



**Minutes of a meeting of
RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 20 May 2019 at 7pm**

Present: Councillors: Brown, Collins (left 8.20pm), Grice, Jones, Lamb, Lee, Long, Monk (Chairman), Newton, Nichols (arrived 7.17pm), Reynolds, Sterry, Travis

In attendance: Sally Powell
Victoria Swainbank
2 Residents
Karen Martindale

860. Apologies for Absence:

Councillors: Bardsley (Away), Nichols (Business), Wesley (Business)

861. Declaration of Interest and Updating of the Register:

None

862. Formal announcements from the Chairman:

The Chairman thanked the Clerk and Admin Assistant for organising the Chairman's evening on 17.05.19 which was a very enjoyable occasion. The raffle raised £613.70; a great start to the Chairman's fund for Rainford Band.

863. To hear and respond to any questions/deputations by Councillors or members of the public:

1. Karen Martindale, Chairman NW CPRE addressed the Council regarding the importance of forming a neighbourhood plan. A meeting would be held on 22.05.19 in Ormskirk, where a planner from CPRE will be talking through the process of creating a neighbourhood plan. Development cannot necessarily be stopped, but a neighbourhood plan will help to limit it.
Karen then answered the following questions from Councillors:
 - i. Councillor Lamb: If a local plan is already in place can the neighbourhood plan change it? A. A neighbourhood plan can help ensure a higher standard of housing and a more diverse range of housing
 - ii. Councillor Reynolds: Rainford doesn't have enough affordable housing, can a neighbourhood plan stipulate that? A. Government legislation requires a certain percentage and a neighbourhood plan can help to ensure this is adhered to.
 - iii. Councillor Reynolds: Is it possible to get information on how many 2 bedroomed houses, 3 bedroomed houses etc. there are in Rainford? A. This can be assessed by settlement areas. A viability assessment can be undertaken to determine the requirement.

Councillor Reynolds stated his intention to contact St Helens Council to get information for next meeting.

The Chairman stated that younger families needed to be attracted to moving into Rainford as the population is falling.

7.15pm Karen Martindale left the meeting

2. Councillor Reynolds introduced 2 residents who wished to discuss the land that forms part of the Council's lease that borders onto Pilkington Street.

7.17pm Councillor Nichols joined the meeting

One of the residents addressed the meeting and stated that he had been advised by St Helens Council that the lease is up for RPC and that St Helens Council would allow him to incorporate the land as part of his garden.

Councillor Nichols informed the residents that at present the Parish Council has a lease on that land, so St Helens Council would need to make an adjustment to that lease. Following a short discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact St Helens Council to clarify the position.

7.31pm The residents left the meeting

Councillor Nichols stated that the Parish Council needed to discuss what it wants to do with that land. There was a discussion during which several Councillors opined that in the short term the land needed to be tidied up as it was currently very overgrown, and it is the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to contact Rainford In Bloom for advice.

864. PRIVATE AGENDA ITEM: Staff Remuneration:

The Clerk and the Administration Assistant were asked to leave the meeting. Councillor Lamb declared a pecuniary interest. He remained in the meeting, but was reminded that he would not be able to vote on any proposals. Separate minutes were taken for this agenda item.

865. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Rainford Parish Council meeting held on Monday 15 April 2019:

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 April 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record, proposed by Councillor Jones, seconded by Councillor Grice and carried unanimously by those who were present.

866. Matters arising from the minutes not itemised on the agenda:

- i. 858:3 Councillor Newton expressed his concern that an accident may occur on Rookery Lane, and the situation is made worse by the overhanging ivy. A short discussion established that the tenant is responsible and the Clerk was asked to send a letter to the tenant asking for the issues to be addressed. Councillor Lee requested that a letter is also sent to Lord Derby regarding the overhanging trees on Ivy Lane and Muncaster Drive.

