

**RAINHILL PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES**  
**15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

At a meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Rainhill Village Hall, the following were present:

Cllrs: I. Brown, A. Daniels, A.V Howitt, S. Rutherford J. Tasker (Chair), J. Woodhouse, W. Williams

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.

Resident raised serious concerns regarding the lack of a crossing on the linkroad. Meetings with St Helens Council had been held further to the accident causing the death of a person. Reduction of speed to 60mph is not sufficient enough. A child has been knocked down in November 2023. Something needs to be done. School Children are at risk. The resident asked the question who is responsible for insuring the linkroad and who pays the claims?

Chair will liaise with Highways and feedback at the next PC meeting to be held in March 2024

**20.1141 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: G. Barker, S. Barlow, D. Greaves, D. Hendrick, M. Jones, K. Stevenson, G. Ward

**20.1142 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Tasker stated a declaration of interest in agenda item 12 Oakdene grant.

**20.1143 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

To consider and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

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

**20.1144 TO RECEIVE MERSEYSIDE POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS REPORT**

To receive Police monthly statistics for December.

**Resolved that the update noted.**

**20.1145 TO NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE CLERK'S REPORT**

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

**20.1146 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/2023/0688/FUL Repair works to boundary wall. St Anns C Of E Church Warrington Road  
P/2023/0713/HHFP Extension to existing front and rear dormers with use of cedar boarding on extended dormers, change of window to patio door on front elevation and partial render to front elevation of main dwelling and fully render side extension. 19 Dunbeath Avenue

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An objection has been submitted to the following applications:

P/2023/0697/FUL Erection of a convenience store with parking, landscaping and associated infrastructure (re-submission of application P/2022/0715/FUL). Land And Passageway Between 637 And 639 Warrington Road Rainhill St Helens

Comments were submitted on the following applications:

P/2023/0691/TPO Removal of 3no sycamore trees as part of works to boundary wall. St Anns C Of E Church Warrington Road

P/2023/0705/LBC Listed Building Consent for 2no. braille map and accessible toilet POD. Rainhill Railway Station Station Road

Following applications referred to the tree & woodlands officer

None

**The Council noted the actions taken.**

**20.1147 TO AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**Resolved to authorise the payments** listed on the Schedule of Payments for January 2024 (Voucher Nos 48,49 & 50) Administration =2168.74 Open Spaces=234.26. S137= 250.00. February Payments (Voucher Nos 51,52,53,54&55) Administration= 1999.49 Open Spaces 239.67. S137=812.79

**Income**

245.00 Rainhill Town

**Information noted.**

**20.1148 TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT AND BANK RECONCILIATION**

**The Council noted the current budgetary position, approved the report and approved the bank reconciliation for signing by the Chair**

**20.1149 TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT TIMETABLE**

Delivery will be made as last year. The schedule may be subject to minor amendment which will be circulated to members of the editorial group if necessary.

**The members noted the schedule and approved the expenditure and date for first meeting of editorial group agreed to take place Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 11am.**

**20.1150 TO APPROVE FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The members approved the future meeting dates.

**20.1151 TO CONSIDER REWILDING OF AN OPEN SPACE**

**Resolved for the clerk to contact Merseyforest to discuss possible rewilding of Swan Gardens**

Cllr Tasker left the room whilst next agenda item discussed

**20.1152 TO CONSIDER GRANT REQUESTS FROM OAKDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ECO GARDEN AND REDISCUSS THE GRANT NOT YET PAID TO SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY.**

Cllr Tasker rejoined the room once Oakdene decision had been agreed.

**The Council resolved to award both grants each £250 and until supporting the community has a bank account for it not yet to be paid – Cllr Daniels to advise them**

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**20.1153 TO CONSIDER MEMBERSHIP OF SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS**

**Members resolved to agree to the membership.**

**20.1154 TO DISCUSS ROAD SAFETY AND CCTV OPTIONS**

Cllr Tasker to discuss the cut through and speed limits with highways. Cllr Ward to provide an update on column located near to Chatsworth road shops and possibility of CCTV.

**Resolved for an update to be provided at March meeting.**

**20.1155 TO DISCUSS THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON EVENT 2024**

The date will probably be Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The following possibilities were discussed. Having the choir/s on stage, Father Christmas on the tree side of the road, to submit request for road closure same again but to include station street, to have a carousel, all Councillors to have a designated role alongside a full risk assessment, meeting with rotary, gala, pubs, bars, restaurants and other businesses.

**Suggestions noted and Cllr Tasker to start the application for the road closure.**

**20.1156 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE CLOSURE OF RAINHILL LIBRARY**

The library will very sadly close on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024. On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 there will be a goodbye event being held 2pm-4pm

**The update was noted.**

**20.1157 TO DISCUSS SUPPORTING THE EASTER EVENT ORGANISED BY EAST LIVERPOOL RIDING FOR THE DISABLED**

Chair confirmed Rainhill Rotary will supply the Easter Eggs. Chair will set up a meeting with the riding school, rotary and PC. The event will involve a hunt around the village. If it coincides with the ECO garden event normally held on Easter Sunday 2-3 they could be invited to be part of event.

**Resolved for Cllr Tasker to set up a meeting.**

**20.1158 TO CONSIDER THE BT PHONE BOX**

Quote of £550 received to prime, paint and replace missing pane and renew signage within box. Also to proceed and have lock done as a matter of urgency- cost will be confirmed at March meeting.

**Resolved to accept the quote and proceed with having lock fitted.**

**20.1159 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

- a) Public Open Spaces  
Rainhill Town have requested a meeting – Cllrs Tasker & Ward to arrange.
- b) Village Hall Management Committee  
Provision of funding update has been provided by Clerk to Village Hall and there seems to have been confusion. Letter to be publicly publicised to alleviate any concerns, misinterpretation.
- c) Rainhill Railway & Heritage Society

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- no update
- d) Merseyside Assoc. of Local Councils  
no update
- e) Rainhill Gala  
Will take place end of May Bank Holiday
- f) 4F Centre  
No update
- g) Monthly Market  
Next meeting will take place 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – looking at the possibility of running the market from March until December.

**The updates were noted.**

**20.1160 TO CONSIDER RESIDENTS COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS**

Martin Close – Flooding  
Swan Gardens – leaf issue

**Comments and Complaints noted.**

**20.1161 TO CONSIDER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Milestone refurbishments, Rewilding of open space. Cut through on Warrington Road/Rainhill Road & Ashton Ave speed limit near school & CCTV, Christmas event, Phone Box, Rainhill in Bloom, Linkway update, Easter Event, Update on Community Asset transfer, Annual Report, Level of grants, GCA Awards, Lights at War memorial

**20.1162 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 4th March 2024 & Annual Parish Meeting 17th April 2024 the venue being Rainhill Village Hall

**20.1163 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

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

Minute  
20.1164

Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)  
Exempt information concerning the financial or business affairs of any particular person (Para 3 of Schedule 12a).

**20.1164 TO SET A PRECEPT FOR 2024/2025**

It was resolved that St Helens Council be advised that the Precept for 2024/25 will be £68,340. It was resolved that the Budget paper, submitted by the Clerk and supporting the above Precept amount, is approved.



Meeting closed at 9.35 pm

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Chair of the Parish Council  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2024