

Rainhill Parish Council

Clerk to the Council:
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13th September 2022

Dear Councillor,

Due to the Ordinary Parish Council meeting which was scheduled to take place on Monday 12th September 2022 being postponed you are summoned to attend the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Wednesday 21st September 2022, in the Oak Hall at the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm. Due to the village hall front door having to be locked whilst the meeting takes place this will be done at 7.25pm to enable the meeting to start on time.

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 sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K E Adamson', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

K E Adamson
Clerk to Rainhill Parish and Responsible Financial Officer



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RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

September 21st 2022

1. To receive apologies for absence

PUBLIC SESSION The public may speak on any matters of concern, but the Council may not make any lawful decision during this session

2. To receive declarations of interest from members
3. To consider and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 25th July 2022
4. To receive Police monthly statistics report July – for information only
5. To note the contents of the Clerk's Report - for information
6. To consider the following Planning Applications and note any actions taken:

P/2022/0449/HHPA P/2022/0455/CLP P/2022/0415/S73 Removal/variation of condition 2 approval P/2020/0789/FUL.
P/2022/0479/HHFP P/2022/0493/COT P/2022/0495/HHFP P/2022/0524/HHFP P/2022/0546/COT
P/2022/0554/HHFP P/2022/0560/COT P/2022/0576/HHFPP/2022/0580/FUL

7. To authorise the accounts payable (list included in report)
8. To receive update on Library
9. To note update on St Helens community governance review
10. To consider a community garden at King Edward close
11. To receive update on telephone box
12. To discuss the production of stickers to support anti-social crime campaign and its reporting
13. To consider the provision of first aid training for businesses and the community
14. To receive an update for Rocket 200 – Cllr Barker
15. To consider option to opt out of the saaa central external auditor appointment arrangements
16. To approve the audited annual return
17. To consider actions for the Remembrance Day service.
18. To discuss litter issue at Elgin Court
19. To discuss Rainhill station entrance on Tasker Terrace
20. To discuss the scarecrow festival
21. To discuss the delivery of annual reports in 2023
22. To discuss a partnership with Mersey forest
23. To consider the benches in centre of Rainhill
24. To receive update on broadband
25. To consider residents comments and complaints
26. To receive reports from external groups
27. Suggested items for next agenda – for information only
28. Date and time of next meeting- for information only



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RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES 25th July 2022

At a meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 25th July 2022 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: G. Barker, I. Brown, A. Daniels, A.V Howitt, S. Rutherford, M. Jones, K. Stevenson, J. Tasker, J. Woodhouse, G. Ward (Chair).

1 member of the public were also present.

Prior to commencement of business the meeting was adjourned to allow members of public to raise any concerns. Those present reported:

They felt the Village Hall was not getting a mention within the minutes of Parish Council minutes when compared to the 4F Centre.

The Chair has asked the Parish Council village hall representatives to liaise with the Village Hall at their meetings to ensure full feedback can be given.

The meeting was recommenced.

20.895 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: S. Barlow, D. Hendrick, D. Greaves, W. Williams.

The Chair conveyed the Members wishes of a speedy recovery to Cllr D Hendrick following his recent accident and long stay in hospital.

20.896 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made

20.897 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To consider and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th June 2022

Resolved that the minutes should be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

20.898 TO RECEIVE MERSEYSIDE POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS REPORT

To receive the police reports for June 2022. Chair noted the 0 ASB in June. The work between the Councillors and the schools, police & CCTV monitoring suite has been ongoing and productive. The recent ECO garden incident was not included in the report and has been questioned at a recent pub watch meeting and the police have confirmed why it has not been included will be looked into.

Resolved that the report of the crime statistics for Rainhill be noted.

20.899 TO NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk confirmed item 5a a donation from Rainhill Hall has now been received. 6f is now included as Election Charges for the costs of running the Parish Elections in May 2022 have now been received. The Costs reflect the running of the election although the Parish Council will not be charged for any room or hall keeping services for the verification and counting of votes on Friday 6th May 2022. The Cost has been included in the table of payments for authorisation.

