p><b>Rainhill Townswomen's Guild</b> Carol Walpole 47A The Meadows Rainhill L35 0PQ Tel: 0151 426 2342</p>		

## Rainhill Rotary meets the challenge of 2021/2022

The Rotary Club of Rainhill members and volunteer helpers worked hard with our Santa sleigh. Starting 28th November with the turning on of the Christmas tree lights in the village. We collected on 11 local street routes and at three St Helens supermarkets completing a total of 7 visits to the stores. Our Sleigh with Santa also visited 6 local junior schools and turned the lights on at Thatto Heath. We finished in Rainhill village outside the Co-op on Christmas Eve. We collected £11,559.00 which will all be distributed to local charities and good causes. The Rotary Club would like to thank all our volunteer helpers. We plan to hold our 18th Beer Festival from 27th - 29th October. We are looking for Volunteers to help with setting up from the weekend before 22nd, serving the Beer, cider, prosecco on the 27th, 28th and 29th. And the taking



down all bars, shelving etc. on the 30th October. Peter Reeves President of the Rotary Club 2021/2022 Anybody wishing to help and join us and our volunteers should visit our website. [templatemail@rotary-ribi.org](mailto:templatemail@rotary-ribi.org) Or email on [enquiries@rainhillbeerfest.org](mailto:enquiries@rainhillbeerfest.org)



## Rainhill Ex-Services Club

Rainhill Ex Services Club has thrived through the years and has been an active part of the community. The club whilst still a member's club is enjoyed by many generations of families and every age from 18 upwards. The club has 2 function rooms for weddings, funerals, parties (starting at age 21) and many other uses. We do room dressing and provide lots of different packages to suit. The club is fully accessible. Bingo is every Tuesday and open to all. Facilities include darts, snooker and pool and a large field that was up to last year home to a football team. We are a very friendly club and are very competitive with our prices and welcome new members and non-members to pop in.

## Rainhill Village Hall



The Hall reopened after the lockdown in early 2021. The number of user groups has continued to increase. The Hall office hours are extended from 10.00 to 14.00, Monday to Friday. Applications for grants were made to the Co-

op and the Rotary Dragon's Den. Requests were unsuccessful, but it was appreciated that there would be a high number of applications for funding and less money to allocate. The Treasurer, Chris Fairhurst, left in April and Gillian Pinder took over the role in May. Chris was presented with a gift in appreciation of his hard work & dedication over the previous two years. The Hall's long serving cleaner, Jill, left in June and Debra took over the role. The last phase of upgrading the Hall's emergency lighting and ceiling lights was completed in early May at a total cost of £3600.00. The Cedar room lighting was the last to be upgraded. This room has been renovated and now provides another area for hire. Broadband reception on the Oak side of the building and an additional phone line and router were installed and completed in November. A Fire Risk Assessment was carried out in September and most of the recommendations have now been dealt with. On the whole activities at the hall are back to normal. The continuing support of the Village Hall Management Committee and the Parish Council is appreciated.

## Millennium Centre

The Millennium Centre St Ann's Millennium Centre is a grade 11 listed building in the centre of Rainhill.

After the Covid lockdowns, we struggled for a while to keep open, because of a staffing problem it was left to volunteers to man the centre which was tough. In September 2021, Vickie Anders took over the role as Centre Administrator and we have gone from strength to strength. During the week the Centre is used by church members and the community alike, both daytime and evenings. Last week was our biggest challenge when we collected donations of goods needed for Ukraine refugees. We had lots of help from the community, Parish councillors, Rotary church and many others. Thank you to all our centre users, without you we would not be here!



## 4F Centre



After a few strange years the 4f centre is now fully open and groups are returning. We have a number of children's groups including Tumble tots and Wise owls during the day and adult classes like yoga, Zumba and kava maga running at night. If you are looking for a centre to hold classes please call down we do have spaces available during the day. The facilities at the centre are excellent and the cost of renting per hour very competitive take a look at our website. For any enquiries ring centre manager Anita Hoey Centre Manager on 07948729588 or email [anita.4fcentre@hotmail.com](mailto:anita.4fcentre@hotmail.com)

## Good Citizenship Awards 2021



(from left to right) Cllr W Williams, Chair of Rainhill Parish Council, Natalie Mukherjee, Andrea Lindsay, Gary Crickson, Carol Fairclough, John Fairclough, Jill Cooke, Kathleen Oakes, Jack Hunter, Denise Clarke

### JILL COOKE

Jill created the Community Facebook page 'RAINHILL ROCKS'. With over 20k followers there are not many events or incidents that RAINHILL ROCKS doesn't cover or update the community of Rainhill about. Andrea, who nominated Jill says, "During the lockdowns, her page kept the community updated on Covid restrictions and very often became the 'go to' place to be kept informed. Jill started each day, posting an uplifting or funny picture or saying to keep spirits lifted when things were looking very gloomy. She maintained the page while still working full time during all the lockdowns and ensured many self-employed trades in Rainhill had a place to still gain work during really desperate times. Many of our hospitality businesses and services advertised their new ways of working so they could keep Rainhill going.