867. Accounts for Payment

Receipts for April 2019		Payments for April 2019	
Bar	£11,724.17	Bar	£ 2909.00
Events	£ 497.82	Building	£ 4728.83
Function Extras	£ 643.00	Communications	£ 192.00
Main Hall	£ 1831.00	Earmarked	£ 1663.00
Office Rental	£ 500.00	Events	£ 244.00
Other	£ 52.42	Fees	£ 1282.00
Reception Room	£ 165.00	S137	£ 21.00
VAT Refund	<u>£ 1302.97</u>	Utilities	<u>£ 656.00</u>
	£16,716.38		£11,695.83

Payments for April 2019 = £11,695.83 including £948.73 reclaimable VAT

Receipts for April 2019 = £16,716.38 + £38,012.00 precept (50%)

Bank balances @ 30.04.19:

Current Account £11,770.08

Business Premium Account £53,863.59

Councillor Jones proposed the figures for April 2019 were accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Nichols and carried unanimously

868. Correspondence:

The Clerk read out the following correspondence:

1. Various letters accepting & declining the invitation to the Chairman's evening
2. Letter from the Chairman of Rainford Welfare committee inviting the Chairman and the Clerk to attend the High Tea and Concert on 05.07.19
3. Details of the CPRE AGM on 23.05.19 at the Lancashire Wildlife Trust Woods
4. Email from resident regarding the chicane on Cross Pit Lane *Following a discussion, the Clerk was asked to ascertain the reason for the traffic calming measure and consult the schools regarding it.*
5. Letter from Conor McGinn MP with details of improvement grant funding for Village Halls. (Unfortunately, Parish Councils are not eligible to apply)
6. Copies of the Clerk and Clerks & Councils direct magazines
7. Up to date list of the Public Access Defibrillators available in and around Rainford
8. Email from Phil Almond, Chairman of the Bowling Club at the Pavilion, asking for permission to have more security keys cut. They currently have 5 but could not provide the names of the people who hold them for the football and tennis sections. *Following a short discussion, the Chairman stated that he would like a review of the use of the Pavilion to take place*
9. Email enquiring about the Office space to let
10. Email from Mike Berry, from the Police & Crime Commissioners office with details of funding for innovative community safety projects or schemes of between £5k and £25k
11. Email from Merseyside Police with details for the updating of the digital screen
12. Email for Councillor Reynolds requesting the ordering of a poppy wreath for Crank residents to take to Ypres. *Following a short discussion, it was agreed that this should be provided.*
13. Email from Hoyles electronic developments Ltd requesting information who to contact regarding funding a defibrillator

14. Email correspondence between a resident and one of the PCSOs regarding a parked car on Higher Lane
15. Email from County Brides North West informing us that we are finalists for the 2019 awards and inviting us to attend the award ceremony
16. Email from Art Detective with details of a log in on the website and stating that they will not be asking permission to discuss art work within the collection in future
17. Card from Betty Lowe MBE wishing Councillor Monk a happy and successful year in office
18. Letter from Barclays Bank stating that it intends to change the current account to an epayments plan on 15.07.19 as this should result in less bank charges. It will be reviewed again in 12 months' time
19. Email from Councillor Reynolds regarding the land at the rear of the Village Hall and further discussions with residents about the possible allotments.
20. Email from resident concerned about the state of the road in parts of Muncaster Drive. *Following a short discussion, Councillor Reynolds stated he would do a site visit as a Borough Councillor*
21. Email and a poster re Armed Forces Day on 22.06.19
22. Email from a resident concerned about speeding traffic on Higher Lane. *There was a discussion and it was agreed to research the availability of mobile radar speed signs and consult with the PCSOs regarding the possibility of further speed traps*
23. Email requesting the names of the Councillors who will be attending Walking Day. *Councillor Brown requested that the Clerk give an explanation of Walking Day for the benefit of the new Councillors*

Since the last Council meeting:

112 visitors to the Clerk's office and 107 incoming phone calls.

869. Approval of the Accounting Statement for 2018/19:

The Chairman stated that all Councillors had now had time to study the figures. No comments were made.