It was resolved that the contents of the Clerk's report be noted.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
25th July 2022

20.900 TO CONSIDER 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/2022/0363/COT Trimming of 2no holly bushes in conservation area. 1 Lawton Road
P/2022/0366/HHFP Demolition of the detached garage and erection of single storey extensions to the front and side with additional glazing, new render, brickwork and solar panels to all elevations. 13 The Meadows
P/2022/0375/CLP Certificate of lawfulness for proposed demolition of existing conservatory with replacement single storey rear extension. 18 Alness Drive
P/2022/0398/TPO Works to various trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order. 19 And 21 View Road
P/2022/0412/S73 Modification of condition 6 on approval P/2021/0228/HHFP to amend the tree root protection system. Wylde Cop Mill Lane
P/2022/0415/S73 Removal/variation of condition 2 on approval P/2020/0789/FUL. Replace approved plans and elevations with revised plans as well as 'setting out' plan Land To Rear Of 533 Warrington Road

Comments/objections have been submitted on the following applications

The Council noted the actions taken.

20.901 TO AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

JULY			
Payee	Description	Amount	Ref
K Adamson	Telephone 15.83 + 3.16 vat	18.99	
	Salary - July (less Tax, NI & Pens)	1199.24	
	Copier Paper	4.00	
	Total	1222.23	TFR582
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – July	371.25	TFR583
Water Plus	Water – Albert Fellowes	72.48	DD
Corona	Electricity - Holt Playing Fields	24.71	DD
Scottish Power	Electricity - Rainhill Park	60.00	DD
James Tasker	Market Flyers	95.00	TFR584
St Helens Council	Election Costs May 2022	6321.72	TFR588
AUGUST			
K Adamson	Telephone 15.83 + 3.16 vat	18.99	
	Salary - August (less Tax, NI & Pens)	1199.26	
	Total	1218.13	TFR585
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – August	371.25	TFR586
Water Plus	Water – Albert Fellowes	92.16	DD
Corona	Electricity - Holt Playing Fields	24.91	DD
Scottish Power	Electricity - Rainhill Park	60.00	DD
Netwise	Website Package Hosting, Support and Maintenance - (05/08/2022-04/08/2023) 250.00 + 50.00 VAT	300.00	TFR587
S.137 Payments			

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
25th July 2022**

It was resolved that the items were approved for payment.

INCOME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
June 2022		
St Helens Council	2 nd Precept Payment	34,170
July 2022		
Rainhill Hall	Donation towards wildflower planting	100.00

Information noted.

20.902 TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT AND BANK RECONCILIATION

The quarterly budget report and bank reconciliation were approved.
It was resolved for the Chair to sign the bank reconciliation.

20.903 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LIBRARY

Cllr Stevenson reported there was nothing to report now due to not receiving information relating to 17 questions that had been asked to St Helens Council. Questions included how it could be run as a community-based project, what happens to the contents and would request to see 4 years of accounts for the library. As of the Parish Council meeting no replies had been received. Cllr Stevenson confirmed all the information had been strongly and repeatedly requested and it will be escalated if necessary. Cllr Stevenson confirmed there is an implication the St Helens Council decision making is flawed with incorrect information. As budgets have already been set for the year the question is asked why is the library set to close in October. It was confirmed the Civic Society has written to Central Government and Cllr Woodhouse has written to the Arts Council. Posters are being designed for window display. Cllr Howitt passed on the extreme concern being shown from all ages and community groups. Cllr Stevenson reported the St Helens Council leader as confirming the decision will not be reversed and to stop emailing. There is a meeting scheduled to take place on 27th July 2022 and the information requested was promised before the meeting – This has not been produced.

It has not been confirmed who owns the Railway Carriage but the contents of the Carriage do belong to Railway & Heritage with the exception of a few items on loan to them. The use of asset transfer was discussed. Cllr Stevenson & Woodhouse have been meeting with local groups to give updates. Cllr Howitt commented the timescales given by St Helens Council have been totally unrealistic.

