

RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES
24th July 2023

At a meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 24th July 2023 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: G. Barker (Chair), S. Barlow, I. Brown, A. Daniels, D. Greaves, D. Hendrick, A.V Howitt, S. Rutherford, J. Tasker, K. Stevenson, J. Woodhouse, G. Ward,

2 members of the public were also present.

Prior to commencement of business the Chair held a minutes silence in remembrance of Vera Helsby and Frankie Williams.

Prior to commencement of business the meeting was adjourned to allow members of public to raise any concerns. No concerns were raised.

The meeting was recommenced.

20.1060 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: M. Jones, W. Williams

20.1061 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

20.1062 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

To consider and approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June 2023

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

20.1063 TO RECEIVE MERSEYSIDE POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS REPORT

To receive Police monthly statistics for May & June. The Clerk reported requesting the reports are to be received in the previous format.

Resolved that the update noted.

20.1064 TO NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE CLERK'S REPORT

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

20.1065 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/2023/0338/HHFP Single storey rear basement extension, comprising new staircase from ground floor level. Elsinor Mill Lane

P/2023/0397/HHFP Conversion of flat to pitched roof to side 9 Elmswood Avenue

Comments/objections have been submitted on the following applications

The Council noted the actions taken.

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20.1066 TO AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved to authorise the payments listed on the Schedule of Payments for July 2023 (Voucher Nos 13,14,15,16 & 19 and 5 DD totalling £5,635.39). Due to no meeting being held in August payments authorised (Voucher Nos 17,18& 20 and 3DD totalling 2,815.99 with 1 more DD to be confirmed.)

INCOME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
June	2 nd Part of Precept	34,170

Information noted.

20.1067 TO CONSIDER RAINHILL IN BLOOM AND THE ROSE BOWL

Cllr Howitt suggested keeping the format similar to Civic Society and suggested keeping it in its simplest and fairest format by voting on front gardens and container gardening. Civic Society paperwork can be adapted. Proposed schedule would be entries received by end of June with judging taking place by end of July. Possible ECO garden involvement.

Resolved for the item to be included on December meeting agenda.

Cllr Hendrick joined the meeting at 7.40pm

20.1068 TO CONSIDER THE SWITCH ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS EVENT

Cllr Tasker reported an event plan is required to confirm if road can be closed. The Clerk confirmed all schools have confirmed they can attend. Cllrs Daniels will get a quote for Christmas tree. Remembrance baubles put forward as a possible idea. Cllrs Barlow, Rutherford, Stevenson, Woodhouse and Greaves agreed to form a committee. Agreed to liaise with Rotary Tony Lewis with the organisation and planning of event.

Resolved the members form a committee.

20.1069 TO CONSIDER A COMMEMORATION/ CELEBRATION OF OUR TWINNING WITH LATOUR EN WOEVRE

Cllr Howitt confirmed the anniversary date as being 20th September 2023. St Anns & RBL have confirmed participation of a small service. Both the French & British flag will be raised.

Resolved for the service to take place.

20.1070 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 and noted the current budget position.

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20.1071 TO CONSIDER A SERVICE TO MARK MERCHANT NAVY DAY

The Clerk confirmed St Anns have been contacted and are awaiting Father John Williams to confirm either Sunday 3rd September or Saturday 2nd September at 6pm.

Resolved once date confirm Clerk will notify all Cllrs.

20.1072 TO DISCUSS THE WHISTON WOODS DEVELOPMENT

Discussion confirmed the Whiston Woods active group is very involved and keep the PC updated. It was noted Sue Parry has previously been of great support to Parishes green belt fights and the Parish is happy to support the Save Whiston Woods group

Resolved to support Save Whiston Woods Group.

20.1073 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON GRANT APPLICATIONS/ EXTERNAL COMPANY AND STATEMENT OF WORKS

No update. Cllr Barlow confirmed forwarding 2 grant proposals for the local football teams to apply for. Cllr Daniels suggested looking at companies with no win no fee for grant applications. Cllr Tasker confirmed Rainhill United are completing the pitch improvement fund forms.