### JOHN FAIRCLOUGH

John was born and raised in Rainhill. Five years ago John became one of the main founders of "Rainhill Save Our Green Belt" Action Group. John has worked tirelessly for the past 5yrs, with others to fight the battle against losing our local "Green Belt". His main work has been addressing research and technical issues. Nominator Gill Makin, stated that, "Since the introduction of the St Helens Local Plan (approximately December 2016), John has worked tirelessly and consistently to gather information, inform residents, meet with officials, attend events and protests to raise awareness and put forward many objections to the proposed building on Eccleston Park Golf Club, and other areas of Rainhill".

### CAROL FAIRCLOUGH

Carol has been treasurer of the 'Rainhill Save Our Greenbelt' Action Group and taken part in fund raising and general campaigning. Nominator Gill Makin stated, "Since the introduction of the St Helens Local Plan, Carol has been committed to supporting the fight against the proposal to build on local Green Belt including Eccleston Park Golf Club, and surrounding areas of Rainhill." Carol has worked hard to share information, delivering information leaflets and co-ordinating mass delivery, whilst also organising and attending fundraising events.

### ANDREA LINDSAY

Andrea has always lived locally. During the Covid pandemic, Andrea's business had to temporarily close but she immediately volunteered to become a member of the administration team for the 'Rainhill Community Support Group'. Andrea volunteered, taking shopping orders from residents over the volunteer phone line, co-ordinating volunteers to deliver shopping and shopping for residents herself. She was also involved in co-ordinating volunteers to deliver shopping to Reeve Court Retirement Village residents. Andrea helped deliver over 300 hot meals to vulnerable residents across Rainhill. Andrea delivered food donated by Co-op customers to the local food bank, participated in a "snack drop" to Whiston NHS workers and also ensured vital PPE equipment was delivered to Whiston and Alder Hey Hospitals. Andrea provided her own personal service by adding treats to residents' shopping deliveries and spending time to talk.

### NATALIE MUKHERJEE

Nat was part of the administration team for 'Rainhill Community Support Group' and was relentless in her role as a volunteer for the group. Nat staffed the phone lines, taking shopping orders from residents who were self-isolating or vulnerable, co-ordinating volunteers delivering shopping and shopping for residents herself. Nat was part of the team delivering over 300 hot meals to vulnerable residents and also delivered food, donated by co-op customers, to the local Foodbank. She helped get PPE equipment to Whiston and Alder Hey Hospitals, was part of the team delivering a 'snack drop' to Whiston NHS workers. Nat also helped to co-ordinate food shopping for residents at Reeve Court Retirement Village twice a week throughout the lockdown periods. Nat always personalised her support, adding little 'extras' to the shopping she delivered and giving time to safely talk with resident, who might have been finding the lockdown experience lonely and isolating.

### ELIZABETH WALLS-HOGAN

Elizabeth has lived in Rainhill all her life. Elizabeth set up the 'Rainhill Chasing Rainbows' Community Facebook Group during the first Covid-19 lockdown of March 2020. The initiative provided local children with activities to get involved with during the difficult days and they could go out 'Rainbow spotting' during their own daily exercise. Elizabeth's son Flynn, who had a passion for all things environmental, suggested a litter picking as a new focus for the group. The response proved overwhelming by the children of the group who obtained pickers, bags and set dates for joint litter picks. During their first pick the

group collected 152 bags of litter. This has continued during school holidays and to date they have collected hundreds of bags of litter from our community.

### FLYNN

Flynn is aged 9. Flynn spearheaded the idea of litter picking within the Rainhill Chasing Rainbows group. He encouraged children to get involved by sharing facts about litter and how dangerous it can be to wildlife. He has requested permission from the Rainhill Eco Garden and Rainhill Hall to place Bird feeders up. He wanted to encourage the children and community of Rainhill to appreciate wildlife. In November Flynn wrote to the schools and Nurseries of Rainhill. He asked if they could consider only producing glitter and plastic free Reindeer food at Christmas. Flynn and his class made 150 bags of plastic free and glitter free reindeer food. He suggested the idea of getting more children involved in the Big RSPB Bird watch. His school has taken the idea onboard and Flynn is Super excited to be involved in the Big Schools Bird watch.