The information was noted

20.904 TO CONSIDER NEW COUNCILLORS & CLERKS -A WHISTLE STOP TOUR OF POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES COURSE

The 2 hour LALC online course is designed for new Councillors and Clerks. It describes the role of the Parish Council, its powers, responsibilities and purpose.

The Council resolved to let the Clerk know by the end of the 26th July if they wish to attend.

20.905 TO CONSIDER A COMMUNITY GARDEN AT KING EDWARD CLOSE

Cllr Daniels and Cllr Greaves had visited a community allotment in Parr. It would be necessary to set up a CIC community group to allow more funding to be accessed. More visits are required to look at other community gardens. The ownership of the land needs to be confirmed. The Clerk has contacted Estates manager at St Helens Council on numerous occasions and has had no reply. The Clerk will chase for an answer.

The Council noted the information.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
25th July 2022

20.906 TO CONSIDER PROVIDING FUNDING SIGNPOSTING AS REQUIRED

Cllrs Woodhouse and Stevenson are able to provide funding information to various groups within the community. Cllr Howitt conveyed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Cllr Stevenson & Woodhouse for all their hard work.

Resolved the information would be given as and where required to community groups.

20.907 UPDATE TO BE GIVEN ON THE UPKEEP OF THE RED TELEPHONE BOX

Cllr Jones gave an overview of an organisation Community Heartbeat – a dedicated 999 box – it holds various equipment and provides the electricity for 7 years free. Cllrs Jones stated it was another idea to add to the previous suggestions and he will forward more detailed information to the Councillors.

Resolved for the item to be included on the next agenda.

20.908 TO DISCUSS THE PRODUCTION OF STICKERS TO SUPPORT ANTI SOCIAL CRIME CAMPAIGN AND ITS REPORTING

Councillors agreed during Spring and Summer ASB sometimes sees a reduction. Quotes and artwork are required from Cllr Williams.

Resolved for it to be included on the next agenda.

20.909 TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF FIRST AID TRAINING FOR BUSINESSES AND THE COMMUNITY

Cllr Daniels provided an overview of what could be provided. Costs are £250 for a 2 hour session for up to 50. Cllr Daniels confirmed it should be available for members of the community along with businesses.

Resolved for Cllr Daniels to provide an idea of interested numbers at next meeting.

20.910 TO DISCUSS THE WORKING GROUP FOR ROCKET 200

Cllr Barker confirmed the need for all the various agencies to come together to enable the event to grow. A meeting to take place between some of the Parish Councillors, Railway Heritage and Model Railway groups to start with. Clerk to send invites and book room.

Resolved to continue the liaising with the various agencies to move forward with the organisation of Rocket 200.

20.911 TO CONSIDER A COMMEMORATION/ CELEBRATION OF OUR TWINNING WITH LATOUR EN WOEVRE

Councillor Howitt gave a historical overview of the twinning and suggested a 10 minute service take place with the Rainhill Parish Council, Royal British Legion, Civic Society, and St Anns Church on the 20th September (the date the twinning was signed) with the French Flag being flown on one of the flagpoles at the war memorial.

Resolved for Cllr Howitt to gain a quote and purchase a French flag.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
25th July 2022

20.912 TO CONSIDER QUOTE FOR CLEANING AND REPAIR OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

The quote was discussed for the cleaning and repair of the war memorial. As the company has been previously used and has a positive reputation for working on war memorials and was last cleaned in 2017 the quote for £2881.75 ex VAT was accepted.

Resolved the quote be accepted and works to be completed before Remembrance Day.

20.913 UPDATE TO BE PROVIDED ON BRIERS HALL MEETING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Cllr Tasker, Howitt & Brown visited Briers Hall and confirmed works being completed are in line with the prior applications. The Company has kept to their word with the upstairs being used as offices.

6 apartments are to be completed by January 2023 and the grounds are being well maintained.