The Council resolved to note the information

20.1074 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CCTV AND FIBRE UPDATE

Cllr Ward confirmed cameras in the village are not working very well. A big upgrade is being Planned and going out to tender. Cllr Ward would expect a representative to visit Rainhill to discuss any upgrading. The Village Hall has confirmed it is receptive to having a fibre hub within the hall once an assessment has taken place. At a recent pub watch meeting it was suggested another camera would be beneficial to have near the station covering the Commercial, Carouse and Acoustic Café. Cllr Ward will continue to liaise with St Helens Council to discuss feasibility. Cllr Ward has contacted open reach regarding Broadband with the CEO replying. The Pole near to Dane Court has now been connected. Businesses in Dane Court should be connected by end of August with all of the flats also qualifying. Cllr Stevenson reported information had just been publicised stating St Helens Council have pledged £700K for CCTV upgrades across the borough. The members thanked Cllr Ward for his perseverance.

The Council resolved to note the information

20.1075 TO DISCUSS THE PLACING OF DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEAD SIGNAGE IN OPEN SPACES

Discussion took place and who would police & implement. Cllr Greaves raised issue of urban hunters coming into the area. Cllr Barlow raised the initiative that has just been publicised by Merseyside police.

Resolved for the Clerk to forward any links to Cllrs and for it to be publicised across social media sites

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20.1076 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ROCKET 200 CELEBRATIONS – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Cllr Barker confirmed metro mayors aware but nothing arranged to date. The last meeting was well attended. The ultimate wish would be for the 3 main locomotives to be on the tracks and running up and down the tracks. Cllr Woodhouse gave an update on the Community Rail Partnership – its aim to bring organisations together. The next meeting is on the 26th September. Cllr Barker asked Cllr Woodhouse to invite the person trademarking and looking at giving the usage out to community groups

Resolved to note the update.

20.1077 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

- a) Public Open Spaces
None
- b) Village Hall Management Committee
Cllr Ward reported there had been 2 meetings – one a committee and one private. Discussion has taken place with including items on the financial reporting. A representative was arranged to visit due to telephone bills being high and advice given to reduce costs. Cllr Ward has requested if the Gala Day and the Well being event held in the Hall could be held on different days so they would not clash.
2 additional people have been added to the committee.
- c) Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society
Successful day trip to Bala has taken place
- d) Merseyside Assoc. of Local Councils
Nothing to report
- e) Rainhill Gala
Next meeting is being held on 26th July 2023. They have had 17 funding requests this year.
- f) 4F Centre
Meeting on 20th July took place. Balance healthy. Looking for some plumbing repairs to be completed. A few groups have dropped out – Cllr Greaves to publicise. One of the committee members Reg is 90 this Thursday his commitment and support is appreciated by the Parish Council
- g) Monthly Market
Meeting is organised on 26th July 2023 to discuss future dates and to discuss if it could run after September. Cllr Tasker confirmed they are still trying to get a cheese stall – any suggestions please forward

The updates were noted.

20.1078 TO CONSIDER RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Cllr Ward confirmed Dunbleath Ave is and the state of the road that St Helens Council has finally booked the works required in to take place over the summer holidays.

Cllr Greaves raised issue of resident comments regarding the weeds and 2 empty barrier baskets at the entrance to Arnside Avenue. Cllrs have volunteered to clear the weeds and look at the possible alternatives to the empty baskets

Comments and Complaints noted.

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20.1079 TO DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Twinning Ceremony update. Christmas light switch on event. Meeting rooms. Turn Village pink for Breast Cancer awareness

20.1080 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the Ordinary Parish Meeting will be on 11th September 2023 starting at 7.30pm the venue being Rainhill Village Hall.

The public were asked to leave at 8.55pm

20.1081 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

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

Item 23 Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)

Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings (Para 5 of Schedule 12a).

Item 24 Reason (under the Data Protection Act 2018)

Protection of Personal Data

20.1082 TO CONSIDER LEGAL ADVICE ON OPEN SPACES

Cllr Barker gave overview of information – risks & concerns. The importance of the decision to residents of Rainhill and for a fair vote to take place. Cllrs raised various questions all of which discussed.

Vote was taken 3 for legal route 1 abstain and 8 for SLA with St Helens Borough Council

Resolved to request a SLA with St Helens Borough Council

20.1083 TO CONSIDER SUBMITTING A COMPLAINT TO COUNCIL

Resolved not to submit a complaint

Chair of the Parish Council
11th September 2023