### DENISE CLARKE

Denise doesn't live in Rainhill she lives in St. Helens but says Rainhill has always felt like her second home after working here nearly every evening and as a Parish Council we were delighted that we changed the criteria for awarding our good citizens to extend it to people who don't live in Rainhill but do great things to enhance the lives of people who do. Denise has recently retired from St Ann's millennium centre where she worked for 14 fabulous years a cleaner/caretaker. In addition, Denise still found the time to volunteer supporting children and the elderly who needed support.

### KATHLEEN OAKES

Kathleen has lived in Rainhill for over 51 years. After Kathleen's 3rd child was born, Kathleen decided she needed a job to fit around school runs and she joined St Helens Council as a Kitchen Assistant, working initially at St Ann's school before moving to Rainhill High School, working at the old and new site. Kathleen is very proud that all three of her children attended Rainhill High School. Kathleen spent over 38 years at Rainhill High School and has served thousands of children, some of whom she has served as teachers who returned to work there.

### GARY CRICKSON

Gary has lived in Rainhill all his life Gary is the owner of Forge Fitness & Boxing gym which is based in Rainhill. Gary has given his all to establish a facility at forge that enhances the health and fitness, along with general wellbeing & has become an emotional/mental health advocate to the members of the gym and beyond. Gary is always willing to give to others - he often pours from his own cup to fill others when his is almost empty - this analogy perfectly sums Gary up. His efforts have been so substantial with all the charitable work that he has been involved with.

### JACK HUNTER

Jack loves Rainhill so much so he has been here nearly 68 years. Jack has been nominated for a Rainhill Parish Council Good Citizenship Award as Jack is truly dedicated to supporting, helping, advising and guiding others in our community, and to accomplish this he has helped set up 6 Facebook pages to promote Rainhill and it's citizens. One group Rainhill Ramblers set up after lockdown 1 helped people to begin socialising again, this then helped enormously with the member's mental well-being during a very difficult and challenging time for everyone. Many members of the group have now gone on to become firm friends and meet regularly outside of the group for drinks, meals and day trip excursions etc.

### RYAN MEAH

In May 2020, during the first National lockdown, Ryan recognised that there were many vulnerable people across the Rainhill community, Ryan offered to provide and donate meals, prepared by the Blue Mango Restaurant team for 100 individuals. Ryan worked with the Rainhill Community Support group members and a number of local Rainhill Parish Councillor's to identify the recipients of the meals with a focus on those who were perhaps vulnerable, shielding or who needed a lifting of the spirit. Ryan organised a team of drivers and that evening, within two hours, had delivered 100 meals which were welcomed by all who benefitted from this act of kindness. In February 2021, Ryan could see that the timing was right across the community to once again, bring some welcome happiness to individuals during those difficult times. On this occasion, Ryan redoubled his efforts and delivered 200 donated meals, again prepared by the team at the Blue Mango and supported by the Rainhill Community Support Group.

# Rainhill Parish Council - Annual Report 2022

## Rainhill St Anns

There is a favourite reading at many of our services about love. It says "if I speak without love I am just like a noisy gong or a clashing symbol." (All noise and nothing worth hearing).

Not romantic love but hearing the call to Love God and Love our neighbour as much as we love ourselves, to build up all that makes for community. As things return to a new normal, I'm writing this as a reminder. A reminder to let love speak and not to rush too hurriedly to what is new and full of potential without a time to look back and reflect on what has passed. There is still a lot of sadness at what was lost. Let us remind ourselves to hear the call to let our love for one another be evident in what we say and how we say it, to be gentle with one another and ourselves. For what has happened over the last year has left all of us bruised and not a little tired. Some have had too much time and some have had too little. So before we embrace the future with all its opportunities and challenges, we should take time to say farewell to the past. Holding always in our hearts to the hope that things will change for the better and we will learn from what has gone and have strength to take hold of what lies ahead. "These three remain, faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love"



## Trinity Church



The last year started with a gradual return to normality at Trinity with the rollout of the COVID Vaccines and people gradually emerging from their COVID cocoons and renewing relationships "in person" at our weekly gatherings.

Our "New" Pastor, Will Williams - who joined us just as the Pandemic struck - was finally able to get to know us all and the community in which we live and serve God together. The need to meet online as a "Virtual Church" gave us time to pause and re-think the way we do things at Trinity. The changes we have made as a result of this enforced time of reflection have already begun to help us. It has been a real joy to see new families joining us - both on Sundays and at our Kidzone on Monday evenings.. Our traditional Candlelight Carol service was replaced by "Carols in the Carpark" - an event which summed up the last year perfectly for Trinity. Out of adversity there is the beginning of something new for which we give God our thanks.