The update was noted.

20.914 TO DISCUSS LITTER ISSUE AT ELGIN COURT

Cllr Jones reported making a site visit and spoke to individuals concerned. It was reported the bins are being emptied but residents are using the bin for their own black bin bag rubbish so filling them up quickly.

Resolved Cllr Tasker to contact St Helens Council to look at possible solutions.

20.915 TO CONSIDER GRANT REQUEST FROM LONGTON LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Request for part funding of two banners with a reminder about the zig zags and a set of 6 Buddy pavement signs to place along the two sets of zig zags outside school to stop cars from parking there. Councillors discussed how other schools have used the same deterrent and how much of a positive effect it has had.

Resolved by all Councillors to agree to the part funding grant application

20.916 TO CONSIDER MOVING THE BENCHES IN THE CENTRE OF RAINHILL

Councillors discussed the issues with the benches in their present location and if moving them would have any impact.

Resolved Cllr Tasker & Greaves to confirm the areas available for them to be moved to and impact on CCTV

20.917 TO CONSIDER A SERVICE TO MARK MERCHANT NAVY DAY

3rd September 2022 has been confirmed as Merchant Navy Day to fly the red ensign. Time possibly later to not clash with market.

Resolved for Clerk to liaise with St Anns regarding ceremony

20.918 TO CONSIDER RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Resolved that the complaints reported in the agenda report be noted.

Many thanks to the Village Hall for cutting back the Willow Tree to enable the parking spaces underneath to be used.

Cllr Daniels reported a complaint regarding overgrown vegetation at the Pack Horse Bridge. Suggested payback teams to be contacted.

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
25th July 2022

Awaiting information from Football teams regarding Holt Lane possible car park extension.

20.919 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

- a) Public Open Spaces
Nothing to report
- b) Village Hall Management Committee
New sign has now been purchased and will hopefully be installed this week. With the recent absence of the Office Manager wish to acknowledge the excellent service both Maria & Chris have continued to provide. The Committee have requested the possibility of providing easier to understand accounts. Works on toilets and kitchens are the next main priority. Groups are beginning to return but unfortunately luncheon ladies are struggling with volunteers and dwindling numbers attending. The Village Hall has withdrawn from Community Facebook due to having issues of getting online. Next meeting is to take place 13th September.
- c) Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society
Have reported they are concerned with activity for Rocket 200. Cllr Barker confirmed meeting is due to happen at beginning of September. The Parish Council wish to convey their sincere condolences to Chris Tigwell on the passing of his Wife.
- d) Merseyside Assoc. of Local Councils
Nothing to report
- e) Rainhill Gala
Meeting is to take place on 27th July to discuss future.
- f) 4F Centre
Regular monthly meetings continue to take place with the centre being run very successful. An offer to paint the inside has been received.
- g) Monthly Market
2 markets have now been held with the 3rd being held on the 1st Saturday in August. Inside is full with a few available outside. Fruit & Veg is still proving difficult to arrange. Charges from St Helens Council will rise from September and a meeting between the stalls and organisers will take place to discuss future.

The updates were noted.

20.920 TO DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Community Garden – King Edward Close, Phone Box, First Aid, Anti Social Campaign/ reporting crime stickers, Litter – Elgin Court, 200 Trials, Merseyforest, Skew Bridge/Payback Scarecrow Festival, Delivery of Annual Reports.

20.921 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the Ordinary Parish Meeting will be on 12th September 2022 starting at 7.30pm the venue being Rainhill Village Hall and 10th October 2022