Councillor Nichols proposed that the Accounting Statement for 2018/19 was accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Brown and carried unanimously

The Chairman outlined his proposals for the committees, informing members that he wished to keep the numbers on committees smaller so other Councillors could possibly be co-opted at a later stage. There was a discussion regarding the membership of the Finance, Planning and Administration Committee. Councillor Brown stated that she would not be a member of the Community Development Committee. Councillor Monk stated that Councillors should speak to the Chairman of the committees if they wished to comment on the membership of that committee. The Chairman orated that the perception of the Parish Council needed to be changed. The Council needed a vision and had to be relevant to the Village.

Councillor Monk proposed the following members for the Bar Refurbishment committee: Brown, Long (Chairman), Monk, Newton and that the Clerk and the Bar Manager would also attend the meetings. This was seconded by Councillor Jones and carried unanimously.

Councillor Monk proposed the following Councillors for the Community Development committee: Brown, Grice, Lee (Chairman), Monk, Wesley + resident members, Alice Bradley, Georgina Jones and Mike Olley. This was seconded by Councillor Grice and carried by a majority of 12 for with 2 voting against

Councillor Monk proposed the following members for the Finance, Planning & Administration committee: Jones (Chairman), Long, Monk, Reynolds. This was seconded by Councillor Long and carried by a majority of 11 for with 3 voting against

Councillor Monk proposed the following members for the Health & Safety committee: Long, Monk, Newton, Reynolds (Chairman). This was seconded by Councillor Reynolds and carried unanimously.

Councillor Monk proposed the following members for the Personnel committee: Jones (Chairman), Monk, Newton, Reynolds. This was seconded by Councillor Jones and carried unanimously

870. Committee Reports:

➤ **Bar Refurbishment Committee:** *Councillor Long*

Councillor Long circulated photos of a suggested plan for the refurbished bar. He informed the meeting that the committee would next meet on 24.05.19
Councillor Reynolds stated that any alterations to the bar should be in keeping with the building.

Councillor Collins left the meeting at 8.20pm

➤ **Borough Council:** *Councillor Reynolds*

Councillor Reynolds informed the meeting that the new leader of St Helens Council is Councillor David Baines and that Councillor Gomez Aspron remains as the Chairman of the planning committee

➤ **Community Development Committee:** *Councillor Lee informed the meeting that the committee had not met since the last full Council meeting*

➤ **Finance, Planning & Administration Committee:** *Councillor P Jones*

i. Councillor Jones moved that the plans be passed on en bloc. This was seconded by Councillor Reynolds and carried unanimously.

There was a discussion regarding the Parish Council's involvement in planning applications. Councillor Nichols suggested a standard check-list form should be developed so that each set of plans is dealt with in the same way. This would be attached to the planning application and form the basis of correspondence with St Helens Council regarding planning applications. Councillor Travis asked if the energy efficiency of planning applications were taken into consideration. Councillor Jones explained that an overview is taken.

Councillor Jones proposed that planning application P/2019/0337/FUL be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Reynolds and carried by a majority with 2 abstentions.

ii. The Annual Accounting Statement has been passed

iii. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk and the Administration Assistant should attend the Award ceremony for the finalists (of which the Village Hall is one), of the County North West Bridal awards

- **Health & Safety Committee:** *Councillor Reynolds informed the meeting that the committee had not met since the last full Council meeting, but that he intended the committee would meet on a quarterly basis.*
- **Personnel Committee:** *Councillor Jones informed the meeting that the committee had not met since the last full Council meeting.*

871. Any Other Business:

1. Councillor Grice stated that it had been a number of years since the Chairman's chain had been updated.
2. Councillor Lee stated the door between the Reception Room and the Main Hall should be sound-proofed.
3. Councillor Brown asked if a newsletter was going to be produced and circulated in the near future. The Clerk informed the meeting that the newsletter is partially complete and a draft copy will be ready for the CDC to approve on 05.06.19.

872. Diary Dates

15.06.19	1.45pm	Walking Day
19.06.19	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee meeting
24.06.19	7pm	Full Council Meeting
03.07.19	7pm	Community Development Committee Meeting
17.07.19	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee meeting
22.07.19	7pm	Full Council Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Councillor David Monk
Chairman, Rainford Parish Council
2019/20