## Platinum Jubilee 2nd-5th June 2022

Rainhill Parish Council are very proud to be coordinating the Platinum Jubilee Celebration. All the organisations and individuals who contributed so much to the success of the Rocket 190 weekend have been contacted. Many of them have come forward to host various events throughout the four days that the Government has set aside to celebrate HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

You will be receiving more information in due course, so far there are plans for a Children's Party, a Concert, an Exhibition celebrating 70 years in Rainhill. A Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's 70 years on the throne will be held to start the weekend's events. We are conscious that many people will want to organise their own events, if you have plans for a street party, let us know and we can help with road closures, the deadline to apply for any road closures is 5pm, Sunday 17 April 2022. The Parish Council have set aside funds to pay for decorating the village, with banners, flags and bunting. Shops, restaurants, bars and pubs have been contacted and asked to decorate their premises. Rainhill will look at it's best for what promises to be a memorable event. If you would like to be involved in any way, please contact us. It can be anything from organising an event or helping in getting the village ready for the weekend. Whatever your age let's make this a weekend to remember. Contact details: rainhillpc@hotmail.co.uk



## Youth Ambassadors

Introduction to our new Youth Ambassadors from Tower College-Sarah and Emily.

My name is Emily and I am in Year 11 at Tower College. I live in Rainhill with my family and am delighted to have the opportunity to be a young voice as part of Rainhill Parish Council. I am really looking forward to understanding more about how the council runs and to be able to contribute ideas regarding our community and the local environment.

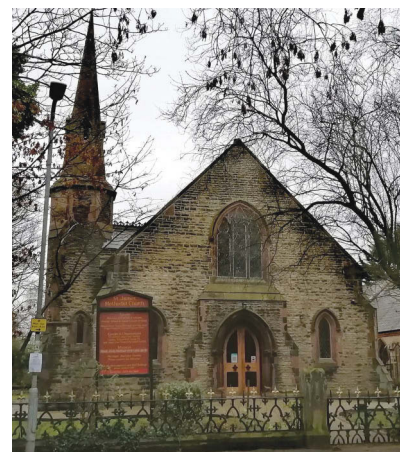
My name is Sarah and I am in Year 10 at Tower College. It has always seemed unfair to me how little young people are actually involved in the decisions and policies that construct the world around us and so I am really excited to be given a voice on the Parish Council. Even though I do not live in Rainhill, I feel a strong connection to the village and am so pleased to have this opportunity to lend a hand to help make Rainhill an even better to live and work.

Rainhill High School have also appointed two Youth Ambassadors. Our Youth Ambassadors from both schools look forward to working together to provide a voice for our youth across Rainhill.

## St James Methodist Church

We resumed worship on 25th April 2021. We are meeting fortnightly at present owing to a current shortage of preachers in our circuit.

In September, our new Minister, Andy Moffoot, had his welcome service at our sister church in Prescot. We have continued with our house Bible study meetings, mainly using Zoom but have recently met up face to face. We have enjoyed several joint services all held at St Ann's. There have also been joint services at Prescot and Nutgrove Methodist churches. Several of our members have passed the advanced Safeguarding training. Our young people continue to make a valuable contribution to our Sunday worship. Our Ladies Fellowship outing for our Christmas meal was a really joyous occasion and was well attended. At Christmas, we collected shoe boxes of gifts for Samaritan's Purse as well as visiting Ravenhead Foyer with toiletry gifts for the young people there, thanks to the generosity of our congregation.



## Rainhill Parish Council COVID Response & Roll of Honour

Yet again it has been a challenging year for our Community. Twelve months ago, we were just beginning to feel more confident with the roll out of the vaccines. Once again, we were grateful to the residents who volunteered to help the vulnerable and at vaccine centres and testing stations. The Parish Council put out a call on social media to ask for nominations for a Roll of Honour of those who had gone beyond the call of duty during the pandemic. Sara Barlow BEM (Rainhill Post Master) coordinated the list below.

Catherine Fairhurst  
Carolyn Tasker Smith  
Lorraine Bayley  
Michelle Sorensen  
Barbara Shepherd  
Suzanne Savage  
Nat Mukherjee  
Ronnie Mukherjee

Chris Fairhurst  
James Saunders  
Angela Gregory  
Joanne Evans  
Sue Reed  
Jill Cooke  
James Tasker

Vicky Hewitt  
Kim Simpson  
Nicola Hughes  
Chris Kenny  
Jean Pearson  
Jill Cooke  
Stuart Baggs

Debby Ellard  
Gillian Norris  
Paula Flin  
Sara Barlow  
Sandra J Roscoe  
Donna Greaves  
Andrea Lindsay

Nataya Carlisle  
Joyce Barlow  
Andy Abbott  
Kate Stevenson  
Jo Woodhouse  
Wil Williams  
Ann-Veronica Howitt