The meeting closed at 9.26pm

Chair of the Parish Council
12th September 2022

Area: Rainhill D24
 Month: July 2022

	2021	2022	Diff	%	
Burglary Business & Community	0	0	0	0	
Burglary Residential	2	0	-2	-100	
Criminal Damage	2	3	1	50.0	1. (PORTER CLOSE) neighbour dispute over fence 2. (LINCOLN WAY) car wing mirror damaged during argument 3. (DEEPDALE DRIVE) plant pots kicked over during argument
Drugs	1	0	-1	-100	
Other Theft	5	5	0	0.0	1. (WARRINGTON ROAD) phone left outside shop, victim has returned and found a male has taken it. He challenges him and gets it back 2. (WARRINGTON ROAD) two unknown males remove steel pipes from grounds unknown if they are workers or offenders 3. (WARRINGTON ROAD) making off without payment 4. (STEPHENSON GROVE) whatsapp blackmail 5. (WARRINGTON ROAD) making off without payment
Public Order	9	6	-3	-33.3	1. (WARRINGTON ROAD) males fighting outside pub 2. (SANDON CLOSE) neighbour dispute 3. (BRAITHWAITE CLOSE) family member trying to get into property 4. (BISHOPDALE DRIVE) neighbour dispute 5. (MOSSDALE DRIVE) neighbour dispute 6. (FAIRLIE DRIVE) neighbour dispute
Robbery Business	0	0	0	0	
Robbery Personal	0	0	0	0	
Theft Bike	0	0	0	0	
T.F.M.V.	1	1	0	0	1. (KENDRICKS FOLD) vehicle broken into and items stolen
Theft Shop	0	0	0	0	
T.O.M.V.	0	1	1	100.0	1. (WEAVER AVENUE) assumed vehicle was stolen however handbrake was left off and vehicle rolled
Vehicle Interference	0	2	2	100.0	1. (BISHOPDALE DRIVE) vehicle has been searched but no items taken 2. (GOLDSWORTH FOLD) vehicle has been searched but no items taken
Total	21	18	-3	-14.3	
ASB	11	5	-6	-54.5	

Brief description of ASB in July 2022

1. (WARBURTON HEY) kids playing football in front of house (ongoing neighbour dispute)
2. (VIEW ROAD) youths outside library trying to break in, police attended and no offences seen - informant spoken with and advised they had not seen it they just assumed
- 3.(ELGIN COURT) school kids congregating outside shops and playing football
- 4.(DUNBEATH AVE) school kid climbs over wall to retrieve ball
- 5.(MOOREWAY) friend wont leave address

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL - CLERK'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022

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 25th July Ordinary Parish Council meeting have either been completed or are in progress. Additionally, I can report the following:

5a. WILDFLOWER PLANTING

The Clerk has been informed the wildflower planting on Warrington Rd, From Holt lane – St Ann's church is flourishing and has had a lot of vibrant colours. Sadly though, from St Ann's – Rainhill stoops there has been very little sign of wild flower, it's seems the more shaded areas are struggling. It will continue to be monitored but it may be worth looking at moving some of the areas in shade for next year.

5.b WAR MEMORIAL CLEANING

Cleaning, Repair and repointing has now been completed

5.c REQUEST FOR SCHOOL GOVENORS

Cllr Williams has accepted the offer to become a school governor at Rainhill Community Nursery School.

5.d MERCHANT NAVY DAY

Merchant Navy Day flag hoisting ceremony took place on 3rd September. Many thanks to Rev Dr Alan Conant and St Anns Choir for their help in making this possible.

5.e CLERKS HOLIDAYS

The clerk will be taking annual leave last working day will be 20th October returning on 31st October (4 days)

5.f PAY BACK / UNPAID WORK

At the time of closing the agenda the Clerk was still awaiting information on possible partnerships to provide cleans ups at the Skew Bridge & St Anns Churchyard. If received in time for the meeting an update will be provided.

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/2022/0449/HHPA Prior approval for a single storey rear extension projecting 4.6m from the rear, 3.36m max height and 2.45m at the eaves. 5 Marian Drive

P/2022/0455/CLP Change of use from dwelling (C3) to Childrens Home (C2) for 1no young person. 96 Sandhurst Road

P/2022/0415/S73 Removal/variation of condition 2 on approval P/2020/0789/FUL. Replace approved plans and elevations with revised plans to show additional balconies and new window locations, as well as 'setting out' plan Land To Rear Of 533 Warrington Road

P/2022/0479/HHFP Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension. 19 Ansdell Villas Road

P/2022/0493/COT Works to various trees within a conservation area 546 Warrington Road

P/2022/0495/HHFP Two storey front and two storey rear extensions with single storey rear extension 26 The Meadows

P/2022/0524/HHFP Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory. 587 Warrington Road

P/2022/0546/COT Works to 2no holly trees in conservation area. 1 Lawton Road

P/2022/0554/HHFP Erection of a single storey rear extension, two storey side extension following demolition of the existing single storey side extension, and alterations to the existing bay window. 156 Rainhill Road

P/2022/0560/COT Works to 2no trees in a conservation area (T1 - Lime and T2 - Goat Willow). 37 St James Road

P/2022/0576/HHFP Extension to front of garage, new ensuite to rear and change garage roof from flat to pitched. 2 Eden Close

P/2022/0580/FUL Siting of 2no. maintenance cabins, a polytunnel for gardening and erection of a timber fence Briars Hey Residential Home Mill Lane

Comments/objections have been submitted on the following applications

No Comments/objections submitted

The Council should note the actions taken.

Clerk's Report September 2022

7. TO AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

SEPTEMBER			
Payee	Description	Amount	Ref
K Adamson	Telephone 15.83 + 3.16 vat	18.99	
	Salary - September (less Tax, NI & Pens) owed 2p for July as paid 1199.24 should be 1199.26	1199.26 0.02	
	owed 12p for August as total pay should have been 1218.25 but paid 1218.13	0.12	
	Mileage June-September	98.65	
	French Flag 2.97+0.60 vat	3.57	
	Total	1,320.61	TFR589
Merseyside Pension Fund	LGPS – July	371.25	TFR590
Water Plus	Water – Albert Fellowes	72.48	DD
Corona	Electricity - Holt Playing Fields	TBC	DD
Scottish Power	Electricity - Rainhill Park	60.00	DD
Village Hall	Room Hire for Residents Library Meeting	48.75	TFR591
Zurich Municipal	Insurance Renewal Premium 2022/2023	1807.19	TFR592
PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit 2021/2022 300.00 + 60.00 VAT	360.00	TFR593
HMRC	Tax & NI (July – September)	634.32	TFR594
Stone Central	Cleaning & Repairs to War Memorial 2,881.75 + 576.35 VAT	3,458.10	TFR595
Unity Trust	Bank Charges (July-September)	18.00	DD
S.137 Payments			

The Council should consider approving the above payments.

INCOME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
AUGUST		
Rainhill Town	1 st /3 instalments pitch hire 2022/2023	329.00
Rainhill Rocket	Pitch Hire 2022/2023	361.00

For information only.

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON RAINHILL LIBRARY

A public meeting was held on 4th August to enable the residents of Rainhill to be updated on the position of Rainhill Library and the decision by St Helens Council to close it on 31/10/22. Updates to be given.

Members should note the update and what further actions are required

9. UPDATE ON ST HELENS COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

St. Helens Borough Council has resolved to undertake a Community Governance Review (CGR) of the whole of the borough of St Helens following the Boundary Commission review of warding patterns.

Terms of Reference for the Review are now published on the Council's website www.sthelens.gov.uk/elections/cgr.

Appendix 1 attached a copy of the CGR public notice. The notice also details three public meetings which will be held before the consultation period to enable residents and other interested parties to attend and ask questions.

Monday, 19 September 2022 at 6:00 pm – St Helens Town Hall • Tuesday, 20

September 2022 at 6:30 pm – Hope Academy, Newton-le-Willows- Monday, 26

September 2022 at 6:00 pm – Public Hall, 216 Main Street, Billinge

Consultation will commence from **Monday 3 October 2022 to Friday 30**

December 2022. Representations will be welcomed from Monday 3 October 2022 by the following methods:

- by email to cgr@sthelens.gov.uk
- by completing an electronic survey form which will be made available at www.sthelens.gov.uk/elections/cgr or
- by letter to Electoral Services, St Helens Borough Council, PO Box 512, St Helens WA10 9JX

The Members should consider if they wish to attend and note the update and if they wish to submit any representation.

10. TO CONSIDER A COMMUNITY GARDEN AT KING EDWARD CLOSE

Cllr Daniels & Greaves to provide further information regarding Torus and other community gardens to determine what would be require. The Clerk has requested confirmation of land ownership from St Helens Council Estates department on numerous occasions and the time of closing the agenda no reply had been received.

The Council should consider the next actions.

11. UPDATE TO BE GIVEN ON THE UPKEEP OF THE RED TELEPHONE BOX

Update to be given by Cllrs Greaves & Barlow.

The Council should consider actions it wishes to take.

12. TO DISCUSS THE PRODUCTION OF STICKERS TO SUPPORT ANTI SOCIAL CRIME CAMPAIGN AND ITS REPORTING

This item has been included to allow a discussion between members.

The Council should consider what actions are required.

13. TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF FIRST AID TRAINING FOR BUSINESSES AND THE COMMUNITY

At the previous meeting it was noted costs would be £250 for a 2-hour session for up to 50 people attending, classroom style and all the trainers are professional first aid trainers, with appropriate certifications, and attendees can have an optional

attendance certificate for CPD purposes. Cllr Daniels to provide feedback on interested possible participant numbers.

The members should consider if it wishes to provide first aid training classes for businesses and the community of Rainhill and the logistics.

14. TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE FOR ROCKET 200 – For Information Only

Cllr Barker to provide an update on the Rocket 200. The first meeting took place on 5th September

The Council should note the update

15. TO CONSIDER OPTION TO OPT OUT OF THE SAAA CENTRAL EXTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, SAAA is responsible for appointing external auditors to all applicable opted-in smaller authorities, for setting the terms of appointment for limited assurance reviews and for managing the contracts with the appointed audit firms. Smaller authorities are those whose gross annual income or expenditure is **less than £6.5 million**. The next 5-year appointing period runs from 2022-23 until 2026-27 and SAAA has undertaken a procurement exercise to appoint auditors to each County area from 1 April 2022. Now that the submission deadline for the 2021-22 Annual Governance and Accountability Returns has passed, this is to advise you of the option to opt-out of the next round of 5-year audit appointments. **All authorities require an appointed external auditor** even if the authority meets the criteria to qualify for exemption, as a Certificate of Exemption is required to be submitted to the external auditor. During the previous 5-year period **all** smaller authorities were 'opted-in' to the central procurement regime managed by SAAA - no authority decided to 'opt-out' and follow the various complex procedures required under statute to appoint their own external auditor. **If you wish to continue as part of the SAAA sector led auditor appointment regime then no action is required, and Rainhill Parish Council will remain part of central scheme.**

However, all authorities must be given the option to opt-out of the central procurement and appointment scheme and appoint their own external auditor for the next 5-year period, although the process is onerous for smaller authorities. This communication is to advise that whilst all smaller authorities are opted into the central procurement of external auditors by default, any authorities who do not wish to be part of the SAAA arrangements must formally notify SAAA that they wish to opt out within **8 weeks** of this communication but no later than **28 October 2022**; this decision must be communicated to SAAA via e mail.

If notification of your decision to opt out is not received within this 8-week period, then your authority will be regarded as opted-in for the next five-year period beginning on 1 April 2022 and ending on 31 March 2027.

Opting out

Opting out is a significant decision which requires careful consideration; to assist authorities considering opting out further guidance has been developed to clarify what opting out means in practice. This detailed information can be found at www.saaa.co.uk

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An authority that wishes to opt out must formally reach and record that decision in a way that meets the requirements of its own governance framework, by convening a full council meeting or an extraordinary council meeting.

Key implications are:

- an opted-out authority regardless of size (including exempt authorities) **MUST** appoint an appropriate external auditor;
- the appointed auditor **must** be a registered auditor as defined by the Companies Act and a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants (England and Wales).
- an opted-out authority **must** convene an appropriate independent auditor panel which meets the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (LAAA). Detailed guidance on auditor panels is available in Schedule 4 of the LAAA Act and from CIPFA;
- an opted-out authority will need to develop its own specification for its external audit contract, will need to negotiate the price for this work on an individual basis and will need to manage the contract, including any disputes, and any independence issues that may arise;
- an opted-out authority must ensure full compliance with the relevant requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act and supporting Regulations;
- any opted-out authority that does not successfully appoint an appropriate external auditor in the correct manner and notify SAAA who their external auditor is by **30 November 2022** will have an external auditor appointed for it by the Secretary of State through SAAA. **This will result in additional costs of £300 which will have to be met by the authority.**

The Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer for Rainhill Parish Council would recommend not opting out.

The Council should consider the information and if any actions are required.

16. TO APPROVE THE AUDITED ANNUAL RETURN

The external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP, have confirmed that the audit has been completed with no issues arising.

A full copy of the Annual Return, will be available for inspection on our web site and on the noticeboard (a paper copy will be available at the meeting, but if you would like an electronic copy in advance please let me know). The Annual Return and notice of conclusion of audit must be published. This was published for 14 days, and commenced on 24th August 2022.

The Council should consider approving the Annual Return, publishing it for 14 days and authorising payment.

17. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS FOR THE REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The 2022 Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday 13th November. A church service is held at St. Ann's Church commencing at 10.30am, followed by a procession, at approximately 11.30am, to the war memorial on Warrington Road, where a short service is held, and wreaths are laid.

The Parish Council normally organise the road closure to facilitate the procession and service and pay for it. This has been organised, but confirmation is required that the Parish Council are happy to meet the cost.

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Further, a wreath is laid by the Chair of the Parish Council. This can be ordered from the British Legion as usual, also a donation is usually made to the British Legion.

Previous expenditure was as follows: the clerk is still awaiting confirmation of cost from St Helens Council

Road Closure	=	£693.00
Wreath & Donation	=	<u>£50.00</u>
Total Cost	=	<u>£743.00</u>

The Council should consider meeting the cost of the road closure to facilitate the Remembrance Day Service, purchasing a wreath, and making a donation to the British Legion.

18. TO DISCUSS LITTER ISSUE AT ELGIN COURT

This item has been included to allow an update and if any actions are required

The Council should consider if any further actions are required.

19. TO DISCUSS RAINHILL STATION ENTRANCE ON TASKER TERRACE

This item has been included to allow a discussion.

The Council should consider if any further actions are required.

20. TO DISCUSS THE SCARECROW FESTIVAL

This item has been included to allow a discussion between the members.

The Council should consider if any actions are required.

21. TO DISCUSS THE DELIVERY OF ANNUAL REPORTS IN 2023

This item has been included to allow a discussion between the members to look at how the annual reports could be best delivered to alleviate the issues experienced in previous years.

The Council should consider if any actions are required.

22. TO DISCUSS A PARTNERSHIP WITH MERSEYFOREST

This item has been included to allow a discussion of possible projects with Merseyforest.

The Council should consider if any actions are required.

23. TO CONSIDER THE BENCHES IN THE CENTRE OF RAINHILL

Further to being included in the previous agenda. An update of information to be provided.

The Council should consider if any actions are required.

24. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON BROADBAND

Update on broadband provision to be given by Cllr Ward (For information only)

Members to note the update.

25. TO CONSIDER RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

The Clerk has dealt with correspondence including those relating to:
Fly Tipping, Pitch hire, Barrier Baskets. If anyone would like further details, please ask. Members may discuss any comments or complaints they have received.

26. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 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
- g) Monthly Market

27. SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Members are given the opportunity to suggest items for discussion at future meetings.
For information only.

28. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

10th October 2022, 7.30pm

14th November 2022, 7.00pm (Closed Meeting)